Spliced conductor kills power

Evergreen Terrace residents left without electricity

Barton Lorimor

An aged, underground cable between five university apartment buildings in Evergreen Terrace failed, causing power to go out and off throughout the day Wednesday.

Brad Dillard, associate director of facilities for SIUC, said tenants of buildings 183, 183, 185, 187 and 189 reported power failure to the University Housing office around midnight. A crew from Egyptian Electric and the SIU Physical Plant used heavy digging equipment to dig up a conductor in the middle of a grassy field among the powerless buildings that had been split.

The conductor was a part of the wiring installed when the buildings were constructed. Dillard said it looked like the faulty conductor had undergone maintenance about 15 years ago.

A worker from the power company said a spliced wire is “very uncommon.”

Syreeta Pondexter, a special education major from Chicago and resident of building 185, said her apartment’s power first went out at 2 a.m. for 10 minutes. Fifty minutes later, her power went out and did not come back until 7:30 p.m., she said.

“I don’t understand why it took so long to get the power back on,” Pondexter said, who found the cold and darkness inconvenient for herself and her four-month-old baby.

Residents were offered shelter with heat and electricity at the Recreation Center until power was restored. Pondexter said: A note on her building’s door told residents the activity room in the area office was open for those affected by the power outage.

Evergreen Terrace is university housing for students with children, spouses or domestic partners. The complex was to receive $3.5 million worth of maintenance from a 2006 Department of Housing and Urban Development grant.

As crews began covering the repaired conductor with dirt, Dillard said he wanted to thank Pondexter for her patience and congratulations on a job well done. But the crew’s response time was not pleasing to all.

“During this time, I lived here,” Pondexter said.

Barton Lorimor can be reached at DILL-111 ext. 214 or barton.lorimor@siue.edu.

Committee begins work on plagiarism procedures

Group to design rules, procedures for SIU system

Joe Crawford

A university group is beginning work this week to establish plagiarism procedures for the SIU system just a month after the university president revised his 1984 dissertation because of adequate plagiarism in the document.

Lain Adkins, chairman of the committee to develop the procedures, said the 18-member group began, discussing the issue on an Internet listserver this week. The group is aiming to submit its recommendations to the president’s office before the end of the semester, Adkins said.

“It’s very much in its beginning stages,” Adkins said of the committee’s progress.

Adkins said the committee was charged by SIU President Glenn Poshard’s office to clarify the Working Guide for Plagiarism Policy, a document the committee composed last year when it had 10 members instead of the current 18.

The group was also assigned to design plagiarism policies and adjudication processes for SIUC, SIUE-Edwardsville and the SIU Board of Trustees, he said.

The committee, which is composed of students and faculty from SIUC and SIUE, will split up by school to write the policies for the two campuses, Adkins said.

Graduate School Director David Wilson said the school received the corrected version of Poshard’s doctoral dissertation last month.

Several faculty members, including English professor and plagiarism expert Gerald Nelms, reviewed the corrected dissertation before it was submitted to University Microfilm International, Wilson said.

Dean of Library Affairs David Carlson said Morris Library received a copy of the dissertation, but it must be bound before it is put back on the shelf.

A seven-member panel of

See PROCEDURE, Page 8

Students encouraged to re-register before primaries

Registration options still available for Super Tuesday

Barton Lorimor

Though recent history doesn’t bode well for college-age voter turnout in Carbondale, an SIU political professor said enrollment trends might indicate an increase in student participation in the upcoming elections.

The turnout of students eligible to vote in Carbondale has been disappointing, in previous elections, said Larry Reinhardt, an election supervisor for Jackson County. The November 2006 gubernatorial election drew fewer than 400 ballots from voting precincts for students in the dining halls and Student Center.

But John Jackson, a visiting political professor from the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, said the 2008 presidential campaigns of Barack Obama, Mike Huckabee and Ron Paul have caused a political involvement surge in young voters, which could be beneficial to those candidates in the primaries.

“Illinois is going to play a large part in the primaries,” said Larry Reinhardt, Jackson County clerk. “We hope students want to become a part of history and pick the next president.”

See ELECTION, Page 9

Ballot counting machines sit in the Jackson County courthouse where early voters can cast their ballots for the Feb. 5 primary election. County officials encourage students to vote.

See PROCEDURE, Page 8

Men, women start final runs for Missouri Valley title defenses.

