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WikiLeaks cable shows China ordered Google hacking

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Architecture students build block toys for Tots

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Baseball team carries on despite loss of coach

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Higher city taxes likely

CHRISTINA GRAY
Daily Egyptian

Carbondale residents may see an increase in either sales or property taxes beginning as early as next year.

The Carbondale City Council will discuss whether to increase the sales tax to 8.5 percent or reinstate an old city property tax at its Dec. 21 meeting as a way to pay for increasing fire and police pensions. Councilman Joel Fritzier said.

Fritzier said he sent out a short survey to residents of the Arbor District Neighborhood Association to see which tax hike its residents favored. He said so far, the survey shows more residents in favor of a sales tax increase.

"I feel raising the sales tax is the only option here," Fritzier said.

But City Manager Allen Gill said reinstating the property tax is one of few available ways to generate the money needed for public safety pensions.

Gill presented increases to fiscal year 2012's General Fund at the Nov. 23 council meeting, which showed the money needed for police and fire pensions would increase \$471,682 in 2012. He said reinstating the property tax would pay the \$810,000 police and fire pension funds.

"The size of the deficit we're looking at now really can only be offset by a major revenue source or by major cutbacks in personnel," Gill said. "There is no way we can do that after what we've already done without cutting back public services."

Gill said increasing the sales tax would only make the city more dependent on the volatile economic changes. The sales tax rate has been steadily increasing while the revenue has stayed relatively flat, he said.

The city terminated the property tax in 2002 when budget surpluses were shown, but Gill said today that situation is no longer true.

"The expenses have outstripped the revenue, and this is the recommended way to offset that deficit," Gill said.

Please see SALES TAX | 3



GENNA ORD | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Mistie La Faver, 4, stands on the Bucky Fuller Dome float Saturday in the Lights Fantastic Parade. Business owners on the Strip said

the parade brought more families into their stores, a shift from their usual clientele of college students.

Parade illuminates streets, businesses

SARAH SCHNEIDER
Daily Egyptian

Melenie Friedman, a new resident of Carbondale, says the Lights Fantastic Parade is a great idea not only because it is a family activity, but it also opens people's eyes to downtown businesses.

"It is a fun family event because

a lot of people come down here with their kids, but people also come down here and see things they didn't know were down here and didn't know were open," she said.

Friedman and her 3-year-old son Duncan watched the parade of floats, marching bands and Santa's sleigh all decorated in Christmas lights Saturday on the Strip in Carbondale.

Meghan Cole, executive director of Carbondale Main Street and member of the Lights Fantastic Parade committee, said more than 10,000 people attend the annual event sponsored by Carbondale Park District, Carbondale Community Arts, City of Carbondale and Carbondale Main Street. She said the event brings foot traffic to the

downtown area and promotes its businesses.

She said the event costs anywhere from \$10,000 to \$20,000 due to electrical, advertisement and promotion costs and coordination with city services to have the roads closed.

Please see LIGHTS | 4

Students share holiday traditions, learn others

SARAH SCHNEIDER
Daily Egyptian

The best way to learn about another culture is to share in its celebrations, says Ca-Ja Coppi, director of International Programs and Services.

"If I went to India, I would want to go to a Diwali celebration; if I were going to Hong Kong I would want to go to a New Year's celebration," she said. "That is the best way to understand a culture, because you hear the music and taste the cuisine."

More than 30 international students and volunteers celebrated the winter holidays together Sunday at

the International Holiday Party at the Stone Center by singing songs, decorating cookies, visiting with Santa Claus and sharing stories and traditions of holidays in different parts of the world.

Coppi said the multicultural gathering started in 1989 to give international students a feel for the holiday season in America.

"It gives visitors a chance to hear some of the international students talk about winter festivals from their countries because we don't want it just to be about our holiday season, we want it to be about their holiday season as well," she said.

Maria Clemencia Zambrano, a

graduate student in biology from Bogotá, Colombia, said Christmas is the most important holiday in her country.

She said the holiday focuses on Jesus and his birth, as opposed to how people in other parts of the world center on Santa Claus. She said children in Colombia write letters to baby Jesus instead of Santa and families also participate in a tradition.

She said Colombians open their gifts on Christmas Eve and sing and dance around the tree, and on Christmas Day, they rest.

"I love this holiday, and I am leaving in 10 days to go home and

be with my family," Zambrano said.


Gunjan Sahni, a graduate student in workforce education and development from Jammu and Kashmir, India, said she celebrated Christmas in India, but the main holiday that would be an equivalent to Christmas is the Hindu religious festival Diwali.

"Holiday traditions in India are a blend of dancing, gifts and food," she said. "But holiday traditions are similar throughout the world because the most important part for many is family."

Please see INTERNATIONAL | 4

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The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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- Children's empowerment group available at the same time
- Contact Shelly Hill at 549-4807 ext. 237 for more information.

Bargains Galore!

