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College heads remain uncertain

Engineering faculty still filled with uncertainty

RYAN VOYLES
Daily Egyptian

Despite the appointment of an acting associate dean and the provost taking over its management, faculty and staff at the College of Engineering said the turnover and lack of leadership has led to a drop in morale.

"It is not very clear who is in charge of this college at this time," said Sanjeev Kumar, chair of the civil and environmental engineering department. "All the papers are being filed as the dean of the college, not as the acting associate dean, but as the dean of the college."

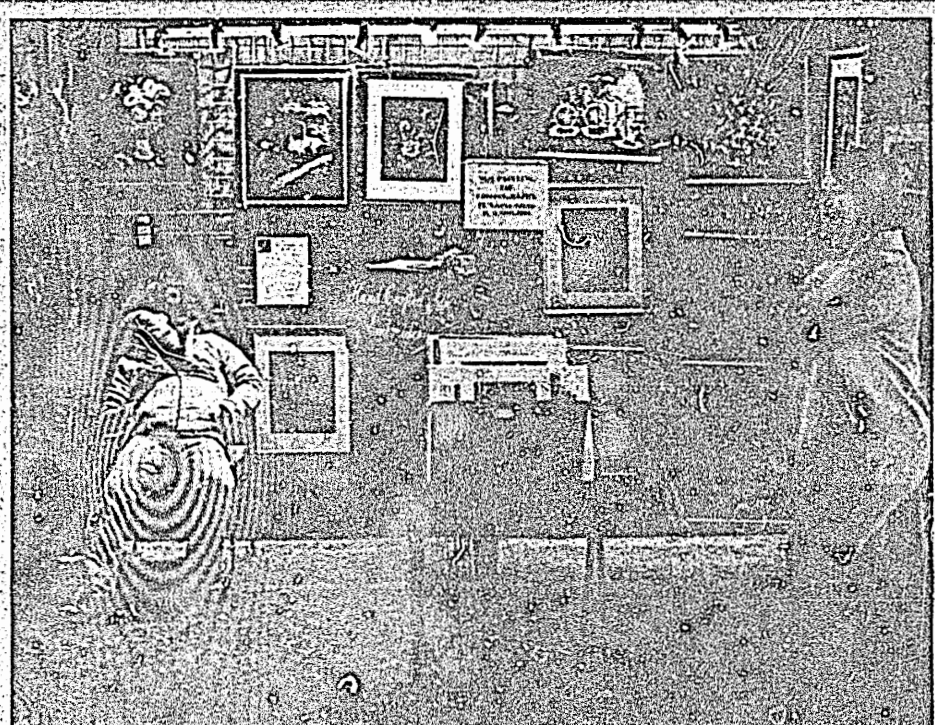
The college is attempting to find stability after the Nov. 12 resignation of Ramanarayanan Viswanathan, who served as the interim dean of the college since 2008. The associate dean position had been vacant since June, when John Nicklow was named assistant provost for enrollment management, until Lizette Chevalier was named acting associate dean Nov. 22.

Viswanathan, who will remain at the university as a professor in the department of electrical and computer engineering, said in his letter of resignation he was stepping aside due to decisions by higher administrators, which had damaged the academic mission of the university, and a lack of shared governance between the deans and administrators.

Interim Provost Don Rice said the provost Minish will oversee the management of the college until a permanent dean can be found. A nationwide search is ongoing, and Chancellor Rita Cheng said she hopes a decision will be made by summer.

Gary Minish, former dean of SIUC's College of Agricultural Sciences, was selected Nov. 18 by Chancellor Rita Cheng as next provost and senior vice chancellor. He will start Dec. 15, pending approval by the SIUC Board of Trustees.

Kumar said Minish has scheduled a meeting with engineering faculty and staff Dec. 16, but that is the only conversation that has come from the provost's office.



CRAFT SALE SEES SLOW SHOPPING Carolyn Jackson, right, an academic initiatives specialist with University Housing, Christmas shops Tuesday while Dan Tran, a local artist, dozes on a slow afternoon at the 32nd annual Holiday CRAFT SALE in the Student Center. Jackson said she was not looking for anything in particular; she was just getting ideas for Christmas gifts. "Whatever is unique strikes my fancy," she said. ISAAC SMITH | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Applications low for faculty emergency fund

Money to be distributed in spring semester

RYAN VOYLES
Daily Egyptian

Though the SIUC Foundation's Board of Directors has provided a \$10,000 grant to SIUC as an emergency fund for employees affected financially by the closure days, Kevin Bame says the demand has not been high.

