Rain slows Saluki Way

Stile T. Smith
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Heavy summer rain worries administrators

Zach Frantz, an executor for Midwest Steel, works on the addition portion of Saluki Way. Jason King, associate athletic director, said the addition would house locker rooms and offices.

Students experience smooth move

Christina Spakousky
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The combined efforts of university officials and numerous volunteers helped create a relatively smooth transition to campus life for new and returning Salukis this weekend.

By Saturday evening, 3,803 students—more than 60 percent of them freshmen—moved into the residence halls and the Wall & Grand apartments, said Julie Payne Kirkham, director of university housing.

With many volunteers available, residents moving into Beck Towers were able to get vehicles unloaded and their possessions stored in a semblance of controlled chaos.

“It’s funny to see people with ridiculous amounts of stuff—like a refrigerator, for example—they think they’re going to fit it in the dorm," said 25-year-old volunteer Mike Hendrickson from Jasper, Ind.

James Richardson, a senior from Chicago studying music business, said he was there to help the new students move on-campus and noticed different types of belongings.

“Everybody’s got guitars, too. Either the school of music is going to be happy or people will be playing horrible tunes,” Richardson said.

Despite the amount of time students had to wait, some students said they were pleased with the ease of moving-in day.

Grinnell Hall provided free lunch from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday and served 270 students and family members within the first hour, said John Hickman, a graduate student in business administration and Grinnell Hall employee.

While the university has struggled with retention over the past decade, housing officials have enacted a two-year contract option, which allows students to lock in their first-year housing rate, Kirkham said. The option has helped retaining students and nearly 900 of them will see no rate increase for the 2010-11 academic year, Kirkham said.

See MOVE | 11
Quinn grapples with prison cuts amid budget mess

Jim Suhr
The Associated Press

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill. — Close some prisons. Release low-risk inmates and hire more parole officers. Send imprisonment illegal immigrants to their home countries. Save hundreds of millions of dollars.

Gov. Pat Quinn won’t publicly tip his hand about what to expect from his bipartisan group as it meets this week to find ways to make the cash-strapped state’s governo...
Morris Library awaits capital funds

Christina Spakousky
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DAILY EAGLE

Morris Library is gradually nearing completion, but with money from the statewide capital plan being held in limbo, most of the facility’s books and shelving have not yet been moved.

The university is waiting on $85.8 million from the statewide capital construction plan, which Gov. Pat Quinn signed on July 13, said Dean of Library Affairs, David Carlson. “The library needs the money to finish moving the books and shelving held at McLafferty Annex back to Morris,” Carlson said.

Carlson said it could be months, even years, before the university receives the funds.

“What we don’t know is when the money will actually be released and usable to us,” Carlson said.

But despite funding issues, the library staff remains optimistic about the new changes.

Bike racks were recently installed at the south entrance with more scheduled for the north entrance this week, Carlson said.

Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring for a new patio that will allow standing room for at least 100 people, said Kristine McGuire, constituency development officer. McGuire said it would incorporate limestone and granite remnants from Old Main.

Funding for the project is being generated by the sale of commemorative bricks, 97 of which have already been underwritten and will be used as a serpentine walkway, McGuire said.

McGuire said cash donations and pledges have already contributed over $57,000 to the patio’s $100,000 budget approved in 2007.

Stone slabs from the remnants will be converted into benches and provide a border for the patio, which will face Thompson Woods, said Robert Jensen, chair of the patio committee.

Jensen said he thinks of the patio as a link to SIUC’s past.

“It will bring at least a little bit of Old Main back to campus,” Jensen said.

Alumni who visit the patio will be able to identify the fragments of Old Main and take advantage of the memories preserved in it.

“It’s fun to watch alumni come into the building and see how much it’s changed,” McGuire said. “I think they appreciate the new library.”
WASHINGTON — As public support for the war in Afghanistan erodes, President Barack Obama soon may face two equally unattractive choices: increase U.S. troops levels to beat back a resurgent enemy, or stick with the 68,000 already committed and risk the political fallout if that’s not enough.

Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, is completing an assessment of what he needs to win the fight there. That review, however, won’t specifically address force levels, according to Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

But military officials privately believe McChrystal may ask for as many as 20,000 additional forces to get an increasingly difficult security situation in Afghanistan under control. And one leading Republican is already saying McChrystal will be pressured to ask for fewer troops than he requires.

“I think there are great pressures on General McChrystal to reduce those estimates,” said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., in an interview broadcast Sunday. “I don’t think it’s necessarily from the president. I think it’s from the people around him and others that I think don’t want to see a significant increase in our troops presence there.”

Mullen on Sunday described the situation in Afghanistan as “serious and deteriorating,” but refused to say whether additional forces would be needed.

“Afghanistan is very vulnerable in terms of (the) Taliban and extremists taking over again, and I don’t think that threat’s going to go away,” he said.

Mullen also expressed concern about diminishing support among a war-weary American public as the U.S. and NATO enter their ninth year of combat and reconstruction operations.

In joint TV interviews, Mullen and U.S. Ambassador Karl Eikenberry said last week’s presidential election in Afghanistan was historic, given the threats of intimidation voters faced as they headed to polling stations. It could be several weeks, however, before it’s known whether incumbent Hamid Karzai or one of his challengers won.

“We’re not sure exactly what the level of voter turnout was,” said Eikenberry, a retired three-star Army general. “Taliban intimidation, especially in southern Afghanistan, certainly limited those numbers.”

Charges of fraud in the election are extensive enough to possibly sway the final result, and the number of allegations is likely to grow, according to the commission investigating the complaints.

The independent Electoral Complaints Commission has received 225 complaints since the start of Thursday’s vote, including 35 allegations that are “material to the election results,” said Grant Kippen, the head of the U.N.-backed body.

President Obama’s strategy for defeating the Taliban and al-Qaida is a work in progress as more U.S. troops are sent there, Mullen said.

Three years ago, the U.S. had about 20,000 forces in the country. Today, it has tripled that, on the way to 68,000 by year’s end when all the extra 17,000 troops that Obama announced in March are to be in place. An additional 4,000 troops are arriving to help train Afghan forces. More civilian workers are going as well to help rebuild Afghanistan’s economy and government.

Mullen said the security situation in Afghanistan needs to be reversed in the next 12 months to 18 months.

“I think it is serious and it is deteriorating, and I’ve said that over the last couple of years, that the Taliban insurgency has gotten better, more sophisticated,” he said.
It is pretty safe to say director Quentin Tarantino is a bit off. Tarantino has championed that eccentricity into some of the best films of the past 20 years. I walked out of "Inglourious Basterds," with a cascade of emotions, few of them positive. I was angry about the film's large flaws and mostly disappointed the filmmaker had finally put out a clunker. There is a great film somewhere in the 149 minutes of "Basterds," but Tarantino stretches the ideas within their mass, producing a terribly long-winded, jaw-dropping experience.

The film follows two story lines, which eventually converge. It begins in Nazi-occupied France with SS Colonel Hans Landa (Christopher Waltz) interrogating a French family about harboring Jewish Jews. The intelligence is correct, but one Jewish family member, Shosanna (Melanie Laurent), is able to escape. Waltz, the film's main villain, is nearly its saving grace. Every time the man is on screen he does not just demand attention, he earns it. His performance is one of the best of the year and certainly the finest in this mess of a film. His performance is humorous and pure, calculated evil.

Shosanna winds up owning a movie theater under a new identity four years later, when she has caught the attention of a war hero/German film star. The soldier continues the director of his latest film about his war exploits to meet the film's big premiere to Shosanna's theater. The premiere promises to bring in all of the Nazi brass, including the Fuhrer himself. This becomes Shosanna's ultimate opportunity to avenge her family's daughter.

The story of Shosanna is the more engaging one. The second, the one the trailers depict, is that of Lieutenant Aldo Raine (Brad Pitt) and his gang of Jewish soldiers, who are dubbed "The Basterds," by their German counterparts. Pitt's portrayal of Raine is also a film highlight as he projects confidence through a Tennessee drawl and lust for Nazi blood. That lust leads to one of the hardest scenes of violence on film. The first time the Basters arrive on screen it is with the interrogation of a SS officer and two other Nazi soldiers. Pitt is attempting to find out how many Nazis are holed up down a road and when the officer does not comply he brings in "The Bear Jew" (Eli Roth). Roth's performance includes a Boston accent -- which drops in and out -- and the welding of a baseball bat, and partly for the joy of knocking brain matter out of Nazi skulls.