Column: Larry the Cable Guy should be banned from theaters.

Page 16

Officials increase changes in Student Conduct Code.

Page 8

Students left to fill state’s deferred maintenance void.

Page 10

See ELECTION, Page 9

See PROCEDURE, Page 8

Plate 13

Plate 14

Plate 15
POLICE REPORTS

Food was stolen from the Wham building's coffee shop between Friday, 1:30 p.m. and Monday, 7:30 a.m. There are no suspects at this time.

The remaining dollar was left unattended between Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. and Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. Two men were seen on surveillance video.

Criminal defacement of state property occurred in the upper level of parking lot 112 between 10 a.m. and noon.

The suspect was not located.

Textbooks valued at $300 were stolen from Abbott Hall between Dec. 10 and Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. No forced entry occurred and there are no suspects at this time.

Fire calls 2-year-old at home day care center

CHICAGO (AP) — A fire at a home-based day care center in Chicago killed a 2-year-old boy, but five other children and a woman escaped.

No working smoke detectors were found in the house at the Wednesday morning fire.

Chicago Fire Department spokesman Larry Langford said smoke prevented the day care operator from returning to the child. The fire started in the basement of Porter's Playhouse and spread quickly, he said.

Firefighters found the boy under some clothing in a first-floor closet.

A battalion chief was taken to St. Francis Hospital and Health Center in Blue Island suffering minor smoke inhalation.

Nearby neighbor Georgia Randle said she was driving by and stopped to help a woman she saw hurrying children out of the burning home.

She and the woman tried to find the last child, but the heat and smoke stopped them and she had to pull the other woman out, Randle said.

"It felt like I was trying to get to one of my own children," Randle said.

The Cook County medical examiner's office did not immediately release the name of the child.

The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services cited the home for three licensing violations in November, including a lack of working smoke detectors, said Randall Marlowe, spokesman for agency in Chicago.

But Marlowe said the operator may have corrected that problem.

"The day care home was required to take prompt corrective action on all three violations," he said. "The fisherman's lawyers have added to a fire that already had confirmed that there were working smoke detectors in this home at the time of this tragedy."

House approves amendment to give seniors free rides

CHICAGO (AP) — A key state legislative committee has voted to approve Governor Rod Blagojevich's proposal to offer free rides on mass transit to senior citizens.

The House Mass Transit Committee voted 15-6 Wednesday in favor of the free ride amendment that the governor added to a mass transit funding bill.

Blagojevich has said he wouldn't sign that bill if legislation doesn't approve the free ride initiative.

Seven committee members said they're angry at the governor for his last-minute addition to the bill. But they said they had no choice but to vote for it or risk the so-called "doom and gloom" cuts and fare increases this weekend.

The General Assembly is expected to vote on the amended bill Thursday.

Fate of missing millionaire's estate

pends judge's rule

CHICAGO (AP) — The judge hearing the case of Steve Fossett's wife must take the witness stand before the missing millionaire can be legally presumed dead in this state.

Fossett, 63, renowned for his trans- global balloon flights and other colorful exploits, vanished last September after tak- ing off for a pleasure flight in a light plane from a small airport near Newport, Nev. Judge Jeffrey A. Malak told Peggy Fossett's attorneys, however, that he wants to hear testimony from her as well as some of the people who have searched for her husband before he rules on a request that Steve Fossett be legally presumed dead.

A long search found no trace of Fossett in the rugged Nevada desert. Malak noted the National Transportation Safety Board expects to release a preliminary conclu- sion Fossett was killed in a fatal crash.

"This is the first step in the orderly administraton of the estate," one of Peggy Fossett's attorneys, Michael Lottolo, said after Wednesday's hearing. He described the effort to locate Fossett and his plane as "probably the most comprehensive search that we know of that has ever occurred."

Peggy Fossett wants an order declar- ing her husband is presumed dead so she can transfer his estate, which contains substantial assets, into a trust. Fossett made millions of dollars trading futures and options on Chicago exchanges.

But Malak said issuing the order requires making an exception to state law that someone must be missing for seven years before he can be declared dead. Malak said testimony he has requested might provide him with the substantiation he needs to make such a ruling.

"He called the "fisherman's exception,"" the veteran probate judge said he had made such an exception twice before and was carry out it in one of those cases.