"At this point, we've received three applications for the fund, and just one of those people qualified for it," said Bame, vice chancellor for administration and finance.

In a Nov. 19 e-mail to the university community, Chancellor Rita Cheng said a grant would be set up to help employees who would be affected by the four unpaid closure days. There are still three closure days scheduled for the school year: Dec. 23, Jan. 3 and March 15. All of these days

“This is a safety net available, and it is also reflective of the generosity and support the foundation gives to the university every day.”

occur when classes are not in session.

Cheng said Wednesday it was important for people to know options are out there which can help them get through the tough times.

"This is a safety net available, and it is also reflective of the generosity and support the foundation gives to the university every day," she said.

According to the fund's guidelines, employees would receive money if their annual wages are below the full-time employment salary of \$22,050, their SIUC salary is their sole source of income and they are subject to the unpaid closure days. Money will be distributed on or before Dec. 22 for employees who apply before Dec. 15, while a second payment would be given after Jan. 3, according to the guidelines.

The maximum amount granted to each qualified employee will be equivalent to four days of pay. Bame said there would be no reason for employees not to receive the maximum amount if they qualified.

But Douglas Flummer is still not sold on the fund.

Flummer, a computer system operations specialist in information technology, said the fund sounds like a good idea, but he would want to look at its details further.

"It really could be nice, but it could also just be the sugar that helps the medicine go down," he said.

All remaining money not given out by June 30 would be moved into a scholarship fund, according to the guidelines.

Rickey McCurry, vice chancellor for institutional advance-

ment, said the idea for the fund came about following discussions with Cheng after the Nov. 16 town hall meeting. He said while the foundation can only raise money for educational purposes, the executive committee of the foundation's board used its operating dollars to give the university the grant.

He said while the grant would focus on short-term fixes, the foundation would continue to look for long-term fixes, such as creating a scholarship fund that would help increase university enrollment.

"Recruiting and getting students here would help with the long-term budget problems," McCurry said.

Ryan Voyles can be reached at rvoyles@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 254.

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Woman with 22 years of service to SIUC dies

LAUREN LEONE
Daily Egyptian

A memorial service for Kathryn Jaehng, who worked for University Communications at SIUC since 1988, will be held today at 4 p.m. at the Unitarian Fellowship Church in Carbondale.

Jaehng, 61, died unexpectedly Saturday while spending the day with her daughter. Initial speculation as to the cause of death has been said to be a heart attack, said Christie Mathis, public information specialist for University Communications.

"We all left for Thanksgiving break ... When you come back and find out (a coworker) has passed away, that sets you back," said Michael Rulz, director for University Communications.

Rulz said Jaehng was a gifted writer who predominantly produced news coverage for the College

"There was one (quote) she always said to me — 'In this very moment, all is well,' when I was stressed."

— Christie Mathis
public information specialist for university communications

of Agricultural Sciences and the College of Education and Human Services.

Mathis said she and other staff members have been cleaning out her office throughout the week, finding little notes with inspirational quotes.

"There was one (quote) she always said to me — 'In this very moment, all is well,' when I was stressed," she said.

Jaehng logged in more than 2,300 volunteers hours since 2006 as an on-call volunteer for the Rape Crisis Services Program at the Women's Center in Carbondale, said Cathy McClanahan, executive director for the Women's Center in Carbondale.

"She would be the one to talk to whenever a rape victim or a hospital called and needed someone to meet with and talk about what happened," she said.

Mathis said it is nearly impossible to describe Jaehng in only a few words.

"She was loyal and very devoted to the people she loved," she said.

The family requests donations be made in Jaehng's name to the Unitarian Fellowship instead of flowers, Rulz said.

Lauren Leone can be reached at llecne@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 255.

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Bill to lower pensions passes Senate, goes to Quinn

Daily Egyptian

Illinois lawmakers approved a bill Thursday that will reduce pension benefits for future police officers and firefighters.

The state senate voted 46-4 in favor of the bill after the House approved it Tuesday in a 95-18 vote. A spokesperson for Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn would not confirm whether he would sign the

bill, the Associated Press reported.