- 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 13, 14 p.m. at the Herrin Library
- Friends of Herrin Library are holding their holiday book sale
- Money raised will support the library's history room, large print books and fund special projects for the library
- Call 942-6109 for more information.

AAUW Celebrates Jane

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- 7:30 p.m. Dec. 14 at the Faculty House, 1000 S. Elizabeth Street
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Higher property tax could result in student rent increases

LEAH STOVER
Daily Egyptian

Cheryl Bryant, owner of Cheryl Bryant Rentals, expects an increase in Carbondale's property taxes would mean an increase in rent for college housing.

Bryant said she tries to make her property as student-friendly as possible, and would prefer to not increase rental fees.

"There are several factors that play into the cost of rent, one of them including taxes," Bryant said. "I don't want to overcharge students, but if taxes go up, my only choice is to raise rent."

On Dec. 21, the Carbondale City Council will discuss whether to increase the sales tax to 8.5 percent or reinstate an old city property tax as a way to pay for increasing fire and police pensions, Council Member Joel Fritzer said.

If the property tax is reinstated, Fritzer said it would inevitably affect the renters of certain properties within the city, something he thinks students aren't necessarily aware of.

He said he questioned if students realize that their landlords will probably raise their rent if the city's portion of the property tax is reinstated.

With income decreasing and a possible tuition increase, implementing a raise in city property taxes could result in an increase in rent, said John Clemmons, attorney and Carbondale landlord.

Clemmons said he is not in favor of an increase in property tax, and that it would create a chain reaction. Landlords in this area have a fairly small profit margin to work with, and if taxes were to increase, the cost of maintenance and upkeep would go up as well, affecting rent, he said.

"I had a nice couple who wanted to rent, and they thought I was too high

on the rent," Clemmons said. "I had to explain to them that approximately \$225 of their monthly rent was just for property taxes per month. They had no idea."

He said a way to reduce the property taxes would be to get more aid from the state, but considering the state's financial situation, that seems unlikely.

"It's just a big mess," Clemmons said. Bryant said it's possible other rental companies could take advantage of the increase, using it as an excuse to raise rent higher than what is necessary. She said she doesn't think an increase would directly affect enrollment rates, but higher rent for properties that aren't as nice would never go over well.

Pavel Sawicki, a senior from Carbondale studying geography, said he thinks the economy is to blame for students leaving SIUC, not housing rates.

"I can't see another way to go about this, and I think it's something that needs to happen," Sawicki said.

"I think there are other factors that would more so affect enrollment than an increase in property taxes."

He said he thinks students transition from community colleges to four-year universities and get overwhelmed, financially and academically, causing them to drop out.

Bryant said she had two renters who switched houses after they concluded their rent was too high for the house they were staying in. She said the renters were dissatisfied and transferred to a less expensive house in Carbondale.

Sam Donets, a sophomore from Glenview studying radio-television, said he doesn't believe the area offers enough higher-scale housing for the rent to be increased.

"I don't want my rent to increase," Donets said.

Donets said people won't be turned away from enrolling at SIUC, but the tax would definitely result in

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City	0.00000%
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Mosquitoes	0.03199%
School #95	3.05414%
School #165	1.89472%
Logan College	0.54405%
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SOURCE: JACKSON COUNTY ASSESSMENT OFFICE

some unhappy citizens.

Christina Gray contributed to this report.

Leah Stover can be reached at lstover@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 259.

SALES TAX

CONTINUED FROM 1

If the council reinstates the property tax, residents would see the charge on their fall 2011 real estate tax bill. The amount would be determined by the value of each home, Gill said. For example, a \$100,000 house would accrue an additional \$73, while a \$50,000 home would accrue half that.

Maureen Berkowitz, chief county assessment officer, said people are still paying property tax, but not to the city itself. For someone living within city limits, there are 11 taxing bod-

ies, while there are only seven outside the city. This is because people within the city pay taxes for the library, road, bridge and park district services.

Berkowitz said a sales tax would allow people who live in other places but shop in Carbondale to help pay, but the higher rate might make them want to shop elsewhere.

"The question is how high can you go before you're not competitive," she said.

Fritzer said he's more worried about having a competitive housing market rather than a competitive sales tax rate. Carbondale's property taxes

are already higher than Marion's, and raising the sales tax rate to 8.5 percent would make it equal to Marion's, he said.

"The property tax is already too high; it's so high that we're not competitive with the surrounding area, especially Williamson County," Fritzer said.

From the standpoint of an elected official, though, a sales tax increase might not be the popular choice here, council member Chris Wissmann said. The sales tax increase wouldn't take effect until July 2011, which would be two months into the fiscal year, and that may not be enough to

cover the pension requirements, he said.

"We'll have to lay off 15 or 16 police officers. We definitely are in a situation where we have to increase taxes; there's just no way around it. It's pick your poison," Wissmann said.

Council member Mary Fohlmann said she has voted for both tax increases in the past, but the city has relied almost entirely on sales tax for so long that now there's no diversification of revenue.

