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Four die in arson fire

By Joe Littrell
Special Assignment Writer

Carbondale Police say arson was the cause of a Sunday morning apartment fire that claimed the lives of four SIUC students. Three students were in critical condition Sunday night.

Despite the efforts of firefighters and police at The Pyramids apartment complex, 504 S. Rawlings, four SIUC students died in the fire - Cheng Teck Wong, Ronald A. May, 23, Kimiko Ajikka, and Lai Hung Tam, 23. Another student, Mazlina Ab Wahid, 28, was pronounced brain dead after she was hospitalized.

Those students, including Wahid, were taken to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale. Four of the students later were transferred to other hospitals. Dr. Jerry Thurman, Jackson County coroner, said three of the victims had to be transported by ambulance because smoke hampered helicopter transport to St. Louis and Belleville.

Because of burn patterns and other evidence found at the scene, the fire is being treated as a definite arson by investigators.

Carbondale Fire Chief Clifford Manis said the Fire Department received an automatic alarm at 1:27 a.m. from The Pyramids. When fire fighters and police arrived, they found flames and heavy smoke pouring from the second and third floors of the apartment building. Police Chief Don Strom said.

Some residents had already evacuated the building, Strom said. Others were seen jumping from their upper story rooms to escape the smoke, heat and flames.

"We didn't realize... in a fire like that, temperatures reach twelve, thirteen, fourteen degrees, whether you're in contact with the flame or not. That's the temperature of the smoke," Manis said.

Most of the injuries sustained by victims of the fire were caused by smoke inhalation or by jumping to the ground, police said.

Smoke spread rapidly in the building, and many of the residents were dazed by the smoke. The four dead residents were found in positions indicating they were trying to get to the windows before they were overcome by smoke, Manis said.

The fire, contained primarily to the second and third floors, took members of the Carbondale and Murphysboro fire departments a little more than an hour to defeat, Manis said.

He said accidental or prank-related causes have been eliminated.

"I definitely wouldn't consider this a prank. This is, obviously, the most tragic fire, I think, that has ever occurred in this community, and is nothing that I would see that would any way be classified as a prank that went awry," Strom said.

Although investigations have uncovered several promising leads in the case so far, neither a motive nor a suspect has been found for the fire, Strom said. Most of the residents are international students, but police do not suspect possible racial or ethnic motivations.

"We monitor any of that kind of stuff in the community all the time, and there's not been a pattern there or anywhere else. Specifically, we've looked at police reports from that area, and there's no indication that there is any type of a problem, or anything at this time that would suggest that this was either racially or ethnically motivated," Strom said.

Agents from the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms' National Response Team will be aiding the police in their investigation. Strom said there is no lack of confidence in the Carbondale investigators' skills, but the federal agents will enhance the resources for solving the crime.

see ARSON, page 5

Friends of victims mourn sudden loss

Staff report

Kimiko Ajikka, a senior in marketing from Japan, was counting down the days Saturday night until she could return home to Japan Dec. 27.

Ajikka was watching television with her best friend, Mayuko Nagai, and talking about how excited she was to be graduating in December.

Nagai, a senior in advertising from Japan, said she was with Ajikka until 9:30 Saturday night. Four hours later, Ajikka and three other students died in a fire at The Pyramids apartments.

As Nagai remembered her friend Sunday, she gripped a photograph of her and Ajikka embracing on a sunny summer day. Ajikka was wearing a cap and gown because she participated in an early graduation ceremony.

"She was the best of friends," Nagai said. "We were very close; she understood me perfectly, I can never replace her."

About 1:30 a.m. Sunday, a neighbor knocked on Nagai's door, saying her friend's apartment building was on fire.

She ran to the apartment, which had smoke coming from it.

"I tried to find her," she said. "They told me they might have taken her to the hospital," see VICTIMS, page 5

Smoke billows out of the windows of the third floor of The Pyramids apartments.

Four people are dead and nine were hospitalized after an apartment fire at 504 S. Rawlings St. Sunday morning. Right, a firefighter evacuates a victim from the burning building.

see VICTIMS, page 5

Smoke billows out of the windows of the third floor of The Pyramids apartments.

Four people are dead and nine were hospitalized after an apartment fire at 504 S. Rawlings St. Sunday morning. Right, a firefighter evacuates a victim from the burning building.

see VICTIMS, page 5
Colorado gets revenge on Salukis

By Andy Graham
Sports Writer

Often revenge can be the catalyst for an opponent's defeat. Saturday the Saluki women's basketball team discovered this first hand as Colorado proved themselves victorious 64-52 in the finals of the sixth annual Coors Classic tournament. This was the Lady Buff's third tournament title.