This is what happens to the non-complying Nazi. Roth bashes his skull in. Not once or twice, Tarantino gives the audience double-digit whackos, a sound so repulsive it does not need to be heard more than once. This bothered me because it was just unnecessary. I can do violence, nasty film makers do not turn my stomach, but this scene is pure overkill.

The film's trailers lead its viewers to believe it is going to be some 2-hour blood bath, and after seeing the aforementioned murder it is almost expected, but there really is not much violence in this film. It is grounded in dialogue, like the rest of Tarantino's films. The only problem is this time it does not pop and confide like Tarasota and Jules' conversations in "Pulp Fiction."

The film's payoff takes what seemed like hours to culminate. Things go wrong left and right with Shosanna and British military/blasted plans to take out all of these Nazi kingpins at the film premiere. Tarantino elongates the process for way too long.

When everything finally does come to a head, it is extraordinarily heavy handed. The film plays on Spaghetti Westerns and Grindhouse era film turns the whole way through, but this climax moved past being a wink-wink, nudge-nudge to his (Tarantino) influences.

That is what the film comes down to. Tarantino seems to have got too lost in his own fame and genius. The man is undoubtedly a superb filmmaker, but this time around, things just did not play out.

I want to say the director can come back from this one, but it's a heavy loss.
Drinking 101

McClatchy Tribune

Last year about this time, a group of more than 100 college presidents caused a stir by launching a push to lower the drinking age to 18.

Their goal: to cut down on the pernicious, sometimes lethal problem of binge drinking on campus.

The presidents called it the Amethyst Initiative, named after the ancient Greek words that mean "not intoxicated."

The college leaders hoped that a lower drinking age would encourage more responsible drinking on campus.

That it would douse the forbidden thrill of binging before a frat party or other public appearance.

What are the Greeks words for, "You've got to be kidding?"

We said then those college presidents were right to be alarmed about underage drinking on campus. But we also said cutting the legal drinking age is the wrong answer.

It would encourage more alcohol abuse, not less, and could spill over into more drinking among even younger kids.

Now there's a sobering new study that should spur those presidents to rethink Amethyst.

Researchers writing in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry state that raising the drinking age to 21 has been largely effective in reducing binge drinking everywhere, except -- you guessed it -- on college campuses.

The study says that among men between 18 and 20 who were not in college, binge drinking plummeted by more than 30 percent from 1979 to 2006.

At the same time, such drinking among college men was "as prevalent as ever," it says. There was no similar difference between underage women in college or not.

But there was a sharp surge in binge drinking -- defined in this study as five or more drinks in a row in the past 30 days -- among college women age 21 to 23.

The study doesn't delve into explanations for these disturbing trends. But we'd guess there are several reasons that the anti-binge drinking message isn't penetrating college campuses.

For one thing, young adults who aren't in college are more likely to still be living at home, and therefore under at least some parental monitoring.

They're also more likely to have jobs. It's a lot easier to skip a class in the morning to nurse a hangover than it is to call in sick to work.

Bosse aren't likely to be as forgiving as the Psych 101 prof. Whatever the reasons, the lesson couldn't be clearer for the college presidents who think lowering the drinking age would solve their campus drinking problems. It won't.

The best way to curb binge drinking on campus isn't to make it easier for kids to knock back a few legally.

It's to enforce local laws against serving or selling to minors. And making sure that residence hall advisers are riding herd, not looking the other way.

And finding innovative ways to convince college kids that they risk their health, and their lives, with heavy drinking. That it's not cool.

Kids in high school are getting the message: Binge drinking rates among them are at historic lows, off more than one-third from the peak years of 1979-83, the report said. But then they go to college, and ... sign up for Drinking 101.

This editorial appeared Thursday in the Chicago Tribune.

Gus Bode says The DE is looking for student columnists and wants you to apply. Want to make your opinion heard on a university policy? Is something important on your mind? Do something about it.