"It's like putting all your eggs in one basket, and if that basket has a hole in it — like when the economy turns sour

— then you don't get as much revenue from your sales tax," she said.

Wissmann said not having to reinstate the property tax has been Mayor Brad Cook's legacy and campaign promise since he was elected almost eight years ago.

"But sometimes the usefulness of really important things starts to become overshadowed perhaps by current realities, and this may be one of them," Wissmann said.

Christina Gray can be reached at cgray@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 258.

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INTERNATIONAL CONTINUED FROM 1

Sahni said she went to a Catholic school that participated in Christmas, but it was different than the American celebration. She said she didn't exchange gifts or have a tree, but her mother always had a stocking for her.

"Christmas in India is not as flashy and gorgeous as it is here," she said. "Not everyone celebrates it, it is mostly among the Christian community, but it is a national holiday so people are involved indirectly."

Akina Maitree, a graduate student in electrical and computer engineering from Bangkok, said New Year's in Thailand is similar to Christmas in America because they exchange gifts, but it is mostly religion-based.

She said she doesn't think it matters why the holidays are celebrated, as long as they are celebrated with family.

Elaine Conrad, community programs coordinator of International Programs and Services, said when students do not have the opportunity to go back home and celebrate their holidays, they will celebrate in Illinois in a variety of ways.

"Some of our students will share the holiday with their host families, others will get together with other international students to cook and celebrate, others will get together at



STEVE BERCZYNSKI | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Chai Lian Gan, left, a junior from Malaysia studying psychology, and Maria Clemencia Zambrano, a graduate assistant in plant biology from Colombia, sing Christmas carols Sunday at a holiday party at the Stone Center. The event was held to give students a chance to see how different cultures around the world celebrate the holiday season.

the local places that offer celebrations such as the Newman Center," she said.

Sergiy Polyachenko, a graduate student in economics from Sumy, Ukraine, said the main difference in how Christmas in Ukraine is celebrated is the date of the holiday, and he said he thinks holidays in the United States are more social than in Ukraine, where they are more based on religion.

He said Ded Moroz, Ukraine's version of Santa Claus, brought gifts, made appearances and wore red and

white, similar to the American Santa Claus.

"Holidays are social for me, that's why I celebrate them, in order to spend time with my family," he said. "We just get together with close friends and relatives. It's just like here, we just like to have good food and nice conversation."

Sarah Schneider can be reached at sschneider@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 259.

LIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM 1

Lance Jack, former city council member and owner of Fat Patties on the Strip, said though the event is costly, the benefits outweigh the costs.

"Anything we can do to make Carbondale more fun for everybody — students, families, people from out of town, the better for all business people and citizens here," he said. "People want to enjoy life, and these little extras like parades and downtown festivals are the types of things people look for in a quality life."

Jack said his restaurant, which offered specials such as hot chocolate, didn't necessarily see added business because of the parade, but it did bring in a new crowd of people who had probably not been there before.

"Any time we can get people downtown for any reason they actually get to see the look down here and the good variety of businesses," he said. "Downtown Carbondale and the Strip get a bit of a bad reputation, but we are a very

family-friendly place."

Aaron Ketner, shift manager at Mèlange, said the sit-down restaurant sold a significant amount of hot chocolate Saturday and saw many walk-ins.

"Any time people are out walking and stop by, it brings in good business," he said.

Ketner said Mèlange nearly closed because of a very slow summer, but events like the parade and people walking back from a play or game really help business.

Rhonda Chiang, an employee at QQ Bubble Tea, said added business because of the parade depends on the weather.

She said the store sells cold alushes and teas, and people typically do not want anything cold during the parade.

"But if it is too cold people will come in here to watch the parade from the windows, and then maybe they will buy something," she said.

Curtis Conley said the parade was more quiet this year because it was so cold.

Conley, owner and vendor of Hot Dawgs, a mobile hot dog cart, sells hot dogs Thursdays, Fridays

and Saturdays on the Strip, but this was his first parade and he said he hopes it will bring more business in the future.

"We saw more people. It was a different crowd, and I am more used to the late night drunk crowd more than I am the parade crowd," he said. "But tonight was different. There were more kids and families." Cole said there were different goals for the parade.

"Our goal for Carbondale Main Street is always to bring foot traffic to the businesses and to promote the area," she said. "The committee for Lights Fantastic has a goal to bring holiday spirit into Carbondale and bring all of those different groups working together."

She said this year marks the parade's 20th year, and it has sentimental value to many people.

"I think that after it has been going on for 20 years, people who were children 20 years ago going to the parade are now bringing their children," she said.

Sarah Schneider can be contacted at sschneider@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 259.



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Voices

Monday, December 6, 2010 • 5

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EDITORIAL CARTOON



THEIR WORD

Food safety bill offers welcome display of bipartisanship

The following editorial appeared Wednesday in the San Jose Mercury News:

Maybe bipartisanship in the U.S. Senate isn't dead after all.

