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SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

JULY 10, 2007

Competition abound

New apartments could force older complexes to renovate or lose renters

Brian Feldt
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Long-time staples in the off-campus student housing scene could be in for a rude awakening in the coming years.

New and developing apartment complexes such as Aspen Court and The Reserve at Saluki Pointe could pose as a major economic concern for older facilities including Lewis Park, Brookside Manor Apartment and other apartment complexes that have been established in Carbondale for some time.

In recent years, business developers have constructed state-of-the-art apartment facilities near the SIUC campus, creating a fiercely competitive market for local apartments or houses.

The new complexes usually become premier housing structures for SIUC students until another new apartment complex is built. The matter could force some housing merchants to struggle with maintaining a loyal base.

Last year, the newly constructed Aspen Court opened its doors for business and was almost immediately booked.

Jon Sauser, owner of Aspen Court, said he believes his facility is the finest in Carbondale and will be for a long time coming.

"In my opinion we are the best living conditions Carbondale has to offer," Sauser said. "We have good amenities and good location."

The future doesn't seem too forgiving for local landlords, either.

The Reserve at Saluki Pointe, which is scheduled to break ground early this month at its south-of-

campus location, will open in time for the Fall 2008 semester, just in time for arriving students.

The 11-building complex will feature a wide array of features catering to the average student and is expected to be completely booked well in advance, said Education Realty Trust spokesman Bob Hetherington.

"In Greensborough, N.C., we just built a new 600-bed community for the college there," Hetherington said. "It will be open in August and we have been 100 percent leased for a while and there is already a long waiting list. The fact of the matter is that these communities are very well received."

With The Reserve holding 528 individual tenants and a possible bump to 900 in 2009 depending on market demand, local property managements will have to find an alternate method of attracting clients.

To make units more appealing, landlords could drop rental prices or be forced to upgrade facilities to lure prospective customers, but both options would risk potential income.

Without any type of defense against the up-and-coming housing projects, property managers will have to hope their tenants remain loyal.

The Reserve also has the potential to revitalize the entire south side of Carbondale.

Kevin Baity, the assistant city manager for economic development, said the land around The Reserve's location — the intersection at U.S. 51 and South Illinois Avenue (Old 51) — is already being placed on the



SARAH LATHROP ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

To attract potential renters, banners and flags fly year round in front of Lewis Park Apartments on East Grand Avenue.

market under the assumption it will be a cash cow upon arrival.

Sauser said while the living conditions in places such as Aspen and The Reserve should be the best

around, there will always be a niche for low-end apartments, especially in a college town.

See HOUSING, Page 3

Lawsuit not yet resolved

Lawyer cites discrimination in 2005 hazing case

Sarah Lohman
DAILY EGYPTIAN

A lawsuit filed for alleged hazing in August 2005 against the University has yet to reach a conclusion, although it could happen soon.

The University filed a motion for summary judgment May 24 and if the motion is approved, a judge will decide the case instead of a jury.

The lawsuit was filed by three SIUC students who claimed their constitutional and civil rights were violated through the Student Judicial Affairs process.

Luke Crater, assistant general counselor for SIUC, said he doesn't know what the time frame for the decision is. He said the suit is procedural right now, and they are waiting on the rulings.

In November 2004, Chantal Conley reported to SIUC Police a hazing incident from Oct. 3 to Oct. 7 by the Zeta Phi Beta sorority. Conley and fellow pledge Dominique Winston accused five members of the sorority and five prospective members of paddling, punching, pushing and threatening them as part of a potential review process for induction to the predominantly black sorority.

The matter was handled by the University's Student Judicial Affairs Office, which resulted in three-year suspensions for Nakia Collins and Tequeira Johnson and a two-year suspension for Monet Williams.

Carbondale lawyer Richard Fedder — the lawyer filing the suit — said juries are fact finders. If the judge decides there are no decisive facts to present to a jury, the summary judgment will be approved and a judge will decide the case.

Fedder said the lawsuit also cites discrimination as a factor in determining the punishment for the sorority members.

He compared the Zeta's case to that of the Pi Kappa Alpha pledge who drowned during a fraternity-sponsored camping trip in 2004.

That fraternity was found guilty of eight counts of misconduct — none of which involved hazing. The fraternity was banned from campus, but no individual members suffered any legal or academic repercussions.

Fedder said discrimination caused the Zetas to be punished individually instead of collectively.

Fedder is finishing an argument against summary judgment. He said he doesn't know how long the judge will need to make a decision for or against the summary judgment.

He said the case was originally scheduled to appear in court July 23, but the date may change depending on the judge's decision.

Sarah Lohman can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 254 or slohman@siude.com.

Caravan to Cuba stops in Carbondale



STEPHEN RICKERL ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Louis Reed (left) and Joshua Buchheit of the local band Global Warming, perform Sunday at the Church of the Good Shepherd. The event was organized by Pastors for Peace, a group that will raise money to donate to Cuba in protest of the trade embargo.

Joe Crawford
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Most travelers that pass through southern Illinois heading south are destined for a southern state — Tennessee, maybe even Texas.

Ann Schepper will visit those states, but she is ultimately bound for a more distant destination, Cuba.

Schepper was one of two members of Pastors for Peace, a national organization that delivers humanitarian aid to Latin American and Caribbean countries. She stopped in Carbondale's Church of the Good Shepherd Sunday night on a trip to deliver medicine, educational supplies and other necessities to Cuba.

The purpose of the event, put on by local group Friends of Cuba, was to raise money for Pastors for Peace and raise awareness about the problems associated with the U.S. embargo against Cuba. There are several bills in the U.S. House of Representatives

and the Senate aimed at ending the 45-year embargo, which restricts most trade between the two nations.

Schepper said she plans to travel with the rest of the group as they supply aid to the country to violate the embargo. While it is possible to apply for permission to donate to Cuba, she said the group openly refuses to do so in protest of the embargo.

"Clearly we aren't aiding an enemy," Schepper said. "We're just doing what you're supposed to do — as humanitarians and Christians — in showing love for your neighbor."

The embargo forces Cuba to pay more for supplies imported from distant countries and essentially prevents many Cubans from obtaining items that could improve their standard of living, she said. This year, the campaign is focused on materials for the elderly.

See CUBA, Page 10

This poll is brought to you by **COUNTRY.** Insurance & Financial Services

A new extravagant apartment complex is set to open in fall of '08. Do you think Carbondale and the SIU community needs such a place?

Of course! We need a little luxury in Carbondale	33%
Sure, but who can afford it with the rising cost of tuition?	14%
NO WAY! We need to current rental properties ALL brought up to code.	39%
Who cares? I don't	14%

Up next: SIU Athletics has decided to get rid of Saluki Vision for a newer upgraded version. Do you think this is a good move?

A. Of course, we all love to watch a GREAT Saluki game. B. Yes, the other version was horrible. C. Not really, the games are always better live. D. What the heck is Saluki Vision? Never heard of it.

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CALENDAR

'A Common Journey'
• Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition for Thomas Azzarello
• June 29 – July 15, reception July 19 from 4-7 pm at University Museum
• Free
• For more information call Nate at 453-7413

Submit calendar items to the DAILY EGYPTIAN newsroom, Communications 1247, at least two days before event, or call 536-3311, ext. 266.