Bill 3538 raises the retirement age from 50 to 55 for police and fire employees hired after Jan. 1. Current employees will not be affected.

Carbondale Mayor Brad Cole has led the Illinois Municipal League in trying to get such a bill passed and has said the Legislature is something the state desperately needs.

"We've been working for over a year on this in negotiations and crafting the

language," Cole said Wednesday.

Carbondale's 2012 budget shows an increase of 29.6 percent and 29.3 percent for police and fire pensions, respectively. Public safety pension expenditures alone would hit \$810,729.

The bill will require cities and municipalities to shore up retirement programs more quickly, as it requires 90 percent of their obligations to be covered by 2041.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

About Us

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 20,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Friday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intercession editions will run on Wednesdays. Spring break and Thanksgiving editions are distributed on Mondays of the pertaining weeks. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale, Murphysboro and Carterville communities. The DAILY EGYPTIAN online publication can be found at www.dailyegyptian.com.

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Studies abroad expand cultural horizons

LEAH STOVER
Daily Egyptian

Peter Gitau says the ability to understand and appreciate others is the greatest benefit of studying abroad.

"Students come back with a whole new definition of life. Instead of looking at what they can do for themselves, their perspective shifts into what they can do for others," said Gitau, dean of students.

Many students never consider studying abroad because it can be too far of a leap outside of their comfort zone. However, Gitau said those who don't take the opportunity are missing out on the experience of a lifetime. Especially for those who haven't traveled out of Illinois, Gitau said cultural understanding is a concept that is nearly impossible to grasp.

Rachel Ribich, a senior from Oak Lawn studying interior design, said she spent 28 days studying abroad in Europe and traveled through London, Italy, France, Switzerland and Greece. Ribich said she was inspired to go by her idea of European culture, particularly the architecture.

"I wanted to experience life in a different way," she said.

A positive attitude and the willingness to help others are qualities traits Gitau said he looks for in students who are interested in study-

Students come back with a whole new definition of life. Instead of looking at what they can do for themselves, their perspective shifts into what they can do for others.

— Peter Gitau
dean of students

ing abroad. Gitau said twice a year, he selects 40 students to travel to Kenya for more than two weeks. Unlike semester-long programs, Gitau said no GPA requirement exists and students can receive credit toward graduation.

The focus of the program lies in the needs of the Kenyan community, Gitau said. Unlike the societies many Americans are accustomed to, he said villages in Africa are grateful just to have a building. With each trip, Gitau said the group teams up with local people to advance education in ways they didn't know were possible such as building a library for a school out of materials purchased through fundraisers. He said it's not only the community that reaps benefits. Students also leave with a different perspective on life.

Gina Kadakia, a graduate student in law from Chicago, said she has spent much time traveling out of the country, particularly to visit her family in India. Kadakia said her parents emigrated from India when they were in their late teens, and

lived in several states before moving to Chicago. She said the cultural differences between Indian and American norms are extreme, and it can be a struggle to adapt.

"The way that people treat you — from greetings to friendliness — everything is different," Kadakia said. Kadakia said the cultural difference between India and America is mainly the personality traits of the people. She said it's typical for Americans to think solely of themselves and how they can advance, whereas other cultures tend to consider the needs of others more.

In America, Gitau said society is segregated, either by race or status, and people generally flock to those who have the similar interests. Before traveling out of the United States, Gitau said he purposefully chooses students who are different from one another so diversity is continuously present.

When they arrive in Africa, Gitau said many students are in shock at the difference in lifestyle. The village in Kenya, the village where the group spends the majority of their time,

doesn't have running water, electricity or indoor plumbing, he said.

"If you have to pee, you go outside," Gitau said. "There is no way you can go on this kind of trip, and come back the same."

When comparing the cultures of Europe and America, Ribich said it seemed that age didn't play much of a factor. She said the legal drinking age in Europe wasn't enforced, which eliminated quite a few age barriers that are present in America.

Ribich said her time in Europe was the best month of her life, and she gained significant insight on not only herself, but expanded her understanding of others as well. Being thrown into another country was intense at first, but Ribich said she wouldn't change the experience for anything.

"It made me open my eyes to other ways of living and not be so stuck in my own world," she said.