In a rare display of old-school political compromise, the Senate came together Tuesday morning and passed a comprehensive food safety bill. It may not be perfect, but it's a vast improvement over the 70-year-old regulations that have been a constant source of frustration for the Food and Drug Administration.

The House, which last year passed its own version of the law, should work with the Senate on a final bill to send to the president

before the end of the lame-duck session.

Give credit to the 15 Republicans who had the courage to help Democrats pass one of the biggest pieces of legislation in months. Their vote gives the FDA the power it should have had decades ago to recall tainted foods. It also authorizes more food safety inspections, gives the FDA more oversight over how safety fruits and vegetables are grown in the United States and abroad, and creates a better system for tracking food from fields to grocery stores and restaurants.

American consumers may think food safety isn't a partisan issue. Somehow, it has been turned into

one. Republican Sen. Tom Coburn, of Oklahoma, arguing against big government, wrote that the United States "has the safest food supply in the world, and it has never been safer." Tell that to the families of the 5,000 Americans who die annually from food-borne illnesses. Or to the 76 million Americans who suffer food poisoning every year.

For commentator Glenn Beck went a step further, arguing that Democrats' efforts to pass the legislation were designed to give "the government complete control over farmlands." He even theorized that the bill was designed to reduce Americans' consumption of meat. Here's a news flash for Beck: It's the

USDA, not the FDA, that inspects meat and poultry.

Beck unwittingly highlighted one of the weaknesses of the Senate legislation. Ten years ago, the National Academy of Congress urged federal lawmakers to house all federal food safety regulators under one roof rather than dividing them between the FDA and the USDA. That will have to wait. But at least enough Senate Republicans ignored Beck and helped give the FDA far greater ability to stop unsafe foods from making people sick.

The Senate legislation demands that:

The government create a system to make it easier to track and lo-

cate contaminated foods. The FDA has had great difficulty determining the source of recent salmonella outbreaks.

All foreign food suppliers comply with the new guidelines and be subjected to increased inspections. The FDA currently inspects less than 1 percent of imported food.

The FDA receive additional funding to step up inspections.

American consumers shouldn't expect the legislation to completely stop outbreaks of food-borne illness. But the bipartisan effort represents a major improvement to the nation's food safety system that should be celebrated by every American, regardless of party.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Coal research: a positive contribution to community

DEAR EDITOR:

I strongly endorse the Nov. 29 letter in the DAILY EGYPTIAN asserting that coal research is a positive community contribution. Surely, no one would deny the benefits of research on coal for energy, especially electricity, and as raw material for countless products. And reclamation research at SIUC has shown mined lands to be uniquely valuable for offsetting today's losses of biological and water resources, especially forests.

Coal beds that can be strip-mined in southern Illinois have advantages over underground mines, including lower costs, greater safety and environmental revitalization. In digging down to reach the coal, many other mineral resources for plant growth and animal nourishment such as phosphorus, potassium and iron can economically be made available post-mining by blending them with depleted surface soils. Loosening the rooting medium increases soil aeration and water availability to promote plant growth. Southern Illinois has varied areas that were mined pre-regu-

lation that demonstrate these benefits.

Unfortunately, in areas of southern Illinois with worn out, eroded soils, we fail to gain many potential benefits from mined lands today. Cosmetic government regulations require intricate replacement of soil types mapped in early soil manuals, a burden of massive reclamation costs hidden in our electricity bills. Each graded and compacted soil layer replaced limits root growth and promotes runoff. Multipurpose mined lands with loosened, blended soils and sustainable social, economic and environmental benefits are sacrificed and needed.

After 33 years, both federal and Illinois strip mine regulations and practices on which future generations are dependent should now be reviewed and amended. Many first-generation regulators will soon retire. Coal research can equip new reclamation specialists to implement needed changes.

Clark Ashby
professor emeritus plant biology

Marijuana column well-founded

DEAR EDITOR:

In response to the guest column by James Anderson Dec. 1, "Marijuana criminalization irrational, inhumane," I would like to express a few syllables.

America has long held the distinction of being No. 1 in housing "offenders" behind bars. There is no doubt that those accused of nonviolent, nonaggressive "crimes" should not be caged in a land reputedly known for freedom.

I just wonder if the report by the Drug Policy Alliance was misinterpreted or just unscientific. I can easily believe that blacks and Latinos in California's largest cities were disproportionately charged with offenses (marijuana use only), but how can use of the herb be gauged per capita among or between the races? I also question the onus of criminalization being responsible for any attendant violence. The violence, it seems to

me, stems more from turf wars and machismo-related aggression that can't be solved with marijuana.

I agree that the "draconian drug laws ... exacerbate a host of societal problems." America is slow on the uptake to follow examples set in other countries where violent crimes are minimal and marijuana (sometimes hard drugs) is decriminalized, if not outright legal. Hey, maybe there is a link between marijuana criminalization and violence.