To apply for a position, fill out an application at the DE office with a sample piece of your writing. If you have questions give us a call. Otherwise, come write for us!
Nelson Van Mdre, 68, of Herrin, sells his paintings at the SIUC 40th Annual Arena Yard Sale on Saturday. Mdre graduated from SIUC with a BFA in May. “I became interested in art after I retired and my wife passed away. I had a lot of free time,” Mdre said. On nice days, Mdre said he enjoys sitting outside and talking to people. “That’s why I sell my art,” he said.
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According to The Associated Press, the $3 billion program Cash for Clunkers, which is scheduled to end today, encouraged more than a half-million Americans to dump their old cars for new, more gas-efficient models. Auffenberg of Carbondale put this old Pontiac in a dumpster on its lot to advertise the program.
**Horoscopes**

By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday — Use some of your earnings to take a class this year. You'll learn quickly and retain what you learn — the most important part. You could even finish your degree... or whatever.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 6 — You get the answer you've been seeking, but in a roundabout way. You can get that domestic item you want cheaply.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — The sun is going into Virgo, in your solar fifth house of love, so things will be easier for the next four weeks.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 6 — You'll have to go back to work soon, so line up good help. Let family know how much you appreciate their support.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is an 8 — Somebody's waiting for you in a fine form. This person seems intent on nagging you to death. Stand up to them.

Leo (July 23-Aug, 22) — Today is a 7 — The sun is moving out of your sun sign, but it's moving into your solar second house of money. This could be OK.

Virgo (Aug, 23-Sept, 22) — Today is an 8 — You'll have to turn down invitations you can't afford to accept. There's more money coming in; don't waste it.

Libra (Sept, 23-Oct, 22) — Today is a 6 — Finish tidying up so you can focus on making money. There are bugs to be worked out before the cash starts rolling in.

Scorpio (Oct, 23-Nov, 21) — Today is an 8 — Due to a last-minute burst of energy, you successfully complete your mission. It's never too late to never give up.

Sagittarius (Nov, 22-Dec, 21) — Today is a 6 — The pressure is on, so stop procrastinating. For maximum efficiency, delegate. Your partner is glad to help.

Capricorn (Dec, 22-Jan, 19) — Today is an 8 — You've been thrown a curve, which you hit out of the park. This is why people depend on you. You stay in the game.

Aquarius (Jan, 20-Feb, 18) — Today is a 6 — Help a loved one achieve a goal. What goes around comes around.

Pisces (Feb, 19-March 20) — Today is a 7 — You want something for your love life and also want to take a trip. Look for fabulous deals, and maybe you can have both.

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**In the Daily Classifieds**

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

THIRM
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CHARCT
NURPEY

Answers: FOR VALVE QUILT FORMAL SLEIGH

Why the "Fairy Princess" Went to the Photo Store.

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

Answers tomorrow

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**Jumble**

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

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SMIPK
CHARCT
NURPEY

Answers: FOR VALVE QUILT FORMAL SLEIGH

How the planner explained the wedding rehearsal — AN AISLE TRIAL

THIRM
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CHARCT
NURPEY

Answers: FOR VALVE QUILT FORMAL SLEIGH

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As of Aug. 17, our returning student numbers are 23.5 percent higher than they were at the same time last year,” she said. Graduate and family housing — Everyone Terrace, Southern Hills and Elisabeth Apartments — have reservations for 502 students and family members. This number will increase over the next week, as the largest percentage of our walk-in business tends to be graduate students with families, Kirchmeier said.

Wal-Mart in Carbondale prepared for the weekend more than two months in advance. General Manager David Powell said he scheduled 50 extra employees each day and converted the garden center into a back-to-college area.

“We build big displays, and two hours later, they’re empty,” Powell said. “This is our Christmas.”

Wal-Mart had more than $500,000 in sales on Friday, which Powell said was higher than their sales at Christmas.

Evan Davis | Daily Egyptian

Alex Anderson, a sophomore from Quad Cities studying architecture, removes the last item from his mother’s car Saturday during Mae Smith Hall’s move in. After unpacking, Anderson said he still had to wait for his number to be called to enter the building.