As an undergraduate student at Loyola University-Chicago, Kadakia said she considered studying abroad, but it was too much of a financial strain. For students at SIUC, Gitau

said options such as scholarships and grants exist for funding study-abroad trips, most of which cover the entire cost.

In America, Kadakia said people who are from other countries function differently, and she stresses the importance of understanding cultural differences.

"It's narrow-minded to not experience other cultures and only think about your own," Kadakia said.

Gitau said the key to being culturally competent is to realize that one's culture isn't necessarily the best, just different.

After returning from Kenya, Gitau said students tend to redefine their idea of quality of life. Their idea of happiness is shifted, self-efficacy is built and they tend to appreciate what they have to a greater extent, he said.

Gitau said after one group of students visited a school where the students didn't even have soccer balls, the group donated five soccer balls for the children at the school.

"They never knew that \$10 could change someone's life dramatically," he said. "They come back thinking that they can change the world."

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STEVE BERCYNSKI | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Aslam Kassimall, of the College of Engineering, passes a test back Thursday to Michael Simmons, a senior from Albers studying civil engineering, in his Engineering 440 class. Some faculty in the college have expressed concerns about communication between the college and administrators, as well as unclear leadership.

ENGINEERING
 CONTINUED FROM 1

"The perception is that the provost has resumed the responsibilities, but we don't know that," he said. "No one has talked or met with us yet."

Chevalier said she is balancing finishing the classes she's teaching and meeting with faculty and staff about what can be done at the college.

She said so far, the faculty and staff have been thankful to her for filling the vacant leadership role. She said she would try to support some stability until a permanent dean can be found.

Morteza Daneshdoot, a professor in electrical and computer engineering, said the feeling has been full of uncertainty, especially because Viswanathan was very productive and popular.

"It's a feeling of sorrow, knowing that our productive interim dean had resigned," Daneshdoot said. "He achieved more in his time than some permanent deans we've had here."

Kumar said one instance of lack of communication between the col-

66 The teaching staff has been doing a solid job, and I haven't seen any negative attitudes. We lost our dean, but the faculty has done a good job of continuing to teach.

— Jake Roth, a senior from Elgin studying civil engineering

lege and administrators came when two departments sent a letter to the provost's office in November asking them to put a hold on the dean search until a new provost could come in and set his or her agenda. The administration never responded to the letter, Kumar said.

Fooh Kumar and Daneshdoot said the morale of the college has taken a hit in the last several weeks, which has affected work.

"Any time there is uncertainty, it affects the work of everybody who is affected," Daneshdoot said. "Uncertainties are not productive for the college or the university."

Dan Higginson, a senior from Pinckneyville studying civil engineering, said although he is a transfer student who has taken only a few engineering classes, he did have a class canceled after the college did not renew the program necessary to

teach the class, and the teaching assistant who taught the course said he could not go on teaching it.

But Jake Roth, a senior from Elgin studying civil engineering, said he has not seen any differences in the college.

"The teaching staff has been doing a solid job, and I haven't seen any negative attitudes," he said. "We lost our dean, but the faculty has done a good job of continuing to teach."

Daneshdoot said he is optimistic about change once Minish takes over the provost position.

"One can only hope that things get better," he said. "You can hope that with the stability at the provost position, it can also bring some stability to our college."

Ryan Voyles can be reached at rvoyles@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 254.

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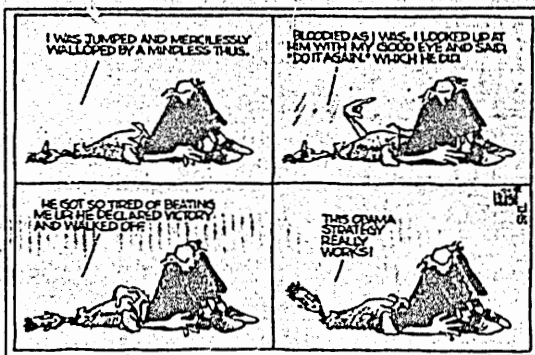
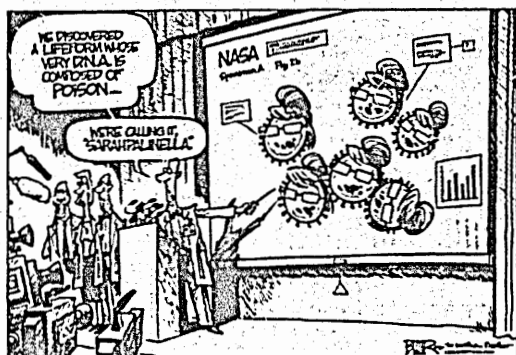
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Voices

Friday, December 3, 2010 • 5

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EDITORIAL CARTOONS



GUEST COLUMN

Conservatives profit from extremism

Tara Kulash, sophomore studying journalism

Fox News isn't the only place in which conservatives rule — the top paid political positions are now filled by the less-than-liberal.

