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March 2000

Daily Egyptian 2000

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Daily Egyptian Staff

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DAILY EGYPTIAN

Friday  
MARCH 3, 2000

The Pulse

- Stain Upon the Snow at Kleinau examines racism.
- Review of 'Reindeer Games.'
- Weekend events calendar in Carbondale, Chicago, and St. Louis.

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Gus Bode



Gus says:  
Go Salukis!  
See the special MVC Tournament guide.

pages 9-12

FORECAST

TODAY  
Rain  
High: 45  
Low: 32

TOMORROW  
Cloudy  
High: 60  
Low: 41

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VOL. 85, NO. 108  
20 PAGES

# Four student fee raises passed

*USG senators refuse to be rushed into vote on Rec. Center fee*

GINNY SKALSKI  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Undergraduate Student Government senators agreed that mass transit is important to the University, but they still voted down a resolution Wednesday night to raise the mass transit fee by 36 percent for Fiscal Year 2002.

Senators were concerned that the proposed increase would raise the mass transit fee more than the 3 percent allowed by the University. The fee would rise from \$23.50 to \$32 per semester.

East Side Senator Eric Waltmire, along with other senators, said other outlets should be looked into to fund the service, including more advertising and raising the non-student rider fee.

"The bus service is important to have, but I think the University should explore other routes," Waltmire said. "If they really looked hard enough, they could find the money from other routes."

West Side Senator Dawn Roberts pointed out that even though the fee was being raised, the quality of the service would not change because Beck Bus, the provider of the mass transit service, raised its overall fees to operate.

"There's a misconception that us voting to pass this is going to create a better service," Roberts said. "The money is going to the same service with higher prices."

Evergreen Terrace Senator Chuck Miller proposed an amendment to the resolution that was passed by the Senate. The amendment stated that USG senators agreed that mass transit was important to the campus, but any increase above 3 percent should be seriously considered by the Board of Trustees.

Senators also voted to support fee increases for the Student Center and Student Health Services and increasing the Housing Rate for fiscal year 2002.

Director of Housing Ed Jones gave a Powerpoint presentation to senators at the beginning of the meeting about why Housing needs to increase the rate for room and board.

Jones cited the money would be used on deferred maintenance, including adding more new furniture to the East Campus residence halls and adding screens to the windows in Thompson Point.

Senators passed the resolution to support increasing the cost of housing from \$4,104 to \$4,350 with no debate.

Assistant Director of Student Health Programs Jake Baggott told senators that the increase in student fees for Health Services would primarily be used to increase student insurance coverage and help improve the quality of Health Services altogether.

Senators voted to support the increase of Student Health Service Fees from \$464 to \$480.

Although no representative from the Student Center attended the meeting, USG President Sean Henry, who sits on the Student Center Committee, offered information to the senate about the benefits of raising



Bob Jacomini - Daily Egyptian

Ivana and Dora Vukmirovic and their mother Zvonka feed the ducks at Campus Lake Wednesday afternoon. The University recently hired Civitas, a Denver-based land design and planning firm, to examine possibilities for improving campus aesthetics.

# Civitas firm suggested by hub of University

*Land use firm surveys input from all of University*

BRYNN SCOTT  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

An urban design planning and land architectural firm that has examined hundreds of other universities' appearances found enormous potential in SIUC's campus, according to the firm's principal, Dennis Rubba.

Representatives from the Denver-based firm, Civitas, examined the campus Feb. 17 through Feb. 19, and met with numerous University representatives, listening to their opinions of physical aspects on campus.

"We were impressed with everyone's awareness," Rubba said. "We sensed that [University representatives] are committed to the project."

The University is paying Civitas about \$20,000 to complete the first of three phases of the project of beautify the campus.

The first phase of a plan, originally suggested by interim Chancellor John Jackson's Strategic Plan, to beautify the campus involves the examination of the campus, determining priorities and plotting an overall plan for campus appearance improvements.

Seven boards will be placed in heavily populated locations on campus next week, where students will be able to place blue and red sticker dots on areas of the boards where they think improvements do and do not need to be made.

The second involves specific examinations and solutions to problems, while the third is the physical improvement.

The University has not yet determined if it will use Civitas for the remaining phases, which would begin after the official report from Civitas is received June 30. The entire project will span a minimum of 25 years, plus upkeep each year after.

Vice Chancellor for Administration Glenn Poshard is leading the Committee Concerning Campus Environment — a group that met with Civitas to share its opinions of campus appearance. The group is composed of about 25 University representatives from many different divisions at SIUC.

Poshard said the outside firm was hired because the committee deemed professional examination of campus appearance necessary.

"When the committee got together, they felt very strong about bringing in people who specialize in land use," Poshard said. "No one on the committee had expertise [in the field]."

Numerous universities around the nation have used landscape firms to analyze their campuses, including Illinois State University, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the University of Arkansas.

Poshard said the most immediate action may be taken on the problem of "signage."

Poshard and Rubba agreed that surrounding areas of the University do not provide sufficient directional signs to SIUC.

Though the project is comprehensive, Poshard mentioned definite priorities such as; parking space, rejuvenating Thompson Woods and Campus Lake, the addition or demolition of buildings, adding sustainability, dealing with deterioration of McAndrew Stadium and providing a place for a women's softball field.

Jackson, who says Civitas will give the University a "fresh look" at the campus, emphasized the importance of student education on sustainability.

He said one of the biggest problems on campus is littering.

"I can recall a time walking behind a group of students and one of them just threw a candy wrapper onto the ground," Jackson said. "I couldn't understand why."

A University study revealed that 80 percent of the litter on campus is within 10 feet of a trash can.

# Exclusive rights income could be taxed

*Proposed regulations could affect SIU, soft drink deals*

RHONDA SCIARRA  
STUDENT AFFAIRS EDITOR

The Internal Revenue Service alerted universities Wednesday that it may take money institutions receive from soft drink companies or similar corporations in exchange for exclusively using their product.

According to the proposed regulations, published Wednesday, income received by universities in such deals may be taxable when the income does not pertain to an institution's core mis-

sion, or when the company earns a "substantial return benefit."

Doug Varley, an attorney with Caplin and Drysdale in Washington, D.C., said when a charity, such as a university, accepts a gift in exchange for simple advertising, the gift is not taxable. But if the donation is in exchange for exclusive usage rights, under the proposed regulations, some of that gift will be taxable.

"If the university says at the basketball game the only drink that will be sold is Pepsi, that causes some portion of the payment to be taxable," Varley said. "The IRS is saying that the donation is not a gift."

In 1997, former SIU President Ted Sanders struck a deal between Marion Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company where owner Harry Crisp, Jr. pledged

\$500,000 to a new floor at the SIU Arena. In turn, Crisp was given a 10-year agreement to sell Pepsi products at basketball, football and baseball venues.

However University Legal Counsel Peter Ruger said the revenue SIU Athletics has received does not constitute unrelated business income that is subject to taxation.

"There are ample precedents and rulings that say athletics is an integral part of higher education and that corporate support of athletics is not subject to taxation," Ruger said.

Previous contracts with Pepsi have involved the University use of Pepsi-owned electronic scoreboards at the SIU Arena, McAndrew Stadium and

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 Ad Manager: JASON PATTERSON  
 Classified: CASSIE ALVAREZ  
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**CALENDAR**

**UPCOMING**

Calendar item deadline is two publication days before the event. The item must include time, date, place, admission and sponsor of the event and the name and phone of the person submitting the item. Items should be delivered to Communications Building, Room 1247. All calendar items also appear on www.dailyegyptian.com. No calendar information will be taken over the phone.

**TODAY**

- **Library Affairs** finding full text articles, 9 to 10 a.m., Morris Library 103D, finding scholarly articles, 10 to 11 a.m., Morris Library 103D, 453-5944.
- **Saluki Volunteer Corps** needs volunteers to guide parents and children through the screening stations and resource tables, 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., University Mall, Mary 529-5944.
- **Christian Apologetics Club** answering life's questions from God's word, noon, Corinth Room Student Center, Wayne 529-4043.
- **Spanish Table** meeting, every Fri, 4 to 6 p.m., Cafe Melange, 453-5425.
- **Wellness Center** nutrition booth in support of National Nutrition Month, 4 to 6 p.m., Recreation Center, Kim 529-3203.
- **French Club** meeting, 5 to 7 p.m., Mugsy McGuire's, Courtney 457-8847.
- **SIU Vet Club** meeting, 7 p.m., Quatros Pizza, Mary Ann 985-9937.
- **Intervarsity Christian Fellowship "Spiritual Warfare"**, 7 p.m., Ag. Building Room 209, Patrick 549-4284.
- **Black Fire Dancers** dance show, 7 p.m., Pulliam Hall Futr Auditorium, \$3 advance and \$5 at the door, Tracy or Malika 536-1593 or 536-6427.
- **Science Fiction and Fantasy Society** watch videos at meeting, 7 to midnight, Video Lounge Student Center, Marie 529-7474.
- **Christians Unlimited** meeting, 7 p.m., Activity Rooms A and B Student Center, Erin 684-4792.