The Lady Buffs were motivated by an overtime loss they suffered during their last Saluki encounter in the NCAA tournament in March. The Salukis got their ticket to the finals of the Coors Classic by defeating a team of a different caliber than Colorado, SIUC coach Cindy Scott said.

SIUC got warmed up by upsetting an inexperienced Idaho State 76-55 Friday evening. The Saluki Cagers got a quick jump on the Bengals, outscoring them by a 10-1 spurt at one point in the first half. All 14 of the Salukis got the opportunity to leave the bench and 10 of them contributed to scoring. Junior guard Robin Smith led the Salukis in scoring with 14 points and senior forward Angie Rougette led in rebounds, pulling down 10.

No. 25 Colorado climbed out of the first round by upsetting Mississippi State 95-59 Friday night. The finals saw SIUC and Colorado running side-by-side in the first half. The Salukis seemed to have the upper hand in this portion of the confrontation, grasping the largest lead of the period with seven points at the 14:05 mark. The half ended with SIUC trailing by a single point, 25-24.

see WOMEN, page 15

Siruscasano diving his way to success

By Sanjay Seth
Sports Writer

When Americans think of diving greats, the name Greg Louganis automatically pops into mind. The U.S. Olympic diving champion, billed as probably the best diver the world has ever seen, is practically an American household name.

It will be forgiven, however, if the name Rob Siracuasano does not spark such a memory—but it might not be tolerated for long.

Siracuasano, a junior from North Merrick, N.Y., and the most talented diver on the Saluki diving squad, is also ranked as the top 10 diver at the U.S. diving level and is in close reach of making the national team, said Saluki diving coach Dave Ardrey.

Ardrey said Siracuasano, who was an unknown in the diving community as a freshman at SIUC, was a fortunate addition to the diving program.

Siracuasano was a hard worker his first year with the Salukis, learning the system of diving at the NCAA level, Ardrey said. He surprised many with his qualifying states in the preliminaries and then the finals of the NCAA.

Siracuasano also raised the level of competition at the NCAA level when he put a new dive in the NCAA books. "Rob did a dive called the reverse two and a half somersault pike—the same dive executed on the three-meter board," said Ardrey. "The only difference is Rob did it on the one-meter board."

The only other diver ever to use this combination before was Greg Louganis, and he used it only in U.S. Diving competition, not the NCAA.

Siracuasano had to demonstrate the dive in front of a ruling committee at the national championships which looked for certain factors in the dive. "The committee looked for consistency, safety, control, proper technique in execution, basically the whole dive and not just whether he could execute the dive at the end of the board," Ardrey said. "He obviously did the dive well enough to have it put in the rule book."

Siracuasano set the highest degree of difficulty for the one-meter board to date at a level of 3.2.

"Rob did not rate at that particular meet, meaning he did not score any points for SIUC that year," Ardrey said. "It was a learning experience and pretty much where he paid his dues."

Siracuasano went back to the NCAA in his sophomore year, scored on three events and put the SIUC swimming and diving team in the top 25 in the nation.

His accomplishments in finishing ninth on the one-meter board, seventh on the three-meter board and a 17th place mark in the platform events gained Siracuasano All-American honors.

"As a freshman and sophomore he has already made his mark, breaking every pool record at SIUC," Ardrey said. "Rob has also broken four or five pool records around the country and was a two-time NCAA All-American in a sophomore.

Ardrey said because Siracuasano was within close reach of making the national team with his top 10 ranking, the next step for the diver could be preparing for the U.S. Olympics.

"He has helped the program a lot," said Ardrey. "But our SIUC program has helped Rob gain a lot as well.""Dive Siracuasano agreed with this."Define," he said.

Siracuasano said he had benefited greatly from the coaching he had received at SIUC.

see SIRACUSANO, page 15

Giants make tentative deal with Bonds

Los Angeles Times

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The $100 million that the new owners of the San Francisco Giants spent to buy the team obviously didn't empty their bank accounts. They reached tentative agreement Saturday night with free agent left fielder Barry Bonds on a contract believed to be the largest in baseball history.

The terms were not announced, but it is believed Bonds agreed to a six-year contract for $43 million, eclipsing Cal Ripken Jr.'s five-year, $32.5-million contract with the Baltimore Orioles, Ryan Sandberg's four-year, $29.4-million contract with the Chicago Cubs and Kirby Puckett's five-year, $30-million contract with the Minnesota Twins.