As far as the approval of Proposition 203, the medical marijuana initiative illustrates the human spirit and democratic inclinations of people who want a truly free and open society. More importantly, the passage of the act speaks to the medicinal value inherent in marijuana use, especially for glaucoma, AIDS and cancer sufferers. Folks who take the time to imagine "a world beyond the dominant para-

digm" and greet with prejudicial or empty jabber, but do "little to encourage positive social transformation" may do well to remember that one man's positive is another man's negative. There's no good revolution — just power changing hands ... Or as Pete Townsend of The Who wrote, "Meet the new boss/Same as the old boss."

The bit about the "interpenetration of the global capitalist system ... and consumption of highly processed commodities" calls to mind the movie "Food, Inc.," whereby it is postulated that four conglomerates produce and control virtually everything available at grocery suppliers and fast food establishments.

One more thing: Don't worry about Willie Nelson, he will survive. He's got strength in numbers in more ways than one.

Jim Brooks
Carbondale resident

Submissions

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author's contact information, preferably via e-mail. Phone numbers are required to verify authorship, but will not be published. Letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. Others include hometown. Submissions should be sent to voices@dailyegyptian.com.

Notice

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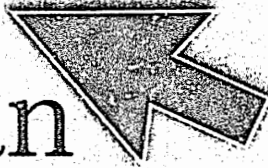
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Ill. governor to sign civil unions bill next year

“The passage this week of the civil unions legislation was historic. It’s a landmark law, it’s headed my way and I think it will be the law of the land of Lincoln in the coming year.”

— Pat Quinn
Governor

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Gay couples anxious for Gov. Pat Quinn to sign into a law measure giving them many of the same legal rights as heterosexual married couples will have to wait a little while longer.

Quinn, who has promised to sign the civil unions legislation, said Friday he expects to hold a bill-signing ceremony early in the new year. After he signs it, the law will go into effect in June.

Lawmakers passed the legislation earlier this week during the fall veto session at the Capitol. The law would grant official recognition to gay couples and give them rights including inheriting property when a partner dies, the authority to make medical decisions for one another and to live together in a nursing home.

“The passage this week of the civil unions legislation was historic. It’s a landmark law, it’s headed my way and I think it will be the law of the land of Lincoln

in the coming year,” Quinn said at an unrelated news conference where he helped break ground on a new parking garage.

Five other states already allow civil unions or something equivalent to it. Gay marriage is legal in five states and Washington, D.C.

Opponents of the legislation have criticized it as a move toward same-sex marriage. But Illinois law will continue to refer only to unions between men and women as “marriage” and federal law won’t recognize civil unions between gay couples.

Quinn has repeatedly said the new law will help the Illinois economy and make businesses and other large gatherings like conventions want to bring their dollars to the state.

“When they’re picking a convention for their particular organization, I think they look for a state that is a welcoming, accepting, hospitable place and that’s what we are in Illinois. We have everybody in and nobody left out,” he said.

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Students, charities unite for children

“Although we’re in school and working our butts off, it’s nice to know we still have time to do something like this.”

— Abby Albers
sophomore architecture student

LAUREN LEONE
Daily Egyptian

College students spent their Saturday constructing building blocks that will be donated to the Salvation Army, Carbondale Women’s Center and Toys for Tots.

Ninety students are working on individual, unique building blocks, said Jon Davey, professor of architecture.

“It’s a unique toy; you’re not going to find a copy of this at Walmart,” he said. “It’s university students giving something to children in a rough time.”

The building block project not only gives back to charity, but it is also a learning tool for students in the Architecture History class, he said. Students chose a famous piece or style of architecture and built a smaller version of it out of wood, he said.

“It’s designed so kids can tear it down and build it again, or build it some other way,” Davey said. “(Building blocks) are indestructible.”

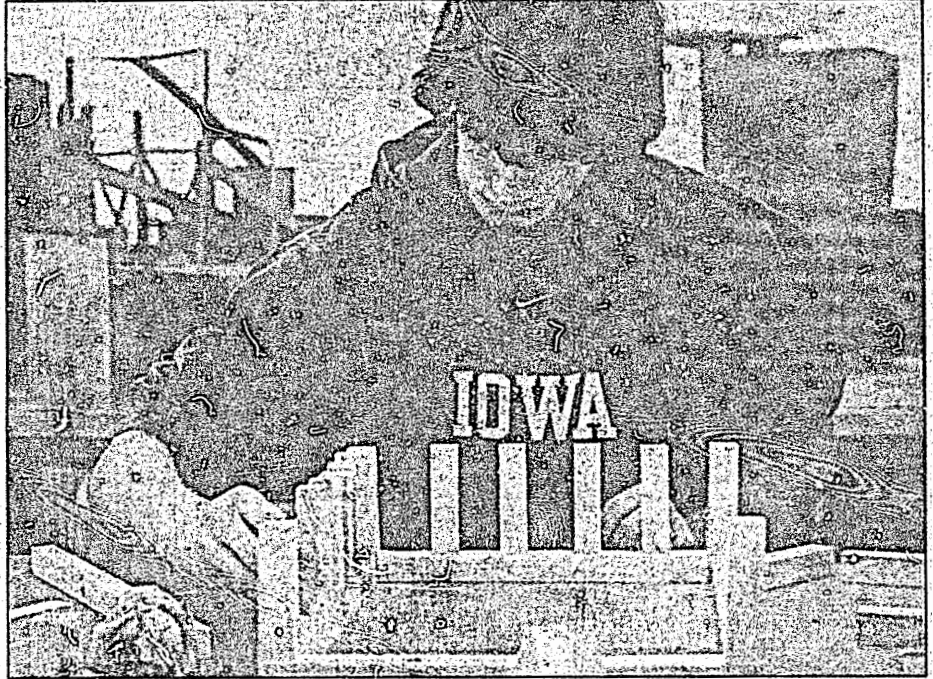
Abby Albers, a sophomore from Danville studying architecture, said she’s excited to give back to the community.