The Nov. 8 edition of Newsweek named the 50 highest-paid political faces of America, including in its calculations politicians, ex-politicians, media personalities and political consultants. Those who make millions but have little influence didn't make the list, such as Katie Couric, whose job is to deliver the news, not opinions.

According to the article, four of the top five spots are filled by conservative commentators, which I found interesting but not surprising.

First on the list is Rush Limbaugh,

who rakes in \$58.7 million annually. His radio show carries an audience of between 15 million and 20 million listeners. When asked if he would ever run for a political office, his response is that he couldn't afford the pay cut. It's sickening to me that a commentator makes more than those in an actual office. In fact, Newsweek pointed out that Limbaugh's income is more than the combined salary of the entire U.S. Senate, along with a few dozen congressmen and cabinet secretaries. Limbaugh gets paid more to sit on his butt in his estate in Palm Beach, Fla., telling America what politicians should and shouldn't do.

His opinions are so extreme though that I don't understand how he has such a large following.

He said, "In an election year, when

voters are fed up with liberalism and socialism, when voters are clearly frightened of where the hell the country is headed, vote for the most conservative Republican in the primary, period."

A popular GOP slogan is, "Let's take our country back."

With Limbaugh's theory of success, we would take our country back to the old-fashioned, prejudiced ways that gave our citizens so few rights. Limbaugh wants the healthcare law repealed, the offshore drilling ban removed and the student loan program cut. He's targeting Republicans he believes are too compromising, because the last thing we need in this country is a common understanding between the two parties.

Second in line is Glenn Beck, conservative commentator on a radio

show and Fox News. According to the article, his annual income averages \$33 million. His book, "The Overton Window," has sold more than 300,000 copies, but most of his salary comes from the radio show. It reaches 11 million people.

Sean Hannity follows Beck with \$22 million a year. Once again, he's a conservative commentator. I see a strange pattern here. Fourth on the list is Bill O'Reilly, yet another conservative commentator, with \$20 million.

Jon Stewart, at number five, is the first non-Republican on the list. The liberal-to-moderate commentator makes \$15 million a year as host of The Daily Show and from his Duxley Productions. He's also written two books, which are both largely popular.

What I don't understand is why

commentators make more money than politicians. Political figures are supposed to be leaders. It's their opinions and decisions that really count in the end. Maybe it's just that politicians are so dirty now that America has decided to put its trust in media anchors instead. On top of that, why are the top four all conservatives?

Finally, I couldn't leave this out: Sarah Palin is No. 6 on the list with \$14 million a year. She didn't even win vice president, but people pay to hear her ignorant comments and to watch her stupid show. I guess she's just an entertainer, because hardly anyone takes her seriously anymore. She could probably use the large income to aid her possible 2012 presidential campaign, and I encourage her to do so. It's just more laughs for me.

GUEST COLUMN

Keep it together for finals, you can do it

Barb Elam, stress management coordinator, Wellness Center

Feeling stressed during the final weeks of the semester is normal, and some stress chemicals in your system, such as adrenaline, can motivate you.

With just a short time left to complete papers, projects and study for exams, it is more important than ever to hang in there. Getting bogged down by negative thoughts, such as "This is too hard," "I don't want to do this" or "I can't do this" is self-defeating and can lead to unwanted feelings and behaviors, adding to a downward spiral of

performance. If you are having trouble motivating yourself, think of how you motivated yourself at other challenging times and try that.

The author of a top selling book "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" suggests not getting distracted by minor daily interruptions that may seem important but are really time wasters. This might include someone texting or Facebooking you, someone asking you for a favor, even answering the phone. These interruptions are usually not crucial, but may appear urgent when you hear or notice your cell phone buzzing, and get you off track.