POLICE REPORTS

Jackson County
Chad M. Stein, 22, of St. Louis was arrested and charged with aggravated battery at 10:34 p.m. Saturday at the Kinkaid Marina. Stein was taken to the Jackson County Jail.

Murphysboro
Raymond E. Davis, 43, of Murphysboro was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, driving while license revoked, fleeing to elude, illegal transportation of alcohol and operating an uninsured motor vehicle 12:38 a.m. Saturday on Walnut Street. Davis was taken to the Jackson County Jail pending a court appearance.

Timothy K. Sims, 20, of Albers was arrested and cited with possession of cannabis at 12:32 p.m. Sunday on Bridge and Williams Streets. Sims was cited and released pending a court appearance.

CORRECTIONS

If you spot an error, please contact the DAILY EGYPTIAN accuracy desk at 536-3311, ext. 253.

Rep. Bost: consider impeaching Blago over budget flap

STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

State Rep. Mike Bost (R-Murphysboro) suggested Saturday the House of Representatives should consider impeaching Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

According to several Illinois newspapers, Bost said the House should see if Blagojevich "is to the point that impeachment proceedings could start."

Bost's comments came during a state budget crisis which has the Governor and lawmakers at odds. The latest clash came Saturday, when Blagojevich required the House to meet at 2 p.m., but House Speaker Michael Madigan convened the House around 10 a.m. and dismissed it by noon.

According to reports, Blagojevich has threatened legal action against Madigan over the dispute.

"If we were in Hollywood, this would be compelling stuff, if we were teenagers playing a game of Risk, this would be amusing. But sadly, we are not," Bost said in a press release Friday.

Lawmakers met with the Governor in a more than two-hour meeting Sunday. Some members of Congress called the meeting productive, but acknowledged the meeting showed legislators just how far they still have to go.

Budget negotiators from the four legislative caucuses produced estimates of the gap between the state's expenses for the year and how much money is coming in to cover those costs. Lawmakers said that deficit is nearly \$900 million, not including ambitious spending proposals Blagojevich has pushed for.

House Speaker Michael Madigan, D-Chicago, called the report "inconclusive" because of arguments among the caucuses about the budget numbers. He said Blagojevich should work to resolve those differences.

Blagojevich tried Monday to change the subject from the state budget stalemate by urging the Illinois House to pass a gun-control measure, but the bill's sponsor said he doesn't want to call the legislation for a vote yet.

Lawmakers in Springfield immediately accused Blagojevich of political grandstanding and again criticized him for driving a wedge into already precarious negotiations over the state budget.

It was the latest back and forth between the Democratic governor and lawmakers as they haggle over a spending plan in an overtime session that has dissolved into name-calling and finger-pointing.

"Let's solve the issues that need to be solved. Let's quit playing games, and let's get in the arena and get the job done," said Rep. John Bradley, D-Marion, an opponent of gun control.

With lawmakers in Springfield, Blagojevich held a press conference in Chicago to urge the House to pass a measure banning high-capacity ammunition holders for assault weapons that the Illinois Senate has approved. It would ban the sale or possession of ammunition clips that hold more than 10 rounds.

Without naming Madigan, Blagojevich wondered how the bill could pass in the Senate but go nowhere in the House. It was a not-so-veiled pick at Madigan by the governor who has egged on Madigan in an escalating war of words as disagreements over the state budget deepen. Blagojevich has called Madigan a right-wing Republican for not supporting his proposals and Madigan has told Blagojevich to "knock it off."

Surrounded by dozens of gun-control advocates, Blagojevich pledged to get action from the House by using his constitutional power to call lawmakers into special session.

"This is the beginning of a whole series of special sessions that I will be calling to take care of unfinished business and if some legislative leaders don't want to call these bills for a vote on their own, we'll call special sessions" to make it happen, Blagojevich said.

Surrounded by fanfare in Chicago, Blagojevich's proclamation went over with a thud in Springfield.

House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie, D-Chicago, a gun control supporter, said Blagojevich should use special sessions for emergency issues.

"The only emergency we are in at the moment is the budget emergency," she said.

She suggested Blagojevich could have spoken up earlier rather than leading the charge in an overtime session of the Legislature.

The Associated Press contributed to this report

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RATATOUILLE (G)
12:30 1:15 3:30 4:00 6:30 9:15

EVAN ALMIGHTY (PG)
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12:45 3:40 6:45 9:30

LICENSE TO WED (PG-13)
2:15 4:45 7:30 9:45

EVENING (PG-13)
1:45 4:30 7:20

LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD (PG-13)
1:00 2:00 4:00 5:00 7:00 8:00 10:00

1408 (PG-13)
1:10 3:50 6:30 9:00

FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER (PG)
1:20 3:30

KNOCKED UP (R)
7:10

SHREK THE 3RD (PG)
1:30 4:15

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Low 70°	Low 60°	Low 60°	Low 66°	Low 61°	Low 62°	Low 66°
A t-storm around in the p.m.	A couple of thunderstorms	Clouds and sun	Partly sunny and pleasant	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Plenty of sunshine

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Graffiti was discovered on the sculpture outside of Life Sciences II on Monday. Other areas of campus were also vandalized, including Faner Hall.

STEPHEN RICKERL
DAILY EGYPTIAN

New stove burners could prevent grease fires

Scott Mieszala
DAILY EGYPTIAN

University Housing is taking extra measures to prevent grease fires at the source of the problem — the stoves.

Glenn Stine, the deputy housing director for facilities, said new, safe burners are being installed at Evergreen Terrace and should be completed by the end of the summer semester. Stine said the project cost \$48,000.

The burners have already been installed at Wall & Grand Apartments, which Stine said cost \$14,500.

"We're just under a lot of pressure to prevent any future fires, we're concerned about the students' safety," Stine said. "If this prevents one fire, it's paid for itself."

The new burners were installed to prevent grease fires. There were three fires at Evergreen Terrace in an eight-month period, the last of which occurred in February 2006. Two of the fires were grease fires, and all three totaled more than \$100,000 worth of damage.

Grease will ignite when it reaches a temperature of 728 degrees Fahrenheit. The new burners shut off electricity to the burner when they reach 662 degrees Fahrenheit.

University Housing spokeswoman Crystal Bouhl said the technology will enhance the safety of the buildings, but the best way to prevent kitchen fires is to never leave the kitchen unattended when cooking.

"When temperatures on a stovetop reach a certain degree, this technology automatically shuts off heat to those burners," Bouhl said. "It's another safety method that



RYAN RENDLEMAN ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Rebecca Dycus, publicity and promotions specialist for University Housing, shows off the new stoves at the Wall and Grand Apartments. The hot plates turn off after reaching 662 F to protect against grease fires.

we're implementing in University housing."

The burners, called the Safe-T-Element, are produced by Pioneering Technology and are made for electric stoves. Unlike the normal spiraled electric burners, the safer burners are flat plates.

