USG to consider broader health plan

MORE FOR LESS: USG executive says other schools pay less for more health care.

TRAVIS DE NEAL DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

The Undergraduate Student Government should support implementing a University insurance plan that would cover SIUC students' spouses and children, a USG member says.

"We're the only state school this large that does not have an insurance plan that will cover dependent students," Kristie Ayres, USG non-traditional advocate, said. Ayres said University of Illinois has a dependent insurance program with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois, and its student insurance rate per semester is cheaper than SIUC's student insurance fee.

At the University of Illinois, she said, the student insurance fee is $56 per semester, which covers health care for students and their spouses and children.

The SIUC student insurance fee is $84 per semester and covers students' visits to Student Health Service. It does not cover health care for students' spouses or children.

Ayres said she will present her findings to USG at its meeting tonight to increase support for creating an insurance program for dependent students.

She said she also will be distributing pamphlets to campus housing areas where students' families live, including Evergreen Terrace and Southern Hills.

Jake Baggott, student medical benefits and business manager, said SIUC had an insurance program for students' dependents until 1993, when the cost of the program became too expensive.

"The death spiral started when more money was taken out of the fund to pay for claims than was put in from student fees," Baggott said. "Every year the same phenomenon occurred."

The student fee increased to pay for the rising cost of the program, he said, until it was cheaper for a student who needed dependent coverage to get a policy with a commercial insurance carrier.

Baggott said the University examines the matter at least once a year.

"We have explored other options and run into obstacles," he said. "If we can't come up with something cheaper than a commercial carrier will provide, we won't be able to offer a dependent health care plan."

As at meeting tonight, the Senate also will vote on a proposal that supports a $4 decrease in the Mass Transit fee, which is $25.

In addition, the Senate will vote on funding proposals for the Caribbean Student Association, Financial Management Association, Bowling Club, Friendship Association of Chinese Students and Scholars and Jota Phi Phi.

USG meets at 7 tonight in the Student Center Ballroom.

New students will get more acquainted in less time

SETTLING IN: Administrator says reducing orientation to three days will aid retention.

WILLIAM HAFFIELD DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Condensing orientation for new SIUC students will aid retention by allowing more students to attend events and providing more support services, administrators say.

Harvey Welch, vice chancellor of Student Affairs, said the University will condense new student orientation into three days from five, beginning it on the Friday before classes start rather than two days earlier.

"Many of our students are not rich, and they work to support themselves," Welch said. "Many students' parents also work, and more people will be able to come if the activities take place towards the end of the week."

He said University services will be available to new students during the orientation weekend, so they can register for classes, obtain student identification cards, receive advisement and apply for financial aid.

He said the University also is planning a gathering for new students in Shryock Auditorium during the orientation, where Chancellor Donald Briggs will talk to students about SIUC traditions and his expectations of its students.

He said a job fair and a University-wide picnic also are being planned for the orientation.

Vincent Carrillo, assistant director of the Student Center, said the current five-day orientation program is too broad and not well-attended.

"Many of our programs were grossly under-utilized," Carrillo said. "So we have asked ourselves, 'How do we make it more convenient for students to participate?'

Molly Ule, a freshman in pre-medication from Pittsfield, said she attended orientation in August, but it took too long.

I believe the change will be better," Ule said. "There was too much time to do absolutely nothing."

Heather DeLa, an undecided freshman from Elgin, said her job at home made it difficult to attend the orientation.

"I think I will be better than having to rush down here for the orientation," Dela said.

Carrillo said orientation is important for retention because most students decide if they will obtain their degrees from SIUC during the first two weeks of classes.

"Orientation has always been considered a retention effort," Carrillo said. "A comprehensive orientation will aid in retention and help students decide if they are going to SIUC."
**UPCOMING**

- **Library Affairs** "UNITE Online" Seminar, March 6, 10-11 a.m., Morris Library Room 103D, Contact Undergraduate Desk at 453-2818.
- **Traditional Student Services Information Table**, every Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Hall of Fame in the Student Center, Contact Michelle at 537-5714.
- **Sociology of Professional Journalism** Charles H. Honeck, speaking on public affairs reporting, March 6, 4-6 p.m., Communicators 1748, Contact Travis at 549-7172.
- **Student Museum Group meeting**, March 6, 4-6 p.m., University Museums, Former 2467, Contact Christos at 536-7776.
- **Women's Services Co-Authorship Training Group**, Thursday, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Woody Hall Counseling Center, Contact Nola at 453-3655.
- **Asian American Women's Information Table**, every Thursday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Woody Hall 244, Contact Nola at 453-3655.
- **University Career Center Services**: Basic Resume Writing and Cover Letters, Marketing Yourself on Paper, March 6, 5-6 p.m., Extension 233 or 223. For Cache desk at 536-3311, extension 233 or 223.