- **Join millions of readers** from the National Education Association on Dr. Seuss's Birthday, Mar. 4, Barnes and Noble.
- **The Cast Your Cares Crusade Choir** is holding auditions for vocalists that are interested in carrying out God's word, every Sat., 3 to 5 p.m., Wesley Foundation, Trijan 457-0921.
- **Iota Phi Theta Fraternity** gospel musical featuring Racy Brothers, Mar. 4, 7 p.m., New Zion Baptist Church, Dennis 453-2268.
- **3 on 3 Basketball Tournament** slam dunk contest and 3 point shoot out, Mar. 5, noon to 6 p.m., Pulliam Gymnasium, team \$25 and individual \$10, Lashawn 351-7355.
- **Irish Studies Forum** dancing, Mar. 5, 3 to 5 p.m., Quigley Hall Room 140B, Alicia 351-6526.
- **Association of Childhood Education International** meeting, Mar. 6, 3 p.m., Quigley 12B.
- **University Career Services** resume/cover letter workshop, Mar. 6, 5 p.m., Lawson 121, Vickie 453-2391.
- **Student Alumni Council** meeting, every Mon., 6 p.m., Kaskaskia/Missouri Rooms, Jason 453-2444.
- **Alpha Phi Omega** meeting, Mar. 6, 6 p.m., Illinois Room Student Center, Kevin 549-5324.
- **SIUC Ballroom Dance Club** meeting and lesson, every Mon., 7 to 8 p.m., Davies Gym small gym second floor, \$15 student membership, Bryan 351-8855.
- **Outdoor Adventure Club** meeting, every Mon., 7 p.m., Video Lounge Student Center, Christy 536-7253.
- **Club Kendo** Japanese fencing

- meeting, every Mon. and Thurs., 8 to 10 p.m., Davies Gym, Todd 353-4002.
- **Yoga Sports Club** exercises and meditation, every Mon. and Wed., 8:30 to 10 p.m., Recreation Center Assembly Room, Craig 457-8578.
- **Baptist Collegiate Ministry Center** is offering free lunch for internationals, every Tues., 11:50 a.m. to 1 p.m., Baptist Student Center on the corner of Mill and Forrest St., Judy 457-2898.
- **Japanese Table**, every Tues., noon to 1 p.m., Student Center Cambria Room, bring your lunch, Dawn 536-8380.
- **SPC Films** meeting to select films for student entertainment, every Tues., 5 p.m., basement of Student Center, Amanda 536-3393.
- **SPC News and Views** lecture and slide show "Europe and the World on 84 Cents a Day", Mar. 7, 6 p.m., Ballroom C Student Center, Derrick 536-3393.
- **Ballroom Dance Club** meeting, dance lessons and practice session, every Tues., 8 to 9:30 p.m., Davies Gym second floor small gym, \$15 student members, Bryan 351-8855.
- **Women's Services** excerpts from favorite women writers, Mar. 7, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Faner Hall Room 1004, 453-3655.
- **Blacks in Communication Alliance** meeting, every Tues., 7:30 p.m., Saline Room Student Center, Erika 536-6798.
- **Apostolic Life Campus Ministry** prayer meeting, every Wed., 8 to 9 a.m., Sagamore Room Student Center, Abbie 529-8164.
- **Association of Childhood Education International** meeting, Mar. 8, 4 p.m., Quigley 12B.
- **Public Relations Student Society of America** meeting, every Wed., 4:30 to 6 p.m., Cambria Room Student Center, Halima 529-4338.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

**CARBONDALE**

• Carbondale police found guns stolen from a pawn shop after a Carbondale Park District employee noticed a broken window at Pay-Day Cash, 1200 W. Main St., \*\*\*-v Thursday morning. Police would only say that numerous handguns and at least three rifles were taken in the incident.

**UNIVERSITY**

- University police discovered graffiti on an elevator in Mae Smith around 10 p.m. Wednesday. Police have no suspects and no estimate of damage in the incident.
- A bulletin board was set on fire around 11 p.m. Wednesday on the seventh floor of Schneider Hall. Police said a resident extinguished the fire and no injuries were reported. There are no suspects in this incident and there was no damage estimate available.
- Louis McWilliams, 21, of Carbondale was arrested on a Jackson County warrant at 1:30 a.m. Thursday on an original charge of unlawful use of a sound amplifying device. McWilliams was taken to Jackson County Jail after being unable to post bond.
- Andre A. Hughes, 20, of Carbondale was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana with the intent to deliver after police allegedly found him with more than 30 grams of the drug at 1:15 a.m. Thursday. Hughes was taken to the Jackson County Jail.
- Nathaniel Westley, 18, of Carbondale was arrested and charged with aggravated battery at 2:39 a.m. Thursday after University police responded to a report of a fight in Lot 45. A 19-year-old student was injured and taken to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale.

**CORRECTIONS**

Readers who spot an error in a news article should contact the DAILY EGYPTIAN Accuracy Desk at 536-3311, extension 228 or 229.

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## SIU Saluki Women's Basketball Fan Appreciation Night

Saturday, March 4 • 7:05pm • SIU Arena

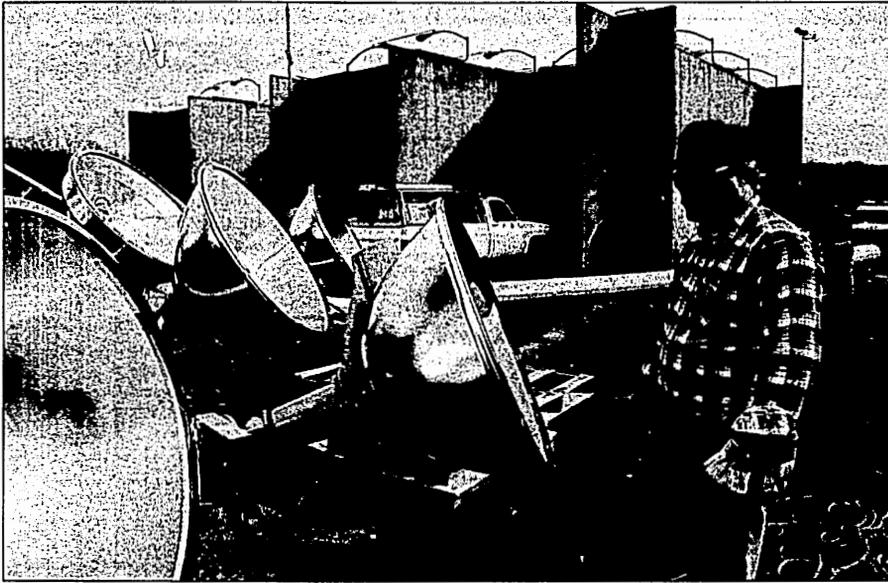
### SALUKI WOMEN VS Indiana State

The Salukis go for the season sweep over the Sycamores. The MVC tournament is just around the corner. Cheer on the "DAWGS"

It's Fan Appreciation Night. Everyone will get into the game FREE! Coach Beck wants to thank all the fans that supported the Salukis this season.

# GO DAWGS!!

SIU STUDENTS - THIS IS A U-CARD APPROVED EVENT



ROBERT JACOBINI - DAILY EGYPTIAN

**ALL LIT UP:** Tom Clark, an SIUC Physical Plant employee, works on installing one of 14 poles with metal halide lights for illumination of the playing fields on the east side of the Arena Thursday afternoon.

## Remembering beginnings

*Big Muddy judges can relate to students as they present their first films*

ANDREA DONALDSON  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Sitting in a small sound room in the Communications Building in front of a large, white viewing screen, Rachel Liebling, reminisced on her first judged film, remembering how amazing it felt to finish a film and have her ideas conveyed to an audience.

"One of my first films was personal," said Liebling, one of the three judges for the Big Muddy Film Festival and writer, producer and director of the critically acclaimed music feature, "High Lonesome-The Story of Bluegrass Music." "It wasn't about the audience, it was about making the film — the magic of it.

"I was astounded that the ideas that were so personal and inside me were so communicated," she said.

With the Big Muddy Film Festival wrapping up its showcases and feature films this weekend, the judges have arrived to view the films presented in the competition.

SEE BIG MUDDY, PAGE 5

## USG proposes expanded community service program

*Recommendation may reappear before the City Council next week*

KAREN BLATTER  
GOVERNMENT EDITOR

Undergraduate Student Government recommended the expansion of the community service program, which will allow more legal offenses to receive community service hours rather than paying a total fine.

USG recommended the city expand the program that allows violators to pay half of a fine and complete community service hours instead of paying a full fine.

If approved by the City Council, the program will include litter, public indecency, public urination, public possession of alcohol and amplified sound offenses.

If these violations are added to the program, the fine would be reduced to half of the pay-by-mail cost and complete a set number of community service hours.

USG's recommendation may go before the City Council at its March 7 meeting. City Affairs Commissioner: Shiohan

Lawler asked for USG's recommendation on the extended program at the request of Mayor Neil Dillard.

For now, the program includes under-age consumption and under-age possession violators to pay a fine of \$125 and complete 25 hours of community service in an area of their choice. Before the program was installed, the only option was to pay \$250.

USG President Sean Henry said that the community service program is very important because it gives students an option when dealing with mistakes and money.

He said the option is good for students to learn lessons from.

"It really makes you think twice about what you are doing," he said. "Time is very valuable. It saves students money and they learn more from it."

USG originally started the idea for the program in 1998. USG fought for the approval of the program by the council, seeking approval for the program twice.

Henry said that he was pleased that the city requested USG's opinion toward the program.

"I think it is good," he said. "It just shows that USG and the city are working together."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### CARBONDALE

#### Website wants student with the messiest apartment

Leave the dishes in the sink. Keep that pizza box on the coffee table. Your dirty laundry — toss it anywhere. And don't even think about bothering with the vacuum or the duster.

The people at Apartments.com are going to pay the college student with the dirtiest apartment \$12,000.

The on-line company helps people find rental housing. And it will certainly help the winner in this contest move on up — preferably to a cleaner place.

If you're messy and interested, just send a picture of your apartment, along with a paragraph explaining why the apartment is messy to the website.