Tips to get through finals prepa-

rations include prioritizing projects by making lists, asking instructors to clarify any projects if needed and breaking down tasks so they become less intimidating. For example, when writing a paper, first write a draft page, then ask someone for feedback on it. Turn off the phone when studying, ban Facebook, videogames and Internet surfing during study times, and just say "Not now" to friends who want to socialize. Avoid alcohol, cannabis or other recreational substances, as these can affect conceptual thinking even days after consumption and interfere with concentration.

Getting enough rest the night be-

fore exams may seem like a luxury, but can help keep memory sharper. Some caffeine is OK to keep alert, but too much can create anxiety. Try having positive expectations such as "I have done hard things before, I can do this too," "I will succeed" or "I will be OK, no matter what."

Study breaks should be five to 10 minutes to stretch or walk around, rather than half an hour to watch TV or chat with others, losing your flow. Use the library, or somewhere to study that is not distracting. Eat breakfast and other meals — your brain and body need the energy. Arrive early for tests to avoid rushing, take deep breaths and

remember that you are worthwhile no matter what. Studies have shown that just a few minutes of slow, calm breathing regulates the heart rate and helps students to focus better. Stretching your neck and shoulders can be useful. Visualize yourself finishing your semester successfully.

Because testing is widespread in our society for a variety of reasons, such as job placements and professional licenses, it is in students' best interest to learn to manage anxiety in testing situations. Some students even use their anxiety to heighten motivation. A positive attitude and calm deep breathing can help. You can do it.

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THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1 2 3 4**

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

3		8						
4	1					8		
			3	7				
3				4				2
	2			6			3	
7			9				5	8
		2	9	1				
		9				3		
					5		2	

WEDNESDAY'S ANSWERS

2	3	0	9	7	4	5	8	1
9	4	7	8	5	1	3	2	6
5	1	9	2	6	3	9	4	7
4	7	5	3	8	2	1	6	9
3	6	9	1	4	7	8	5	2
8	2	1	6	9	5	7	3	4
1	9	2	4	3	8	6	7	5
6	5	3	7	2	9	4	1	8
7	8	4	5	1	6	2	9	3

Horoscopes

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clement

Today's birthday—Physical limitations play a role in your planning this year. Someone must heal from an injury, and you provide able assistance. Innovative thinking leads to active development, after you've done the research to discover what is possible.

Aries (March 21 - April 19)—Today is a 7 — Creative ideas abound today. You get new concepts from everyone you meet. Challenge yourself to move some of these ideas into action now.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)—Today is a 9 — Stick to your schedule today. Draw the threads together and approach completion on a project. Wrap this one up, and save creative ideas for later.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)—Today is a 6 — New possibilities for creative thoughts and action abound. Luck is with you as you make decisions, even though you can't explain how you did it.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)—Today is a 6 — You attract change like a magnet. To handle the ramifications, keep an open, quiet mind, and allow others to control their own destiny.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)—Today is an 6 — Your talents suggest different ways to solve problems. Think it through locally, and develop options before you begin. Then share the plan with the team.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)—Today is a 7 — Think up fun ways to grow relationships. A few chores may sneak onto the list, but not too many. Devote time to simply enjoy time together.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)—Today is an 8 — You're learning with great enthusiasm. Intelligent activity revolves around your ability to recreate what you've learned in words others can use.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)—Today is an 8 — Someone in the house could use some tender loving care. As you provide it, create optimism and pass out single-player games. Time for rest is essential.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)—Today is a 9 — Someone outside the family arrives on the doorstep, needing assistance. Although unexpected, you can dance with the circumstance. Give them what they need.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)—Today is a 7 — Pay extra attention to physical activities today. To avoid injury, pay attention to your terrain. That said, today can be wildly fun and even creative.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)—Today is a 7 — Your mind goes in several directions to implement fanciful ideas for group activities. Enthusiasm draws everyone into the design process. Have fun with it!

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)—Today is a 7 — Mary Poppins said, "A spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down." You see her wisdom, as you try to handle difficult news. Express compassion in private.

TRACK

CONTINUED FROM 8

The Salukis return all throwers on the women's team from the 2009-2010 season except for graduate Sasha Leeth, Smith said.

Gwen Berry, J-neva McCall and Olga Ciura are three of six seniors who will participate this season on the women's team.

"On the men's side, we lost some really good throwers last year, Joe Paradise, Ryan Shumaker and Matt Eader," Smith said.