The $43 million also eclipses the 1992 payrolls of every major league
On November 17, 1992, the City of Carbondale revised the minimum security standards for doors and window locks for all residential dwellings located within the City limits of Carbondale. Effective February 1, 1993, the revised security standards will require all exterior windows other than fixed windows or those designed not to be opened less than twelve (12) feet off of ground level to have locking devices installed. Also, the security standards will require locks on all entrances and patio doors.

The Building and Neighborhood Services Division in conjunction with the Carbondale Police and Fire Departments, Southern Illinois University Law Enforcement Program and Murdale True Value Store will conduct seminars concerning the new security standards on December 9, 1992, at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. January 27, 1993, at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Seminars will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers, 609 East College Street, Carbondale, Illinois.

Anyone wishing additional information relative to the new security standards should contact the Building and Neighborhood Services Division, City Hall, 609 East College Street, Carbondale, Illinois, (618) 549-5302.
Aid to blaze victims

University, community mobilize relief efforts

By Dave Kazak
Special Assignment Writer

A deadly fire Sunday at 504 S. Rawlings has left four residents dead, others hospitalized and the rest would be hard to eat, a bed to sleep, clothes to wear, or a roof over their heads.

At the Carbondale community and SIUC are taking steps to assist the victims—many of whom are students—whose lives have been turned upside down by arson.

The Red Cross has set up an aid station for the surviving victims of the fire, most of whom are international students, two floors south of the Pyramids, in the apartment’s management office.

Coordinating the relief efforts is Red Cross worker Beth Parker.

“We are issuing beds, food vouchers, clothing, and prescriptions,” she said. “We will also be helping out with other things needed like toiletries and other things the victims might need.”

Chief of Police Don Strom said many organizations in the community also are helping out in any way they can.

“This community has very much come together today and has been very generous in their support for the victims,” he said at a press conference. “We have people donating cash, food and clothing. Our Savior Lutheran Church has been the collection point for all of these items and will be available to the victims of this crime. They can stop by and collect the things they need to get on with their lives.”

SIUC President John C. Guyon, who visited the scene of the fire early Sunday morning, said the University has an assistance program to help the student victims.

“We will make every effort to meet these individuals’ needs,” he said.

Vice President for Student Affairs Harvey Welch said University officials met Sunday to determine what assistance the school could offer the survivors.

see HELP, page 14

Neighbors recall nightmare of fire, trying to help victims

Staff report

SIUC student Rishav Sidgell was standing by his window on the third floor when he heard a loud explosion early Sunday morning, but in his words it was worse.

“I was so scared because I was sure it was gunfire outside,” he said. “But when I looked out my window I saw people helping to rescue others from the fire.”

Siding said the biomedical technology from Nepal, lives on the third floor of The Pyramids apartments, Stn. S. Rawlings St. He witnessed tenants trying to escape from the fire that consumed the building early Sunday morning.

“They were crying for help, and others had hurt arms and legs from windows,” he said. “Some rescue people were putting ladders up to the windows so people could come down.”

Sidgell said police and fire officials were on the scene at least three hours.

“It took a long time, but it’s a corner block to get to,” he said. “And the doorways are so narrow, that I’d guess some people were trapped in the hallways.”

Some neighbors did anything in their power to help the fire victims.

Tim Ulmer, a graduate student in radio and television from Chicago, said he heard the sounds of a woman screaming and figured another loud party was taking place on his street.

“I was going to call the cops, but slowly I became aware it was not obnoxious, drunken madness—it was screams of pain,” he said.

“Then I heard someone saying, ‘Just hold on, help is coming.'”

Ulmer, who watched everything from his bedroom window, said when he first caught a glimpse of the scene, he saw people who apparently had jumped from the building lying on the ground below, calling for help.

“There were two people lying on the ground to the west and someone else was lying on a body board and they (paramedics) were working on her,” he said.

“Then firefighters bust out windows and dragged another guy out.”

Ulmer said the fire was apparently started by a cash stallion receipt—a paper bag containing cash. Such receipts are usually left behind by a cash bagger, he said, and are made up of two parts. One is a receipt, which the cash bagger keeps; the other is another receipt, which is discarded when the bag is opened.

The fire inflicted damage on the building’s attic and upper floors. It was put out by 2 a.m.

“Other than that we had one fire victim and one non-fire victim,” Ulmer said.

“Non-fire victim is the husband of the fire victim. The husband was awake, but in his words it was worse. He apparently had jumped from the window.”

Ulmer said the fire was extinguished by 2 a.m., but he remained awake until 3:30 a.m. with a neighbor.

“It was too loud to sleep, so I went to a neighbor’s apartment and we talked about the fire for a couple of hours,” he said.

