Tuning into lengthy lectures has become a norm that is a part of the average student’s daily routine. With the lack of interest from students and modern technology evolving, the lecturing method at traditional colleges and universities may be on its way out.

For centuries, lecturing has been a main foundation in the teaching process for educators at institutions of higher education. Jillona Flowers, a senior from Chicago studying forensic science and psychology said, she still enjoys the learning experience and even thrives in the lecture setting.

In the new age of education, researchers have found that humans are not built to learn in a passive manner. Recently in the book Brain Rules: 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home, and School, author John Medina concluded that human beings are wired to learn, but it is a process that can not occur without the learner being fully interactive.

Clare Lewandowski, an instructor for abnormal psychology, said her students learn actively and it helps when she presents the material with videos and walks around the room for the duration of class. “My hope is that even if they are just sitting there and not paying attention maybe something I say will help them recall the information and actually apply it,” she said. “I don’t want them to regurgitate what they learn on a test.” According to an article from the Huffington Post, society and the economy have been ever changing, and educators should make it their duty to change their teaching styles.

“If the industrial age, the application of the knowledge to what you were doing day-to-day was much higher compared to what you’re learning in the informational age,” Lewandowski said.

The Huffington Post article specified that the advancements of the Internet and other modern technology resulted in the Informational age in which academic qualification has a lesser value compared to having the skills and ability to properly execute tasks. In this modern age of learning, skills have overshadowed knowledge. Jason Faught, a senior from Midlothian studying management, said hands-on learning and interactive assignments like group projects are an important part of his learning process. “I don’t think that lecture setting will ever be obsolete but it’s also the lecturers’ duty to become interactive with students and not rely too much on PowerPoint,” he said.

There are some lecturers who are open to the evolution of teaching. Lewandowski said she is always trying to think about what she would like to change in herself as a lecturer. The Learning Pyramid, based on the research done by the National Training Laboratories, suggests that students learn in a variety of different ways, but the average student retains more information by teaching others. It said lecturing is inferior to other teaching methods.

“I think that everyone is different and some methods of learning work better for others. Personally, I am an active learner and I like to ask a lot of questions during class and just really engage myself during lectures,” Flowers said.

— Jillona Flowers
Senior from Chicago

Codes on trees tutor students
ELIZABETH ZINCHUK
Daily Egyptian

Trees and technology do not usually mix, but one professor is changing that to redefine learning. Jon Schoonover, associate professor of forestry, and a group of graduate students have placed Quick Response codes on trees on campus, specifically around Campus Lake and Thompson Woods, with help from the Center for Teaching Excellence.

The QR codes lead scanners to a website called “Tree Trainer” that will show a viewer a picture of the tree, fruit, buds, leaves, and bark as well as inform the viewer the common name, family name, genus, and species. On the website’s homepage a complete, portable version of the program can then be downloaded on a PC or Mac operating system.

The QR code application, Schoonover said, is unique and is less limited than some apps that have similar functions.

“By my knowledge this is the first website that is linked to actual tree specimens in the field,” Schoonover said.

Other apps, which can be purchased, Schoonover said, focus on identifying characteristics of the plants but do not lead the user to locations where they can see the plant in person.

“The QR codes acts as a tool for students in Forestry 202, a tree identification Lab. Schoonover said that over 135 trees, shrubs, and vines are introduced over the fall semester.”

“Forestry 202 has the reputation of being a challenging course that is required in the department of forestry,” Schoonover said. “It’s basically a 2476 tree ID tutor for the course.”

Joshua Nickelson, a graduate student in forestry from Salisbury, is a teacher’s assistant in Forestry 202 who has helped construct the QR tags, identify the trees to tag, and gather photos for the website. Nickelson said he thinks the application is benefitting the students.

“To my knowledge, tree identification is the most commonly dropped course in the College of Agricultural Sciences,” Nickelson said. “It is difficult and very time consuming.”

Nickelson said the QR codes could draw attention to the Forestry Department and Center for Teaching Excellence’s efforts to help student’s learn in different but efficient ways.

“This application is designed to be a full-time tutor to students helping with both Latin spelling and identification tips,” Nickelson said.

Although Schoonover said he came up with the program with Forestry 202 in mind, he said any student with an interest in learning trees can participate and access is free and available for anyone with a QR code scanner on their phone or tablet.

“Recently I had a plant biology student stop by to talk about the program and I have witnessed multiple individuals scanning the codes who were not in Forestry 202,” Schoonover said.

At first, Schoonover said his idea was to develop a smartphone application that could be used a study tool in the class. Through working with the Center for Teaching Excellence staff, he said it was then decided to utilize the tablets freshmen were given as well as use something that didn’t require WiFi or a data package, which is where the QR codes came in. This allows students to download the application prior to using it and can be used on tablets as well as smartphones.

Please see TREES | 4
The Weather Channel® 5 day weather forecast for Carbondale, IL

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**California will miss 2050 emissions reductions goals**

Chief Scientist for the National Laboratory.