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Alex Anderson, a sophomore from Quad Cities studying architecture, removes the last item from his mother’s car Saturday during Mae Smith Hall’s move in. After unpacking, Anderson said he still had to wait for his number to be called to enter the building.
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- 507 1/2 W. Main #B
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- 411 E. Mill
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- 600 S. Washington
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New York — Second baseman Eric Bruntlett turned an unassisted triple play to end the Philadelphia Phillies’ wild 9-7 victory over the New York Mets on Sunday.

It was the 15th unassisted triple play in major league history — the second that ended a game. Detroit Tigers first baseman Johnny Neun also accomplished the feat on May 31, 1927, completing a 1-9 victory over Cleveland, according to STATS LLC.

Bruntlett’s triple play preserved a win for Pedro Martinez in his return to New York and pushed a Mets rally against closer Brad Lidge.

With runners on first and second in the ninth inning, Jeff Francoeur hit a line drive up the middle that appeared headed toward center field for a single. But both runners were stealing on the pitch, so Bruntlett was in perfect position as he moved over to cover second base.

He caught the liner easily, stepped on second to double up Luis Castillo and then turned to tag David Murphy for the third out. Murphy tried to backpedal away from Bruntlett, but had nowhere to go.

“Fancy hit it on the screws,” Murphy said. “It happened so fast there was nothing I could do.”

After bolting out of the box, a frustrated Francoeur stopped and threw down his helmet with both hands.

“What a bizarre ending. I don’t know what happened there. The game’s over, so I’m happy with that,” Lidge said. “That was pretty exciting. That’s definitely not the way you draw it up.”

The Phillies raced onto the field to congratulate Bruntlett after the stunning ending gave Lidge his 25th save in 33 chances.

It was the first unassisted triple play since Cleveland second baseman Asdrubal Cabrera turned one in the fifth inning on May 12, 2008, against Toronto.

Bruntlett, who made an error earlier in the inning, started at second because All-Star Chase Utley was rested.

Another Phillie, second baseman, Mickey Morandini, turned an unassisted triple play in 1992.

It was the first time the Mets were unassisted in such a triple.

“Even with the runners going I did not expect him to be there. The only place he could catch the ball was where he was,” Francoeur said. “To end the way it did was a little disheartening.”

Of the 15 unassisted triple plays in big league history, all but one came during the regular season. Cleveland second baseman Bill Wambsganss turned the rare trick in the 1920 World Series against Brooklyn.

Lidge came on in the ninth with a three-run lead, but the first two batters reached on errors.

Angel Pagan, who homered twice — including an inside-the-park shot leading off the first inning — sped all the way to third when his sharp grounder got through first baseman Ryan Howard. Pagan then scored as Castillo reached on a grounder that Bruntlett bobbled for an error.

Murphy followed with an infield single up the middle that went off the glove of a sliding Bruntlett, bringing up Francoeur.

Martinez batted before throwing a pitch. The Phillies scored six times in the first inning off Oliver Perez on three-run homers by Jaron Werth and Carlos Ruiz.

The Citi Field crowd of 39,038 stood and cheered as Martinez walked to the plate in the Phillies’ road gray-and-red uniform, a jarring sight for sure after he spent the previous four years with the Mets.

Martinez worked the count to 3-0 and Mets manager Jerry Manuel said he was planning to take out Perez, bothered recently by a tender right knee that sidelined him earlier this season. The move got a loud ovation, and Perez (3-4) was soundly boomed as he walked off the field having thrown 47 pitches — 20 strikes — and getting just two outs.

Nelson Figueroa came on and struck out Martinez to end the 20-minute inning.

“The 37-year-old Martinez’s walk to the mound in the bottom half went mostly unconcealed by the stunned crowd, and he was greeted by Pagan with an inside-the-park homer.”

Pagan drove to left-center got stuck under the padding of the wall briefly. Center fielder Shane Victorino threw his hands up, looking for a ground-rule double, as Pagan slowed into third, but second base umpire Rob Drake allowed play to go on and Pagan raced home for his first career inside-the-parker and second leadoff homer of the year.