The cast-iron cover helps retain heat once the temperature of 662 degrees Fahrenheit is reached and electricity is shut off. Stine said this shape also causes food to be cooked more evenly and consistently than on a normal electric

stove.

While the burners have been installed at Evergreen Terrace and Wall & Grand, Stine said the only other possibility would be at Southern Hills.

However, Southern Hills contains both gas and electric stoves, so the new burners won't be installed there, Stine said. He said a lack of money further prevents the installation.

Scott Mieszala can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 268 or smieszala@siude.com.

HOUSING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"There is always going to be those people who are trying to pinch pennies and find the cheapest rent available to them," Sauser said. "Those people are fine with living in a trailer park or a run-down apartment. There is a market for those places and a market for us."

However, if the south side of Carbondale does develop into a prosperous business market after construction of The Reserve is completed, other apartment complexes may want to follow suit.

The prospect of a better market on the south side could drive students out of the traditional complexes Carbondale has come to know.

Representatives from Lewis Park, Brookside Manor Apartments, Georgetown Apartments and Creekside Apartments declined comment. A spokesman from G & R Property Management and Schilling Property Management did not return phone calls as of press time.

Brian Feldt can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 258 or bfeldt@siude.com.

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Storms calm over flooded Texas

Paul J. Weber
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — After weeks of flooding, the weather pattern that has inundated Texas and the Southern Plains has taken a change for the better, a meteorologist said Monday.

The storms that have caused widespread flooding appeared to be scattering, and the threat of new flooding has been reduced significantly, National Weather Service meteorologist Eric Martello said. He said the low pressure systems that produced heavy rain for a month across Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas had moved off.

Still, a late round of rain over the weekend flooded some central Texas homes in low-lying areas of Hico, about 100 miles southwest of Dallas. No injuries were reported, but some major roads into the town were closed.

Smith County officials also made a new disaster declaration Sunday night, saying flooding had caused about \$200,000 worth of damage to their eastern Texas county.

"We still have areas that are dangerous," county Commissioner Bill McGinnis told KLTU of Tyler. "We have barricaded those off. We beg people not to go around those barricades because it is just so extremely dangerous to do that."

Rivers in Kansas and Oklahoma have been receding from record flood crests, revealing millions of dollars in damage to thousands of homes and businesses, in addition to the 1,000 or so damaged in central and northern Texas.

At least 17 deaths, most in Texas, have been blamed on storms and



TOM PENNINGTON ~ MCT

Mike Pirie, of Fort Worth, Texas, keeps watch over a massive river-wide hydraulic as search crews resume their search along the banks of the West Fork of the Trinity River in Fort Worth on Saturday. Game Wardens and firefighters were back on the West Fort of the Trinity River on Monday, searching for a River Oaks man who disappeared Friday while rafting, officials said. Dennis Ward, 26, is presumed dead, officials have said.

flooding that have plagued the southern Plains since early June.

In Miami, Okla., one of the hardest-hit areas, City Manager Mike Spurgeon said officials from the

Federal Emergency Management Agency told him that 647 structures in the Ottawa County town had been affected by flooding from the Neosho River and Tar Creek, includ-

ing 236 considered destroyed.

In Texas, the search for a 26-year-old man missing since his raft capsized on the rain-swollen Trinity River near Fort Worth also resumed

Monday morning, said Kent Worley, spokesman for the Fort Worth Fire Department. Teams had shifted their search from a rescue mission to a recovery, Worley said.

Iraqi leaders warn against quick pullout by U.S. forces

Bassem Mroue
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — Iraqi leaders warned Monday the country could collapse if American troops leave too quickly as pressure mounts in Washington to draw down U.S. combat forces. More threats to Iraqi stability could be looming to the north with Turkish forces gathering in a possible prelude to a cross-border attack against Kurdish rebels.

Iraq's foreign minister said Turkey has massed 140,000 soldiers near Iraq — a figure immediately disputed by the Bush administration, which said

satellite photos indicated no such buildup. Nevertheless, Turkey has been deploying troops on the border for several months, and the country's foreign minister said last week that the government and military had agreed on detailed plans for a cross-border operation.

The White House said President Bush is not considering a withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq now despite an erosion of support among Republicans for his war policy. A report is due Sunday on whether the Iraqi government is meeting political, economic and security benchmarks that Bush set in January when

he ordered 21,500 more U.S. combat forces to Iraq.

Three prominent Republicans — Sens. Richard Lugar of Indiana, George Voinovich of Ohio and Pete Domenici of New Mexico — have announced they can no longer support Bush's Iraq strategy and have called on the president to start reducing the military's role here.

That drew a sharp response from Iraq's foreign minister, who warned that a speedy U.S. military withdrawal could lead to all-out civil war, the collapse of the government and spread conflict across the Middle East.

Four convicted of plotting failed 2005 London suicide bombing

Tariq Panja
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Four men were found guilty Monday of plotting to bomb London's public transport system on July 21, 2005, two weeks after a coordinated suicide bombing attack on the network killed 52 commuters.

The jury was still deliberating on two co-defendants.

The men were accused of attempting to detonate explosives-laden backpacks on three subway trains and

a bus in a mirror image of the July 7, 2005 attacks. The devices — made from a volatile mix of hydrogen peroxide and flour — failed to explode, and no one was injured.

All six suspects denied the charges, saying the devices were duds and their actions a protest against the Iraq war.

The verdicts, which follow a six-month trial, come days after police uncovered a plot to detonate car bombs in London's entertainment district and two men rammed a flaming Jeep Cherokee into Glasgow

International Airport.

Convicted of conspiracy to murder were Muktar Said Ibrahim, 29; Yassin Omar, 26; and Ramzi Mohammed, 25. Several hours later the jury returned another guilty verdict against Hussain Osman, 28, accused of trying to detonate a bomb on a subway train.

Judge Adrian Fulford told the jury of nine women and three men he would accept 10-2 majority verdicts on the other two defendants: Manfo Kwaku Asiedu, 34; and Adel Yahya, 24.

WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON

Congress returns, ready to battle Bush over Libby's commutation and executive privilege

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressmen returning from their Independence Day break are ready for battle with the White House, with Democrats decrying President Bush's commutation of former aide I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby's prison sentence and fighting Bush's latest claim of executive privilege.

Both events occurred around Congress' vacation, inflaming an intense battle between Democrats and Bush over his use of executive power.

Several Democrat-led investigations are playing out this week as they head toward contempt of Congress citations and, if neither side yields, federal court.

Monday is the deadline for the White House to explain why Bush is refusing to comply with a congressional subpoena for e-mails and other documents on his aides' involvement in the firings of eight federal prosecutors last winter. The White House is not expected to comply with the deadline.

In a pair of hearings Wednesday, the House Judiciary Committee will look at Bush's commutation last week of Libby's prison sentence for obstruction of justice in the CIA leak case. The Senate Judiciary Committee is expected to hear from former White House political director Sara Taylor about the prosecutor firings, according to Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Hundreds evacuated as fires flare across West; 1 dead after trying to retrieve items from home

HOT SPRINGS, S.D. (AP) — One of dozens of fires across the West raced out of a canyon in South Dakota's Black Hills "with a vengeance" on Sunday, killing a homeowner and destroying 27 homes, authorities said.