“Although we’re in school and working our butts off, it’s nice to know we still have time to do something like this,” she said.

In the same afternoon, Toys for Tots held a toy drive at True Value in the Murdale Shopping Center, said Mark Cosgrove, co-coordinator for Carbondale Toys for Tots.

Cosgrove said all food and supplies were donated by True Value store owner George Sheffer.

This is the fourth year Toys for Tots has held a toy drive with the help of True Value, although



PAT SUTPHIN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Jeremy Strabala, a sophomore from Streator studying architecture, assembles his project — which will be donated to Toys for Tots — Saturday in the Blue Barracks. Each student had to design and create a building block structure based

off a preexisting famous piece or style of architecture of their choice to donate to the Toys for Tots drive put on by the Marine Corps League. Strabala said his structure is based off a traditional Greek temple.

the relationship has been established for many years, Sheffer said. Those who donated an unwrapped toy received a free lunch cooked by True Value volunteers, and people also had the option to buy a meal from True Value volunteers, with all proceeds going to Toys for Tots, he said.

Sheffer said all the toys will be distributed to local families.

“The biggest reason I’m such a big supporter of this is because it remains local,” he said. “It’s the local people giving back to local children.”

Cosgrove said the charity received more than 110 toys and \$473 in donations.

The money goes directly to the purchase of more toys for children.

“Toys are the common denominator at

Christmas,” he said. “It’s very much ingrained in our society that toys are a part of this holiday. We’re really just trying to provide toys for kids that probably wouldn’t get that something otherwise.”

Lauren Leone can be reached at
lleone@dailyegyptian.com
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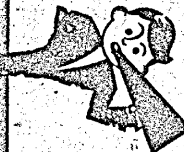
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WIRE REPORTS

CHINA

U.S. cable released by WikiLeaks says China's top ruling body ordered hacking on Google

BEIJING — Contacts told American diplomats that hacking attacks against Google were ordered by China's top ruling body and a senior leader demanded action after finding search results that were critical of him, leaked U.S. government memos show.

One memo sent by the U.S. Embassy in Beijing to Washington said a "well-placed contact" told diplomats the Chinese government coordinated the attacks late last year on Google Inc. under the direction of the Politburo Standing Committee, the apex of Communist Party power.

The details of the memos, known in diplomatic parlance as cables, could not be verified. Chinese government departments either refused to comment or could not be reached. If true, the cables show the political pressures that were facing Google when it decided to close its China-based search engine in March.

The cable about the hacking attacks against Google, which was classified as secret by Deputy Chief of Mission Robert Goldberg, was released by WikiLeaks.

SOUTH KOREA

N. Korea lambasts S. Korea's new defense chief for threatening to launch air strikes against North

SEOUL — North Korea lambasted South Korea's new defense chief Sunday for threatening to launch air strikes against the North and accused the South of causing "uncontrollable, extreme" tension on the peninsula.

The South's Defense Minister Kim Kwan-jin told a confirmation hearing last week that jets would bomb the North if it stages another attack like the shelling on a front-line island that killed four South Koreans. Kim took office Saturday, replacing a predecessor who resigned amid criticism that South Korea's response to the Nov. 23 shelling was too slow and weak.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency issued a statement Sunday accusing the South of staging a series of "frantic provocations" including the defense minister's remarks.

The frantic provocations are rapidly driving the situation on the Korean peninsula to an uncontrollable extreme phase, the official Korean Central News Agency said in a dispatch from Pyongyang.

IRAN

Claiming mastery of entire nuclear fuel cycle, Iran says it will process own raw uranium

TEHRAN — Iran announced Sunday that it has delivered its first domestically mined raw uranium to a processing facility, claiming it is now self-sufficient over the entire nuclear fuel cycle.

The step displays Iran's determination to master nuclear technology without outside help, including by enriching its own uranium, just a day before world powers meet Iranian officials in Geneva in another attempt to persuade them to freeze that work.