The winner gets \$2,000 in credit to bid on merchandise at auctions.com and \$10,000 in cash.

The only catch: you must live off campus. On-campus residence are not eligible for the contest.

For more information about the contest go to Apartments.com.

#### SIU Alumni Association accepting applications

The Jackson County chapter of the SIU Alumni Association is accepting applications for the Jackson County Family YMCA Scholarship for the 2000-2001 academic year.

The \$2,000 scholarship is awarded annually to one student enrolled in a College of Education departmental program. The student must be a graduate from a high school in Jackson County.

To apply, students need to submit an application, two letters of recommendation and a current SIUC transcript prior to 4:30 p.m., March 24, to the Alumni Association.

Applications can be obtained by contacting Jacquelyn Bailey at the College of Education at 453-2354, or Dave Ardrey from the Alumni Association at 453-2408 for more information.

#### Hotel international offers World travel 101

Hostelling International will be presenting a budget travel seminar at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Cisne Auditorium in Pulliam Hall.

Some of the topics presented will include finding travel discounts, saving on airfare, travel documents, what and how to pack and hostels.

For more information, call Scott Harris at 529-4005.

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# Metaphors of color



TED SCHURTER - DAILY EGYPTIAN

'Stain Upon the Snow' opens tonight at Kleinau Theatre. The play examines racial issues and is an adaptation of Nathaniel Hawthorne's short story 'The Birth Mark.'

## New play, 'Stain Upon the Snow,' examines racism

TRAVIS MORSE  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS EDITOR

Contemporary racial issues and the Puritanical realm of Nathaniel Hawthorne do not appear to be connected, but director John Warren thinks otherwise.

Warren, a doctoral graduate student in speech communication from Frankfort, Ind., is directing a theatrical version of Hawthorne's short story "The Birth Mark" called "Stain Upon the Snow." The story is about Dr. Aylmer, a man with a beautiful wife who just happens to have a red blemish on her face. Using his scientific knowledge, he tries to destroy the hateful mark and kills Georgiana in the process.

The title of Warren's adaptation refers to a line in the Hawthorne story describing Georgiana's mark as a "criminal stain upon the snow of her cheek." The ambitious director hopes to use the story's themes as a way to discuss racial problems of today.

"We're using the short story to look at metaphors of color," Warren said. "Georgiana's mark is removed so her cheek becomes whiter and purer."

Warren has also tried to tone down some of the melodrama of Hawthorne's work without sacrificing the strength of the original text.

"Hawthorne writes in a melodramatic way. When Georgiana dies, she actually says 'Alas, I'm dying.' We've gotten rid of some of that," Warren said.

Hawthorne's story did not deal directly with racism

and was more about humanity's foolish attempt to control nature. Regardless, actress Amy Kilgard sees the connection.

"It's really important in our world to directly talk about issues of race," said Kilgard, a graduate student in speech communication from Valdosta, Ga. "This play was an interesting way to do that."

Kilgard plays the narrator of the piece and she found her role physically and emotionally challenging. As did Keith Nainby, a graduate student in speech communication from Venice, Fla., who plays the infamous Dr. Aylmer.

### PLAY TIMES

"STAIN UPON THE SNOW" WILL BE PERFORMED TONIGHT AND SATURDAY AT 8 P.M. IN THE KLEINAU THEATRE. TICKETS ARE \$5 FOR STUDENTS WITH AN I.D.

doubt it will connect with the audience.

"I still think it will go over well," Kilgard said. "When people see and hear the narrative between the scenes, they'll understand."

Modestly, Warren is not so certain how audiences will respond to his play.

"I don't know how it will be received," Warren said. "The key to directing this is to figure out what I see in Hawthorne and communicate that to the audience. I hope I've done that."

"I'm a fairly new performer, so I found the experience challenging," Nainby said. "I thought the character was interesting and I was fascinated by the theme of how scientific discourse can contribute to racism becoming imbedded."

Despite the play's complex themes, Kilgard has no

# A Most Dangerous Game

No X-mas cheer, but plenty of thrill in Frankenheimer's new film

TRAVIS MORSE  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS EDITOR

Action films have gotten a bad rap in recent years and some of that flak is well-deserved. Hacks like Michael Bay and Jerry Bruckheimer have created a lot of disposable trash films, like "Armageddon," that substitute style over substance and give a once viable genre a bad name.

Leave it to a cagey, old veteran like director John Frankenheimer to bring the art back to action with "Reindeer

Games," a lean, muscular thriller starring Ben Affleck and Charlize Theron.

Frankenheimer's career spans back to the '50s directing episodes of the live television series "Playhouse 90." He was really noticed, however, lending his unerring eye for composition and expert sense of pacing to classic films like "The Manchurian Candidate."

"Seconds" (a film action veteran John Woo still considers a favorite), and the vastly underrated Elmore Leonard adaptation "52 Pick Up." His career languished for a while in the mid-'80s, but the master craftsman returned with a vengeance in 1998's "Ronin," a film that proved Frankenheimer could stage car chase sequences that put William Friedkin

to shame.

I love that there is no glamorization in Frankenheimer's tense, gritty films. Gunshot wounds and punches hurt and violence is a creeping menace that can swallow any man.

All of this is true in "Reindeer Games." Using a twist-happy script by Ehren Kruger, Frankenheimer creates a riveting film that artfully balances humor and chaos.

The film follows a convict named Rudy, played by Affleck, and his attempts to impersonate his murdered cell mate, Nick, in the outside world. Nick had been corresponding in prison with a beautiful woman named Ashley, played by Theron,

### Rating of...

★★★★

Friday  
MARCH 3, 2000

A composition of weekend entertainment throughout Carbondale, St. Louis and the Chicagoland areas. The Pulse appears every Friday.

To contact the arts and entertainment reporter, Travis Morse for story ideas or related information, call the Daily Egyptian at 536-3311 or e-mail at editor@siu.edu

### Movie Ratings

★ "Don't waste your money"  
★ ★ "Wait for the video"  
★ ★ ★ "Take a date to entertain you"  
★ ★ ★ ★ "Good enough to see by yourself"  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ "A masterpiece well worth the effort"

## Friday

### Carbondale:

- Open mic night at 9:30 p.m. at the Longbranch Coffeehouse.
- Live DJ show every Friday and Saturday at Six with no cover charge.
- Today and Saturday, "Stain Upon the Snow" will be performed at the Kleinau Theatre at 8 p.m., both nights. General admission is \$5 for students with an I.D.
- Brent Stewart and the Sympathizers, original acoustic folk rockers, play at Melange Coffeehouse from 8 to 10:30 p.m. There is no cover charge.
- Peter Keane, plus special guest Michael Leselius, perform tonight at Cousin Andy's Coffeehouse. Suggested donation is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and low income people. Well-behaved children get in free.
- The Schwag plays at Hangar 9 at 10 p.m.
- Safety First, Hippie Repellant and Short Bus all play Boo Jr.'s at 9 p.m.
- Gaither Homecoming begins at 7 p.m. at the SIU Arena. Tickets are \$24.50 and \$17.50.
- Something to Mow performs at PK's at 9:30 p.m. There is no cover charge.
- Today through March 10, the University Museum is displaying a Combined Faculty Exhibition. Times for the exhibit are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday. The museum is free and open to the public.
- The Playroom, a juried exhibition organized by students enrolled in Art 447, will be on display at the University Museum today through March 10. The museum is free and open to the public.



- An exhibit of Martin Desht's photography will be on display in the University Museum today through February 29. Times for the exhibit are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday. The museum is free and open to the public.

### Chicago:

- The Bacon Brothers play at the Chicago House of Blues at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18.50.

## Saturday

### Carbondale:

- Blue Afternoon, a rock band, take the stage at Melange Coffeehouse at 8 p.m. There is no cover charge.
- A Big Muddy competition showcase takes place at Longbranch Coffeehouse at 10 p.m. Free admission.
- Pepperland performs at Hangar 9 at 10 p.m.
- Saturday Morning Storytime at Barnes & Noble will feature "A Cat in the Hat" and "Gerald McBoing Boing" by Dr. Seuss. It starts at 10:30 a.m. and there is no admission price.
- The IBO World Qualifier Archer Match in Union Co. is at the Trail of Tears Lodge & Sports Resort. Free admission. All day event.
- The Cobden American Legion Breakfast in Union Co. is at 7 a.m. the first Saturday of each month at the Legion Hall. The price is \$3.50 a person and everyone is welcome.

### Chicago:

- Great White, a rock band whose latest album is "Can't Get There From Here," rocks the Chicago House of Blues at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18.50.

# USG opposes adding kiosks to campus

## Senators vote against flier proposal

GINNY SKALSKI  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Attempts to gain Undergraduate Student Government's support to beautify the campus fell short when senators voted against supporting a proposal that would provide an alternate outlet to posting fliers on buildings.

Senators voted 17 to eight against supporting a proposal that would add kiosks around campus to allow for the posting of fliers and posters at Wednesday night's USG meeting.

The decision was made after senators voiced concerns about the high cost of the project. The only estimate available was four years old and stated adding five kiosks, large concrete posts, to the campus would cost

\$25,850.

East Side Senator Eric Walmire spoke against the resolution saying students would continue to post fliers on the pedestrian overpasses and anywhere else on campus they desired, making the kiosks would be a waste of money.

West Side Senator Dawn Roberts, who wrote and submitted the resolution, said the kiosks would do the exact opposite.

Roberts said kiosks have caught on at other Universities and students tend to post on them only.

She also cited that the Physical Plant spends about \$300 a week cleaning up fliers and posters from around campus, and if the University invested in the kiosks now, it would save money in the long run.