JEREMY B. WHITE
The Sacramento Bee

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Barring a sweeping policy change or the introduction of new technology, California will fall short of its goals to drastically curtail greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, according to a new report from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

The good news, the report said, is that California remains on pace to cut emissions to their 1990 level by 2020, a goal set out in a 2005 executive order issued by then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and in Assembly Bill 32, the 2006 law setting up a cap-and-trade program selling emission permits. But the executive order’s goal of subsequently thinning greenhouse-gas trapping emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050 currently appears to be out of reach.

Making that goal more difficult is the expected population growth and the accompanying increase in demand, with the Department of Finance anticipating that the number of California residents will surpass 50 million around mid-century, and expanding economic output. The Berkeley model estimate that emissions will steadily decline over the next few decades before reversing and starting to rise.

Even in the lab’s most optimistic scenario — one that incorporates the most aggressive policies and the most widespread use of alternative energy and low- or zero-emission vehicles — California would still be pumping more tons of gases into the atmosphere than the 2005 order envisions. “Even if we aggressively expand our policies and implement fledgling technologies that are not even on the horizon now, our analysis shows that California will still not be able to get emissions to 85 metric tons of CO2-equivalent per year by 2050,” Jeff Greenblatt, a Berkeley Lab researcher who created the models, said in a press release.

The researchers developed three different models of how California’s emissions creation might look over the next few decades, drawing upon input from a range of California agencies, most prominently the Air Resources Board. They extrapolated emissions coming from several different sources, from housing to electricity generation, to see where we’re on the right track.

Still, the predicted shortfall doesn’t necessarily signal things are in a dire state. “We actually think its encouraging,” said Air Resources Board spokesman David Clegern, emphasizing that California remains on course to hit the 2020 target and “make significant reductions” through 2050. “What it says to us is, we’re on the right track.”

Formulating policy for a decades-long timeline involves plenty of variability and requires periodically assessing where things stand and then adjusting, Clegern said. “It’s a process we have to take in stages, and we can say today what will get us through 2050 because it’s a long way off,” Clegern said. “That’s why these programs are under constant review.”
Encouraging first-generation college students

ADRIENNE LU
Associated Press

As a senior at Tafi High School in Lincoln City, Ore., last year, Skyler Lopez didn’t spend much time thinking about his future. Skyler’s identical twin, Tyler, had been aiming for Western Oregon University since the eighth grade — a daunting goal, since nobody in the Lopez family had even graduated from high school. But Skyler struggled in high school and had to scramble to even graduate. For him, college seemed like a stretch.

“Lot of this was laziness, a lot of it was worrying about the financial issues,” Skyler said.

When a campaign to encourage low-income and would-be first-generation college students to apply for college reached Lincoln City, a small tourist town on the coast of Oregon, Skyler’s school counselors urged him to apply. He first applied to the local community college. But over the summer, he decided on a whim — again, with the encouragement of his counselors — to apply to Western Oregon University, the four-year college where Tyler would be starting school in the fall.

Today, Skyler, 18, has joined his brother as a freshman at Western Oregon, and hopes to become a high school counselor so that one day he can inspire students the way he was inspired.

Cuccinelli was a model of what the tea party had eagerly sought, a feisty, unapologetic believer with a sterling resume. Name the issue, and he was leading their crusade: limits on abortion clinics, the first state attorney general to file suit against the hated Affordable Care Act, challenging a researcher over climate change work. And yet Cuccinelli struggled from start to finish in a race Republicans should have won easily, up against a flawed Democratic candidate in a state with a steady history of voting against the party in the White House, in this case Democratic President Barack Obama.

Voters sent the tea party reeling Tuesday as its star candidate lost a winnable Virginia governor’s race Tuesday while Gov. Chris Christie won big in New Jersey.

Republican Ken Cuccinelli ran a closer-than-expected race against Democrat Terry McAullife in Virginia, an important swing state test for the grassroots conservatives, but still fell short. The result was a vivid reminder that the tea party has become a movement with largely regional, and limited national appeal.

Without the school counselor, “I wouldn’t be where I am now,” Skyler said. “That’s why I want to do that.”

Last year, close to 130,000 students in 24 states and the District of Columbia submitted more than 195,000 college applications as part of the American College Application Campaign, the effort that reached Skyler.

The initiative encourages students whose parents are low-income or who didn’t go to college to apply at least one college or university. Started in 2005, it is funded by philanthropic foundations and coordinated by the American Council on Education, which represents the presidents of U.S. colleges and universities.

High schools can customize their college application works to meet students’ needs, but all of them schedule time during school hours for seniors to submit applications, often aided by volunteers trained to answer questions.

Schools try to drum up publicity and enthusiasm by holding rallies for students who submit applications, handing out “I applied” stickers and urging teachers to decorate their doors with photos and pensants showing their own alma maters. The Oregon University System created a YouTube video featuring people’s responses when they asked them to explain in five words or less why students should apply to college.

We Give You More Ways To Save!

David Lightman
 McClatchy Washington Bureau

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Christie, on the other hand, cruised to a big victory in New Jersey, a state that gave Obama 58 percent of its votes last year and last month elected Democratic Sen. Cory Booker in a special election race that was never close. Christie demonstrated broad appeal, as polls found him doing well Tuesday among independents, women, racial minorities and others who Republicans have had trouble attracting.