**Distinguished Lecture Series**

- **Naomi Wolf**, Feminist Social Critic, Thursday, March 6, 8:00 p.m., Student Center Auditorium Reception following in the Student Center Gallery Lounge

**Fire with Fire**

**The New Female Power**

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Open to the Public
Cuban visits through church program

RELATIONS: Deacon says governments hostile, not people.

TRAVIS ALINE
DAILY EAGLE

Visiting the United States for the first time last week, Ruben Rodriguez said the U.S. embargo placed on Cuba has caused problems there, but there is no difference between the people of Cuba and the United States. "The people of the two countries can work together well," he said. "The people do care for one another, not the governments that are hostile." Rodriguez works at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Center in Havana. He is a deacon in the Ebenzer Baptist Church in Havana and visited Carbondale from Feb. 27 to Sunday as part of an ongoing relationship between the Church of the Good Shepherd, located at Orchard Drive and Schwartz Street, and Ebenzer Baptist Church.

PUT YOUR RIGHT ARM IN: Actor Bill Hulings, from The Acting Company in New York, takes students through a few warm-up exercises Tuesday in the Fulliam gymnasium before beginning the workshop.

PUT YOUR RIGHT ARM IN: Actor Bill Hulings, from The Acting Company in New York, takes students through a few warm-up exercises Tuesday in the Fulliam gymnasium before beginning the workshop.

CUBAN VISITS THROUGH CHURCH PROGRAM

Put Your Right Arm In: Actor Bill Hulings, from The Acting Company in New York, takes students through a few warm-up exercises Tuesday in the Fulliam gymnasium.
Josh Robison

Cancel My Subscription

Look out, Heloise: Writer offers helpful cleaning hints

Spring Break is finally upon us, and at a time as diverse as ours, it only goes without saying that we will all be enjoying our week off in various ways. However, many of us will be taking a trek even further south to participate in that monthly party that takes place every year along the coast of Florida’s beaches. Others will prefer an alternate route and will spend their week biking in the backyard or playing lucky sack next to a roaring bonfire. Still others might opt to use this week to catch up on their studies or write that novel that has been on the back burner for so long.

However, we choose to spend our week off, we need to remember that before Spring Break before Spring Cleaning.

Now, I know what you’re saying: “Hector, do we really need to clean our living area before we enjoy our week long sabbatical from the grueling semester workload?”

Yes, Ringo, you do. Don’t worry about it too much. I have some quick-spring cleaning tips that will allow you to finish the job swiftly and easily and even give you time to enjoy your week of freedom.

You see, living with college mates while simultaneously being a college mate will undoubtedly produce two constants: Jenny McCarthy posters and a living area that resembles a warped biological experiment gone amok. Fitting into these two categories, I also suffer the consequences of the latter two results. I am here today to pass on my wisdom to you, the roomie, so you can enjoy a clean living environment—or at least one that won’t attack you as you bathe.

Now, let’s understand this is not Martha Stewart set of suggestions, but I think they’ll do.

1. Paper plates should not be used as ash trays. Sounds silly, I realize, but some jokers are actually still on fire and will burn through the plate and into the carpet below. Also, you can’t “wipe away” a burn mark with a wet towel. I’ve tried.

2. Liquid dishwashing soap should not be used as carpet cleaner. Just because it makes suds doesn’t mean it will benefit your life, or your carpet. After all, there’s been a flood of post-Spring break stories of attempts to correct the situation by squeezing a grotesque amount of dishwashing soap onto the stain. The carpet remained stained, and the soap bleached a line in our carpet that resembled a dying snake.

3. Carpet cleaner should not be used as dishwashing soap. I don’t have an anecdote, but I believe this is a fairly accurate statement.

