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The Daily Egyptian, June 14, 2007

Daily Egyptian Staff

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The value of a dollar varies from person to person. With the minimum wage in Illinois set to increase from $6.50 to $7.50 July 1, a dollar's worth can add up whether it is earned or spent. The dollar increase could do as much as allow a single mother enough money to buy groceries or give a student enough money to pay a bill.

On the other hand, it could wipe out thousands of jobs across the state and potentially kill a mom-and-pop store that makes southern Illinois so endearing.

Over the following weeks, the Daily Egyptian will take an in-depth look at the people and companies that will be affected by this increase in a five-part series.

### Students feel breathing room with dollar raise

**Brian Feldt**

After more than three years of service to the Student Center Bowling Alley, Mae Robbins is finally set for her first raise. Robbins, a 23-year-old senior in the SIUC radio-television program, will be one of millions in the state of Illinois affected by the minimum wage increase that begins July 1.

For her, it couldn’t come at a sooner time.

The new legislation, passed by Gov. Rod Blagojevich in December, will raise the current minimum wage of $6.50 per hour to $7.50 per hour. There will then be 25-cent increases each year until July of 2010 when the wage will top off at $8.25.

The increase represents the second time the minimum wage has climbed in Blagojevich’s four-year tenure — the first raise was in January 2003.

SIU reports employing 6,000 students annually, all of which start out at the minimum wage level. After 500 hours of work put in, employees are given a 10-cent raise.

Needless to raise to reach a full dollar, Robbins will get a pay increase that otherwise would have taken her six and a half years to attain by working an average of 16 hours per week, the typical student workload.

See WAGE, Page 10
Thursday, June 14, 2007

POLICE REPORT

High temperatures and sunny skies are expected on Thursday, June 14, 2007, with a chance of showers in the afternoon.

Thursd ay, June 14, 2007

Man sentenced in attacks on Naperville teens

CHESTNUT ELK (AP) — A man who provided residential neighbor- hoods looking through windows for crimes has been sen- tenced to 36 years in prison for sexually assaulting two Naperville teens.

Dominick Rodolfo, 36, admitted tapping on the windows of at least 100 teens in attempts to make contact with them; Naperville police detective Nick Liberto testified in DuPage County court Tuesday at Rodolfo's sentencing. Rodolfo would sometimes drive around neighborhoods all night in search of lit computer screens, then tap on windows and claim he had a gun to scare the young men. Peeping incidents were repor-
ted in Cook, Lake, DuPage and McHenry counties.

In a May 2003 attack, he lured a 19-year-old teen near a Piasa Bird yard into an assault by tapping on his window. Earlier in the year, Rodolfo had drawn a 16-year-old for sexually assaulting two Naperville teens.

Rodolfo has been in jail since his arrest in July 2003. He must serve 36 years of his sentence.

Chicago council delays vote on reforming police conduct probe

CHICAGO (AP) — City aldermen said Tuesday that they need more time to study Mayor Richard Daley's plan to overhaul the way the city handles complaints against police.

The City Council delayed a vote on an ordinance that would give Daley direct oversight of the Office of Professional Standards until the next meeting, after four aldermen said they want to make changes, including adding coercion and intimidation to the list of actions the OPS can investigate.

Daley proposed the ordinance after a series of highly embar- rassing incidents, including the alleged beating of a female bar- tender by an off-duty officer that was captured on videotape and shown around the world.

Under the proposed ordinance, which was approved Monday by the council's Police and Fire Committee, OPS also would have subpoena power and be required to make summary reports pub-
lic. City employees also would be required to cooperate with OPS or risk being fired.

But activists have complained the ordinance does not go far enough, saying it favors officers who are accused of misconduct.

An effort is under way to get the image repainted.

The Piasa Bird is said to be based on a long-vanished American Indian rock painting that decorated a river bluff near here. An effort is under way to get the image repainted.
For those worried about having their food spot on by a disgruntled cook each time they go out to dinner, a new Japanese steakhouse in Carbondale may offer them peace of mind along with an amusing show.