Martinez (2-0) never lived up to the 853 million contract he signed with the Mets after 2004, winning just 32 games and missing the 2006 playoffs with one of many injuries, including major shoulder surgery that limited him to just five starts in ’07 — all during the September collapse.

The way three-time Cy Young Award winner was not offered a contract after going 5-6 with a 5.61 ERA in 2010 for the Mets last year — a trying season in which his father died.

He labored through six innings — and hit an RBI single — while giving up four runs and seven hits in his third start with the Phillies after signing with them as a free agent on July 15. He struck out five.

Phillies manager Charlie Manuel was ejected in the ninth after umpires reversed a call.

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The New York Mets’ Jeff Francoeur reacts after grounding out for the third out in the third inning against the Philadelphia Phillies. The Phillies defeated the Mets, 4-1, at Citi Field in Flushing, New York, Saturday and 9-7 Sunday.

KATHY KMONICK McClatchy Tribune

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Howie Rumringer
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press

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The Associated Press

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The Associated Press
Volleyball
continued from 16

Five freshmen were brought in to replace graduato Kristie Berwanger, Erika Bartruff, Kisty E lower and Brooklyn Robbss. All four were members of a 2007 team that made the MVC tourna- ment, which ended a five-year tourna- ment drought for the Salukis.

Freshman defensive specialist Reina Richardson said there was some pressure in replacing the seniors.
“l think there is pressure on us to keep the consistency of the team up and to keep on the winning track,” Richardson said. “The seasons were great, but we are just trying to add more to the team.”

Richardson said the current seniors have made her feel welcome to the team.
“All the girls make you feel really welcome,” Richardson said. “They take you in like you are their little sister.”

Head coach Brenda Winklek said the key to a successful season lies in the depth of the team.
“We have a lot of great players this year and a lot of people who can contribute,” Winklek said. “We have a lot of depth this year which is unusu- al. In years past we wouldn’t be very deep, but this year there’s just a lot of tal- ent.”

The thing Winklek said she wants to see improve is the most on the team is kill percentage. She said that an improved offense would be the key to a successful season.
“I think if things come together, we could have our best Valley finish in a long time,” Winklek said. “We have a lot of potential. It just all needs to come together and we need to stay healthy.”

Swim
continued from 16

“There will be an estimated 400-500 extra people in town during those four days, which will be good for the community,” Moccia said.

It’s nice because the point scoring won’t be so confusing and we will have a clear goal of what we need to achieve.

— Jameson Kuper
senior swimmer

The Salukis have been successful against Mid-American schools recently, including a 132-111 victory against Miami (Ohio) in an October 2007 dual meet in Carbondale.

Senior swimmer Jameson Kuper said he is excited about the switch to the Mid-American Conference.
“It’s nice because the point scoring won’t be so confusing and we will have a clear goal of what we need to achieve,” Kuper said. “Now that there will be less swimmers at the meets there will be less of a crowd and I can focus on having a good warm up.”

Despite the change in conferences, Walker said he knows his team will be prepared.
“They’re hungry and they don’t care who is on the other side,” Walker said. “A new conference is exciting because we’ll make it exciting. We’re going to come out and put our best foot forward.”

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SALUKIS
The SIU swim team practices Friday at the Dr. Edward J. Shea Natatorium. The men’s team recently left the Sun Belt Conference and signed a six-year deal to join the Mid-American Conference.

Comparing Conferences

Sun Belt Conference:
Arkansas State
University of Arkansas-Little Rock
University of Denver
Florida Atlantic University
Florida International University
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
University of Louisiana at Monroe

Middle Tennessee State University
University of New Orleans
North Texas
University of South Alabama
Troy University
Western Kentucky University

Mid-American Conference:
Ball State
University of Buffalo
Eastern Michigan
University of Miami (Ohio)
Bowling Green
Western Michigan

Recent Champions

Men
Western Kentucky — 2005-07
Missouri State* — 2008
Denver — 2005

Men
Miami (Ohio) — 2006

*Missouri State switched conference as well as Evansville University.