Residents of about 50 homes had fled the wildfire near Hot Springs, which also injured two firefighters and closed a section of a state highway, state and federal officials said. An area of roughly 9 square miles has burned since the fire was sparked Saturday by lightning.

One person was killed trying to retrieve possessions from a home. The person's identity was withheld until relatives could be notified, authorities said.

"This thing blew up because of extreme hot temperatures and the winds," said Joe Lowe, state wildland fire coordinator. "It came out of the canyon with a vengeance."

Gov. Mike Rounds toured the area Sunday and noted that the trees around some houses were charred but the dwellings were intact.

TERRORISM

Interpol chief: Britain not sharing information from terror probe into failed car bomb attacks

LONDON (AP) — The head of Interpol said Monday that Britain's anti-terrorist efforts are "in the wrong century," pointing out that authorities in London had not shared any information from the investigation of three failed car bomb attacks and had not made good use of a passport database.

"We have received not one name, not one fingerprint, not one telephone number, not one address, nothing, from the UK, about the recent thwarted terrorist attacks," Ronald Noble, Interpol's secretary general, said in an interview with British Broadcasting Corp. television.

"My view is that the U.K.'s anti-terrorist effort is in the wrong century," Noble said. Detectives on three continents are working to piece together details of the failed attacks on two London nightspots and the airport in Glasgow, Scotland.



Nostalgia can't save Transformers

Alicia Wade
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Transformers
Rated: PG-13

Starring: Shia LaBeouf, Megan Fox, Josh Duhamel, Tyrese Gibson
Directed by Michael Bay
Runtime: 144 min.

There was a time when any child who had a television set in the 80s would have traded every Garbage Pail Kids card and Teddy Ruxpin tape he or she had to see a big screen, CGI show-down between Megatron and Optimus Prime.

But after sitting through the grueling, two-hour-plus "Transformers" movie, not even the nostalgia of the TV show about more-than-meets-the-eye robots could keep those children from asking for their toys back.

"Transformers" centers on the wise-cracking Sam (Shia LaBeouf) and his purchase of his first car, a rusted yellow Camaro with an inexplicable knack for driving itself and using its radio to communicate. Soon Sam discovers his beloved car transforms into the Autobot Bumblebee who is a soldier for the good guys in a battle between them and the Decepticons over the Allspark — a cube located on Earth with the power to bring

mechanical devices to life.

LaBeouf's comic chops could bring a smirk to anyone's face, especially in the scenes where he picks his first car.

As he and his father browse a used car lot, his father pushes him toward two beaters as possible choices.

"You ever seen 'The 40 Year Old Virgin?'" Sam asks his father. When his father says yes, Sam points to one car and quickly responds.

"This is the 40-year-old virgin, and this," he says pointing to the other car, "is the 50-year-old virgin."

While LaBeouf excels in his fast-talking, humorous role and the Transformers look amazing onscreen as cars, trucks, tanks and planes one minute to robotic warriors the next, there's little else to like in this film.

Too many events happen in "Transformers" that don't matter and because of those events too many characters that don't matter are included in the film as well. The Decepticons attack a military base to hack into the United State's computer system, but past a pretty neat fight scene to watch, there's no reason for this to happen because later in the film the audience learns they could have done that from anywhere.

Unfortunately, because of this attack there's a whole unnecessary military subplot going on that adds a handful of mili-

tary and government characters that don't need to be there.

Even Sam's girlfriend, played by Megan Fox, falls victim to the far too complex storyline and is just a gorgeous girl with little purpose.

But the bottom line of "Transformers" is just go to see the CGI robots. Their bigger-than-life fights in city streets and intricate transformations are fantastic on the big screen and are entertainment for both children and adults.

Rest assured, Autobots leader Optimus Prime and the evil Decepticons chief Megatron do battle one on one in an eye-popping finale to the film. But all the nostalgia in the world can't make the first hours of the film easy to sit through.

Alicia Wade can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275 or awade@siude.com.

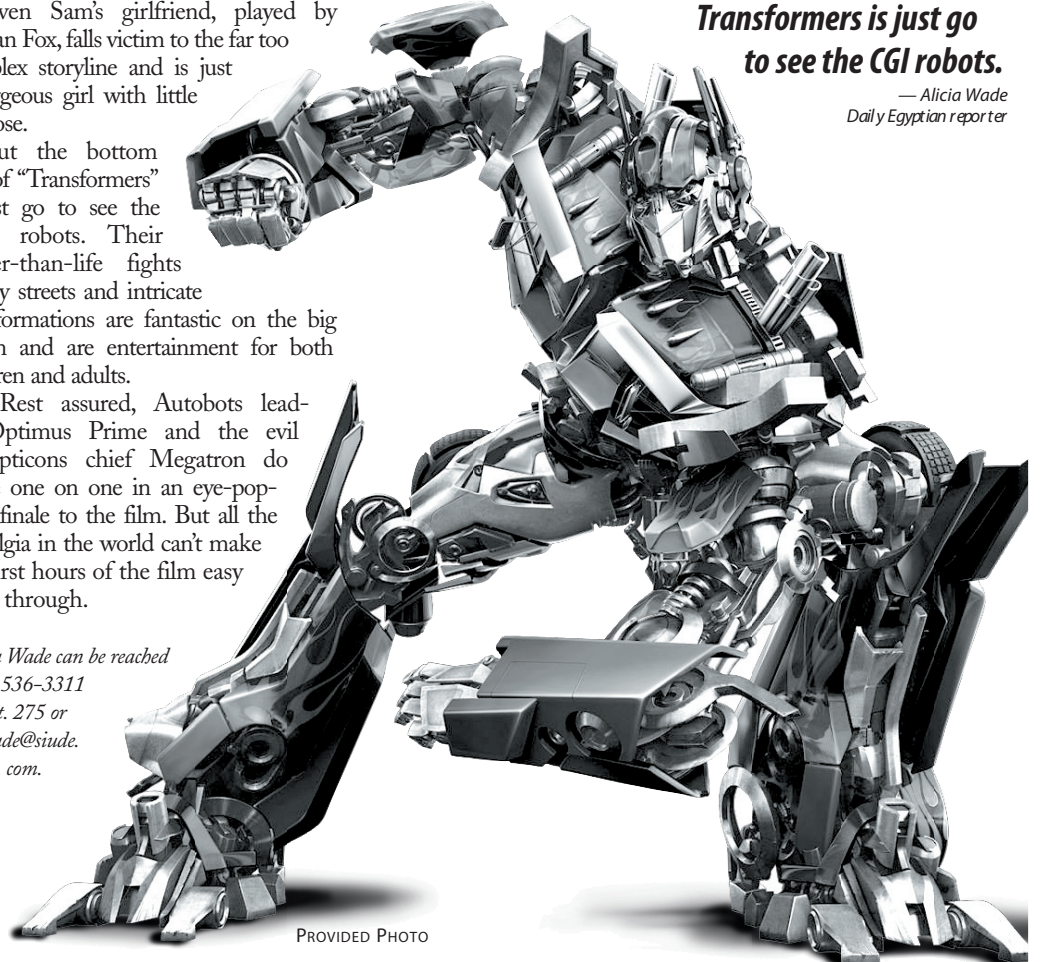
"The bottom line of Transformers is just go to see the CGI robots."