The estimated cost for the proposal to build five, 9 feet by 6 feet kiosks, includes a crane to post the kiosks, the foundation, a logo, and

lighting and electrical connection.

Vice Chancellor for Administration Glenn Poshard, who worked with Roberts and presented information on the proposal at the Feb. 16 USG meeting, said he appreciated USG's interest in the proposal, and other options for expenses will be sought out.

"We can explore different avenues with the expected costs of the kiosks," Poshard said. "We feel it's much better altogether, both savings wise and helping students get their information out in a way that doesn't litter."

Poshard said even though senators chose not to support the proposal, it would continue to be discussed in the upcoming weeks with the Committee for Campus Environment.

"We never said that there is any 100-percent solution to enable people to get out information as well as not pollute," Poshard said. "We hope that kiosks would help keep the posting on the walls and buildings down."

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# Debate team gains momentum

## Future looking good after successful weekend

GEOFFREY RITTER  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

The SIUC Debate team is looking to step things up a notch in Baltimore this weekend after a strong showing in St. Louis that resulted in a national championship for the team and several awards for individual members last weekend.

"We were real happy with how everything went," said Eric Slusher, a senior in speech communication from Kansas City and undergraduate assistant coach for the team. "To do that good is pretty outstanding."

The weekend in St. Louis was highlighted by a first-place victory in the Webster University tournament by the two-person team of Tommy Curry and Diallo Brown, both seasoned debaters. The victory was further sweetened by Curry receiving honors as the top individual speaker and winner of the tournament.

In addition, the rookie members of the team did not return to Carbondale empty-handed. Newcomer Ben McKay rose to the top of the ladder as the best novice in competition and Danielle Blair took the second-place seat.

"We're especially proud of our novices," said team adviser Jeff Bile. "We had a very young team there and it was a very impressive effort on their part."

Blair, a freshman in biological chemistry from St.

Louis, said a lot of preparation was involved in creating the team's success. The 10 to 15 members who make up the team, practice with an assistant, such as Slusher, at least once a week and upcoming competitions intensify the schedule. While members know their debate topic months before hand, they only become aware of which side they will take in the debate just before going under the judges' eyes.

"A lot of [the rehearsals] are speed drills and working on technique," Blair said.

Therefore, a tight schedule leaves the team little time to revel in its St. Louis victory, and the team is stepping up their practice schedule in order to ensure success in the coming weekends.

Following a three-day road trip to Baltimore's Towson University this weekend, members of the team will spend the bulk of their spring break in Carbondale, tweaking their performances for the pinnacle of the season in Kansas City, where another, larger, national tournament will happen in two weeks.

"We're optimistic at this point," Slusher said. "The national tournament is the jewel of the season and our teams have done well before."

Bile said although the team is renowned for having won several national titles over the past several years, this year is yielding an unusual amount of success, and he is looking forward to seeing what the rest of the year has in store.

"We're hopeful," Bile said. "It's been a rebuilding year for us, but we seem to be building up some speed right now."

## BIG MUDDY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The three highly acclaimed judges began viewing films Thursday and will continue judging until Saturday. The finalists of the competition will be showcased at Best of the Fest, March 5 at 7 p.m. in the Student Center.

After viewing about 10 of the competition films, Liebling and the two other judges, Chel White and Deborah Stratman, agreed that they have no real set of criteria when judging. Most of all, they are looking for films that show emotion.

"I'm looking for works that are compelling in some way, either visual-

ly or emotionally, or both," said White, producer of "Dirt," and recipient of the Best Short Film award at the 1998 Stockholm International Film Festival.

"I want something that takes me someplace I haven't been before," he said.

The judges said festivals such as Big Muddy are important for students and upcoming filmmakers. The festival gives students a chance to meet independent producers and directors who have been in their same situation and ask questions.

"It was a huge influence on me [as a student] to see that people were making work on an independent

level," said Stratman, independent film/video maker and visual artist.

Stratman's recent films include "The BLVD," a documentary about street drag racing on Chicago's Westside, and "From Hetty to Nancy," an experimental documentary shot in Iceland.

The three critics have been honored at numerous prestigious film festivals. Thinking about the Big Muddy Film Festival, they consider it a better festival than most.

"To me it seems that there are few festivals known for looking at out-of-the-mainstream films," Liebling said. "[Big Muddy] is a place for things that don't have a place to be seen."

## USG

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the fees.

The proposed increase was for 5 percent more than the current fee.

Miller proposed an amendment to the resolution that would support the increase, but only by 3 percent. The

increase Miller suggested was from the current \$116 to \$119.48.

He suggested that the Student Center ask for more funds from the businesses located there.

"We give to [the businesses] all the time, they can give back to this University by giving it more funds," Miller said.

The only fee increase senators did

not support was the Recreation Center fee. Senators thought they were rushed through the voting process when it came time to vote on the \$4 increase.

Despite voting on the resolution twice, after some senators complained the chairman of the meeting was going too fast, senators did not debate the resolution and voted against it both times.

# GPSC to deny budget leeway to athletic dept.

*Council to take action against budget problems*

ANNE MARIE TAVELLA  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

The Graduate and Professional Student Council wants the Athletic Department to stick to its budget.

GPSC will receive a recommendation Tuesday from the Intercollegiate Advisory Committee to see if it thinks the Athletic Department should not be allowed to spend more funds than what is in its budget.

After receiving the recommenda-

tion, GPSC will go on record either for or against the recommendation. At past meetings, GPSC has shown strong support for holding the Athletic Department to its budget.

Bill Peters, GPSC vice president for Administrative Affairs, said GPSC is concerned with overspending in all departments, not just the Athletic Department. However, they are focusing on the Athletic Department at this time.

"Fee-based units should stick to their budgets, that's the take-home message," Peters said.

Kathy Jones, associate athletic director, said the situation is more complicated than the Athletic Department just disregarding its budget and overspending.

"The Athletic Department budget is a complicated matter that a simple resolution doesn't really address," Jones said.

The department's revenue is composed of a number of unpredictable factors. For example, ticket and concession sales are based on game attendance, which can vary depending on the success and failures of the teams.

The situation of the department's deficit should not be a surprise, Jones said. The Board of Trustees was aware that the budget allotted would not be sufficient to cover the Athletic Department's needs.

With fluid revenue and expenditures, the only figures available at this time are projections.

"You don't know where you are on the budget until the end of the year," Jones said.

The department understands the need to stay within its budget, Jones said. However, that may not always be possible.

The record of GPSC's recommendation will be sent to members of the administration and the board. GPSC hopes the board will take action against all overspending, Peters said.

"Ultimately it's the Board of Trustees who decide on these matters, we want them to say 'hey, you guys need to stick to your budgets,'" Peters said.

The dispute between GPSC and the Athletic Department is nothing

new. In the past, GPSC has been opposed to increasing athletic fees. In January 1998, GPSC passed a resolution, which opposed any increase in the student athletic fee at that time.

Peters said the GPSC position against the Athletic Department's overspending and fee increases comes from its constituents.

"I think we usually try not to support increases because our constituents tell us that they're not interested in athletics," Peters said.

It is GPSC's job to directly reflect the majority of its constituents, Peters said. Although he may support the Athletic Department personally, in his GPSC position, he must represent the majority of graduate students.

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**Scream 3 (R)**  
4:30 7:00 9:30 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-3]

**Pitch Black (R)**  
4:45 7:15 9:40 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-3]

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**Wonder Boys (R)**  
4:15 7:00 9:40 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 1-4]

**Cider House Rules (PG-13)**  
4:00 6:45 9:30 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 1-4]

**What Planet Are You From (R)**  
4:45 7:15 9:50 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-3]

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**Drowning Mona (PG-13) DTS**  
5:10 7:20 9:30 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-3]

**Reindeer Games (R)**  
4:10 6:40 9:20 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 1-4]

**Tigger (G)**  
4:40 7:00 9:00 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-4]

**Snow Day (PG)**  
5:20 7:30 9:40 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-3]

**The Whole 9 Yards (R)**  
5:00 7:35 9:55 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-3]

**American Beauty (R)**  
4:20 7:10 9:50 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 1-3]

**Hanging Up (PG-13) DTS**  
5:30 7:40 10:00 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-4]

**My Dog Skip (PG) DTS**  
4:30 6:50 9:10 [Sat/Sun, Mar. 2-3]

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**GAME**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

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In the end, "Reindeer Games" is a B-movie premise raised to the A level by the talent involved. Frankenheimer and Kruger work wonders with what could have been just another Michael Bay bucket of cinematic sludge.

**IRS**

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# The Saluki guide to Arch Madness

All season long, coaches around the Missouri Valley Conference have said that this year's tournament has the potential to be the wildest ever. Any team can win it, they say.

I'm not buying it. True, the MVC is without one or two dominant teams that stand head and shoulders above the rest. And true, the Valley's middle-of-the-pack and bottom teams are better than usual, increasing the chances for an upset here and there.

But mark my words, one of the tournament's top four seeds — Indiana State, Southwest Missouri State, SIU or Creighton — will be the team hammering it up for the ESPN cameras in St. Louis Monday night after stamping an all-expenses paid ticket to the Big Dance.



**Jay Schwab**  
Sports Editor

What about Bradley, you say? The No. 5 seeded Braves are super-athletic, were the preseason pick to win the league, and have a stud player in senior guard Rob Dye. Plus, Bradley almost won at Indiana State in the final game of the regular season. Can't Bradley finally show their stuff and win it all?

Nope. These Braves have some foul chemistry going this season, and are a lousy shooting team. They may beat Creighton Saturday, but I doubt it. All the disappointment the Braves have gone through while stumbling to a sub-.500 record this season has taken too heavy a toll on the guys from Peoria to expect a miraculous turnaround at the Kiel Center.