Smith said he's confident the men's team will be solid, as they return two All-Americans in juniors Jake Deiters and James Lambert. Freshman thrower Brian Co-

66 *There's not a whole lot of people that can compete against us right now. Most meets we go to we bring our own competition. We were the number one-ranked throwing team in the country last year in the NCAA, and I think we can do that again, especially on the women's side.*

— John Smith
SIU coach

per said the depth in talent was the reason he chose SIU over other schools. He said he wants to be able to chase after top competitors to improve his own skill.

"This right here is going to be the option for me as far as making my track career go as far as I can make it," Cooper said.

The biggest change between the 2009 and 2010 seasons for the Salukis has been the decreased level of intensity they practice with, Knox said.

Knox said he made use of his off season to get back in shape and not worry too much about the first meet of the season.

"This has probably been the first time I've been injury-free since my freshman year," Knox said. "I can't wait to get the training pads off and be able to open up. It's probably going to feel weird to go full-speed."

Knox said he plans to focus on the 60-meter hurdles and 400-meter sprint because he's had up-and-down success in those events.

The meet will be individually scored, Price-Smith said. She said she plans to use it to gauge the level at which different Salukis are ready to compete.

Brandon Coleman can be reached at bo Coleman@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 269.

BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8

The 21-point Billiken half-time lead quickly expanded to 25 points and stayed relatively the same for the rest of the game.

Senior forward Eboni Crayton was picked up off the floor by teammates after she was hit mid-air on a layup attempt and crashed to court. At the press conference, Tiber said she hadn't seen Crayton after the game, but she will have an MRI on her knee today.

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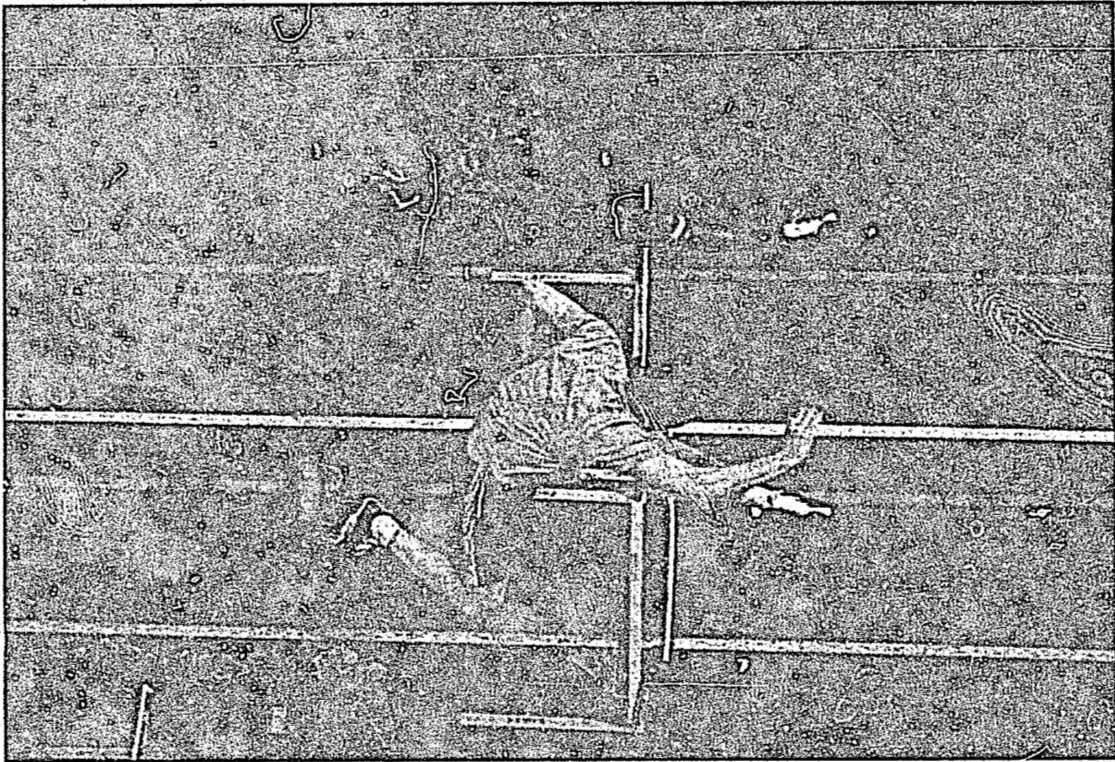


BANTER

Should U.S. be disappointed to lose bid for 2022 World Cup?