— Alicia Wade
Daily Egyptian reporter

Gus heads



2 Gus heads out of 4



PROVIDED PHOTO

Tearjerker tries too hard

Alicia Wade
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Evening
Rated: PG-13

Starring: Claire Danes, Toni Collette, Vanessa Redgrave, Patrick Wilson
Directed by Lajos Koltai
Runtime: 117 min.

All too often movies with emotional subjects in their corner mainly rely on tearful moments and pulling on heartstrings to get the message across and win fans.

In "Evening," mother-daughter relationships, life's mistakes and the topic of death set a meaningless, misty-eyed trap for the flick and a meandering storyline allows it to fall right in.

The story, adapted from a Susan Minot novel, revolves around the aged and dying Ann (Vanessa Redgrave) who has rare moments of lucidity in her final days. Her daughters, Constance (Natasha Richardson) and Nina (Toni Collette), when they aren't having meaningless fights about what defines happiness notice their mother has begun mentioning names and events from her past in her delirium.

Soon enough the audience finds out through a series of flashbacks to young Ann's (Claire Danes) best friend's wedding that indeed the people Ann mentions did exist as well as the events.

Unfortunately, it's all so boring and blatantly trying for tears that viewers find themselves crossing their fingers and wishing maybe Ann would have a little courtesy and expedite her dying process.

There are a few glistening stars in an otherwise dreary "Evening."

Some shots in the film are breathtakingly beautiful, with glossy light



PROVIDED PHOTO

sources and soft colors from the landscape. Even if the story isn't all that great, at least the filmmaker had the foresight to make it pretty to look at.

Danes' endearing portrayal of the young Ann, a wide-eyed youth who finds her pauperish existence horribly out of place at her best friend's upscale wedding, is a bright spot in the film as well.

Her character is a flighty singer from the big city who finds herself in love with the much-sought-after older gentleman Harris (Patrick Wilson). Her coquettish smiles and not-so-great singing at the wedding make her a loveable girl next door.

In one scene as her best friend laments her upcoming wedding to someone she believes may be the wrong man, Danes carefully embraces the weeping girl and kisses her head, telling her not to worry and trivializing the whole matter with an airy, "La la la."

Danes' gentle portrayal of the young Ann makes her a friend any-

one would love to have.

However the rest of the characters in the film have the depth of the remaining milk in a bowl after the cereal has been eaten. Nina is angry with her mother, but with no real reason why beyond maybe not being so happy with her own life. Harris is just a handsome man with little to offer beside unrequited love and the occasional romantic lines about stars.

It's such a detriment to a film that tried to be so emotionally driven. If audiences aren't invested in characters, when tragedy strikes, there's no reason to cry.

The story is too meandering and has just a few too many heart-crushing emotions going on (death, failed romance, death again, bad relationships, surprise pregnancy, etc.) without any audience investment to be a true hit. Danes goes a long way to carry this bore of a film, but in the end, it's just a little too drudging and pointless.

Gus heads



1.5 Gus heads out of 4

Walk out on this wedding

Justin Leverett
DAILY EGYPTIAN

License to Wed
Rated: PG-13

Starring: Robin Williams, John Krasinski, Mandy Moore
Directed by Ken Kwapis
Runtime: 90 min.

Fifty-percent of marriages end in divorce, and at least 80 percent of marriage movies end in disappointment. Which statistic is more frightening? For most people, the answer is obvious.

But for a moviegoer, not so much.

"License to Wed" is the tired tale of a young engaged couple whose burgeoning puppy-love relationship must be put to the test. Ben Murphy (John Krasinski of "Office" fame) and fiancé Sadie Jones (Mandy Moore) must undergo a marriage preparation course run by the unorthodox Rev. Frank (Robin Williams), pastor of Sadie's childhood congregation.

Traditionally, this is where hijinks ensue. Almost immediately, the movie comes up short.

Frank puts the young couple through a series of relationship-building activities. They must write their own vows separately, abstain from sex, drive a car blindfolded and take care of a pair of ugly-as-sin robot babies. Problem is, the robot babies get more laughs than any of the actors.

Williams visibly holds back. His smiling sense of humor shines

through on occasion, but the non-committal writing he is stuck with rarely lets him flex his comic muscles. Even worse, he is saddled with a menacing Choir Boy (young Josh Flitter) who fails to play effective foil to any of Williams' affable charms.

Krasinski, in the meantime, appears to be playing exactly the same part he does in "The Office", minus the charming self-awareness. His character is passive-aggressive and infuriatingly ineffectual, with an occasional burst of pent-up frustration just to mix things up. It is hard to like anyone as repressed as this.

Despite his character's flaws, the actor's charisma still shines through. He'd be downright adorable if it weren't for his friendship with the misogynistic Joel (DeRay Davis), whose overt sexism makes viewers question what kind of person this is in the first place.

By the end of the movie, the plot finally succumbs to ancient clichés and feel-good drudgery. Sadie goes to Jamaica, only to realize that she can only be complete if she is with the man that she loves and has lost. He follows her to the ends of the earth, proves himself, the two marry and everyone lives happily ever after.

The film is as meaningless as most short-lived marriages today, and just as painful to sit through.

Justin Leverett can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275 or justin_leverett@siude.com.

Gus heads



1 Gus head out of 4



LUNCH TIME

Photo column by Dan Celvi ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

McDonald's, Taco Bell and Burger King are more common for me than a meal cooked at home while in school.

Eating healthy is hard when work and class take up all my time, but doing a story on an organic farm this spring allotted me an interesting opportunity—sitting down for an hour in the middle of the day, and eating a lunch comprised of fresh and healthy foods.

Food that was either grown on the farm, including asparagus picked right before it was cooked, and fresh products from the Coop led to a fresh and delicious meal that I rarely get to enjoy.

Taking an hour for a meal isn't common for me in general. While school is in session things like classes, work, and just a general unwillingness to cook and do dishes make a normal meal just that more uncommon.

Being able to take the time in the middle of the day was a great break—enjoying the spring air despite allergies, and just generally getting to know whom I was photographing is a great experience.

The meal isn't even so important as just the time of the day to sit back, relax and think about what's coming next.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Converting Miners stadium could be cheaper than building new football field on campus

DEAR EDITOR:

Just a thought, but why are we building a new football stadium when the Miners have a stadium in Marion? Wouldn't it make more sense to use the Marion Stadium for Saluki Football Games? SIUC could enter into contracts with the stadium owners to use the facilities. If need be, SIUC could pay to have it converted to AstroTurf so it could be used for football and baseball with little conversion time. It would be a win-win situation. It might be away from the campus, but it would be easy to extend Saluki express service to Marion.