4. If you open the refrigerator door and overhear the tail end of a conversation, either call an exorcist or throw away the rotten cheese. After all, good dairy products only speak when spoken to.

5. Mud is not a color. I realize that the patches of blue-green on the ceiling above the shower might add a bit of flair to the otherwise mundane off-white surrounding of the bathroom, but that isn’t paint, son, that’s a living organism with little patience for humans, and it needs to be taken care of immediately!

6. Dusting is not a “girl” job. If you have trouble making out the picture on your television set because of the excess dust, swallow your pride and get a cloth of some sort and clean the dust off the screen. It’s ’97. They don’t even need us to reproduce anymore. I suggest you find a socially redeemable skill, and quickly.

And, finally, there is no such thing as a “See how much garbage you can stuff into the trash can?” contest. This game is a myth created by the crafty city garbage collectors so they can enjoy the satisfaction of watching someone get nailed for mussy taking out the garbage as they do picking it up. If the trash bag is full, pick it up, walk it to the garbage bin, and throw it in. You’ve done your part of recycling, now it’s time for 6 billion years of biodegradation to do its part.

In conclusion, it is possible to get your deposit back at the end of the year (provided you aren’t one of my roommates) if you do the simple things, like picking up after yourself, cleaning out the refrigerator once in a while and refraining from creating bizarre pictograms in the carpet via a generic liquid bleaching agent.

Our Word

Saluki pride

University has more to offer than negative images suggest

Some students at Southern have come to believe that there are only negative images associated with our University. Images of fall rows on CNN come to mind, and an SIU Law student who was the worldwide leader of a white supremacist church also enters the picture.

However, many fail to notice the plethora of attention given to the University, its students and programs.

The Saluki teams are not exactly mentioned in Sports Illustrated on a regular basis, yet individually they are a national powerhouse. The odds against making it to the pro ranks in sports are astronomical. However, a few Salukis go on to make their mark.

• Damon Jones, a former Saluki football tight end, has a good chance to end up a professional football player in the NFL.

• Chris Carr, a former basketball Saluki forward, plays for the Minnesota Timberwolves.

• Kasia McClendon, who just played her last game with the Saluki basketball team, has a pro shot at the American Basketball League or the newly formed Women’s Basketball Association.

• A few days ago the men’s swimming team took first place in the National Independent Championship, competing against the best teams in the nation.

Sports are not the only thing to grab a state or national spotlight:

• SIU’s debate team was ranked No. 1 in the nation in 1996, surpassing debate teams for UCLA, U of Iowa and Harvard. The team also was named to the All-American Debate Team. This season, the team is third in the nation.

• Radio and Television senior Andrew Ensor won an Academy Award this year for a documentary he made for the WSIU-TV “River Region” spotlight program.

• The Daily Egyptian received 20 awards last month at the Illinois College Press Association, including a first-place award for news coverage of the October riots, beating The Daily Illini and the Daily Northwestern. The DE also received honorable mention in the General Excellence category.

• The SIU School of Law’s relations clinic will be the first law school clinic in the country to be a mediator for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The University was chosen because of the excellent reputation of the School of Law and the College of Agriculture.

• The Graduate and Professional Student Council received the 1996 Graduate/Professional Student Organization of the Year award for the leadership the council provides in the name of the students.

• U.S. News and World Report ranked the SIU School of Medicine 12th out of 78 schools in training physicians who practice primary care medicine.

Of course, this is only a small representation of the excellence that SIU has bred. We should take a look towards what we already know before we begin to believe that the only images of social chaos, white supremacy, and racist beliefs that people receive are the ones that are recognizable to our University.

“Our Word” represents a consensus of the Daily Egyptian Editorial Board.

Overheard

“I like it because at first he doesn’t like the green eggs and ham. But then he does.”

Dante Migone, 4, on the performance of his favorite Dr. Seuss book, “Green Eggs and Ham,” at the second annual Dr. Seuss Festival Saturday on campus.
Column on cloning shows women as shallow as men

Dear Editor:

If feelings come after reading your March 3 paper, in this issue of the Daily Egyptian, Emily Priddy wrote an article titled ‘‘I think I’m a clone now; Xenomorphs of Race.”