Because his heart went out to the fire victims, Ulmer said he invited one of the tenants to his house.

see WITNESS, page 14

Fire teaches harsh safety lesson

By Teri Lynn Carlock and John McCadd
Special Assignment Writers

The Pyramids apartments resident Tim Ulmer does not have a smoke alarm in his apartment, but he said that is soon to change.

“This past year the building was the first thing Monday morning,” he said. “After this scare I’m going to be more cautious.”

Ulmer, along with other residents, said the fire that gutted The Pyramids studio apartments at 504 S. Rawlings St. early Sunday morning makes them more wary of the lack of effective safety equipment in their buildings.

Carbondale fire officials said the building was up to code before the fire and that injuries related to the fire were the result of arson rather than unsafe building conditions.

Clifford Manis, Carbondale fire chief, said most of the rooms had working smoke detectors, but two were disconnected totally and many were melted. The building’s automatic fire alarms worked, and all the rooms had fire extinguishers, Manis said.

But Ulmer, a graduate student in radio and television from Chicago who lives on the first floor, said he fears the heating systems in his building are unsafe.

“All it would take is a piece of paper—a cash station receipt—to start a fire with this heater,” he said, pointing to the illuminated coal wires in his heating vent. “I’ve noticed the heater’s condition for a while, and it scares the daylighters out of me now that this has happened.”

Vidya lyer, a junior in electrical engineering from India, said she witnessed the blaze and called 911.

Safely, page 8

General Assembly vote hinders IBHE plans

By Chris Davies
Administration Writer

The Illinois Board of Higher Education will have a difficult time extending its authority to abolish University programs, after a joint resolution was approved by the General Assembly.

The resolution was approved last week by the IBHE. Chairman Arthur Quern’s recent statement that he would pursue legislation in the assembly giving IBHE power to eliminate university programs.

But state Sen. Ralph Dun, R-DuQuoin, said the resolution opposing the power passed unanimously and is expected to be approved by the full senate.

“Any program approved by a major university and I strongly question the recent actions by the board,” he said. “This board has gone too far.”

Dunn said the board should work with colleges and universities to come up with better programs.

“However, this resolution does not force the board into a secondary position under the universities,” he said. “It simply asks them to stick to their mandate of recommending.”

“IBHE should coordinate with these institutions in which it does not belong by making specific program recommendations, Quern should ask for the power to eliminate programs.”

Quern said the board already has the power to begin new program early morning. “IBHE should coordinate with the universities, all of which is against the institution’s governing boards,” he said. “These governing boards and the publics served by the institutions are in the best position to determine what programs should be abolished, particularly as they relate to the region.”

Quern said he was troubled by the prospect that IBHE would move to the program abolition.

“IBHE should coordinate with these boards but should not have the authority to unilaterally make cuts.”

see SAFETY, page 8
Avoid violence as answer to racism

GERMAN XENOPHOBIC and anti-Semitic rightist groups have been attacking foreign refugees in attempts to force them out of the country. Anti-fascist leftist groups are attacking the rightist groups for their actions on the refugees. German police forces are hoping to crush both extremists' violent outbreaks and return order to the country. And Jewish refugees are once again beginning an exodus from Germany.

THIS DOMINIC EFFECT is bringing back the fear the Jews have been trying to forget since the Holocaust of World War II.

The general fear of a dictatorial, tyrannical reign over any minority group—whether by number, belief or race—perversely affects all sectors of all societies. Even those with such power fear the takeover of those they oppress because of what the minority group might do for revenge. People want reparations before they want equality if equality has been absent for a long time.

THIS FEAR IS ALSO REFLECTED when the media jump on the mere hint of possible neo-Nazi activity and blow up the idea of the return of the Third Reich, the German fascist state from 1933 to 1945. But sometimes sensitivity is lost amidst confusion. In some cases, like Germany, until racial or prejudice actions erupt into violence, it goes unnoticed by those unaffected by the racism or prejudice. When people are frustrated by not getting their own way, it occurs to them that violence will accomplish their goal. Sometimes the purpose is to get the attention of people with the power to affect change.

BUT THE USE OF POWER to suppress any peaceful minority group is wrong.

Suppression of minorities is still found in the United States. From the gratuitous beating of criminals to the overlooking of qualified minority job candidates. Employers and police are not the only perpetuators of hate crimes or discrimination.

Economic hard times mean a shortage of jobs and some people may use the woe of such hard times as an excuse to harm members of the minority community fortunate enough to have a job. Some people could use the threat of AIDS as an excuse to reap havoc onto certain minority populations, but these social and economic problems are only the vehicle so that hate crimes can be carried out. The rightists were looking for an excuse. An excuse to justify their actions draws others to join them in their crimes of hatred.