So while dismissing the Braves, Evansville, Northern Iowa, Illinois State, Wichita State and Drake from the championship mix — all of which lack the firepower and/or moxie to win pressure games on consecutive days — let's examine the true contenders.

League champion Indiana State has had a storybook season, complete with the Disney ending of clinching the Valley title in front of ex-Sycamore legend Larry Bird at the Hulman Center Monday night. The Sycamores have the Valley Player of the Year in the athletic and versatile Nate Green, and several very solid players behind him. They also have a hell of a coach in Royce Waltman.

But Indiana State is good, not great. They may roll against the winner of the Illinois State/Wichita State play-in game, but don't be surprised if the Sycamores run into some trouble in their semi-final game Sunday.

Next is the No. 2 seed Southwest Missouri State Bears. The Bears are a scary bunch, folks. With a bunch of seniors on the team that are familiar with what it takes to win big games after last season's Sweet 16 run, Southwest Missouri State may be the most dangerous team to hit the Kiel Center floor.

Southwest's guard combo of William Fontleroy and Kevin Ault are good enough to give the Bears a backcourt advantage against just about anyone they'll face, and sophomore forward Scott Brakebill is a major talent. And I won't even mention Allen Phillips after the dagger he stuck in SIU's heart Monday night.

The only potential pitfall for the Bears is their occasional tendency to have intensity lapses, which

SEE SCHWAB, PAGE 12

## MVC Tournament Pairings Takes place March 3 - 6 in St. Louis

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
#8 Illinois St.	#1 Indiana St.		
6 p.m.	12:05 p.m.		
#9 Wichita St.	#4 Creighton		
	2:35 p.m.	1:35 p.m.	
	#7 Northern Iowa	#5 Bradley	
	8:30 p.m.	6:05 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
	#10 Drake	#2 SW Missouri S	
		4:05 p.m.	
	MISSOURI #3 SIU EV CONFERENCE		
	TOURNAMENT		
	8:35 p.m.		
	#6 Evansville		

## Salukis ready to roll

*After late skid, SIU has no margin for error in opening round*

JAY SCHWAB  
SPORTS EDITOR

SIU men's basketball coach Bruce Weber has tried to stay positive with his Salukis this week, after SIU lost its second straight game in Monday night's regular season finale.

After all, there's still plenty to play for. The loss against Southwest Missouri State University caused the Salukis to slip to third place heading into the Missouri Valley Conference men's basketball tournament at the Kiel Center in St. Louis. Weber is counting on his

troops to keep the faith, as his Salukis will be shooting to earn the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament that goes to the winner of this weekend's Valley showdown.

"We'll see how they respond," Weber said. "I told them to focus the anger toward Evansville, toward all the games in the tournament. I don't think they've thrown it in yet, we'll see what happens on Saturday."

Saturday is the quarterfinal round of the Valley tournament. SIU, the No. 3 seed, has drawn the No. 6-seeded University of Evansville for an 8:30 p.m. contest. If SIU wins Saturday, they will advance to Sunday's semifinal round. Monday night is the championship game.

The Salukis enter the weekend knowing they need to win the tournament if they

plan on going to the Big Dance. Otherwise, SIU will be hoping for an National Invitational Tournament bid. Despite closing the regular season on a sour note, SIU is approaching Arch Madness with a swagger.

"I think we've got one of the best teams in the league," SIU senior guard Ricky Collum said. "We've got to come out and perform like that."

Saluki leading scorer Kent Williams said SIU must take this weekend as a fresh start after the bad regular-season finish.

"There's no room to pout about it," Williams said. "If everyone wants to go to the NCAA Tournament, we have to stay focused and win three

Saturday, 8:35 p.m. at the Kiel Center in St. Louis. Broadcast on "Big Dance" #5.1 FM WOL (check local listings for details).

SIU 3-120 vs. No. 6 Evansville (10-11, 12-4)

**Senior notes**  
With its regular season sweep this year, SIU leads all 25-time series all-timers. The Salukis blow out the Aces in both regular, uncharacteristic of the usually hotly-contested rivalry.

**The word on the table:**  
SIU has not put its disappointing conclusion to the regular season out of mind. SIU had seven tie games in a row and moved to a first-place tie before losing its final two games and slipping to third. SIU is at its best when playing intense defense and running a crisp, motion offense. Kent Williams, Chris Thrunel and Ricky Collum have been the top offensive threats for the balanced Salukis.

**The word on the Aces:**  
Evansville followed up on a weak non-conference schedule before returning to a 500 MVC record. The Aces are dangerous and have two major offensive weapons in Craig Snow and Adam Sells. The Aces are not a stack or big team, but can shoot and are fundamentally sound. When they get down early, though, the Aces have a tendency to fold.

**Proposed MVC starting lineup**

#1 G - Ricky Collum	(S)	5-11	PPG	17.6
#2 G - Brandon Mills	(So)	6-7	3.0	3.4
#3 G - Kent Williams	(Sr)	6-2	13.7	2.5
#12 F - Chris Thrunel	(Sr)	6-9	10.8	6.7
#42 C - Derrick Timon	(Sr)	6-7	6.4	4.7

**Proposed Evansville starting lineup**

#11 G - Jeremy Stanton	(Fr)	6-5	6.6	2.1
#42 G - Kyle Rayner	(So)	6-5	6.0	2.3
#1 F - Adam Sells	(So)	6-5	13.7	4.2
#32 F - Craig Snow	(Sr)	6-7	14.6	6.1
#30 C - Keenan James	(Sr)	6-8	5.1	4.3

**Misinformation:**  
SIU is the only team to ever three-peat as MVC Tournament champions, which they did from 1997-99. The Aces have some health concerns, as Jeremy Stanton, Keenan James and Zach McQuinn have all missed some action recently.

**Bottom line:**  
Coming out of the gate strong may be enough to bury the Aces. Otherwise, it could be a war. This is an SIU team that prides itself on hustle and playing with heart. Now is the time to prove it.

SEE ROLL, PAGE 12

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### No. 1 Indiana State (21-9, 14-4)

**Top Threats:** 6-5 Sr. G-Nate Green, (14.1 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 4.2 apg, 3.0 spg), 6-6 Jr. F-Matt Rynn (16.9 ppg, 7.3 rpg) and 5-11 Jr. G-Michael Menser (10.8 ppg, 2.9 rpg).

**Strengths:** Nate Green. The MVC Player of the Year does everything for Sycamore head coach Royce Waltman. The Sycamores have a knack for winning close ballgames this season. In games decided by five points or less, the Sycamores are 7-0 and they are 5-0 in games decided by two points or less.

**Weaknesses:** While the Sycamores are one of the smartest teams in the Valley, they are not very big or physical, and do not shoot particularly well.

**Outlook:** The Sycamores are in decent shape to receive an at-large bid no matter what they do in the tournament, but a win or two would strengthen their case.

### No. 2 Southwest Missouri State (20-9, 13-3)

**Top Threats:** 6-3 Sr. G-William Fontleroy (10.3 ppg, 3.3 rpg), 6-3 Sr. G-Kevin Ault (11.0 ppg, 3.5 rpg), 6-5 Sr. F-Allen Phillips (12.8 ppg, 4.3 rpg) 6-8 Soph. F-Scott Brakebill (11.3 ppg, 6.0 rpg)

**Strengths:** The Bears are on a roll, winners of eight straight, including an emotional road win at SIU Monday. The Bears have NCAA experience following their trip to the Sweet Sixteen last season. SMSU is balanced and possesses a solid backcourt. Fontleroy could be the X-factor

that pushes the Bears to the NCAAs again.

**Weaknesses:** Other than Brakebill, the Bears do not possess too much inside talent, or size. SIU was able to get some open looks inside Monday and a team with a solid frontcourt may have enough to overcome the Bears solid guard play.

**Outlook:** The Bears are in good shape to receive an NCAA at-large bid, however if someone other than Indiana State or SMSU wins the Valley tournament, the Bears may find themselves heading to the National Invitational Tournament.

### No. 3 SIU (18-11, 12-6)

**Top Threats:** 6-2 Fr. G-Kent Williams (13.7 ppg), 6-9 Sr. F-Chris Thunell (10.8 ppg, 6.7 rpg), 5-11 Sr. G-Ricky Collum (9.5 ppg)

**Strengths:** Balance and depth. The Salukis have, arguably, the best bench in the Valley. Having to play on consecutive days, their bench should be a nice boost. SIU is also solid defensively.

**Weaknesses:** The Salukis do not really have a go-to scorer and tend to have lapses on the offensive end at times. Their top shooters, Kent Williams and Abel Schrader, have had trouble getting shots lately.

**Outlook:** SIU will go as far as its senior leaders will take it. Derrick Tilmon and Thunell will have to play big roles if the Salukis wants to get to the Big Dance. They also need Collum, Williams or Schrader to step up and hit some big shots.

### No. 4 Creighton (20-9, 11-7)

**Top Threats:** 6-2 Jr. G-Ben Walker (12.4 ppg, 6.3 rpg), 6-0 Jr. G-Ryan Sears (11.9 ppg, 3.6 rpg), 6-6 Fr. F-Kyle Korver (8.4 ppg, 3.2 rpg)

**Strengths:** Creighton has solid depth. Freshman sharpshooter Korver has been a pleasant surprise for head coach Dana Altman. Sears gives the Bluejays, the best shooting team in the MVC, consistency at the point and when he's on, the Bluejays are tough. The Bluejay press can give opponents fits.