Tea party loyalists tend to loathe Christie. He embraced Obama last year after Superstorm Sandy ravaged New Jersey, and he has downplayed his conservative stands on social issues.

Facing a loss in one swing state and never a factor in another, tea party loyalists looked to the Deep South for victory Tuesday, as one of their own — real estate developer Dean Young —battle former state Sen. Bradley Byrne for an Alabama Republican congressional nomination.

In Virginia, the tea party looked to reclaim the state that had been reliably Republican for decades, but which started to embrace Democrats in recent elections.

Virginia has long had a strong social conservative wing, and the tea party appeared to thrive in certain pockets of the state. Virginia’s gubernatorial campaigns often preview what’s to come around the country. And its voters often send messages. Until this year, the party in the White House had lost the race nine straight times.

This year’s race unfolded as Obama became vulnerable. First came reports the Internal Revenue Service was targeting conservative groups and news about National Security Agency eavesdropping. The summer brought Obama’s decision, and then indecision, on military action against Syria. The fall featured the botched launch of the Obamacare website.

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We make saving easy!
Nutritional values in college living

CHARINDER THOMPSON
Daily Egyptian

Leading a healthy lifestyle is a goal that is commonly aimed for, but in some cases, not achieved.

At SIU, there are multiple options for students to eat healthy, but as a student it is hard when you do not have time to properly care for the body that you are in. Gill said how you eat now has a direct impact on your future health. "I am afraid of the impact that unhealthy eating could have on my future because developing high blood pressure or heart disease in the future, but the convenience of fast foods makes things so much easier," she said.

According to a study by the US Department of Health and Human Services, a lack of physical activity and a poor diet contribute to approximately 580,000 premature deaths in the United States every year. Gill said it is unrealistic to tell students not to eat out, but students need to learn how to incorporate fast foods into a balanced diet.

"If you do indeed find yourself having to eat fast foods, there are healthier options that can be selected on the menu," Gill said. "I would like to be able to properly care for the body that I am in, but as a student it is hard when you do not have time to think twice about things that seem so minor like health," she said.

When attending college, students are faced with a variety of decisions that could potentially affect their futures. The unhealthy lifestyle some students develop over the course of their college career tend to follow them into post-graduation years and result in some horrifying consequences.

Schoonover said the website application is constantly improving through an interactive map that is continually being updated with new information to their students or classes on campus. "Each specimen is introduced during a given week in class and the QR code gives the students an opportunity to view multiple examples of the trees on campus," Schoonover said. "It gives students the opportunity to touch, smell and see the tree in person as many times as they need to so they can learn how to identify it."

The Tree Trainer website being improved through an interactive map that is continually being updated with all the locations of the tagged trees with QR codes, Schoonover said. Nickelson said the website, map and codes have been a great help to students.

"While the QR codes and interactive map that will soon be associated with them are not quite running at full speed, the associated website has proven to be a key study tool for students in this course," Nickelson said. "Upon introduction this application will be an amazing resource not only for forestry students but for anyone interested in dendrology on campus."

In addition to the map, the Tree Trainer website offers a quiz option for students to test their knowledge on the correct spelling of the common name and Latin nomenclature, Schoonover said. He said the use of this technology has resulted in the dying down of traditional ways of studying for the Forestry 202 course, such as using flashcards.

"Historically, students created flash cards to study the common and Latin names. Since the launch of the website I have seen the number of flash card users diminish," Schoonover said.

Jeff Garner, a photographer for the Center for Teaching Excellence, said requests for proposals were sent to instructors who had difficulties with communicating certain course information to their students or classes during a given week in class. Garner said the instructors would come and communicate the issues they were having, and they would pair up with instructional designers who would go over the course and highlight certain areas they could help out with.

"Karla Berry, the director of the Center for Teaching Excellence, said that specific tree. Associate professor of forestry Jon Schoonover hopes to have the QR codes on 135 different species of trees throughout Thompson Woods.

Schoonover said that the QR code application is constantly improving based on suggestions from students. Plans to have audio podcasts linked to the QR codes giving an audio description of the plant specimen are in the works, he said.

Alexia Rogals | Daily Egyptian

A QR scanner code hangs on a tree along the path through Thompson Woods. The codes are being put up by a group of graduate students in the forestry program so that other students can scan the code and find information about that specific tree. Associate professor of forestry Jon Schoonover hopes to have the QR codes on 135 different species of trees throughout Thompson Woods.

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Elisabeth Zienkow can be reached at ezienkow@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-331 ext. 256.

Alexia Rogals | Daily Egyptian

ALEXIA ROGAL$s
DAILY EGYPTIAN

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Teachers’ question: where’s the pension fix?

So first, the good news. The fund that pays for Illinois teacher retirements reported last week that it posted investment gains of 12.8 percent for the fiscal year that ended June 30. That’s a pretty good performance.

Here’s the bad news: The Teachers’ Retirement System had a good year last week set for the legislature in 2013 and ... there is no deal. They say they’re oh-so-close.

But here we are closing in on the final week before the special pension reform committee has been convening off and on for months. The leaders of the House and Senate have gotten together in recent days to try to reach an agreement. They say they’re oh-so-close.