The Fujiyama Steakhouse, which opened its doors about two weeks ago, has already seen a strong showing of customers from all over southern Illinois.

The restaurant is owned by Justin Qiu, 36, from Fujian, China, and is the fourth Fujiyama restaurant to be opened by the Qiu family, which also owns restaurants in West Virginia and Ohio.

So far, Qiu said he is happy with his decision to open a Fujiyama in Carbondale by the strong turnout of customers who have come to check it out.

“People in Carbondale need a good place to eat,” Qiu said. “That’s why I chose to come here.”

Along with a sushi bar, the restaurant offers patrons meals that are half dinner, half entertainment. As the chef’s cook food in front of the customers on a flat hibachi grill, they juggle utensils, crack jokes and light food on fire, often less than a foot away from customers.

Traditionally the hibachi is used to heat homes and not used for cooking, though in the English language the word hibachi has come to mean flat aluminum or cast-iron hotplates that are integrated into tables at restaurants where patrons can watch the chefs cook.

Despite a pricier menu than the typical southern Illinois restaurant, Qiu believes his establishment will appeal to college students and long-time residents.

“Students can spend $10-15 and get some sushi and drinks,” Qiu said.

The restaurant, located on North Giant City Road next to Moe’s Southwest Grill, has already gained loyal customers within the first few weeks of its operation.

James Triinkle, 32, of Salem, Ill., believes he’ll be returning quite often.

“I’ve been to hibachi places in Nashville and Dallas and it compares to those places,” said Triinkle.

“I hope it sticks around.”

Though some new restaurants in Carbondale open with a promising start before eventually fading away, Qiu believes his restaurant will generate the repeat customers needed to keep a restaurant open.

“A lot of customers have already come back,” he said.

Along with the sushi bar and the hibachi grills, the restaurant also offers a full bar that Qiu says has drink prices comparable to neighboring Buffalo Wild Wings.

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**Saluki Cash Card offers students a new refund option**

Brandy Oxford

Students now have the option to get their bursar refund faster and more efficiently with Saluki Cash Card.

The University Bursar Office, in conjunction with Illinois National Bank, is offering students the option of having their bursar refund put on a Visa-backed debit card.

“We wanted a more effective way to disburse refunds,” SIUC Bursar Jill Kirkpatrick said. “This reduces the money that we’re spending on checks and mailing.”

Kirkpatrick said students may fill out a form to have the Saluki Cash Card offer safer, more convenient options.

As part of the agreement with the bank, an ATM machine was placed in the Student Center so students may withdraw money from their account without incurring fees. Kirkpatrick said parents and students may also add money to the account tied to the card.

Some students don’t have bank accounts and can’t use our direct deposit option. This way, there are no bank fees,” Kirkpatrick said. “It’s free to have and free to use anywhere. It’s like a prepaid gift card – it can’t be overdrawn and there’s no interest.”

She said students get their refunds, on average, about two days faster with the card than with checks.

Because the card is backed by Visa, it is easier to protect students if the card is lost or stolen.

The university uses Debit Dawg – an option for students to put cash on their student ID to use at select locations.

“If they aren’t going to make it the same or in conjunction with Debit Dawg, I don’t really see the point,” said Lauren Karisch, a junior studying political science.

Financial aid restrictions forbid the university to limit the use of stored-value and prepaid debit cards to specific vendors if those cards are used to give students their refund checks or federal work-study wages. Debit Dawg may restrict spending because the money put on the card is not payment from the university.

Some students felt having one card to keep track of instead of receiving checks periodically would make their life easier.

“It sounds like something that’s easy to keep track of,” said Jeremy Parks, a senior from Marion studying equine science. “It’s more convenient than waiting for a check to come in the mail.”