Nuclear chief Ali Akbar Salehi said the uranium ore concentrate, known as yellowcake, was produced at the Gachsaran mine in southern Iran and delivered to the uranium conversion facility in the central city of Isfahan for reprocessing.

Salehi, head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, said the delivery was evidence that last week's assassination of a top Iranian nuclear scientist and the wounding of another in mysterious bombings will not hamper Iran's nuclear progress.

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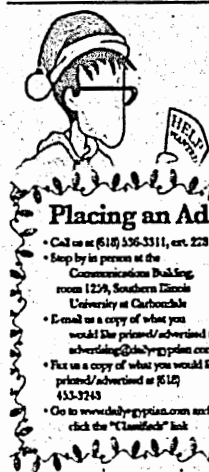
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D.E. Daily Bark

After starting the season 9-3, the St. Louis Blues have lost seven of their last 10 games and found themselves last in the NHL Central. Were Blues fans overzealous about the team's strong start, or can Blues build momentum to finish the first half of the season and catch up to division leading Detroit Red Wings?



I don't think they'll be able to catch the Blackhawks, let alone the Red Wings. If they get back to playing defense, they might get a win or two against top teams like Philadelphia or Boston, but they have to stop losing to crap teams like Nashville and Phoenix.

BRANDON COLEMAN
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I don't know anything about hockey.

NICK JOHNSON
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Agreement is with Johnson. Who are the Blues?

BRANDON LACHANCE
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TRACK & FIELD

SIU gets off to fast start in season opener

BRANDON COLEMAN
Daily Egyptian

Although she finished third in both the 60-meter hurdles and the pole vault in the track and field team's Saluki Fast Start meet, junior Miracle Thompson says room for improvement exists.

"You can always be more aggressive over the hurdles, always use a bigger trail leg in the pole vault. It's just technique," she said.

The Salukis finished with 36 top-five finishes Friday in the first meet of the indoor season at the Recreation Center.

Thompson said her time of 9.03 seconds in the 60-meter hurdle was not the time she wanted, but it was a good indication of what she needs to improve on, which is coming out of the blocks with more power.

Among the top finishers were senior thrower Jeneva McCall, who qualified for the NCAA nationals with a 21.97-meter throw and finished second behind two-time defending champion D'Ana McCarty from Louisville in the weight throw; senior sprinter Kandice Thompson, who won the women's 400-meter dash with a time of 56.57 seconds; and senior hurdler Meredith Hayes, who won the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.70 seconds.

Freshman Matt Benes made a strong debut in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.24 seconds, while junior All-American J.C. Lambert won the men's weight throw with a distance of 20.16 meters.

Junior sprinter Brandon Deloney, who placed seventh in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.96 and second in the 200-meter dash with a 22.03, said the meet could have gone better for him, but he is glad to have finished strong.

"I'm definitely not extremely disappointed in myself; there's definitely potential," he said. Deloney said he's been inconsistent in the



DAN DWYER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Senior Olga Ciura competes in the weight throw Saturday. Salukis placed in the top seven for the women's weight throw during Saluki Fast Start at the Recreational Center. Five.

60-meter dash, which is why he didn't place as high as he would have liked.

Junior jumper Malaikah Love, who finished fourth in the triple jump and third in the long jump with 12.25-meter and 5.94-meter jumps, said the Salukis need to grow accustomed to competitions again as they progress through the season.

"You can't be disappointed. (We're) kind of grateful things went as well as they did," she said.

Although the Salukis' next meet is more than month away, the break could be the best news for them, she said.

"You can take what you've learned from the meet today, perfect it over that time and be

able to produce and improve," she said.

The Salukis' next indoor meet will be the Saluki Open on Jan. 14 and 15 in the Recreation Center.

Brandon Coleman can be reached at bcoleman@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 269.

66 We can be really efficient with (Carlton) Fay, Seck and (Gene) Teague in there at the same time. That's a tough matchup for people.

— Chris Lowery, coach

BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 12

The Salukis hope to use the lessons learned from games against Illinois, Purdue and Chicago State to help them finish better than the Missouri Valley Conference coaches' preseason prediction of ninth, Lowery said. The Salukis have three non-conference games remaining on their

schedule until they begin conference play Dec. 29 at Drake.

SIU's next opportunity to establish a winning record will be against Southeast Missouri State at 7:05 p.m. Wednesday in the SIU Arena.

Brandon LaChance can be reached at blachance@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 282.

BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM 12

"As a pitcher, there's a saying that you can never figure it out, you always have something to get better at," Weld said.

Henderson said the players' work ethic during winter break will be crucial, as not much time will be left after that to prepare for the season opener.

"We send our kids home with a very detailed plan of what we hope and expect them to do over the holidays," he said. "That's crucial, especially with our pitchers, because if they don't throw and get their arms in shape by the time they come back,

then we're going to be way behind."

Serritella and Weld said mourning Coach Cal has improved the entire team's chemistry and attitude.

"There's a renewed sense of purpose in the team," Weld said.