**Weaknesses:** 6-foot-8-inch senior forward Nerjus Karlikanovas was dismissed from the team by Altman for violating team rules and leaves a rather large vacancy in the middle. Without him, Creighton loses some size and skill.

**Outlook:** Creighton has the potential to be very dangerous if caught on a hot-shooting night. The Bluejays have a legitimate shot at playing on Monday night, but unless they win the tournament, they are NIT-bound.

### No. 5 Bradley (14-15, 10-8)

**Top Threats:** 6-1 Sr. G-Rob Dye (16.4 ppg), 6-4 Sr. G-Eric Roberson (9.1 ppg)

**Strengths:** Bradley, a very athletic team, has one of the best backcourts in the Valley in Dye and Roberson. Roberson, nicknamed "The Predator" for his menacing defense, can flat-out shut people down and Dye is a prolific scorer. Their guards are tremendous rebounders as well.

**Weaknesses:** Pretty much every-

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thing outside of their guards. The Braves have a mediocre frontcourt and are known for falling susceptible to scoring droughts, which can destroy a team in a tournament like this. Bradley has been the biggest disappointment in the MVC this season.

**Outlook:** The Braves will go as far as Dye and Roberson will carry them, but the duo will need someone else to step up if they are going to make any noise.

**No. 6 Evansville (10-11, 9-9)**

**Top Threats:** 6-7 Jr. F-Craig Snow (16.6 ppg, 6.1 rpg), 6-3 So. G-Adam Seitz (13.7 ppg, 4.2 rpg), 6-2 So. G-Clint Keown (9.2 ppg)  
**Strengths:** The Purple Aces have a talented crop of outside shooters. Snow is a solid inside-outside threat and head coach Jim Crews and Co. have NCAA experience after last season's NCAA appearance.

**Weaknesses:** Evansville, one of the MVC's least athletic teams, is hurting a little, especially in its frontcourt, which was not that good to begin with. The Aces have also had the tendency to get behind early and fall apart.

**Outlook:** If Evansville does not show up early Saturday, then they have may as well not show up at all. When falling behind early this year, the Aces have been blown out.

**No. 7 Northern Iowa (14-14, 7-11)**

**Top Threats:** 5-11 Jr. G-Robbie Sieverding (16.0 ppg, 4.4 rpg), 6-6 Jr. F-Joe Breakenridge (9.1 ppg, 8.0 rpg), 6-7 Sr. F-Cory Jenkins (9.4 ppg, 4.8 rpg)  
**Strengths:** Sieverding is as tough as they come and the Panthers

have a respectable frontcourt. Sam Weaver is a first-rate coach who gets every ounce of energy from his players.

**Weaknesses:** Their bench, or lack thereof. The Panther bench has been vacant due to everything from injuries to suspensions, forcing Weaver to play his starters for the majority of games.

**Outlook:** Northern Iowa should get past Drake, but its season should come to an end when it meets up with SMSU. Maybe Sieverding will finally be able to recover from the stress fracture he has played with most of the season.

**No. 8 Illinois State (10-19, 5-13)**

**Top Threats:** 6-2 Jr. G-Tarise Bryson (19.4 ppg, 4.2 rpg), 6-2 So. G-Shawn Jeppson (10.4 ppg, 2.2 rpg)  
**Strengths:** The Redbirds have one of the Valley's most explosive scorers in Bryson. Freshman forward P.J. Smith is up-and-coming, but still has things to learn.

**Weaknesses:** Other than Bryson, the Redbirds do not have any main scoring threats. Bryson may have to take 20-plus shots for the Redbirds to score over 60. They also lost their best big man, senior L. Dee Murdock, for the season, with a knee injury.

**Outlook:** How the mighty have fallen. If Bryson can out-shoot Wichita State guard Jason Perez, the Redbirds will have a chance of advancing to the quarterfinals before ending their season.

**No. 9 Wichita State (11-16, 5-13)**

**Top Threats:** 6-4 Sr. G-Jason Perez (20.3 ppg, 7.0 rpg, 3.0 apg, 2.2 spg), 6-5 So. G-Terrell Benton (12.0 ppg, 2.3 rpg), 6-8 Sr. F-Darinn

Williams (9.0 ppg, 6.0 rpg)  
**Strengths:** Jason Perez. Like Indiana State's Green, Perez does it all for head coach Randy Smithson.

Perez led the Valley in scoring and was an All-MVC selection for the second straight season. The Shockers are a physical bunch, which could bother Indiana State if the Shockers can get by Illinois State.

**Weaknesses:** The Shockers play ugly. When they win, they win ugly. Outside of Perez, the Shockers have major trouble scoring.  
**Outlook:** Smithson is fighting for his job. It will be interesting to see Perez and Bryson shut out the lights out in the Kiel Center Friday night, but unless Perez has a miracle in his pocket, the Shockers will be home in time for church on Sunday.

**No. 10 Drake (10-17, 4-14)**

**Top Threats:** 6-8 Sr. F-Dontay Harris (11.7 ppg, 6.0 rpg), 5-11 Sr. G-Matt Woodley (11.3 ppg, 2.7 rpg), 6-3 Jr. G-Lamont Evans (7.6 ppg, 5.3 apg)  
**Strengths:** Seriously? No, actually the Bulldogs are a slightly improved bunch, but still could not get out of the Valley basement. Evans can create, Harris is a talented big man and Woodley is a fierce competitor.

**Weaknesses:** The slumping Bulldogs have not won a game in the Valley tournament under head coach Kurt Kanaskie in his three-year tenure. With their lack of scorers, they probably won't do it this year either.

**Outlook:** At least the Bulldogs can enjoy the happenings in St. Louis this weekend. The only assist Evans will make after Friday night's game will be tossing a teammate another 12-ouncer.



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**SPORTS BRIEFS**

**Alley named Valley Pitcher of the Week**

SIU sophomore pitcher Jake Alley was awarded with this week's Missouri Valley Conference Pitcher of the Week Award. Alley pitched the Salukis to a 5-1 victory over Western Illinois University in game one of Sunday's double-header.

Alley had nine strikeouts and held the Leathernecks to one hit. He has an ERA of 0.50 with two wins and no losses so far this season, giving up only five

hits in 18 innings while recording 21 strikeouts

**SIU men's tennis teams travels to Chicago to face DePaul**

The SIU men's tennis team will face DePaul University in Chicago Saturday.

The Salukis have not had a match since Feb. 20 and will use the trip as a tune-up before they travel to Florida during spring break.

The Salukis take a 2-2 record into the match.

# Precious Possessions

*Assistant coach Rodney Watson provides a perspective on what it takes to win the Valley*

COREY CUBICK  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Every possession counts now. As the SIU men's basketball team prepares for its Missouri Valley Conference quarterfinal matchup with the University of Evansville Saturday, Saluki assistant coach Rodney Watson cannot stress enough the value of each possession in post-season play.

"Every possession seems to have even more of an importance," said Watson, who is in his 11th season at SIU. "All your fundamentals come out at this time. All your offenses, all the things you do defensively, all your rebounding ability. It all comes out in every possession."

A turnover here or there can be the deciding factor in advancing to the next round or calling it a season. Tournament time is the most exhilarating time of the year. It also is the most stressful and demanding.

After enduring a long regular season, "trying to win three games in three days while playing with so much energy and emotion can be an exhausting task."

"It's pretty rigorous and after about the second, third day, your defense

isn't what it should be because your legs are so tired," SIU senior forward Chris Thunell said.

In Watson's 11 years at SIU, one game that stands out is from his first season in 1989 at the Valley Tournament that taught him an invaluable lesson about the pragmatics of the MVC Tournament.

Wichita State University, the tournament host and No. 2 seed, was shocked on its home court by the No. 7-seeded Redbirds of Illinois State University in the quarterfinal round. "That was my first go-around, so that was a good lesson early," Watson said. "You realize you take nothing for granted."

Watson is the lone Saluki coach remaining from the successful SIU teams that reached the NCAA tournament in three consecutive seasons — 1993 to 1995 — under former coach Rich Herrin.

SIU (18-11, 12-6) will surely take nothing for granted this weekend. They have too much to lose. An National Invitational Tournament bid slipped away last season following a late season skid and MVC opening-round loss to Bradley University.

SIU has aspirations for a post-season bid again this year. Whether it

takes the NIT or NCAA route depends on its play in St. Louis.

The Salukis cannot fret about having weary legs Sunday or Monday because it is vital that they put everything on the line Saturday. That is, unless they want to watch the remainder of the tournament via television

back in Carbondale Sunday and Monday. "We can't think a game ahead, we have to think about Saturday night," Thunell said. "If we take care of business, then we can worry about Sunday."

SIU assistant coach

The Salukis are no stranger to the three game in three days format. During winter break, SIU enjoyed a successful stay at the Puerto Rico Holiday Classic, which

provided an excellent sample of what would be in store this weekend. Watson has been impressed with how Saluki head coach Bruce Weber has thoughtfully planned out this season, citing the Saluki bodies are stronger now than they were back in November and December. SIU has toned down practices in recent weeks.

"[Coach Weber] was very conscious with his planning of practice," Watson said. "It's so key how you approach it and I think coach Weber really thought out this whole season and our guys have good legs, they don't have tired legs."

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**SCHWAB**  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9  
could prove fatal at Arch Madness.

And flamboyant head coach Barry Hinson's entertaining but, strange antics may not keep his team in the proper frame of mind.

Creighton is the best shooting

team in the MVC, and the ability to knock down shots never loses its usefulness in the game of basketball. The Bluejays have a fine set of guards in Ryan Sears and Ben Walker, and head coach Dana Altman is among the best in the business. But the recent suspension of forward Nerijus Karlikavovas hurts, and when the Jays press isn't working, they can give up a lot of points.