I was outraged after reading this feministic vignette. My emotions were crushed after hearing that women want to use the highly developed science of DNA cloning to increase their sexual activity. She talks about stars such as Denzel Washington and Sean Connery being cloned to fit the “very own” so they can supply him with “instant gratification.”

Well, obviously she doesn’t know Denzel Washington or Sean Connery, how does she know if they have a nice personality?

Is the male body all that is important any more? What ever happened to love and sharing emotions?

I was heartbroken to hear all women want today are clones of the perfect male image. This degrades the male populations’ worth of more than a piece of meat. I think the male race needs to bond together and take a stand against women using men just as sex objects.

Men have feelings too, you know.

I sat down with a few friends of mine, and we had a good chat about how cruel females are to us. All they want to do is use us for their bodies and leave us...

Okay, enough of the bull about emotions. It’s time to come back to reality — guys don’t have feelings.

I was heartbroken to hear all women want today are clones of the perfect male image. This degrades the male population to nothing more than a piece of meat.

For all the women reading this, doesn’t it sound like a ridiculous attempt to gain attention, much like many of you use?

Guys, the next time a lady tries to pull the “you have no feelings,” line, remember Emily Priddy’s article. The only feelings they really want are orgasmic — just like us.

James Free
Freshman
College of Mass Communications

Museum needs better funding

Dear Editor:

In contrast to Bayler College, where I am an incoming junior, a Freshman, automotive technology major, I believe our money is emarked for many worthy purposes — the Student Center, medical benefits, activities and clubs, campus safety, security, the students, and an athletic fund. I have no problem supporting these programs, but I do believe that one department was overlooked when the money was distributed: the University Museum.

Up until now, you may have not given a second thought as to what goes on in the museum. Consider this letter your cue to find it (from the end of Funer) and see what we have to offer. Exhibits range from student and faculty art to presents collected at home, titled “African-American Hair-Style,” and ... they’re free! Consider for a moment how many SIUC programs, grants, games, films and activities require you to pay an entrance fee. Now of course,

... I do believe that one department was overlooked when the student (fee) money was distributed: the University Museum.

Museum could really use your support. I would like to make the obvious: the need of more funding. At present, we employ only half of the necessary staff because of budget cuts. Money is also required for the preservation and upkeep of our artifacts and treasures, and trust me, there are some treasures — e.g., Picasso’s “Les Fauves.” The expense of exhibiting and offering educational programs is also costly.

A couple who receives 10.0 is that cost of your student fees would receive $53 from an undergraduate taking 12 hours. Let’s just say that there are 15,000 undergrads, don’t $755,000 for one program, but the museum receives nothing. A. If the student body were willing to multi- culate $5.00 or offers and create a new fund for the museum, we would make a whopping $125,000.

If you believe the museum is deserving of your financial support, drop a note to: Vice Chancellor of the Student Affairs, SIU, Carbondale, Illinois 62901. An e-mail is welcome to twelch@notes.siu.edu or call 453-2461.

Elaine Bartlett
M.PA program, museum studies

Love can conquer extreme hate

Dear Editor:

Your recent article on the World Church of the Creator has certainly given me much to think about. I quite agree with the notion that the south is fearful and that the south central to this group are the seeds of destruction. Extreme white pride, extreme black pride or extreme Jewish pride tends to be unhealthy for all of us.

Although these issues are intense, contrary to what Josh Ruben (DE Feb. 17) has said, there is a middle ground. With Hale and Glickman, I wonder if their followers were not born with hate in their hearts. People do move from one position to another, even extreme position to another, and they may go through middle ground in the process. One way to help in this process was in Ainsley Chapman’s Ten Commandments of Love, listed in the same DE. These are far more powerful than the 16 Commandments of Hate’s above.

I hope that the awareness of hatred and fear in our society can only do us all good as we work toward being better individuals in the way we treat our fellow humans.

Evelyn Zimmerman
Emeritus, Carbondale

Dear Editor:

Sorry to keep this topic on racism, but rather arc maoric:

Dear Editor:

…because all of these are not ignoring the racism, but rather are mature enough to understand that humankind has in differences, and instead of separating ourselves, we embrace our similarities as individuals or as a whole.

Also, we are not hiding our racism, just at you believe the opposite, that racism will someday disappear, perhaps in my lifetime, but someday. And you can be sure that in my lifetime, I will never hide the inevitable forward progress of humankind.