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WASHINGTON
U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates to press NATO for more trainers in Afghanistan

STUTTGART, Germany (AP) — Defense Secretary Robert Gates will press NATO allies on Wednesday with his commitment in Afghanistan, will press allies in meetings this week to provide significantly more trainers for the Afghans.

Secretary U.S. officials en route to Germany on Tuesday. Senator from the two-day meeting of NATO defense ministers that will end Wednesday. In the meeting, the U.S. officials have said they will make a "pitch" to countries to send more trainers in an effort to get the Afghan government better trained.

The officials, who requested anonymity so they could present the secretary's plans for the session, said coalition forces in Afghanistan need up to four battalions as many as 3,000 combat troops, along with about an equal amount of trainers. Gates has said he would like NATO and the United States to contribute some of the training forces.

In addition, NATO allies are also trying to put together training teams that can be embedded with Afghan units. And those alliances will then begin to train the Afghans.

CALIFORNIA
Therapist pleads guilty to molesting brain damaged

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A former respiratory therapist pleaded guilty Tuesday to molesting patients, including a 2-year-old girl. Two of those patients, including a 2-year-old girl, were up in a majority of districts, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The survey is based on information supplied by the Fed's 12 regional banks collected on or before June 4.

Meanwhile, the effects of the housing slump continued to be felt.

The survey found continuing weakness in residential real estate and construction. Most parts of the country characterized their housing markets as "soft or weak," the Fed said.

The most prominent pick up, especially for workers with specialized skills, the Fed survey said. But those districts reported that "overall, all wage pressures do not seem to have increased." Economists keep close tabs on wage growth for signs of inflation.

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Local businesses prepare for rush of Sunset concerts

First performance of the summer set for tonight on Shryock steps

Joe Crawford

Schedule

Entertainment Guide

This week in history…

Alicia Wade

Pulse

Schedule

No underage drinking. No pets. No glass bottles. No kegs.

Sunset

Concerts

Every Thursday at 7 p.m.

June 14
Shryock Steps
Rico - Latin Rock

June 21
Turley Park
Special Concensus - Bluegrass

June 28
Shryock Steps
Skinny - Pop/Funk

July 5
Turley Park
The Kmi Hayes Band - Rock

July 12
Shryock Steps
The Ark Band - Reggae

July 19
Turley Park
Retro Rockets - Rock’n Roll

July 26
Shryock Steps
Andrew’re Boy’ Jones - Blues

Shryock Auditorium


Consumer

Purchased

Brand

0

0

No underage drinking. No pets. No glass bottles. No kegs.

July 19

July 20

July 21

July 22

July 23

July 24

July 25

July 26

July 27

July 28

July 29

July 30

July 31

August 1

August 2

August 3

August 4

August 5

August 6

August 7

August 8

August 9

August 10

August 11

August 12

August 13

August 14

August 15

August 16

August 17

August 18

August 19

August 20

August 21

August 22

August 23

August 24

August 25

August 26

August 27

August 28

August 29

August 30

August 31
Castles and quarter pounders

Several thousand dollars, five gigabytes of digital images, and 23 sheets of negatives later and I had a trip I won’t soon forget.

On Scottish days that have a bit more wind than usual, dry sand will sweep across the wet sand at Lunan Bay, just on the border of the highlands, to create beautiful streaks of light beige sand over the darker, red sand. The deep blue waters of the North Sea crash against the cliffs, with a red castle off in the distance shrouded by fog on an otherwise clear day.

Light combs over the hills covered in bright yellow plants and long, dark green grass that sways with the strong winds. The smell of the North Sea fills the air as wind snaps and bellows across the bay, fanned by the surrounding sand dunes.

That barely describes what I saw and felt on one morning in Scotland. Though expensive and requiring months of planning, the experience was more than I could have ever imagined.

But contrary to the movie “Pulp Fiction” a quarter pounder with cheese was still called a quarter pounder with cheese, not a Royale with cheese. And I didn’t go to Burger King.