Okay, okay, okay. I know what you're all wondering: What about the Dawgs?

Well, the Salukis are the least talented of the MVC's upper-echelon teams. SIU had nobody make either First Team or Second Team All-Conference.

And SIU comes into Arch Madness with zilch in the way of momentum after losing its final two games.

But the Salukis have shown resiliency this season, as evidenced by responding to a 35-point loss at Indiana State by going on its best hot streak of the season.

The incentive of winning the MVC Tournament will be enough to help SIU shake off its recent doldrums and play with its typical energy and emotion.

The key for the Salukis, simple as it sounds, will be to have one or two guys get hot shooting the ball. If a Kent Williams or Ricky Collum can find a groove, Josh Cross and his partners in crime on the Saluki bench do their part and the SIU seniors provide their typical leadership, the Salukis will be tough for anyone to beat.

The job for SIU head coach Bruce Weber will be to make sure his team busts its funny on defense. If they do that, the Salukis will have a little bit more margin for error on offense.

So what does all this mean? What team will be left standing when Arch Madness comes to a close Monday night?

I'm not brave/dumb enough to predict a winner, so take the less-than two-hour drive and see for yourself. The only given is that, as always, the Valley tournament should be a blast.

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**ROLL**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

straight games."

Before SIU can win three, it will have to win the first one. Evansville (18-11, 9-9) has not been playing well of late. The Aces were creamed in their final game against Creighton, and big men Kwame James and Faruk Mujicovic are both questionable for Saturday's game because of health problems.

SIU (18-11, 12-6) destroyed Evansville in both meetings this season. The thinking goes into Saturday's game is a third blowout win could materialize if SIU can jump out to an early lead.

The Aces, led by junior forward Craig Snow (16.6 ppg) and sophomore forward Adam Seitz (13.7 ppg), thrive on knocking down open shots in its half-court sets.

"The way they play, it's kind of easy to keep them out of the game if you get them down right off the bat," Williams said. "Plus, the fact that we

have beaten them three times in a row, they may start thinking 'Maybe we can't beat these guys.'"

With all that is at stake this weekend, the Salukis will need their seniors to provide a calming influence. And it wouldn't hurt if Williams, who has a reputation of being a big-game player, rises to the occasion.

"I always take a big game as a challenge," Williams said. "You have to step up and play your best basketball at that time and hopefully I'll come out ready this weekend."

With the two losses to close the regular season, it is easy to forget the Salukis surprised a lot of people during the year by contending for the MVC title. SIU senior forward Chris Thunell said the Salukis had a hard time getting on the same page early in the season, but since then, the players have settled into their roles. Thunell said the team's trip to Puerto Rico around Christmas time, when SIU went 2-1 against tough competition, turned the tide.

"In Puerto Rico we proved a lot to ourselves," Thunell said. "When you beat UMass, play Tennessee tough, and then beat UNC-

Charlotte, it helps your confidence as a team and I think that was the turning point in our season."

If the Salukis defeat the Aces, they are likely to get a rematch against Southwest Missouri State — the only MVC team Weber has not recorded a win against since coming to SIU — in the semifinal round Sunday. SIU will likely have to figure out a way to win a close game in order to advance deep into the weekend.

Weber said because of their shortage of individual talent, everyone who plays needs to pitch in for the Salukis to make some noise.

"If we're going to win, we need everybody playing," Weber said. "We need the seniors to lead, everybody to produce and you need great effort."

Weber characterized his team's 6-5 non-conference showing as fair and its 12-6 mark in the Valley as good. This weekend, Weber said, is the time for the Salukis to become special.

"Now you have one more chance," Weber said. "If you keep building fair to good and now make this last one great, that's all people will remember anyway."

**"If we're going to win, we need everybody playing. We need the seniors to lead, everybody to produce and you need great effort."**

**BRUCE WEBER**  
SIU head men's basketball coach

**THUNELL**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

One school of thought is that Thunell tries too hard because he wants to win so badly.

He doesn't disagree.

"The games that I do well, I think I just let the game come to me," Thunell said. "Those are the games you just go with the flow."

Thunell's on-court success has made him extremely popular with SIU fans, and his good looks have made him a favorite with the female crowd. He has arguably become the most identifiable Saluki player, which causes many people to forget he did not begin his college career in Carbondale.

Thunell, an O'Fallon native, wanted to decide on a college early, and chose Florida International. However, a coaching change prior to his arrival helped convince Thunell that Florida International was not the place for him, and he left after his freshman season.

Thunell landed at SIU, and after sitting out a

season, began his career as a Saluki under then-head coach Rich Herrin. Thunell was an instant success, averaging 12.6 points per game and leading the MVC in rebounding his first year with SIU. He was named the Valley's Newcomer of the Year.

Expectations on Thunell went through the roof, as fans were counting on Thunell to develop into a superstar his final two seasons.

It didn't quite happen that way.

He has been unable to duplicate the numbers he posted his sophomore year. Thunell's 10.8 ppg and 6.7 rpg as a senior this year are both down from then.

Thunell benefited greatly his sophomore season from having talented teammates such as Shane Hawkins, Rashad Tucker and Monte Jenkins for opposing defenses to focus on. Another factor in Thunell's diminished output involves playing under Weber's defensively-oriented scheme, as opposed to Herrin's free-wheeling, offense-first philosophy.

As his numbers have stagnated, there has been disappointment among observers who

thought Thunell would become one of the MVC's best couple players. But the congenial Thunell, who dreams of being a coach or athletic director after his basketball, does not think there has been too much pressure put on him.

"People can put any expectations on me they want," Thunell said. "I didn't see the defenses (as a sophomore) I see now, plus it was under a different system."

Thunell's junior season was a very difficult one.

After spending much of the preceding summer rigorously weight training, Thunell had an emergency appendectomy early in the season that not only caused him to miss a handful of games, but also to lose the muscle he had worked so hard to put on. Just a couple weeks later, he had another setback, as he had to have a procedure done to drain fluid from his lungs.

"It took a lot out of me," Thunell said. "It was one of those things where I couldn't get back to where I worked to in the preseason as far as conditioning. Towards the end, you wear down because your body went through so much."

It only became known after the season that Thunell was also playing through a broken wrist, exemplifying his dedication to his team.

With SIU's first game of the MVC tournament just a day away, Thunell is ready to go for what would be the icing on the cake of his college career: a Valley tournament championship.

"Not only does the conference tournament give you an automatic bid to the NCAA (tournament), but that tournament has really gained a lot of respect of late," Thunell said. "Winning that really puts your team on the map and I think that would be a great thing for the school, for the program and for the whole community."

No matter what happens in St. Louis, though, Thunell takes great pride in the knowledge that he and his fellow seniors played a huge role in turning SIU basketball back into a winner. The Salukis went 18-11 in the regular season, their best record in five seasons.

"The journey and the improvement and who you've did it with is the important thing," Thunell said. "It feels good to know that the hard work you've put in has finally paid off."

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# Women's Tennis tunes up

*Women eager after three-week lay-off*

ANDY EGBERS  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

The SIU women's tennis team will try to continue its opening success against Saint Louis University at the Town & Tennis Racquet Club in St. Louis this afternoon.

The Salukis won its two opening matches of the spring, but SIU coach Judy Auld hopes the three-week lay-off since then will not hinder her club.

"We are ready to get back into competition," Auld said. "Hopefully, we can get through the weekend with no injuries and a win."

The Billikens (1-7) have lost four straight matches. Auld realizes Saint Louis is on a losing streak, but said her team is not looking past them.

SIU won its first two matches

against Murray State University, 8-1, and Louisville, 6-3. The team showed heart at Louisville by battling back after getting behind early.

Auld said the Salukis, who are 9-3 overall in singles play so far, should have the same mindset today in St. Louis.

"We have to face everybody as an equal and fight as hard as possible," Auld said. "They [SLU] could be down or really be revved up for a match."

# THE VALLEY

MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE

# Valley Notebook: Let the Madness begin

## News and notes

**Saluki Superman:** SIU freshman guard Kent Williams became the first freshman to lead the Salukis in scoring since SIU became a Division I school. The Valley Freshman of the Year, as well as Newcomer of the Year, averaged 13.7 points per game.

**Need a Hug?** Southwest Missouri State head coach Barry Hinson, who had been on the receiving end of everything from hate mail to harassing phone calls from radical SMS fans earlier in the season due to the Bears' mediocre start, did not shy away from hiding his emotions following the big win at SIU Monday. It was the Bears' eighth straight victory.

"I love my basketball team," Hinson said following the 62-59 victory. "I hugged every one of my players after this game."

Hinson continued expressing his emotions, in his trademark Southern twang, about his team's postseason chances.

"I'm crossing the line and I'm telling you right now, that we deserve to be in the NCAA tournament, I believe that in my heart," he said.

**Bird Watching:** Former Indiana State University and NBA legend Larry Bird was in attendance at the Indiana State-Bradley game Monday night in Terre Haute, Ind., as the Sycamores clinched their first MVC title in 21 years, since Bird's team won it in 1978-79.

That season Bird led the Sycamores all the way to the NCAA finals, where they lost to Michigan State University, which was led by some guy called "Magic."

**Nerjusz — No More:** Creighton head coach Dana Altman dismissed 6-foot-8-inch senior forward Nerjusz

The seeds are in stone, the brackets are set. Tip-off has arrived for Arch Madness, an eagerly-anticipated weekend of non-stop, high-stakes hoops at the Kiel Center in St. Louis.