Carbondale businesses might complain about the loss of revenue

because games will be in Marion and people will spend money there. But, I have not heard one pipe from neither the city nor Carbondale businesses about raising any taxes or money to help out with Saluki Way. They only want to take from the university and students, and not give back to help SIUC out in these rough times. As far as I'm concerned, they deserve what they get. Sharing the ballpark in Marion for Saluki games makes a lot of sense, and would save SIUC tens of millions of dollars needed for a brand new stadium on-campus.

Anthony Hamelin
Senior Technical Resource Management

Muslim physicians condemn terrorism

DEAR EDITOR:

We, the Muslim Physicians in southern Illinois, condemn the events taking place in the United Kingdom. These acts in the UK, if found to be truly done by health professionals, are inconsistent with all we believe in as Americans, as health professionals, and as Muslims.

We remind all health professionals of their obligations under the Geneva Convention, which asks that we state that "I (the medical practitioner) will maintain the utmost respect for human life from its beginning even under threat and I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity."

We call on all people of conscience, whether they are health professionals, Muslims, Americans or British to consider seriously the damage their action might cause to innocent people, the societies who would suffer from their actions, and the people and groups whom they will be labeled to represent when caught and identified.

We especially call on all health professionals from all ethnic and minority communities to look for signs of social isolation with in their community and to openly discuss the issues of terrorism, vigilantism, and violence that have become a cancer in our midst.

Muhammad Kamran, MD
Carbondale physician

ABOUT US

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OUR WORD is the consensus of the DAILY EGYPTIAN Editorial Board on local, national and global issues affecting the Southern Illinois University community. Viewpoints expressed in guest columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

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The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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2 BDRM, 305 W College, 406 319, 324 W Walnut, call 549-4808, 1 BDRM, 310 W Cherry, 207 W Oak 802 W Walnut, 106 S Forest, 549-4808 (9 am-5 pm), no pets.

3BDRM HOMES & DUP avail in Aug, Section 8 OK, call 618-833-3498

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4 BDRM, 319, 324, 406 W Walnut, 305 W College, 503, 511 S Ash, 3 BDRM, 106 S Forest, 405 S Ash, 610 W Cherry, 321 W Walnut, no pets, 549-4808 (9 am-5 pm).

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C'DALE 3BDRM NICE & very quiet area, c/a, w/d, garage, no dogs quiet people only avail now & August 1st call 549-0081.

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MOVE IN SPECIAL C'dale- quiet, park, 2-3 bdrm/2 bathroom, \$400-\$525mo, call for details, (618)549-3000 or (334)268-7869.

2 BDRM, 2 blks from campus, 728 sq feet, avail May 18 & Aug 18, w/d, d/w, effie gas heat & stove, no pets, 1 bath, \$450/mo, 1.5 baths, \$480/mo, 618-529-1422.

1 BDRM, 2 blks from campus, 500 sq feet, avail May 18 & Aug 18, w/d, d/w, effie gas heat & stove, c/a, no pets, \$375/mo, 618-529-1422.

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For more information please call (618) 453-3570

*Volunteers must be 18 years or older and consent to complete the computerized survey and confidential information form. Following the survey, participants will be asked to swab their cheeks with a sterile swab to collect (only) genetic materials as this is a study of understanding emotions.



RYAN RENDLEMAN ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Lloyd "Timeloyd" Rich, discusses his interest in Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy at the Galactic Independence Picnic at Evergreen Park July 1. He hosts themed picnics the first Sunday of every month May through September at the park's Black Locust Shelter.

CUBA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Because of improved health in Cuba, people are living a generation longer than they have in the past," she said. "Because of the blockade, they can't get wheelchairs and supplies and things like that."

Ellen Bernstein, another organizer for Pastors for Peace, said there are 11 vehicles, some large buses and others vans similar to the dark blue Ford in which she travels, crossing the U.S. to collect goods and educate the public about the embargo.

The group will eventually meet July 17 in McAllen, Texas, where they will prepare for the next leg of their trip.

"We drive (the aid) across the border into Mexico, which is the first point where the U.S. government might stop us," she said.

Bernstein said she has traveled many times with the group to Mexico, where the goods can then be shipped via cargo ship to Cuba. While the group could face large fines and arrest for their actions, she said the U.S. authorities only occasionally cause the group problems.

"Sometimes they want us to go so quickly, they even pay our tolls," she said.

Margie Parker, an organizer with Friends of Cuba, said the group hosts an event with Pastors for Peace each year to raise awareness about the issue.

"The main purpose is to say that we believe Cuba is not an enemy," she said.

Parker, who said she traveled to Cuba in 1999 to study the country, said the U.S. media promotes many misconceptions about the country and its people.

"They talk as if religion is not permitted in Cuba," she said.

Religion is not forbidden and Cuba's citizens are not as impoverished as they are often depicted, she said.

"Everything there may not be perfect — everything here is not perfect," she said. "But there is no reason we shouldn't be friends."

Joe Crawford can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 273 or jrcrawford@siude.com

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Illinois residents feel above normal temps

Nathaniel Hernandez
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO (AP) — Area temperatures climbed into the mid-90s Sunday, prompting northern Illinois residents to search for shade, iced tea and other ways to cool off during what was the year's hottest day so far.

The mercury climbed to 94 degrees in downtown Chicago by noon, but the heat index made it feel more like 101, the National Weather Service said. Temperatures continued climbing through the late afternoon hours.

"We're definitely above normal," said Edward Fenelon, a weather service meteorologist.

The typical high temperature for this time of year is 83 degrees, he said. Temperatures did not surpass the 1955 record high of 99 degrees, but it did reach 94 degrees at O'Hare International Airport on Sunday afternoon and 96 degrees in downtown Chicago, surpassing a 93-degree high set in June.

At a farmer's market in the city's Logan Square neighborhood, shoppers sipped iced tea and huddled under vendors' tent canopies to get out of the blazing sun.

Tania Cubberly, 37, said she often spends hours at the market each weekend, but was cutting her trip to only 30 minutes Sunday for the sake of her toddler son.

"Edward — this little boy — he doesn't tolerate the hot weather very well," she said.

Temperatures began creeping higher than normal in Chicago on

Saturday.

While the oven-like temperatures sent people scurrying for cover, the steamy weather seemed to be good for business for some Illinois farmers.

The warm temperatures have helped Rob Montalbano's giant organic zucchinis balloon to more than 3 1/2 pounds at his Marseilles farm about 80 miles southwest of Chicago.

"They grow like crazy, it's unbelievable," he said. "You have to harvest them everyday."

In southern Illinois on Sunday temperatures hovered around 90 degrees, while it was slightly cooler in central portions of the state, meteorologists said.

Near Chicago, the shores of Lake Michigan provided little relief.

The high temperatures combined with minimal rain and sea gull waste was being blamed for elevated E. coli levels that forced city officials to prohibit swimming at six beaches Saturday. The ban was lifted Sunday but advisories remained in place at two beaches.

Meanwhile, 16 passengers on a Chicago Transit Authority train were recovering Sunday after being hospitalized the day before when a suicide attempt forced emergency officials to shut down a train line for two hours, stranding passengers inside rail cars without air conditioning.

Some passengers did not wait for instructions from transit officials before deciding to leave the train for a nearby station platform.