EVEN IN GERMANY THE VIEWS are so diverse that it would be impossible to please everyone with every law. To make everyone see the world through the same set of glasses would mean destroying all people with opposing views. People need to become aware of racism and prejudice before it turns to violence.

Letters to the Editor

Facts skewed in basketball editorial

I appreciate the Daily Egyptian Board's interest in increasing attendance for the Saluki Women's Basketball team. However, sometimes non-publicity at all is better than bad publicity. Please check the following "facts".

1. There is no NCAA conference. The NCAA Tournament is more likely the term you were grasping for.

2. The Saluki Women's Basketball team hasn't played in Davies Gym in a number of years. There are many factors that have an effect on relatively low attendance at women's games. However, the limited space of Davies Gym in which the games are held is not one of them.

3. Tiffany Balder does not play for SIU. Bolden is the name you were grasping for.

Poem: Vindictive Christians' accusations serve to alienate Norse, other religions

It was an old night in Carbondale, nothing special no snow or hail.

And after a swirl of tepid beer,

many a drunk was heard to cheer.

The glory of Odin, Balder, Thor, or many others of Nordic lore

Not at all did droll or yell, for fear of the Christian Hell.

These loud revelers with shining axe, did not sever heads that were lax, in praising the great court of Odin. Did not even accuse these others of sin, but carried on in their revelle, not suspecting what they would see.

A lone figure rose his voice, and above a book he did loom. A strange rune did cover this book, and to many awe inspired did look.

This man bellowed long and loud, bringing to him an angry crowd.

He spake of brimstone and fiery pits, for those who did not with this god fit.

The revelers, with their fun cut short, did stand with one or two disgruntled snort.

The leader of this band soon spoke, calm and measured as if words were hate, or spoken many a time before.

We grow tired of our many tales, of disbelievers beneath swinging fals.

From now on please be silent, or give your brotherhood a vent, as preached in book with line crossing line, Who knows, we could get along fine." — Stuart Benard, junior, undecided

How to submit a letter to the editor:

A: You

B: Letter

C: Editor
so I ran to the hospital. I gave her my name, but they couldn’t find her. I knew she was there."

The police later told her she had died by a first-floor window trying to escape the smoke. Nagai said she notified her friend’s aunt in Hermit and then waited several hours to identify her friend.

"I went to see the body, and I couldn’t take it," she said.

Rajasegar Govindasamy, senior in electrical engineering from Malaysia, also lost two friends in the fire.

"I was shocked and really upset when I found out someone I knew died on the spot," Govindasamy said. "Another good friend of mine lays dead in the hospital."

Cheong Teck Wong, 23, a senior in electrical engineering, was directly involved in the fire. Wong’s parents cried after his body was taken to the hospital.

Govindasamy, deputy president of the Malaysian Student Association, said there were at least six students who were directly involved in the fire.

Wong was happy to graduate in two weeks and was counting down the days to when he could return home, Govindasamy said.

"We joked about how Wong was going to be so successful at his job that he would employ me when I graduated, " he said. "I can’t believe he’s dead."

Govindasamy said Wong had just handed in his final report on a senior project, and they talked about it on Friday last week.

"One minute I was talking to him, and now he’s gone, " he said. "God, it’s such a shock."

Govindasamy said Wong had gone through the commencement ceremony in the summer, and his parents traveled all the way from Malaysia to be with him.

"His parents were really proud of him and it was just a joy for all of them, " he said. "It was really difficult to break the news to his family."

Govindasamy said he was unable to hold back his grief when Wong’s parents cried after hearing the news on the phone.

Wahid was also a friend and a fellow committee member with Govindasamy in the Malaysian Student Association.

"This was only her first semester here, and she was so enthusiastic, " he said. "She was definitely the most active freshman I have seen."

Wahid was treasurer of the committee and was involved in activities with the International Student Association and everything else she could get her hands on.

"We got close through working in the committee, and I was impressed with her attitude, " he said. "I could not believe the news about her at all."

Govindasamy said she called the hospital, and a doctor told him Wahid was dead and hooked her up to a respirator.

"She had an asthma condition and this did not help her with all the smoke she inhaled, " he said. "It was just as difficult to break the news to her parents as it was for Wong’s."

Another student, Alexander Model, learned early Sunday two of his friends were hurt, "he said seriously in the fire. Simona Dimitrova, and her roommate Gergana Zlateva were in the hospital after jumping from their apartment windows to escape the fire that was spreading throughout their building.

Model, a junior in mining engineering from Moscow, stood at his third-floor window in the Pyramids apartments and examined the busted windows and charred remains of the apartments across from him.