DAILYEGYPTIAN.COM

TRACK & FIELD



Sophomore Jeremy Bankston and freshman Matthew Benes leap over hurdles Thursday during track practice at the Recreation Center. The men's and women's track teams host their first meet of the indoor season today at 11:30 a.m. in the Recreation Center.

JESS VERMEULEN
DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU to shake off rust in first meet

BRANDON COLEMAN
Daily Egyptian

Senior sprinter and hurdler Willie Knox says today's meet gives the Salukis a chance to get back into full speed running form and work out the kinks they may have accumulated during the off-season.

The Salukis open their indoor season today with the Saluki Fast Start, an all-day meet that begins at 11:30 a.m. in the Recreation Center. They'll compete against Louisville, Murray State, South Florida and 20 other teams.

"It's going to be a long meet. It starts ... with the pole vault, and the last event is the 4 x 400, which

will be around 9:30 p.m.," coach Connie Price-Smith said.

Unlike previous seasons, the Salukis haven't over emphasized the meet or set any standards, Knox said.

The Salukis plan to compete in every event except for distance events, Price-Smith said.

"The majority of them won't

run because they just came off cross country. They're still getting ready for indoors," Price-Smith said.

Coach John Smith said of the 23 teams set to compete, only Louisville, who has a national champion in the 20-pound weight throw, poses a threat for the Salukis.

"There's not a whole lot of

people that can compete against us right now. Most meets we go to we bring our own competition," Smith said. "We were the number one-ranked throwing team in the country last year in the NCAA, and I think we can do that again, especially on the women's side."

Please see TRACK | 7

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Struggling Salukis blown out by Billikens

BRANDON LACHANCE
Daily Egyptian

SIU didn't have any answers for the Saint Louis Billikens offensively, defensively or on the boards, as the Salukis trailed the entire game and were defeated 66-39 Thursday at the SIU Arena.

"We didn't play hard and we didn't have any intensity, and that's no one's fault but my own," coach Missy Tiber said. "I thought this was the first time all year we didn't play hard. The coach's main responsibility is make sure your kids are ready to go and they are playing hard every single night, and we just

didn't do that tonight."

The aggressiveness of the Billikens' front court players and unforced turnovers were the main issues for the Salukis as the Billikens' defense hampered SIU's offense with a full court press and didn't allow many second chances. They also controlled the glass, out-rebounding SIU 56-30. Offensively, the Saint Louis low-post rotation of senior center Kathryn Hester, sophomore forward Mallory Eggert and freshman forward Lorreal Jones proved to be too much for the Salukis to handle inside.

Hester scored 19 points and grabbed seven rebounds, Jones had

eight points and seven rebounds and Eggert had eight boards.

SIU senior forward Katrina Swingler said the Billikens' front court players were physical inside and were ready to ply as soon as the ball was in the air.

"They out-rebounded us, especially offensively, that's second chances right there," Swingler said. "They're big and they're strong. (Hester) obviously killed us. She's just big and strong, posted up and got her own rebounds."

At the end of the first half, Hester had 12 points, one less point than SIU, as the Billikens went into the locker room with a 34-13 lead.

SIU didn't score a point in the game until Saint Louis had already scored four, and didn't make a field goal until junior forward Charnise Mitchell converted a layup at the 17 minute 34 second mark with the Billikens up 9-3. Mitchell was the only Saluki with a field goal until the 10-minute mark in the first half, when sophomore guard Teri Oliver hit a mid-range jumper.

Mitchell led SIU with seven points, Oliver had four and Swingler and Nneka Nwani had one point apiece to be the only Salukis with points in the first half. Mitchell said she tried to spark the Saluki offense with her effort

in the first half.

"I mean, I saw that we didn't have much offense going with our point guards having problems handling the ball, so I didn't necessarily try to take it all on my back, but just to see if we could get something going. But it didn't work out," she said.

After a disappointing first half, SIU came out with more energy as they attempted to run a full-court press of their own, but Saint Louis found ways around it and outscored the Salukis 32-16 in the second half.

Please see BASKETBALL | 7