Bookie testifies at mob trial

Mike Robinson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — A convicted bookie who went to jail a week ago rather than testify against reputed mob boss Frank Calabrese Sr. relented Monday and told a federal jury he once got a "juice loan" from Calabrese.

Joel Glickman, looking haggard after spending a week in the Metropolitan Correctional Center for contempt, also said that he paid as much as \$400,000 in "street tax" over 25 years of working as a bookmaker.

Glickman testified that if he hadn't paid the mob for permission to do business he would have lived in a state of fear.

"Fear of what?" asked Assistant U.S. Attorney Markus Funk.

"Fear of getting hurt," Glickman said.

Calabrese is one of five defendants at Chicago's biggest mob trial in years. They are charged with taking part in a racketeering conspiracy that included 18 murders, gambling, loan sharking and extortion of street tax — the Chicago word for the protection racket.

Last week, Glickman refused to answer a question about whether he ever paid street tax to Calabrese, and was jailed by Judge James B. Zagel.

Saluki Insider

SALUKI TRACKER

JASON FRASOR



On July 7, Jason Frasor pitched one scoreless inning in the 9-4 loss to the Cleveland Indians, while striking out two.

Do you have questions for the Saluki Banter that you want answered?
E-mail: editor@siude.com

On Monday, Mark Buehrle signed a 4-year contract for the White Sox worth \$56 million. Is he worth that much to the White Sox, or should the Cardinals have offered him twice that to revive their starting pitching problems?



EUGENE CLARK

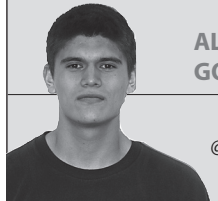
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"Even if it means that the Cardinals would have to cut Encarnacion, Edmonds, Kennedy, and all of the current starters, the Cardinals would benefit a lot from spending the money for a quality starter - especially because Mulder's career is over."

"Why would the Cardinals want to pay a pitcher twice as much as Chris Carpenter when Buehrle is at best equal to Braden Looper?"

BRIT FINNEGAN

bfinnegan@siude.com



ALEJANDRO GONZALEZ

agonzalez@siude.com

"I think Buehrle is worth a hundred million dollars. He is the obvious leader of the team and the main reason why the Sox won the world series two years ago."

SPORT BRIEFS

TENNIS

Federer wins fifth championship

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Roger Federer won his fifth straight Wimbledon championship, beating Rafael Nadal 7-6 (7), 4-6, 7-6 (3), 2-6, 6-2. It was also Federer's 11th Grand Slam title overall, tying Bjorn Borg on both counts.

Federer won his 54th straight victory on grass in a match filled with momentum swings and marvelous shotmaking. The Swiss star has taken 11 of the past 17 Grand Slam titles, including three apiece at the Australian Open and U.S. Open. Federer's total trails only Roy Emerson's 12 and Pete Sampras' 14 on the list of career Grand Slam titles.

In the women's draw, Venus Williams became the tournament's lowest-ranked champion with her 6-4, 6-1 victory over Marion Bartoli on Saturday. It was similar to the performance turned in by Williams' younger sister Serena in January, when she won the Australian Open while ranked 81st.

GOLF

Six-time win for Choi on PGA Tour

BETHESDA, Md. (AP) — K.J. Choi shot a final-round 68 for a 9-under 271 total and a three-stroke victory over Steve Stricker at the inaugural AT&T National. Choi won for the sixth time on the PGA Tour, the most victories by an Asian-born player.

Stricker had three bogeys on the back nine to finish with a 70. Mike Weir (74) also got close before three consecutive back-nine bogeys. Jim Furyk (69) was in the hunt before going 2 over after the turn.

Bryant comes back at Senior Open

HAVEN, Wis. (AP) — Brad Bryant took advantage of another U.S. Senior Open flameout by Tom Watson, shooting a 4-under-par 68 to complete the second-biggest comeback in tournament history.

Bryant's birdie on the 16th hole at Whistling Straits gave him the lead as Watson frittered away six shots in a five-hole stretch on the back nine - the latest in a series of final-round disappointments for Watson in the high-profile senior major.

It was the first victory in a senior major for Bryant, who finished second in the 2006 Senior PGA championship.

Watson shot a 6-over 78 to finish 1 under for the tournament, behind Bryant, Ben Crenshaw at 3 under and Loren Roberts at 2 under.

BOXING

Klitschko knocks out Brewster

COLOGNE, Germany (AP) — Wladimir Klitschko beat Raymond Brewster with a technical knockout after six rounds on Saturday to successfully defend his IBF and IBO heavyweight titles.

The Ukrainian clearly dominated the first five rounds, making repeated contact with his strong left jab that largely went unanswered.

Brewster seemed to be standing up to the constant punishment, but two massive left-right combinations in the sixth round rocked the American. Before the seventh could start, Brewster's trainer slapped his towel on the canvas and referee Sam Williams called the fight.

On Sunday, assistant trainer Jamen Ali Bashir told The Associated Press that the heavyweight champion broke his middle finger during the fight, iced his hand immediately after, and is now wearing a cast from his left hand up past his elbow.

BASEBALL

White Sox takes on Buehrle

CHICAGO (AP) — Ending weeks of trade speculation, left-hander Mark Buehrle agreed to a four-year, \$56 million extension with the Chicago White Sox through the 2011 season.

Buehrle, a three-time All-Star, was eligible to become a free agent after this season. With the White Sox struggling this season just two years after winning the World Series, Buehrle is 6-4 this season with a 3.03 ERA.

TOUR DE FRANCE

McEwen wins despite wrist injury

CANTERBURY, England (AP) — Australian sprint star Robbie McEwen won the first stage of the Tour de France despite hurting his wrist in a crash late in the ride from London across the English countryside.

McEwen led a mass sprint in the flat 126-mile route to Canterbury that favored sprinters. He was timed in 4 hours, 39 minutes, 1 second, and was followed by Norway's Thor Hushovd was second and Belgium's Tom Boonen.

AUTO RACING

Power wins Steelback Grand Prix

TORONTO (AP) — Will Power splashed past rookie Ryan Dalziel with 23 minutes to go and went on to an easy victory in a wet, messy Steelback Grand Prix of Toronto.

The Australian driver, last year's top Champ Car World Series rookie, won for the second time in his career. He moved solidly into championship contention with three-time series champion Sebastien Bourdais and rookie Robert Doornbos.

Dixon gets first win of season

WATKINS GLEN, N.Y. (AP) — Scott Dixon held off Sam Hornish Jr., series leader Dario Franchitti, Tony Kanaan and Marco Andretti over the final 14 laps and won the Watkins Glen Grand Prix, pulling away at the end by 6.2 seconds for his third straight victory at the 3.4-mile, 11-turn natural road course in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York.

It was the first win of the season for Dixon, who has four runner-up finishes for Target Chip Ganassi Racing, and seventh of his career. Pole sitter Helio Castroneves led the first 19 laps and seemed to be the man to beat before crashing.