"I have a lot to be thankful for," he said as he pointed to a blood stain on the sidewalk below. "Maybe it was meant to be,"

"I was at a party and was going to visit Simona because I was going to return a rock tape I had of hers, " he said. "But I didn’t go to the party because she had her light off, and I figured she had gone to bed."

Dimitrova, a freshman from Bulgaria, is being treated for multiple fractures and smoke inhalation at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis.

Zlateva, a freshman in political science from Bulgaria, is listed in critical condition at St. Francis Hospital in Cape Girardeau, Mo., with burns, severe head injuries and fractures.

Brian Gross, Teri Lynn Carlock and Sanjay Seth contributed to this story.

ARSON, from page 1

Fire and police personnel entered the student's dorms at the risk of their own lives to rescue several residents, Strom said.

"I can tell you ... there are some police officers and firefighters that are real heroes in my mind as a result of this incident—people who risked their lives to enter that building and ... remove some people who are living this evening as a result of their actions," Strom said.

Individuals with information regarding the fire are asked to call the Carbondale Police or the Arson Alert Hotline at 800-523-2947.

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Parade of lights celebration brings holiday spirit to town

By Jeremy Finley
City Writer

As estimated 11,000 people packed South Illinois Avenue Saturday night despite 30 degree temperature, the city was awash in a sea of dazzling lights providing a sight for the eyes on the campus and Carbondale.

The second annual Lights Festival Parade lit up the darkened streets of Carbondale before masses of huddled people who braved the frigid weather to see what might become a tradition as popular as Santa Claus for Carbondale.

Diane Dorsey, Light Fantasy Coordinator, said she believes the parade will become a tradition, "That's the way it's going to become a tradition," she said. "I owe it to these people (parade participants) to keep this going, because they might take out the float year after year and revamped them."

More than 60 lighted floats, vehicles and marching bands, up 27 more than 1991, made up the parade proving the growth of interest in the event.

Heading the parade was a small version of the police car controlled by an actual cop, followed by the KBSI Fox-23 float and its search light that led the way for the booming sounds of the SIUC Marching Salukis. Cub scouts groups, high school bands and a llama helped add to the mood of the holiday event.

Dorsey said the favorite of the crowds was the City of Carbondale's float driven by six mechanical horses and a snowman. The float won the first place trophy for the second year for best float. GTE North won second place in the civic business category for their train float, and West Street Baptist Church won second place in community category for their church float lit by 10,000 lights.

Carbondale Elementary School District 95 won third place in community with their float of teachers and students, and the Carbondale Convention and Tourism Bureau won third in city business with their Santa Claus float.

Santa Claus himself greeted children after the parade at the pavilion where the float winners were named.

Tracy Williams, a English major from Eastern Illinois University, came to Carbondale to visit friends and to see the parade she had heard so much about.

"This is the last parade I've ever been to like this, and I've never seen anything like it before," she said. "I thought the floats were excellent, and all the lights helped put me in the Christmas spirit."

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"This is the last parade I've ever been to like this, and I've never seen anything like it before," she said. "I thought the floats were excellent, and all the lights helped put me in the Christmas spirit."

By Jeremy Finley
City Writer

As estimated 11,000 people packed South Illinois Avenue Saturday night despite 30 degree temperature, the city was awash in a sea of dazzling lights providing a sight for the eyes on the campus and Carbondale.

The second annual Lights Festival Parade lit up the darkened streets of Carbondale before masses of huddled people who braved the frigid weather to see what might become a tradition as popular as Santa Claus for Carbondale.

Diane Dorsey, Light Fantasy Coordinator, said she believes the parade will become a tradition, "That's the way it's going to become a tradition," she said. "I owe it to these people (parade participants) to keep this going, because they might take out the float year after year and revamped them."

More than 60 lighted floats, vehicles and marching bands, up 27 more than 1991, made up the parade proving the growth of interest in the event.

Heading the parade was a small version of the police car controlled by an actual cop, followed by the KBSI Fox-23 float and its search light that led the way for the booming sounds of the SIUC Marching Salukis. Cub scouts groups, high school bands and a llama helped add to the mood of the holiday event.

Dorsey said the favorite of the crowds was the City of Carbondale's float driven by six mechanical horses and a snowman. The float won the first place trophy for the second year for best float. GTE North won second place in the civic business category for their train float, and West Street Baptist Church won second place in community category for their church float lit by 10,000 lights.

Carbondale Elementary School District 95 won third place in community with their float of teachers and students, and the Carbondale Convention and Tourism Bureau won third in city business with their Santa Claus float.

Santa Claus himself greeted children after the parade at the pavilion where the float winners were named.