DIANA SOLIWON
That’s what’s up

dsciwons@siu.edu

The G8 summit was a bust– for the environment, that is.

Sure, President Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin hugged it out, laughing off the notion skeptics raised about whether another Cold War was on the horizon. And Africa was promised some $60 billion in aid, though funds were not earmarked specifically for the AIDS-ridden country. But as the leaders of the eight richest nations in the world adjourned until next year, I got the uncomfortable feeling that one issue did not even come close to success– global warming.

I don’t think there has been a political issue in recent history that has provoked such an apocalyptic frenzy. The Fourth Assessment Report released in February 2007 by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a group of more than 600 scientific experts from all over the world, stated that global warming is likely because of us.

In other words, human affairs are contributing to the weather patterns and heat-trapping emissions of carbon dioxide that will lead to a dire situation of life or death for many regions of the world.

Some people argue that carbon dioxide doesn’t really make all that much of a difference. Others still quibble that no one really knows what will happen. When one side gets more information, the other side can always manage to refute it.

I’m fascinated by people who surrender their sensibility in exchange for a stamp of approval on a few more years of ignorance. I take one look at Los Angeles and Shanghai, covered in smog and predictably listed as two of the world’s most polluted cities, and know what we’re putting out can’t be a good thing.

So when our president wanted to hold off on the issue of climate change at the beginning of the summit, citing that more countries should be involved with the decision-making, I had to stop and ask myself — is he trying to be useless?

I think it’s great Bush wants Earth’s whole gang to get together and talk about how we might be extinct in the next few generations, but I have a feeling everyone might actually appreciate us moving on without them on this one. Maybe he just wants to let the good times roll until he’s not president.

Granted, he reluctantly agreed to agree that we all need to reach an agreement by the end of the summit. I think Bono, U2 singer and bona fide activist, said it best.

The G8 was lost in its own labyrinth of “bureaucratic.”

German Chancellor and G8 host Angela Merkel did slip in a resolution to cut greenhouse emissions based on 1990 levels by 50 percent in 2050 in the middle of the 37 pages of nonbinding documents. Well, it’s the thought that counts.

The summit also concluded with a resolution that gave way for leaders to draw up a global warming plan post-Kyoto by 2009, rather than 2012, when it expires.

What else is happening in 2009?

A new president is sworn into office. And he (or she) will have a mess to deal with.
By Linda C. Black

Today’s Birthday. You’ll become more confident this year and sometimes more frustrated.
You’re entering into new areas, so you’re encountering new challenges.

Today’s Birthday. You’ve always been a great leader, but this year, you’re going to be an even better leader. You won’t win all the arguments, but you’ll certainly be impressive. And you’ll learn a lot.

To get the advantage, check the day’s reading: Today is the easiest day of the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is a 6 — You’re learning quickly but not quickly enough to make you happy. Remember, finding out what doesn’t work counts, too.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 9 — You feel like you can afford to buy anything you want. Don’t shop like that, though, unless you don’t want very much.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 6 — You’re in a feisty mood. You’re apt to stand up for your convictions. That’s OK but remember to keep your financial affairs confidential.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is an 8 — You’ll discover lots of valuable things as you go through your closets. Recycle really begins at home. You’ll save tons by not buying new.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 5 — Encourage others to do the talking. You be the good listener. This will not be difficult. Do point out something they’re missing.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Today is an 8 — Assuming responsibility may be scary but you can do it. Actually, it’s exciting. You’ll have more control about what happens in your life. Not full control but lots more.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — You’re slightly inhibited by a natural tendency to be polite whenever possible. This is a good thing. Keep doing it.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is an 8 — As you will know, there will be more earnings important to those in the present. Set yourself up, so you can afford to play.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Today is a 6 — Let the other person have the last word and most of the ones in between. You’re most likely to win the argument by keeping your mouth shut.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — The work is piling up. How can you increase efficiency? There is a way and you can find it. Challenge the status quo.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — You’re relatively lucky now but there will be more surprises. Play poker for match sticks instead of pennies.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is a 6 — You seem to have a disagreement with an authority figure. Luckily, you’re very good at expiring your thoughts to yourself. Do that for now.
June 14
Shryock Steps
Rico
Latin Rock

Summer 2007
Free concert every Thursday at 7 pm
No Underage Drinking, No Pets, No Glass Bottles, No Alcohols, No Soliciters

Brandon Weisenberger can be reached at brandonw@siude.com or 536-3312 ext. 262.