That pension liability has risen from $35 billion in 2002 to nearly $100 billion. The state’s stack of unpaid bills is expected to reach $9 billion by the end of the year. There have been 13 dips in the state’s credit rating, giving Illinois the distinction of being the least creditworthy state in the nation. The average Illinois household is on the hook for $42,000 in pension debt.

A reminder of how we got here: The legislature stiffed the pension systems for decades. Public employee unions generally did not object; their members were getting pay raises, and the state was increasing money for schools and building bricks-and-mortar projects that kept their workers employed.

At the same time, lawmakers added more than $2 billion in costs to the system by increasing benefits for current or future members. They passed an early retirement incentive in 2002 that will add more than $10.3 billion in liabilities to the system by 2045. They issued $10 billion in pension obligation bonds in 2004 that added $21.9 billion to long-term pension debt. They shortchanged the pension systems year after year and then skipped $2.3 billion in pension payments in 2006 and 2007, a move that was sanctioned by several union leaders. Lawmakers borrowed $5.4 billion in 2010 by selling pension obligation bonds, just to make the state’s annual contribution to the system.

So, here we are. Illinois has borrowed up to its eyeballs and is still trying to figure out how to repair the enormous damage.

Cities including Chicago are desperate for pension reform legislation from Springfield to ease their budgets, but the state cannot even fix its own system. There’s no way to invest or tax or borrow our way out of what is now a $100 billion unfunded liability. The Teachers’ Retirement System — great return, growing liability — shows that.

Lawmakers, you keep telling us you’re close to a fix. And yet, here we are.
Lance gets lanced a little late in ‘The Armstrong Lie’

ROGER MOORE
McClatchy Tribune

It would be too easy to dismiss Alex Gibney’s ‘The Armstrong Lie’ as a two-hour-and-three-minute exercise in moral relativism and rationalization, too late to the party about a cheating athlete we’ve already made up our minds about — again.

But the Oscar-winning Gibney (“Taxi to the Dark Side”) had access to Lance Armstrong before he was caught cheating, and after. His cameras captured the seeds of Armstrong’s undoing. And while he allows plenty of screen time to condemn the corrupt, arrogant, bullying Tour de France champ, he is just as interested in bringing back the context, the “everybody was doing it” argument that Armstrong has fallen back on himself. It may be the truest thing the compulsive liar Lance has ever said.

Built on the ruins of an abandoned 2009 documentary that was to celebrate Lance’s comeback in that year’s Tour de France, Gibney goes back to Armstrong just as he was forced to ‘fess up to Oprah in 2012, figuring a guy “who lied to my face ... owed it to me.”

And he did.

What Gibney brought to life is here a tale of “power,” of a hyper-competitive control freak who, even now, is wrestling for control of his story, his myth. The myth? An arrogant, underachieving young cyclist from Plano, Texas, gets testicular cancer in the ’90s, comes close to death, is cured and roars back to win seven Tour de France titles, beginning in 1999. His yellow leader’s jersey for that event becomes an iconic color as legions of cancer patients and those who love them rally to his Livestrong Foundation.

Gibney, endorsements, celebrity and a cause — Armstrong had it all. The constant whispers about cheating, blood doping, that his success was “too good to be true” — all dismissed as Armstrong passed drug tests and warded off threatened and bullied former teammates and journalists who dared accuse him.

Gibney admits he “got caught up” in Lance-mania, too, working on the film where he followed an older Lance “racing clean” on that “comeback” Tour de France. But Gibney had his suspicions, and as that tour ended and the accusations piled up, he gave up that film only to come back to the subject years later, to give Armstrong a chance to come clean and maybe own up to what a jerk he was.

“He just can’t stand to lose,” one former supporter says of him. And what do competitors like Armstrong crave above all else? An edge.

Gibney, with footage from 2009 and fresh interviews with Armstrong’s victims, shows the intimidation Armstrong used to keep his myth intact and keep those rumors at bay. Most despicably, Armstrong was never shy about playing the cancer card, suggesting that there was an “ends justify the means” logic to his chicanery and self-righteous pose.

Gibney, knowing what to look for in that old footage, plays a wonderful game of catch-up here. He is never less than blunt about the scope of the cover-up and the corruption of the sport and those who monitored it. This is a real inside-cycling “how they did it” expose, with teammates like George Hincapie laying out the MO for the program of injections, blood transfusions and private jet flights (to hide their activities from the world) that propped up Armstrong’s U.S. Postal Service team.

Armstrong’s candor, at long last, is refreshing, though grudgingly given. He doesn’t come off as a good guy here, even if the data is there to show that yes, “everybody” pretty much WAS doing it. He was just better at it.

But the absence of fresh interviews with two of Armstrong’s fiercest critics — teammate Floyd Landis is seen in archival interviews with other journalists, and the only legitimate American Tour de France winner, Greg LeMond, is nowhere to be found — makes you wonder if, even now, Armstrong is controlling his story.

And at this point, with lawsuits going after his ill-gotten millions, lost endorsements, stripped of his titles and with even his most die-hard fans disillusioned, the question that shouts from the cheap seats as ‘The Armstrong Lie’ reaches its closing credits is: “Is there anything new here?”
Google unveils Helpouts, paid how-to video service

JESSICA GUYNN
Los Angeles Times

SAN FRANCISCO — Google is launching a live video chat service that connects people with personal trainers, contractors, music teachers and other experts who can teach them how to do stuff.