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SAFETY, from page 3

from her window as firefighters removed victims from upper windows of the complex.

Iyer, a student at the Pyramids Club, said fire extinguishers have been missing from halls in her wing since late August, which raises likelihood of a similar incident in her wing.

"The (extinguisher) ports have probably been broken since last year," she said. "We don't have smoke detector either."

Second-floor tenant Joba Fletcher said he finds similar problems with the dependability of the building's equipment. Fletcher, a senior in aviation management from Desoto, said many fire extinguishers have been stolen from his building and not replaced.

"I didn't have an extinguisher when I moved in or a smoke alarm," he said. "And when they finally gave me an extinguisher it was rechargeable, and when I asked why the maintenance guy said 'Oh, don't worry about it.'"

Fletcher said he also worries about what seems to be an increase in fire alarms at the complex.

"It seems like we have a fire every week over here," he said. "Just last week there was a fire upstairs. It might not be serious but seems to be a lot more than usual."

Modern attitudes take harassment, claims seriously

The Washington Post

In 1988, Dorena Bertussi, a legislative aide, did the unthinkable and filed a sexual harassment complaint against her boss, Jim Bates, then a Democratic House member from San Diego.

No one had ever gone to the House ethics committee with such a complaint before, but Bertussi was incensed that Bates had made lewd comments about her breasts and once straddled her leg in full view of other staff members. The committee chastised Bates and ordered him to write a letter of apology.

"It was a whitewash," Bertussi recalled last week.

As recently as last March, the Senate ethics committee declined to pursue a sexual harassment complaint against Sen. Brock Adams, D-Wash., despite a Seattle Times report that Adams had made unwanted sexual advances toward women and a 1987 District of Columbia police report that Adams had allegedly drugged and molested a young woman.

But times have changed. The Senate ethics committee last week agreed to conduct a preliminary inquiry — the first of its kind — into complaints that Sen. Bob Packwood, a four-term Oregon Republican, made unwanted sexual advances to women who worked for him during the past 26 years.

The decision, blessed by Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell, D-Maine, and Minority Leader Robert F. Dole, R-Kan., marked a sea change in the Senate's attitude toward sexual conduct by members. It also heralded the end of a once-conservative attitude that members of Congress were somehow "above the law."

The public uproar last year over the Senate Judiciary Committee's clumsy treatment of Anita F. Hill, who charged she had been sexually harassed by Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, and the strong showing by female candidates in the November congressional elections have made it difficult for the Senate's male bastion to continue sweeping complaints of sexual harassment "under the rug."

"Sexual harassment has been raised in the consciousness of people as it has never been done before," said Sen. Charles E. Grassley, R-Iowa, a leader in the efforts to reform Senate rules. "It's just a whole new environment."

Pam Tupper, who got a cold shoulder from the Senate ethics committee in March after signaling a willingness to testify that Adams had drugged and molested her in the District five years ago, said she was heartened by the change.

"People now see how the Senate has always insulated itself against complaints by private citizens, and they are fed up," said Tupper, who teaches at the University of Washington. "I don't think they'll be able to get away anymore with the lame, pseudo investigation they did in Brock's case."

Throughout its history, the Senate stubbornly clung to constitutional separation-of-powers arguments to justify exempting itself from federal civil rights and anti-discrimination laws.

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By Angela Hyland
International Writer

The Palestine Liberation Organization is the only group that can negotiate a peace between Israel and Palestine, implicitly Manasser, vice ambassador of Palestine to the United Nations.

"(Israel) will have to deal with the PLO because we can deliver peace," Manasser said when he visited campus Friday. "It's the only real representative of the Palestinian people."

Manasser was invited to campus by the Committee for Peace in the Middle East. He has addressed several prestigious conferences both here and internationally, including Harvard and Columbia, committee members said. Friday's lecture was on the same peace tables in the Middle East.

Although the PLO is recognized by the United Nations as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, neither Israel nor the United States acknowledges it. Any association with the PLO, which operates within a religious and political framework, is considered illegal by Israel.

Palestinians have suffered many injustices at the hands of the Israeli government, and in the past and at present, Manasser said:

"We want to negotiate with our enemy: we want to negotiate with Israel." Manasser said. "We do not want to be sitting under the table at negotiations."

Although the United States has not supported the PLO in the past, Manasser said there may be a change that things will be different with a new administration.

"PLO (president-elect) Clinton has presented himself as an advocate of human rights. If he wants to be consistent, there would be a shining example."

"We are not interested in explaining the past or the history of Palestine," Manasser said. "We do not want to go back to history and try to explain, we stay there (in the past)."