Jason E. Todd
Freshman, automotive technology

Earn Money For Your RSO!!

Your Registered Student Organization can earn money by assisting the Student Center with our upcoming Building Court project.

Eligibility Requirements:
• Registered Student Organizations Only
• Must have at least 35 available members
• Member must be available to work on one or more of the following days March 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th

Deadline for registration March 7, 1997
Theater professor accepts position at Yale University

CAREER CHANGE:
Teacher will head undergraduate theater studies at Yale.

TAMEKA L. HICKS
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

As the head of the Master of Fine Arts Directing Program, David Krueger says SIUC's Theater Department has prepared him for his position at Yale University.

"Because I have no administrative experience, I didn't think I'd get it," he said. "But all the directing experience I had must have done it for me."

Yale University, Krueger said, is a prestigious institution with a well-known reputation for its Drama Department.

Krueger, who has taught at SIUC for two years, said he has enjoyed it, but Yale has given him a position that never may have been offered at SIUC.

"If Yale hired him, then he must have the right stuff," she said. "But all the directing experience I had must have done it for me."
of the Good Shepherd, translated his statements for the interview. Rodriguez said people in the United States have an abundance of possessions that the people in his country do not have.

One of the reasons for that, he said, is an embargo the U.S. government has placed on the nation of Cuba.

"The U.S. blockade is the real problem," he said. The blockade has made it difficult to get medicine, food, oil and the basic stuff of life. Eighty-six percent of all goods are imported.

He said the Helms-Burton Law has caused many problems for Cuba.

The law, which was signed by President Clinton in March 1996, establishes measures to bring political pressure against Cuba. The law states that all private properties seized by the socialist state of Cuba from the beginning of 1959 must be returned to the former owners. It also forces other countries to recognize the embargo against Cuba. If countries refuse to put a blockade against Cuba, then the United States will refuse to trade in or out with those countries.

"Helms-Burton Law has caused many problems for Cuba," he said. The law, which was signed by President Clinton in March 1996, establishes measures to bring political pressure against Cuba. The law states that all private properties seized by the socialist state of Cuba from the beginning of 1959 must be returned to the former owners. It also forces other countries to recognize the embargo against Cuba. If countries refuse to put a blockade against Cuba, then the United States will refuse to trade in or out with those countries.

The problems in Cuba, Gamer said, are the United States' own doing, but the government is not handling the problem well with such laws.

"The mess in our backyard (Cuba) is largely our mess," he said. "It is not unreasonable for us to see our responsibility as clearing it up in such a way that problems there do not mushroom and represent an even greater threat, causing us even more harm?"

Since Cuba is no longer a threat, Gamer said the United States should join the rest of the world in friendly trade and relations with that country. He said because there is no clear and present danger, the Helms-Burton Law is bad for the United States.

While Rodriguez enjoyed his stay in the United States, he said the people should fight against the blockade.

"This law is not good for Cuba, and it is not good for the United States," he said. "Cuba is not a threat militarily, politically or economically."

Despite the problems he has with the U.S. government, he said he is impressed with Carbondale and especially the University.

Although Rodriguez said he admired the University, he said there are workshops here that can deter people from learning. They are so many distractions here, he said. "With the fine television, people have to use great effort to get to the library.

Rodriguez stayed with two students, Hilary Maldon and his wife, Judy Ashley. After spending a week with them, Maldon said he was struck with the sense of pride the Cuban people have despite the adverse living conditions.

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**WIDB still lacks funding**

**SELF-SUFFICIENT: Student hopes radio station can become independent.**

**DAVE ARMSTRONG**

**Daily Egyptian Staff Writer**

Running a radio station on a budget is tough, but at the University of Illinois, a major radio station takes a lot of effort, the chief engineer of the station says.

Mark Grammer, a senior in radio and television from White Heath and chief engineer for WIDB, said the station has a staff of about 15 students who work on a one-time basis.

"The station has always been known for its wide variety of programming," Grammer said. "But we're still trying to get the word out about the station." He said the station has a limited number of listeners and that it's difficult to attract new students to the station.

WIDB, which is one of the oldest radio stations in Illinois, was founded in 1970 and has been operated by the Student Government since 1970. The station has a clear-cut format of music and talk shows.