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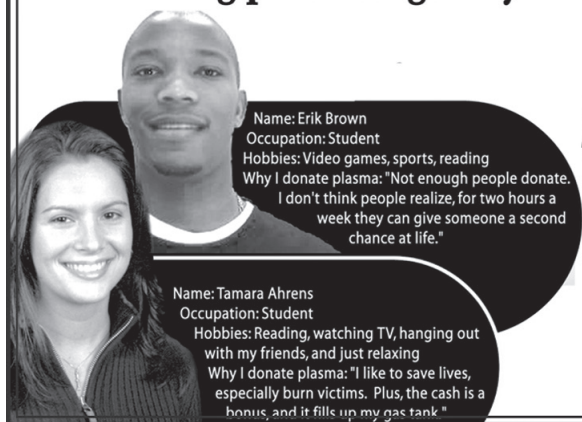
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Name: Erik Brown
Occupation: Student
Hobbies: Video games, sports, reading
Why I donate plasma: "Not enough people donate. I don't think people realize, for two hours a week they can give someone a second chance at life."

Name: Tamara Ahrens
Occupation: Student
Hobbies: Reading, watching TV, hanging out with my friends, and just relaxing
Why I donate plasma: "I like to save lives, especially burn victims. Plus, the cash is a bonus, and it fills up my gas tank."

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ATHLETICS

A new vision: Athletic department looks to newer equipment

Eugene Clark
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

For the first football game of the season, Saluki Vision will have not only a different name, but a different carrier as well.

On Aug. 30, Saluki fans from all over the country will get a clear picture of the kickoff between SIU and Quincy University.

Tom Weber, director of media services, said the former service provided streaming service for SIU games was XOS. SIU had some issues with XOS, where streaming videos for college games was just one aspect of their service and not its specialization, Weber said.

The new provider, Stretch Internet Service, focuses mainly on streaming videos, Weber said.

Weber said Stretch Internet should be very compatible with Saluki fans' needs.

"We have some experience with them and they have really proven themselves in the area of customer service," Weber said.

Under the old service of XOS, about 300 fans subscribed for the service, which provides full access to Saluki games via an internet connection for home softball, football and men's and women's basketball games. Instead of traveling to Carbondale, fans could watch and listen live over the Internet.

The passes can be bought by season, by sport or per game. The overall cost for a season pass will be \$89. Saluki Vision made a total of \$25,000 in sales last season, Weber said.

In the past, streaming of sports events used to be done on campus instead of from an Internet provider that has servers in all areas, Weber said.

"We would probably be happy to do it on campus if we could, there just isn't the bandwidth to do it," Weber said.

Another highlight to the new service is that it will receive a new name. Weber said in his weekly blog that he is giving fans a chance

to rename the Saluki Vision. He will pick one of the choices from the top five. As of right now, some of the choices in consideration are: Dawg Watch, Saluki Bites, Dawg Net, Salukis On Demand and Saluki Now.

Assistant men's basketball coach Brad Korn said the service is a great opportunity for alumni all over the country to follow Saluki sports.

"It's important for someone in California to feel like they are involved even if they are not in Illinois," Korn said.

Eugene Clark can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 258 or eclark@siude.com.

COLUMN

All-Star games used to be fun

BRIAN FELDT
 bfeldt@siude.com



I miss the good old days when a player could railroad a catcher at home plate in a meaningless exhibition game and be respected.

And I'm not alone.

We're talking about one of baseball's greatest moments when Pete Rose absolutely demolished American League catcher Ray Fosse in the 1970 All-Star game, which severely diminished the rest of Fosse's career.

In those days, players played the All-Star game to win and not to pose on the field for an inning and take the rest of the day off. Seriously, when was the last time you saw a hard slide in an All-Star game?

The problem with the All-Star game ignited in Milwaukee when Bud Selig, the commissioner of Major League Baseball, declared the 2002 All-Star game a tie.

Both American and National League teams ran out of pitchers in an extra-innings affair and Selig heroically called the game a draw, which for the record has been compared to kissing your sister.

The following year Selig pulled an even bigger blunder in launching the "This Time It Counts" campaign, which provided the winner of the All-Star game home field advantage in the World Series.

The problem is if Selig wants the game to be worthwhile. Then there is only one solution - let the managers select the teams.

Letting fans vote the American League and National League starting lineups does not promote the best lineup possible. It promotes favoritism and popularity.

While fans did the right thing by voting Prince Fielder the starting first baseman over Albert Pujols, the fact Matt Holiday is not starting in outfield while Carlos Beltran and Ken Griffey, Jr. are is ridiculous.

Some people may respond by saying that would take the star out of the All-Star game but I am here to say it will not.

Tony La Russa and Jim Leyland, the two managers of this year's contest, know the deal. They know fans want to see the stars. However, where La Russa and Leyland will differ is the selection of stars.

Leyland, who has a strong chance of advancing to the World Series, will have much vested in this game. A loss would throw away potential home field advantage in the World Series. You can bet the bank Leyland will be playing this game to win.

La Russa, who doesn't necessarily have the team to make a title run, is a gamer. You can count on him to play a hard nine.

The solution is clear Bud: if you want an All-Star Game that will be fiercely competitive and feature the start of now and not of the 1990's, let the managers play the game their way.

FOOTBALL

Salukis reach for summer goals



DAN CELVI ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

B.J. Thompson, a freshman receiver from Carterville, lifts weights in the Troutt-Wittmann weight room Monday evening.

Saluki Athletes work on speed and agility during offseason

Alejandro Gonzalez
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Even on days when there's not practice, offensive lineman Darren Marquez can be found in the Recreation Center working out.

Marquez, a senior, said he's trying to reach personal goals, which includes increasing the 400 pounds he can already bench press.

During the summer, Salukis practice independently every day, and three times a week they lift weights in an effort to prepare for the upcoming season.

Strength and conditioning coach Eric Klein said the team works on drills that are mainly geared toward

speed and agility. These exercises include tire pulls and resistance runs.

Klein has run the conditioning drills for the summer because I-AA rules prohibit head coaches from being at practice.

"My goal is always to get the team in the best possible shape that they can be in," Klein said.

Robert Reeves, the running back coach, and head coach Jerry Kill said while they haven't been present during training and workouts, they trust that Klein is keeping the team in shape.

"From what I've heard, so far it's been a great summer," Reeve said. "Coach Klein has been pushing them harder than he ever has, so we're very pleased on how things are going."

Marquez has been working hard during the summer. He takes the initiative to lift every day, instead of the required three times a week.

"It's something that's instilled in me," he said. "If there's not practice, I'll go work out on my own."

The 6-foot-4-inch senior said the workouts help improve his game. He said one of his other goals for the summer is to get his weight up to 300 pounds.

"If I'm going to gain weight, I want to do it the right way," he said. "I don't want to just gain fat."

Marquez isn't the only player trying to get better. Fred Wright, a junior, received a football scholarship at the end of last season. This is his

first semester working out with the team.

Wright said he's been learning the way the team functions and he is working hard to get an outside linebacker position.

"We do our pass plays and we do our coverage plays without any of the coaches there," he said. "We just have fun and teach the new freshmen our offense and defense."

Wright said he is optimistic about his progress so far this summer.

"I think I've been doing OK," he said. "I'm still learning but I feel like I'm improving."

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