Brendan Weisenberger, a longtime critic of the FOIA, said taxpayers are entitled to know how public bodies are using public dollars.

"Telling the people of the state of Illinois that they can’t have the condition of public officials’ contracts is absurd," he said.

Reppert unsuccessfully tried in the fall, asking the university to release the documents and cover his attorney costs.

While all that can be done now is wait, Craven said the fight with the open records act would not end with the ruling.

"We have to go to the General Assembly to fix it," he said. "We think we are entitled to this information."
Salukis teach kids the fundamentals

Alejandro Gonzalez  Daily Egyptian

While some SIU students sit in their air-conditioned classes Wednesday morning, the softball team stayed outside in the scorching heat.

“They were teaching young girls how to play softball,” said Kathy Jones, assistant coach.

The Salukis finished up their annual two-day softball camp Wednesday to help grammar school and high school girls learn the fundamentals. SIU players made the girls brush through the bases and demonstrated the correct way to bunt.

“You can definitely see an improvement with a lot of the girls,” said pitcher Katie McNamara.

She said the two-day camp was more personal than other camps that last only a few hours. The girls got a chance to get to know each other and also make some friends.

“They’re really cool. They’re funny,” McNamara said. “They have a really good sense of humor. It’s been fun with them.”

McNamara, a junior pitcher, said the campers were enthusiastic about gaining new skills and different perspectives on the game of softball.

“They listen well and they really want to learn. That’s why they’re here,” McNamara said. “They’ll take everything you want to say and they’re trying really hard with what they’re doing.”

Although there were local high school students present, assistant coach Chris Mocca said the team doesn’t use the camp for recruiting efforts.

“There are some high school-age kids, but we don’t necessarily go out looking for kids in camp,” Mocca said.

Mocca said said while the camp had good athletes, no offers for scholarships are being made just yet.

“There’s some junior high kids that have potential,” she said. “And the younger ones, we never know what’s going to happen.”

Although the camp is used to help young girls, the softball coaches are in heavy recruiting mode. This weekend they will take their recruiting efforts to Kansas City.

The coaches are trying to find freshmen to replenish a roster that will lose three seniors. Mocca said they’ve seen good prospects.

“Oh, there was a lot of them,” she said. “We need a pretty big class to replace the ’07 class.”

While the team did spend two long afternoons with the girls, Mocca said it’s all part of the job.

“That’s what we do,” she said. “We do camp. We go on the road recruiting. Catch up and get ready for next season.”

Alejandro Gonzalez can be reached at alejandro@siude.com.

Records

As in many memorable feats on the track, Riley said she also has an interest in computing.

Riley said she is currently pursuing a career in information technology.

Riley said she has been working with computers her whole life. She has never built a computer, but knows how to build one.

“I’m always fixing everyone’s computers on the team,” Riley said.

Riley is now preparing for her next meet in Indianapolis, which takes place June 23-24. If she was first place, she will have the opportunity to go to the World Championships in Japan and IAAF in Rio de Janeiro.

E-mail: editor@siude.com
**Men’s Basketball**

Committee wants more graduates

**Eugene Clark**

**Daily Egyptian**

NCAA basketball players need to perform better academically.

SIU Athletic Director Mario Moccia has been chosen to take part in an NCAA committee that focuses on that topic, striving for academic achievement among college basketball players, according to SIU media services.

Moccia said the first meeting would take place in the middle of August in Indianapolis. This meeting should lay the groundwork for the format of the rest of the meetings.