The Kiel provides a great tournament atmosphere for Valley action. Last season the Valley ranked sixth among Division I postseason tournaments for attendance per session. Drawing a total of 47,885 fans for the four day affair, an average of 9,577 per session, the Valley beat out the Atlantic 10, the Western Athletic Conference and Conference USA in attendance.

"We have always had one of the best postseason tournaments," Bradley head coach Jim Molinari said. "I think St. Louis, this year, is going to be unbelievable. The league office does a great job with it, the Kiel is wonderful."

Some teams are entering the tournament with a full head of steam, while others have slipped a little. But it is a new season now — and anything can happen.

The favorites are No. 1 seed Indiana State University; No. 2 Southwest Missouri State University and No. 3 SIU. But the middle crop, seeds No. 4 through No. 6 — Creighton University, Bradley and the University of Evansville — have the potential to be very dangerous.

The Bears are the hottest team going into the weekend's action, owning an eight game winning streak, including an emotional win at SIU Monday night to secure the No. 2 seed and possibly an NCAA at-large berth.

Some teams on the slide as the tournament approaches are Drake University, losers of eight straight, the University of Evansville, which has lost seven of their last 10, and SIU, which dropped its final two games after moving into a first-place tie. However, these streaks can quickly change in the new season.

"I think anyone — anyone — should have a chance to win," Molinari said.

SEE NOTEBOOK, PAGE 19

## Tomorrow on WSIU...



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# Softball's classic curse

*The SIU softball team will try to win its first Southern Classic since its beginning in 1992*

COREY CUSICK  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Was it bad luck? A curse? Overlooking the competition?

One of the three, if not all of them, have played its part in the SIU softball team's inability to win its home tournament, the Southern Classic, since its origination in 1992.

This year marks the sixth time the Salukis play host to the Classic, as it has not been played every season. Junior center fielder Marta Viehhaus thinks it is time for SIU to erase the curse and win in their own backyard.

"Something always happens," said Viehhaus, who played on the Saluki team that finished second her freshman year. "It's kind of a jinx, I guess, but we're not really thinking about that."

The six-team Classic starts Saturday at 9 a.m. and concludes Sunday at IAW fields.

Members of past SIU teams participating in the Classic said that the Salukis have not performed poorly, but cited a lack of key hits with runners in scoring position and overlooking a few teams as reasons behind failing to grab that elusive title.

"We took some of the smaller teams for granted," said senior short-stop Jamie Campbell. "They came back to surprise us."

First-year Saluki head coach Kerri Blaylock has since institutionalized a new mindset. So whether the Salukis are up against No. 14 University of Iowa (5-0) or struggling Eastern Illinois University (0-5), her ballclub should come ready to play.

"Every team's a no-name," Campbell said. "We just have to take every team the same going in."

SIU (3-3) opens the Classic against the University of Louisville (10-4), which is in its first season as a program. Immediately following the Louisville game, the Salukis will have the task of battling Iowa, one of three remaining undefeated teams in the top-25.

The Salukis opened the season at the Mardi Gras Classic in Monroe, La., Feb. 18-20, where their defense

was mighty impressive, but the offense sputtered. SIU made only three errors in six games.

Offensively, Viehhaus leads the team with a .353 average, while Nettie Hallahan boasts a solid .333 mark. The team average, however, is only .229. Hitting was the major focus in practice this week.

Blaylock reiterates to her hitters that they face one of the toughest pitching staffs in the Midwest every day, led by senior southpaw Carisa Winters and junior hurler Erin Stremsterfer. To keep her hitters confident, Blaylock threw batting practice a couple days this week.

"They'll come out and just get to knock the snot out of the ball off me and kind of get that good feeling again and then go at our (pitchers) again," Blaylock said. "I think that's kind of what I'm here for."

If the Saluki bats can live up and its solid defense and pitching stays intact, SIU has a legitimate shot at winning its first Classic, which would make that jinx a thing of the past and give SIU some early season momentum.

"As far as our past luck has gone, I think we can leave that in the past," Campbell said.

## NOTEBOOK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

Karlikanovas from the team last week for violating team rules.

The Rasciniai, Lithuania, native averaged 9.5 points and 3.1 rebounds per game and shot 46 percent from the field, including 42 percent from three point range. Karlikanovas was a member of the MVC "All-Bench Team" last season as a junior.

Three out of 30 ain't bad: Unless Illinois State (10-19) pulls off some kind of postseason miracle, it will only be the third losing season for the Redbirds since joining the Division I ranks in 1970-71. Their other two

losing seasons came in 1988-89 (13-17) and 1990-91 (5-23).

First year head coach Tom Richardson can only hope history repeats itself. Following the 90-91 season, the Redbirds regrouped to win the Valley the following year.

Road warriors they are not. Drake University failed to win a road game in the MVC for the third straight season, giving head coach Kurt Kanaskie a 0-27 MVC road record in his three year tenure in Des Moines, Iowa.

Selby's defense not Brave enough for coach: Bradley junior guard David Selby said he had never heard of Bradley University before they began recruiting him last season. Now he may wish he never had.

Selby, a Norfolk, Va., native, has spent most of his time on the pine lately after starting for most of the season because of his defensive effort. Bradley head coach Jim Molinari, who prides his team on defense, has grown tired of Selby's inconsistent effort on the court, but most notably his lack of defense.

Molinari gave the speedy junior, who earned the nickname "Squirrel" earlier in the season due to his similarity to "Rocky," the lightning-quick cartoon rodent on the Rocky & Bullwinkle Show, a seat next to him on bench until he decides to exert his effort on both ends of the court.

Uh-oh Bullwinkle, the show may be over in Peoria.



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**Daily Egyptian**

# Saluki win clinches MVC tournament berth

*Women's basketball win over Illinois State guarantees spot in field*

CHRISTINE BOLIN  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

In the most pressure-filled game of the year, the SIU women's basketball team came through and beat Illinois State University 49-47 Thursday night at the SIU Arena.

SIU (8-18, 5-12) is now a lock for the MVC Conference Tournament March 9-11

in Springfield, Mo.

"I feel real fortunate to come out with a win," Saluki head coach Julie Beck said. "We were fortunate to hold on and do a few things right. We tried to get the ball inside—that was our game plan, and it worked."

In the first half of play, the Salukis took control over the Redbirds, who shot a poor 25 percent from the field. SIU led at the half, 25-16. Saluki center Kristine Abramowski led all scorers at the half with nine points, but did not return at all in the second half. The 6-foot-3 inch center was sidelined with a separated right shoulder. She is day-to-day.

The Salukis' size was even more reduced

when center Melaniece Bardley found herself on the bench with four fouls early in the second half. The two teams spent the second half exchanging buckets, never letting either team's lead get higher than four points, until the 2:27 mark when SIU forward Terica Hathaway made a lay-up that left the score at 49-44 for almost a minute. A three by Redbird forward Kellie Johnson tightened the score at 49-47, which never changed in the final 1:17 of the game.

"Everyone out there knew how important tonight was," Illinois State head coach Jenny Yopp said. "The Salukis did exactly what they needed to do to get a win tonight."

Bardley led all Saluki scorers with 11. Abramowski had nine points and Hathaway chipped in eight points.

For Illinois State, Johnson led all scorers with 17 points.

In order for SIU not to be the eighth seed at the conference tournament, they must defeat their next opponent, Indiana State University, which comes to the SIU Arena Saturday night.

"I think Indiana State is one of the most talented teams in the conference at the guard position," Beck said. "We have to sharpen things up and get a whole lot better in two days."



RICKY COLLUM

# SPORTS

Friday  
MARCH 3, 2000

**Arch Madness**  
Special tournament guide preview inside.

page 9-12

**Softball**  
Saluki softball looks to lift its curse.

page 18

## SCORES

### NCAA TOP 25

Minnesota 43  
Michigan St. (6) 79

### NBA

Philadelphia 87  
Washington 84

Seattle 83  
Miami 101

Milwaukee 94  
New York 109

Charlotte 96  
Orlando 104

## The heart of the Salukis

*Senior forward Chris Thunell's name has been synonymous with Saluki basketball during his three years at SIU*



JAY SCHWAB  
SPORTS EDITOR

*Editor's note: This is the third story in a three-part series profiling the three senior starters on the SIU men's basketball team, as they prepare for their final Missouri Valley Conference tournament this weekend in St. Louis.*

SIU senior forward Chris Thunell is slow, can hardly jump and has shot a poor percentage the past two seasons.

Yet Thunell is a vocal team leader and one of SIU's best players, which is more a product of his desire to win than his physical skills. Thunell can understand why his coach, Bruce Weber, has tabbed him the heart of the Salukis.

"I just want to win so bad and I want everyone on the team to succeed," Thunell said. "It's probably just my energy and my love of the game."

Thunell, one of SIU's top defenders and the Salukis' leading rebounder, has been determined to counteract his lack of athleticism by playing smart and hustling.

"Explain how he can be our leading rebounder and he probably can't dunk," SIU head coach Bruce Weber said. "You've got to have heart to do that."

Despite some of his physical shortcomings, at his best, Thunell is one of the best players in the Missouri Valley Conference. The 6-foot-9-inch Thunell has a pretty shot and is able to knock down jumpers from the perimeter. That skill makes Thunell a very difficult matchup for opposing big men.

However, he has struggled with his shooting touch at times, especially during his junior and senior seasons.



TED SCHURTER - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Saluki senior Chris Thunell is proud to have played such an instrumental role in tuning the basketball program at SIU into a successful program. "It feels good to know that the hard work you've put in has finally paid off," the 6-foot-9-inch Thunell said.

SEE THUNELL, PAGE 13



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