"Even some of the players who didn't know Cal, we all came together. The last couple weeks have actually been really special for us. His life speech was 'put it in the big picture,' (and) this is something to play for," he said.

Nick Johnson can be reached at njohnson@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 256.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Seck key to victory in first start



GERNA ORD | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Junior forward Mamadou Seck attempts to block a shot Dec. 1 during the 74-59 loss to New Mexico. The Salukis defeated Chicago State 75-61 Saturday.

BRANDON LACHANCE
Daily Egyptian

Junior forward Mamadou Seck became the Salukis' go-to guy as he recorded two career-highs in his first start of the season.

"We can be really efficient with (Carlton) Fay, Seck and (Gene) Teague in there at the same time," coach Chris Lowery said. "That's a tough matchup for people."

Seck secured his starting role for Wednesday's game against Southeast Missouri State by scoring 17 points and grabbing 14 rebounds to help SIU (4-4) in its 75-61 victory over Chicago State University on Saturday. Although SIU won the game by 14, it was a close contest until the Salukis went on an 11-2 run in the closing minutes.

Lowery said the win was a lesson for his team and will be beneficial for the duration of the season.

"It was good to see us battle some adversity and not pout, and then come back and play hard," he said. "I think our toughness showed at the end."

Please see BASKETBALL | 11

BASEBALL

Salukis prepare for season without Coach Cal

NICK JOHNSON
Daily Egyptian

It's been a rough fall for everyone involved in the Saluki baseball program, but coach Ken Henderson said a team as tight-knit as SIU will push through together.

The team was in the midst of preparing for its season opener Feb. 18 when it lost its beloved head coach Dan Callahan, who died Nov. 13 after a battle with cancer, and Henderson said Coach Cal, as he was affectionately known, would still want them to carry on with their preparations.

"If you know Cal at all, he's a guy that would say 'Let's keep moving forward; let's get on with it,' so that's what we're trying to do," Henderson said.

Henderson, who has since taken over as the program's head coach, said the team has five weeks of full team practice in September and October, but is now in the midst of what the NCAA would consider individual skill work. Players are hitting, fielding ground balls and throwing three to four times a week, but there won't be an organized team practice until January, Henderson said.

"Last year, because of the weather, we did not get on the field before our first game, so we have to make sure we get everything in place. (It) is a very important time for us, and that's the way we look at it, that it's our spring training," he said.

The Salukis are coming off a disappointing 2010 campaign in which they went 28-29

"If you know Cal at all, he's a guy that would say 'Let's keep moving forward; let's get on with it,' so that's what we're trying to do."

— Ken Henderson
coach

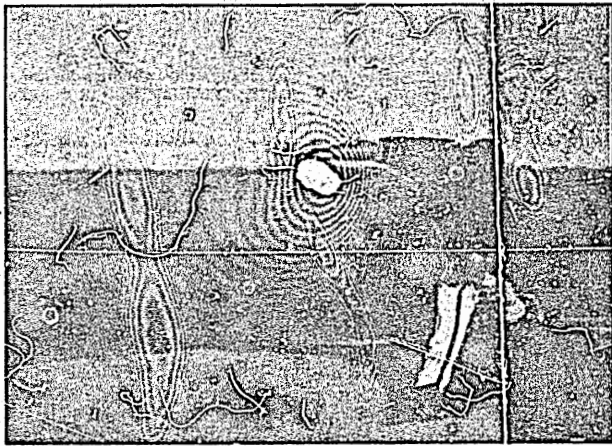
overall and 10-10 in Missouri Valley Conference play, but expect to be champions in 2011, said sophomore pitcher Lee Weld.

Weld, who Henderson named as one of his most promising players for this season, had a 5.68 ERA and a 5-4 win/loss record in 29 appearances last season. From what he's seen during the five weeks of practice in the fall, Weld said the Salukis have a talented mix of new and veteran players that should translate into more success.

"I thought it was really exciting, seeing all the new kids come in. I had never experienced that," Weld said. "Everybody; you can tell, had gotten better."

Senior first baseman Chris Serritella led the Salukis with a .371 batting average last season, and said there's a significant amount of talent on this year's team but expectations need to be kept in perspective.

"Last year, we had a lot of guys coming back, so we thought we were going to be a force in the conference," he said. "This year, we have



DAN DWYER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sophomore pitcher Aaron Snyder delivers a pitch March 30 during a 15-3 victory against the University of Tennessee-Martin at Abe Martin Field.

a lot of new guys and a lot of guys with a lot of talent. We definitely have a chance to get back in the NCAA (tournament), and hopefully the MVC Tournament."

Serritella, Weld and the rest of the Salukis are focusing on the small things in order to

The Salukis finished the 2010 season in a tie for third in the Missouri Valley Conference and will return 14 letter winners.

prepare, they said. Weld said he's added a new pitch, a slider, to his game and Serritella said he's working on his swing every day.

Please see BASEBALL | 11