Think Hangouts with an expert on the other end — say, a yoga teacher or a math tutor. The idea is to get a helping hand when you need one, say if you want to learn to speak conversational French, remove a computer virus from your laptop, repair a hole in your wall, or make Thanksgiving turkey stuffing.

The new Helpouts service, which has been rumored for months, will be staffed — at least initially — by experts vetted by Google. Health care professionals will have to be licensed.

"Google's mission is to organize all the world's useful information," Udi Manber, a Google vice president of engineering, said during a news briefing in San Francisco on Monday. "I have been doing search for a long time, and most of the world's useful information still resides in people's heads. This opens the door to that information."

Google says it's starting small and in only a few categories. Helpouts joins a plethora of how-to services on the Web including message boards, YouTube videos and question-and-answer websites such as Quora as well as more personalized one-on-one sessions offered by services such as LiveNinja. Amazon debuted a one-on-one video help feature in September.

Consumers must have a Google Plus account to participate. They then can review the experts' qualifications, price, ratings and reviews and then book appointments or get advice on the fly. During a Helpout, you can share your computer screen or record the session.

The Helpouts experts decide how much they charge, either a flat rate or by the minute, and Google handles payment via Google Wallet and takes a 20 percent cut. If consumers are not happy with the service they receive, they get their money back, Google said.

Some of the services will be offered free of charge.

Google says the online marketplace that sells services via live video could also help boost offline commerce.

Adam Burrows, senior vice president of corporate development and emerging businesses at HomeAdvisor, a website that lists pre-screened and customer-rated contractors, is counting on it.
Illinois lawmakers vote to allow gay marriages

KERRY LESTER
SOPHIA TAREEN
Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Historic votes Tuesday in the Illinois Legislature positioned the state to become the largest in the heartland to legalize gay marriage, following months of arduous lobbying efforts by both sides in President Barack Obama's home state.

Under the measure, which the state House approved 61-54 before sending it on to the Senate for technical changes, gay weddings could be held in Illinois starting in June. The bill heads next to Gov. Pat Quinn, who has pledged to sign it but didn't immediately indicate when.

Fourteen states plus Washington D.C., allow same-sex marriage. Most recently, New Jersey, Minnesota and Rhode Island have legalized it.

The road to the Illinois vote was long with stalled attempts in both chambers. Backers also launched a furious campaign, hiring a lobbyist from the state's largest union, the former head of the Illinois Republican Party and field organizers spanning the state.

"To treat all our citizens equally in the eyes of the law we must change this," Quinn said on the floor. "Families have been kept apart."

Debate lasted more than two hours, and the final roll call was met with hearty cheers and applause. Supporters' speeches echoed themes of equality and civil rights with mentions of Obama, Martin Luther King Jr. and Matthew Shepard, a gay college student whose 1998 death sparked numerous hate crime bills.

Polls show support for gay marriage has surged since 1996, when Gallup found that 27 percent of Americans backed it. Now Gallup finds the majority support giving gay and lesbian couples the right to marry.

"Today the Illinois House put our state on the right side of history," Quinn said in a statement. "Illinois is a place that embraces all people and today, we are an example for the nation."

However, opponents of the legislation — which included some of the most powerful religious leaders in the state — have said marriage should remain between a man and a woman. A group of Chicago area pastors vowed to line up primary challenges against some Chicago area lawmakers who voted yes.

"This issue is not just about two adults and their emotional relational and financial commitment to another," said Rep. Tom Morrison, a Palatine Republican. "Redefining marriage has far reaching implications in our society."

Militant’s death brings little joy in Pakistan

REBECCA SANTANA
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — The Pakistani Taliban leader killed in a recent U.S. drone strike was behind hotel bombings, assaults on political rallies, beheadings of policemen and suicide attacks on soldiers. But his death elicited little joy in the country where he wreaked most of his havoc and instead stirred widespread anger and suspicion.

At the time of Friday's strike targeting Hakimullah Mehsud, the Pakistani government was engaged in efforts to negotiate a peace deal with militants. Frustrated at years of military campaigns that have failed to end the bloodshed, many Pakistanis had high hopes for this latest peace effort and blamed the U.S. for fouling it up.

Mehsud "should have been given the chance to negotiate, and now the consequences have to be borne by Pakistan, not the U.S.,” said Syed Ahmed, a small business owner in the southern port city of Karachi.

In many ways, people across Pakistan are echoing what they are hearing from politicians and top government officials. During a news conference Saturday, Interior Ministry Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan lashed out repeatedly at the U.S., which he said was trying to scuttle peace talks.

Imran Khan, the former cricket star who now leads a key opposition party, threatened to close NATO supply lines in retaliation for the drone attack.

For years, Pakistan has been fighting militants in the tribal areas that border neighboring Afghanistan, with thousands of civilians and security forces dying in bombings and shootings at the hands of militants.