"We're always looking for new ideas and programming," Grammer said. "But we're still struggling to get the word out about the station." He said the station has a limited number of listeners and that it's difficult to attract new students to the station.

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*Perhaps this will help you feel better, Mr. Dumpty. I've fixed you a nice bowl of egg drop soup.*

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**COMICS**

Wednesday, March 5, 1997 • 13
Tuner gets contract renewal

NEW BEGINNING: Washington Coach Norv Turner gets an additional three years.

WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—Washington Redskins Coach Norv Turner received a dramatic and decisive extension his contract for an additional three years, through the 2000 season.

"Mr. Cooke wanted me, and this definitely is where I wanted to be," Turner said. "I think Mr. Cooke has sent us a message that we're going to have continuity. If the coach's job security is an issue, that's a distraction. Every distraction you can remove helps a football team. Our football team will be able to focus on what we have to do to get better."

Turner, 44, had two seasons remaining on the original five-year, $5-million deal he received in 1994, Cooke and Turner began discussing an extension about six weeks ago and settled on a three-year deal.

In three seasons, Turner has an 18-30 record and no playoff appearances. While suffering through 3-3 and 6-10, Turner and Redskins General Manager Charley Casserly overhauled the roster through free-agency and the draft.

The Redskins have improved each year and seemed on their way to breaking through after losing six of their final eight games. Their 5-7 record still represented Turner's first winning season.

Hudson continued from page 16

what happens in his basketball career.

Hudson said Carl's success in the NBA gave him some motivation to try it himself.

"Seeing him (Carl) do it encouraged me a lot," Hudson said. "I've seen that he was able to go in and make the bolt. I could make it, but he did. It gave me a lot of strength to try to pursue it." Hudson said.

Both Herinia and Hudson agreed that Hudson's strengths are his

Salukis continued from page 10

Missouri Valley Conference meeting after my junior G.L.-O.O."

"I look for him to step back, then he should," Hudson said.

While Hudson's loss means the Salukis will have to replace his offense, Hamon said SIUC's inside players will need to pick up some of the load.

"A lot of our scoring has come from outside with the guards," Hamon said. "I look for that protection to shift to the inside player a little more."

Hudson's departure may be temporary, as he's planning to keep his options open and might return to SIUC.

But Watts said the Salukis must treat the situation as Hudson will move on.

"Right now, you've got to get as far as it as he's gone," Watts said.

Hamon said it's his priority to get in the weight room and be prepared for next season.

"If he comes back, then we've got the heavier working back, and we'll make another run at the Big Dance (the NCAA Tournament)."
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SPORTS

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When you lose 5-1 to schools in the top 100, you have to feel proud of what you accomplished," she said.

"As a team, we played much better this week than the last two, which shows we are improving as the season moves on."

Auld said the Salukis' efforts against the Louisiana schools proved to be a stepping stone in the maturity of the team.

"As a team we looked real good this-weekend," she said. "The players that are competing in the top positions are facing tough competition week in and week out, which will only make them stronger."

Up next for the Salukis is a battle against Memphis University, the University of Tennessee Chattanooga, and Arkansas Little Rock University beginning March 28.

TENNIS

continued from page 16

techniques to improve my game." Besides Johnson, the Salukis received a good effort from junior Molly Card, against the Louisiana schools. Card's only loss came against Talane, a game that was interrupted due to the weather.

Card said the rain delay during her match caused her to lose focus, allowing her opponent to narrow and come back strong in the match. Card lost the match 6-2, 6-0.

"Anytime you have a rain delay during a match, it can change the outcome because your opponent can rest and come back with more energy." Card said she thought the team performed at a high level during the weekend, with several characters by hanging around in every match.

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Hudson leaves SIUC for NBA draft

**READY TO GO PRO:** Leading Saluki scorer leaving University for basketball career.

**RYAN KEITH DAILY EIN'TIAN REPORTER**

Hook just 5 ft 10 college basketball games for Saluki guard Troy Hudson as he eyes the NBA.

Hudson, a junior from Carbondale, announced Tuesday his intentions to forgo his junior season at SIUC and make himself eligible for June's NBA draft.