Moccia said one of the main reasons why the committee formed is because of all the sports programs the NCAA sponsors, basketball has the lowest academic progress rate score.

Moccia, who was selected earlier this month to the committee, said the APR is based on a 2-point system.

A team begins with 1000 total points. If a student transfers from a university or is deemed ineligible due to academic deficiencies, the school will have one or two points deducted from their total points.

If an NCAA program falls below 955, the program can be penalized. One of the main penalties is a reduction in scholarships. The APR system has been in place for three years now, Moccia said.

Moccia said location and SIU’s overall basketball history could have tied into his invitation to the committee.

"I think they looked at our geography and status in college basketball among college basketball fans," Moccia said.

Moccia said the first meeting is scheduled for August and the rest of the meetings.

"It is our top priority at SIU to make sure our athletes take academics seriously and have the resources needed to graduate," Moccia said. See COMMITTEE, Page 11

-- Jack Owens

Assistant coach

Moccia said the APR issue has not been an issue here at SIU.

This year the Salukis graduated all four seniors. In the past seven years, only two Salukis who have played basketball into their senior year have not graduated, according to SIU media services.

Assistant basketball coach Jack Owens said since he began as assistant coach for the Salukis four years ago, every scholarship senior has graduated.

"It is our top priority at SIU to make sure our athletes take academics seriously and have the resources needed to graduate," Owens said.

**Track & Field**

**Breaking records**

**Seth MacFadyen**

**Daily Egyptian**

Brittany Riley has won All-American honors and countless awards in a field that, at first, didn’t interest her in the least.

She started at SIU three years ago as a discus thrower. Then, throwing coach John Smith demanded all athletes try the hammer throw.

It was then a top-notch competitor was born.

"The coach made me do it," Riley said. "He forces all the players to do it." Riley said the hammer throw came pretty easy for her. She had some natural ability and the rest sort of fell into place, she said.

The rest, of course, is history.

Riley recently earned her fourth All-America honor to go along with her title as being the world record holder in the women’s weight throw.

For a 20-year-old college athlete, being ranked worldwide should be an immense ego boost, but Riley isn’t letting it go to her head.

"I just don’t think about it," Riley said. "If you get too in over your head it just adds pressure." Riley said one of her pregame rituals is to listen to light R&B music on her way to the meet and then listens to more heavy music before she throws.

Sophomore thrower Sasha Leeth, said Riley is a dedicated athlete that gives 100 percent every time she competes.

"She is always motivating me," said Leeth. "Even if she gets upset when she doesn’t perform well, she is always there to support the team." Smith said Riley has a good chance of making it to the Olympics.

"I can see her rewriting all the hammer records here in the U.S," Smith said.

See RECORDS, Page 11

-- Brent Little

**Football**

**Former Saluki inks with Chiefs**

**Eugene Clark**

**Daily Egyptian**

Most college football players dream of a shot in the NFL.

Brent Little just got his second shot.

The former Saluki wideout signed a two-year contract with the Kansas City Chiefs Wednesday.

The contract will give Little a chance to play football in the area where he was raised.

"To be able to play for my hometown and get an opportunity like this doesn’t get any better," Little told Saluki Media Services. "I grew up watching the Chiefs." The Cleveland Browns signed Little in 2006 but he was released before the season began.

Little played for SIU from 2002-2005 and racked up 20 touchdowns and ran for 2,963 total yards.

Wide receiver coach Brian Anderson said Little had a one-day tryout with the Chiefs Friday and they liked what they saw. Anderson said Little’s age, speed and special teams play will be an asset for the Chiefs.

"The Chiefs are trying to get younger with their receivers," Anderson said. "Therefore, the Chiefs were a good fit for him."

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

"To be able to play for my hometown and get an opportunity like this doesn’t get any better."

-- Brent Little

Former Saluki wide receiver

See REVIEW, Page 11