Mehsud, who had a reputation as an especially ruthless warrior, was the leader of the Pakistani Taliban, or the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, as it calls itself. The TTP is an umbrella group encompassing militant organizations across the tribal areas. It has called for the overthrow of the Pakistani government, the implementation of hard-line Islamic law and an end to cooperation with the Americans in Afghanistan.

The road to Pakistan was long with stalled attempts in both chambers. Backers also launched a furious campaign, hiring a lobbyist from the state's largest union, the former head of the Illinois Republican Party and field organizers spanning the state.

"To treat all our citizens equally in the eyes of the law we must change this," Quinn said on the floor. "Families have been kept apart."

Debate lasted more than two hours, and the final roll call was met with hearty cheers and applause. Supporters' speeches echoed themes of equality and civil rights with mentions of Obama, Martin Luther King Jr. and Matthew Shepard, a gay college student whose 1998 death sparked numerous hate crime bills.

Polls show support for gay marriage has surged since 1996, when Gallup found that 27 percent of Americans backed it. Now Gallup finds the majority support giving gay and lesbian couples the right to marry.

"Today the Illinois House put our state on the right side of history," Quinn said in a statement. "Illinois is a place that embraces all people and today, we are an example for the nation."

However, opponents of the legislation — which included some of the most powerful religious leaders in the state — have said marriage should remain between a man and a woman. A group of Chicago area pastors vowed to line up primary challenges against some Chicago area lawmakers who voted yes.

"This issue is not just about two adults and their emotional relational and financial commitment to another," said Rep. Tom Morrison, a Palatine Republican. "Redefining marriage has far reaching implications in our society."

Militant’s death brings little joy in Pakistan

REBECCA SANTANA
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — The Pakistani Taliban leader killed in a recent U.S. drone strike was behind hotel bombings, assaults on political rallies, beheadings of policemen and suicide attacks on soldiers. But his death elicited little joy in the country where he wreaked most of his havoc and instead stirred widespread anger and suspicion.

At the time of Friday's strike targeting Hakimullah Mehsud, the Pakistani government was engaged in efforts to negotiate a peace deal with militants. Frustrated at years of military campaigns that have failed to end the bloodshed, many Pakistanis had high hopes for this latest peace effort and blamed the U.S. for fouling it up.

Mehsud "should have been given the chance to negotiate, and now the consequences have to be borne by Pakistan, not the U.S.,” said Syed Ahmed, a small business owner in the southern port city of Karachi.

In many ways, people across Pakistan are echoing what they are hearing from politicians and top government officials. During a news conference Saturday, Interior Ministry Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan lashed out repeatedly at the U.S., which he said was trying to scuttle peace talks.

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Pick up the Daily Egyptian each day to test your crossword skills

**Crossword**

**THE Daily Commuter Puzzle** by Jacqueline E. Matthews

**ACROSS**
1. Go on a hunt  
2. Make arrangements  
3. Actress Tatum  
4. First Lady  
5. Overdue  
6. Fits with holy wonder  
7. Made silent, as the television  
8. Top cards  
9. True trunk  
10. Endless period  
11. Flourish  
12. Used a raft  
13. Nab a suspect  
14. Actress Sally  
15. Mr. Jacobs  
16. Closes tightly  
17. Wooden pier  
18. Yes, ... polite response  
19. Public uprising  
20. and rave; carry on  
21. Knight’s suit  
22. Neer do-well  
23. Mediterranean or Caribbean  
24. More  
25. contemptible  
26. Housecoat  
27. So-called  
28. Float on the breeze  
29. Sailor  
30. Duel  
31. Carry  
32. Actor  
33. Actress Tatum  
34. Arrangements  
35. Gives  
36. Across;  
37. Western  
38. Float  
39. So-called  
40. Sailor  
41. Sailor  
42. Sailor  
43. Sailor  
44. Sailor  
45. Sailor  
46. Sailor  
47. Sailor  
48. Sailor  
49. Sailor  
50. Sailor  

**DOWN**
1. across; find  
2. Border on  
3. Price per hour  
4. Come forth  
5. Malachite  
6. Dish  
7. Fitly around the edges  
8. Poa  
9. Get comfy  
10. Retiree: popular dog  
11. Watch for  
12. Edges  
13. Inquired  
14. Burly  
15. To; on; to; clutch  
16. Hands  
17. Master; on; get revenge  
18. Old school  
19. Truth  
20. 500 sheets of paper  
21. Surface facing; the ceiling  
22. Felt miserable  
23. Thread  
24. Paletta’s place  
25. “...; Trek”  
26. Action  
27. Family car  
28. Master; one; get revenge  
29. Facilities; the ceiling  
30. Surface facing  
31. Far misfit  
32. Senior citizen  
33. Kitchen  
34. 500 sheets of paper  
35. Master; one; get revenge  
36. "...; Trek"  
37. Action  
38. Family car  
39. Master; one; get revenge  
40. Master; one; get revenge  

**JUMBLE**

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**Filce**
**TRere**
**Cusace**
**Treb**

**Download**

**SUDOKU**

<table>
<thead>
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<td>7 4 1 5 2 9 8 3 6</td>
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<td>8 3 2 7 6 1 4 9 5</td>
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**THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME**

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**FILCE**
**TRERE**
**CUSACE**
**TRE**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

**FILL IN THE BLANKS**

Solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

**HOROSCOPE**

Aries — Today is a 9 — Look beyond your own self-interest. What can you provide for your community? Your leadership skills are in demand. You’re the one that’s in charge. Use your influence for good. 