"I just want to thank SIU for giving me the opportunity to play," Hudson said in a press conference at SIU Arena. "I want to say thanks for the fan support and say thanks to my coaches, my teammates and my family and friends for supporting me while I've been here.

Hudson, who was seated between his mother and coach Rich Herrin, said he is ready to move on.

"I've been thinking about it for a while, but just in the past week I decided I was going to do this," Hudson said. "I've always wanted an opportunity to play professional basketball. I thought right now was the opportune time to pursue that dream." Hudson finished the 1996-97 season averaging 21 points per game and likely will be the nation's leading three-point shooter with 1,870 points.

Hudson, who is the first SIUC undergraduate to enter the NBA draft since Minnesota Timberwolves' Chris Carr two years ago, said he is confident he can handle the transition to playing professional basketball.

"Anything can happen," Hudson said. "I think that I'm good enough to play. I might get picked and I might not, but I'm not going to give up.

"I think I have a good shot at it, and I'm going to go in there and give it my best.

While he had plans on playing in the NBA, Hudson has not signed with an agent and could return to the Salukis if he does not sign with an agent or an NBA team.

"I'm not looking for that (fan agent) at this time," Hudson said. "If I'm just going to see what happens and react to whatever goes on."

Herrin said he understands Hudson's decision and is confident he made the right decision.

"I support Troy 100 percent," Herrin said. "With the confidence that Troy had, this is what he wants to do, then I have to give him my total support."

Hudson said money was not a factor in his decision, and he intends to complete the academic semester and eventually earn a degree in liberal arts regardless of

**SEE HUDSON, PAGE 14**

Salukis not surprised

**TEAMMATES:** Fellow Dawgs say decision to enter NBA draft was expected.

**RYAN KEITH DAILY EIN'TIAN REPORTER**

SIUC men's basketball guard Troy Hudson's announcement to enter the NBA draft does not come as a surprise to some of his teammates.

"We've known all along that it's Troy Hudson's dream to play in the NBA," Ryan Hammer said. "He's following those goals.'"

Hammer, a sophomore from Lawrenceville who played a 'back-up role behind Hudson the past two seasons, said the Salukis will miss Hudson.

"It's kind of hard to see him go because he's handicapped," Hammer said. "I've gotten close to him over the past couple of years, and he's a great kid. But it's his dream to play in the NBA, and that's what he's going to do."

Hudson's announcement came just four days after the Salukis ended a disappointing season with a 13-17 record and a loss to Indiana State University in the opening round of the

**SEE SALUKIS, PAGE 14**

Johnson leads Saluki tennis squad

**SERVING UP POWER:** A bleak season opening is brightened by one spectacular player.

**SHAD WELCH DAILY EIN'TIAN REPORTER**

SIUC women's tennis player Helen Johnson breathed life back into her team by going underated Saturday against Southeastern Louisiana University.

The Salukis had a dismal 0-5 start to their season, but Johnson's perfect record against Southeastern Louisiana University put plus in the Salukis' win column.

The Salukis won 3-4 against Southeast Louisiana Saturday but dropped a 3-4 contest to the University of New Orleans Friday and then lost Sunday 5-4 to Tulane University.

Johnson went 2-0 in all her singles and doubles matches against Southeast Louisiana and was 6-0 during the weekend.

"I knew if I kept playing tough in my matches, then my opponents would start to make mistakes against me, and I could capitalize on that," the junior said. "The more I won, the more confident I became."

After their weekend matches, the Salukis are now 1-6 on the season. Coach Judy Auld said Johnson's performances went beyond her expectations.

"I was pleased with Helen's performances," she said. "Helen's been playing again; tough competition in the No. 4 spot, and this weekend proved she can compete against anyone."

Auld said the Salukis have had many close matches that ended in defeat in recent meets, but the losses helped the team improve its performance this weekend.

"We played much better that we did the first two weeks of the season," she said. "The team could have folded over and quit, but they continued to battle until the end."

After the New Orleans loss, the Salukis went to Hummond, La., to face Southeastern Louisiana. The Salukis put off a rocky start, when senior Liz Gardner lost her match 6-1, 7-5. SIUC eventually won the next game because of the strong play of Johnson.

"I have been getting better the last two weeks," Johnson said. "I have been practicing on different

**SEE TENNIS, PAGE 15**