PLO is the future-oriented and wants to work to regain the rights of Palestinians, he said.

"(Israel) will have to deal with the PLO because we can deliver peace."

—Riad Manasser
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Today’s Puzzle

Today’s puzzle answers are on page 15
"The University called together a fairly large number of people together about the situation and make some plans," he said.

Welch said he believes the management of the apartment complex was trying to find victims a place to live, but the University will provide space if needed.

The Pyramid's spokesman Jim Dolan confirmed all the students had contacted the management office, and most were going to be staying with friends.

"There were about five or six people we did have to place in other apartments," Denny said. "Also, many people called in or stopped in on the street to volunteer where they live as an option for the students.

Welch said the University is assisting in other areas besides space.

"We have alerted our transition office to the situation," Welch said.

**WITNESS, from page 3—**

"I had one of the residents from the second floor over here for breakfast because she was just in hysterics, "he said. "I figured if I could just give her something to eat that would be an effort because I really feel bad for these people." Robert Borchering, a senior in civil engineering from Chicago, said he and another resident of The Pyramids were needed to assist paramedics before other ambulances arrived.

"I heard screaming from (the D wing) and I wanted to see what was going on," he said. "When I got there, (a medic) was yelling, 'Come here, we need help.'

Borchering said he and resident Chris Crance helped carry a stretcher to a woman with burns as medics were trying to calm her.

"By the time we got on the stretcher to her, a medic was on top of her trying to put bandages on her," he said. "By that time there were cops and ambulances all up and down the street.

"When I first got there, there was smoke coming out of four windows (on the third floor). When we were done with the stretcher and stepped back from the building, the whole third floor was on fire," he said.

"I know Nikone Phamanivong of Hanover Park, who lives in a studio apartment on the first floor, was fortunate to be out when the fire started. Phamanivong, a senior in industrial technology, was out with friends at Checkers Nite Club when the fire occurred.

At about 1:30 Sunday morning Phamanivong and friends saw an ambulance rush past them on their way home. "We were joking about how there was probably a fire or something going on," Phamanivong said. "We were really shocked when we saw that it was our building that was on fire.

"There was a lot of smoke coming out of the second and third floor windows," Phamanivong said. "Everyone was just shocked." Officials at the site took down personal information of the residents and onlookers, and Phamanivong said he was told to find accommodations for the night.

"I just can't believe that there was a fire," Phamanivong said. "I now have to wait and see if any of my belongings were saved."

Chat Ba Chau, a senior in civil engineering from Peoria, lived across from Phamanivong in the apartment building.

Chau said police and firemen were still there at the site when he returned to his room in the morning. "I wanted to see if there was a way I could see my apartment, but I was not allowed in," Chau said. "I have no idea if my belongings are damaged."

Chau said he was told by the building management that if his room was not already damaged by the fire, there possibly would be massive water damage. "I had a lot of personal stuff things that were of sentimental value in my apartment," Chau said. "These will be the things that I cannot replace, and it really upsets me."

Teti Lynn Carlock, Sanjay Seth, and John McCadd contributed to this story.
WOMEN, from page 16

This lead was equivalent to the six other times that the Buffs led in the first half. During the first half, the lead changed hands nine times.

The Golden Buffalo's entered the second period with a much different game. The Salukis were unable to score in the first three minutes of this half, while the Buffs developed a comfortable lead of nine, bringing the count to 33-24.

"I think that we lose our composure," senior forward Angie Rougeau said. "I don't think that we have gelod yet. We're just starting to get use to each other as a team.

After the 17-minute mark, the Salukis attempted a comeback, but couldn't get the ball in the hoop.

The deficit was eventually lowered to four after senior center Kelly Firth fed junior guard Karen Powell for a three pointer at 11:42.

In the last five minutes of this game, the Buffs outscored the Salukis 10 to nine, before the deficit swelled to 12 with only one minute left in the game.

"I think that the pressure got to us," Scott said. "They have a very good program.

Colorado's forward Mindy Henry was instrumental in second half play for the Buffs, sinking eight baskets for the victory. Henry led both teams in scoring, with 20 points for the game and seven rebounds.

Firth was the only Saluki to score in the double digits against the Buffs, contributing 13 points and nine rebounds to the Saluki effort.

Colorado's defense prevented the Salukis from having any double digit scores, Rougeau said.

BONDS, from page 16

team except the Toronto Blue Jays ($49 million), Oakland Athletics ($77 million) and New York Mets ($44 million), based on the figures recently released by the owners' Player Relations Committee.

"One thing is for sure," Dodger Manager Tom Lasorda said, "When he cashes the checks, he won't count it, he'll weigh it.

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