Taurus — Today is a 7 — Your research flourishes. Build a strong foundation for the future. The small steps you take now will benefit you tenfold later. Invest in energy efficiency. Find ways to conserve resources.

Gemini — Today is a 9 — You’re on fire when it comes to finances. Consider new elements, or ones you’ll forget. With organization and discipline you can’t be stopped now. Partners hold the key.

Cancer — Today is an 8 — This phase is good for compromise. For example, stick to your budget. Really listen to your partner and to your own words, so you don’t say something you don’t mean.

Leo — Today is a 9 — Creativity floods your zone. Dive into imagination and discovery. Everything you didn’t know about yourself. Take care of your physical body. You’re asked to assume authority.

Virgo — Today is an 8 — Shift your approach from the analytical left brain to the creative right. Love continues to be part of the big picture. Friends help you keep priorities straight.

Libra — Today is a 9 — Add enthusiasm and inspiration to your projects by looking for the heart connection. Use what you know and what you feel. Can you hear the sound of love?

Scorpio — Today is an 8 — Confront what you think you know. Watch what you take for granted. The result can be explosive. Take charge of your destiny without breaking the rules.

Sagittarius — Today is a 9 — New opportunities are giving you a — SET-BACK

Capricorn — Today is a 9 — You’re surrounded by love these days. Add extra doses of self-confidence to the equation, and the result can be explosive. Take charge of your destiny without breaking the rules.

Aquarius — Today is a 9 — Find the time and space for quiet contemplation. Disconnect from social media or other distractions for a while. Focusing on a personal passion project could yield surprising results.

Pisces — Today is an 8 — You’re inclined to play, and that’s fine. But don’t let it distract you from accomplishing your goals. In fact, use your playfulness to increase your productive output.
Although the SIU football team is clicking at the right moment, winning three of its last four games; so is the Salukis’ upcoming opponent, which has done just the same.

The Missouri State University Bears’ overall record of 4-6 may jump out as inferior, but MSU holds a 4-2 Missouri Valley Football Conference record, which is tied for second. This is not just a must-win game for the Salukis, but for the Bears as well, who also have playoff aspirations. Coach Dale Lennon said the game would be very emotional with so much on the line for both teams.

“If you are talking playoffs and the other teams is talking about playoffs, then you are both playing pretty good football,” Lennon said. “It’s going to be very heated, emotional and everything-on-the-line type of game. I’m not sure if the fans understand the importance of this next game. This is a big, big game for us and there is a lot riding on it.”

Many people may doubt that the Salukis will even remain in the playoff picture with the loss of their senior starting quarterback Kory Faulkner, but Lennon said freshman Ryan West might have hushed some critics with Saturday’s performance.

“Ryan had a good start,” Lennon said. “That’s exactly what you want from an individual in that situation. He drove down the field, got some touchdowns, and took some hits. There were some growing pains that went there, but that’s what you expect from a freshman quarterback starting. We’re just looking at the improvement, which is what we’re mainly focusing on as of now.”

Last week against Western Illinois University, West became the first Saluki quarterback to lead SIU to a win in his first career start since former quarterback Chris Dieker did in 2008. West will look to continue his winning ways Saturday at Saluki Stadium, a place where SIU has won only once all season.

Although SIU holds a 1-3 record at home, considering the opponents the Salukis have faced at Saluki Stadium, that record could be a little deceiving.

The three (Football Championship Series) teams we have lost to at home, their combined record is 25-2, so it’s a little bit of whom you’re playing,” Lennon said. “So that road game, home game someone needs to stop.”

With the Salukis facing back-to-back quality opponents the next two weeks, SIU will have to handle its business, and do so at home. Lennon said the home crowd needs to come out in full force.

“Any time you are playing at home, the more people who are in the stands, the better our chances of success,” Lennon said. “The players love it when the fans are there making noise. That’s a key ingredient for home field success.”

Saluki fans will need to show up and show out, because Saturday’s game will be no cakewalk.

“You look at (Missouri State’s) schedule, and most of their losses were close games,” Lennon said. “They have a lot of potential and skill. They’re a good team.”

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**FIELD**

**CONTINUED FROM 12**

Although lifting weights may seem like second nature as a thrower, some freshmen are in the weight room for the first time. Freshmen Renee Batson never had to lift weights at her high school.

“I’m lifting in ways I never thought was possible,” Batson said. “Coach has pushed me and seeing how stronger I have gotten so far is crazy, so I just keep going. I will be so much stronger.”

Alexus Scott is also an underclassmen, but has college throwing experience. Scott is the only sophomore woman on the throwing team and said she is working on technique in getting stronger to make it to nationals. Scott has also been guiding the freshmen to help them get stronger as well.

“We push them like they did me my freshman year. We’re getting them prepared for what it’s like in conference because it is not a game.”

As the freshmen get closer to showing their talents in December, Coach Connie Price-Smith said she could not wait until the performance.