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Sometimes a band-aid is not enough.
Salukis end camp with scrimmage

Cornerback Jerris Halley wrestles with quarterback Kory Faulkner during a team scrimmage Saturday at McAndrew Stadium. This year’s scrimmage marked the end of the team’s fall camp. The Salukis will have another scrimmage Thursday at McAndrew Stadium.

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While students are getting ready to hit the books again, the Salukis have been hitting each other.

The football team wrapped up its fall camp two-a-days with a scrimmage Saturday at McAndrew Stadium. Head coach Dole Lennon said he liked the give and take between the offense and defense.

“I definitely saw the offense step up today and make a statement. So that was the biggest plus,” Lennon said. “Defensively, they came through with three turnovers. Any time you’re forcing turnovers in a game, that means you have a good chance to win.”

The scrimmage brackets the beginning of the school year, where the Salukis will wait until Sept. 5 for their first game at Marshall. It will be the first time since 1989 that the Salukis opened the season against a Football Bowl Subdivision team.

The offense, led by returning starting quarterback Chris Dieter and second-team Army transfer Paul McIntosh, had an impressive showing Saturday, with both quarterbacks throwing impressive touchdowns during the scrimmage. The coaching staff had been waiting for the offense to break out in the expanding system.

The defense, which returns nine starters, showed why some consider it the cornerstone of the team. The squad forced three turnovers, including one off Dieter and McIntosh during the last two-minute-drill of the scrimmage.

“Dieter was just trying to do too much, was trying to make the tough passes, and he paid for it.” Lennon said. “It happens to everybody, you just have to press on.”

Perhaps the toughest decision for the offense was trying to find a replacement for Larry Warner.

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Volleyball set for new season

Ranked fifth in MVC preseason poll

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For the SIU volleyball team, this year is Missouri Valley Conference tournament or bust.

The Salukis were recently ranked fifth in the MVC preseason poll. The team hopes that it can build off this and find a way into the MVC tournament, which it missed out on last year by one match.

Junior outside hitter Sydney Clark said she is excited about the ranking.

“I can’t exactly say what’s going to happen this year because you never know. From the looks of it though, I am really confident that we can come in and just beat every team in our conference,” Clark said. “I think that we will do very well.”

The volleyball team started out last season 9-1, which was the best start in team history. However, it went 8-11 the rest of the season and ended with a record of 17-12, including a 7-11 conference record that caused it to miss the MVC tournament.

Clark said a key to the Salukis improving their conference record was to stay together as a team. She said an important part of building a strong team is how the upperclassmen deal with the freshmen.

“I remember what it felt like to be a freshman. I mean, it was scary,” Clark said. “I just don’t want them to come in here and feel uncomfortable with us. We need every person on this team to contribute, and if they are uncomfortable they can’t do that.”

See VOLLEYBALL | 15

Swimming

SIU dives into Mid-American Conference

Salukis commit to league for six seasons

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The men’s swimming and diving team will face new challenges as it has agreed to leave the Sun Belt and compete in the Mid-American Conference for the next six seasons.

Swimming and diving coach Rick Walker said the switch in conferences will be great for the team.

“The point scoring won’t be so confusing like it was in the Sun Belt Conference and our team can be more focused and know what they need to do,” Walker said.

The Sun Belt and Mid-American conferences will no longer affect each others’ scoring because the leagues will no longer compete at the same championship meet.

“I makes a little more sense geographically and all the teams in the Mid-American Conference rotate being the host of the championship.”

— Mario Moccia

He said the quality of the competition in the Mid-American Conference is as good as the competition in the Sun Belt Conference. The toughest competitors would be Missouri State, Eastern Michigan and the University of Miami (Ohio), Walker said.

Sun Belt rival Evansville and Missouri State will also make the switch to Mid-American with the Salukis.

Athletic Director Mario Moccia said there were two main reasons for the switch.

“It makes a little more sense geographically and all the teams in the Mid-American Conference rotate being the host of the championship,” Moccia said.

Moccia said the budget for the swimming program would not change. He said the additional expenses needed during the seasons when the team must travel to the championship will be offset by the savings the team will receive when it hosts the championship.

SIU will host the Mid-American Conference Championship for the 2011 and 2013 seasons. Moccia said the championship would also be good for the local economy.

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OFFICIALS

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