“I’m really excited to see how the hard work will pay off for everyone,” Price-Smith said. “I know some throwers compete and train all year or until the middle of June, and then you’ll have someone like Josh Freeman who made Pan-Am junior team who competed in August.”

Freeman, a sophomore thrower who had a successful season last year, is working hard during his off-season to make it even further than last year.

Last season, Freeman was outdoor MVC shot put champion, AMAVC indoor shot put, and finished second in the shot put at the USA Track and Field Junior Championships.

“I know there was one meet last year specifically in indoor conference where I came in as a heavy favorite and I blew the conference title,” Freeman said. “So I just wish that in some of those bigger meets that I will be able to come through.”

Freshman quarterback Ryan West searches for an open receiver Sept. 14 during the Salukis’ 31-10 victory over University of Charleston at Saluki Stadium. West, who made his first career start on the road Saturday against Western Illinois University, threw 147 yards with two touchdown passes, which contributed to the Salukis’ 34-28 win over the Leathernecks. The Salukis host Missouri State University at 2 p.m. Saturday at Saluki Stadium.

**SWIM**

**CONTINUED FROM 12**

Senior Susana Benitez was only a sophomore when she qualified for the 2012 Olympics for her home country of El Salvador. She said it was different being right next to the athletes, and even though she did not expect to have much of a chance, it was a dream come true.

“I was looking before 2008 to qualify for the Olympic games,” Benitez said. “I didn’t make it, but I still had four more years to try it. I worked again to get it, and it was like a mission accomplished.”

Walker said the Olympics are the top honor for swimmers and her teammates look at her like a World Series Champion.

Benitez is a senior, but after graduation she does not know what she wants to do. Brumley said someone will have to step up, but overall anyone who has been a teammate with Benitez has benefited.

“We push them like they did me my freshman year. We’re getting them prepared for what it’s like in conference because it is not a game.”

After Freeman’s disappointment, his indoor performance became his motivation. Freeman stayed in Carbondale during the summer to train and also go to summer school.

“I trained here all summer and have been training all fall, so I think all of my training will eventually pay off.”

With nearly a month left until the first meet, the throwers as well as the rest of the track and field team will finally get to show off their strength and tough training.

“We’re deeper this year, and we’re probably going to get more people to nationals and have more All-Americans,” Smith said. “If this group follows suit and keeps improving we will most likely be the one or two or three again this year.”

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**CHRIS ZOELLER • DAILY EGYPTIAN**

"She’s left a lot with this team as far as attitude," Brumley said. "Just to have swim with her benefits in learning a lot from her.”

Walker said SIU has had a lot of great swimmers during his tenure. He said Benitez sticks out now as a role model to the team, but there have been plenty of swimmers just like her.

“She is a great student, she is a great teammate, she is a great swimmer, but more importantly she is a great person,” Walker said. “What’s really neat about my job, I think that I’ve seen, throughout my whole time at SIU, is we have a ton of Pamela’s walking all over our fields.”

Walker said he is extremely proud of Benitez’s accomplishments, and he is proud of the team she belongs to.

Aaron Graff can be contacted at agraff@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 282.
Benitez earns label as ‘role model’ for swimming

AARON GRAFF
Daily Egyptian

Saluki senior swimmer, Pamela Benitez has enjoyed the thrill of winning throughout her career, and has even made an appearance in the 2012 London Olympics.

Benitez started swimming around the age of eight and it was only a few years after that she started competing. During her career at SIU, she has proven herself to be one of the best swimmers in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Benitez has already been named MVC Swimmer of the Week three times this season, which makes seven total in her career. She has earned that honor for the past two weeks. The first of those weeks came after the tri-meet against the University of Kentucky and the University of Missouri. Both schools were ranked in the top 25 in the nation, and Benitez won an event by two-hundredths of a second.

“That was the first time I actually celebrated,” Benitez said. “I’m not that big into celebrating after a race.”

This past week Benitez won all three of her events against the University of Missouri. Both the Missouri State Bears, which resulted in her second consecutive MVC Swimmer of the Week award.

Coach Rick Walker said earning MVC Swimmer of the Week honors gives great recognition to not only Benitez, but also the team. He said winning the award multiple times this year has helped Benitez thrive more every meet.

“We tend to be a society that just hammers people for everything that they’re not doing,” Walker said. “We fail to recognize the things they are doing right. You get more positive production out of people when you let them know they’re doing things well.”

Benitez’s teammate, senior Shadley Brumley, expressed how great of a teammate Benitez is. Brumley said Benitez pushes the team to do well because she consistently does well.

“Pam (Benitez) is such an asset to this team,” Brumley said. “Not only because she’s an excellent swimmer, you can look up all her stats, but she is an excellent teammate and she reflects all the aspects we try to hold onto as a team.”

Brumley said Benitez trains hard, and is always trying to get better.

“She trains with the boys a lot of the time,” Brumley said. Walker said Benitez hardly ever takes a break. Two weeks ago she had three tests in a week, and told Walker she needed to miss one practice. Walker also noticed at the next practice she was working even harder because it means that much more to her. He also said academics come first with the team and its overall grade point average has reflected in a positive way.

Not only has Benitez proven to be a successful college student and college athlete, she has also competed at the international level.