In the first case, he declared a man who set out to row a boat from the East Coast to Europe presumed dead.

In the other case, Malak said, he declared a man presumed dead only to have a sheeplap attorney appear before a few weeks for the hearing.

"He said, 'Judge, we have a problem,'" Malak said. "I said, 'What's the problem?'"

He said, "We found him!"

"Somewhere in the clerk's office there is an order I signed declaring someone legally alive," Malak chortled. He said an attorney had searched for a petition for divorce.

Malak told the attorneys to come back Tuesday at which time a date will be set for Peggy Fossett to testify.

Jan. 17, 2008
Mobile unit here today, new laws here to stay

Phases created for teen drivers have now taken affect

Jajina Hill Daily Egyptian

For students who can’t make it to the Department of Motor Vehicles or who just want to avoid long lines, there may be a solution.

The Illinois Secretary of State’s office created the Mobile Unit about three years ago to bring the convenience of the DMV to college campuses.

From 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., students and university faculty will be able to renew their driver’s license and state identification cards, purchase their annual vehicle license plate sticker, or handle other transactions.

Jen Prince, the spontaneous district field liaison for the Secretary of State, said they hope to help as many people as possible.

Prince said next year they hope to come to the school once a month, but it will take a while to get established.

“The first year is about educating people,” Prince said.

If students cannot catch the mobile unit now, they will be back on campus on March 20 to offer the same services.

This is the second time the mobile unit has come to campus, but the first since the new Graduated Drivers License took effect on Jan. 1.

The new restrictions strengthen Illinois teen driver laws. Many of the existing laws have been revised but there are new additions.

Parents will have to sign driving records is a new feature that allows parents to access their child’s driving records while still maintaining the privacy of the teen.

Hosky Haupt, deputy press secretary for the Office of the Secretary of State, said there are multiple steps for the parent to go through to access their teen’s records.

“Parental involvement is the key component,” Haupt said. “Secretary White wanted to give parents a tool to help ensure their teens are safe drivers.”

The process to obtain a driver’s permit now has three phases. The first includes many of the initial procedures and requirements. Major changes include the time a permit must be held as increased in three to nine months.

Haupt said the three-month requirement could mean the teen only drove in sunny weather conditions.

“Nine months allows the teen to gain critical driving experience through key weather conditions,” Haupt said.

The second phase is the initial licensing phase, during which the driver must maintain a continuous free driving record for six months prior to turning 18 before moving to the full licensing phase. A traffic conviction during the initial licensing phase may extend restrictions beyond age 18.

The third phase is the full licensing phase, during which no age-related restrictions apply.

In the fall, SIUC police opened the Night Safety Transit – a resource to give safe rides to students – to males as well as females.

The program was formerly called Women’s Night Safety Transit.

Sigler said they plan to allow the changes to run for a year before making any permanent decisions.

However, he said he was pleased with the response from male riders.

“I think we’ve got about a 40 percent male rider-ship,” he said.

Sigler said in one four week period during the fall semester, the department saw an average of 35 riders per night. Due to the consolidation of two cars to one van, Sigler said the wait times have sometimes been a little longer than desired, but they still had an average of a 12 minute wait, which Sigler said he was pleased with.

Sigler also said the new lights at the Recreation Center help create a safer environment for students.

“If they feel safe, that’s obviously a good thing,” he said. “You don’t want them to let their guard down though.”
WASHINGTON — A former congressman and delegate to the United Nations was indicted Wednesday on charges of working for an international terrorist fundraising ring that sent more than $30,000 to an al-Qaida supporter who has threated the United States and international troops in Afghanistan.

Mark Del. Stilwell, a Michigan Republican who was in the House, was charged with money laundering, conspiracy and obstructing justice for allegedly lying about being hired to lobby senators on behalf of an Islamic charity that authorities said was secretly sending funds to terrorists.

The 42-count indictment, unsealed in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Mo., accuses the Islamic American Relief Agency of paying Stilwell $50,000 for the lobbying — money that turned out to be stolen from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The charges paint "a troubling picture of an American charity organization that engaged in transactions for the benefit of terrorism and conspired with a former United States congressman to convert sterile federal funds into payments for his advocacy," Assistant Attorney General Kenneth Wainstein said.

Stilwell testified in the House from 1981-1987, was appointed by President Reagan to serve as a U.S. delegate to the United Nations for one year in 1987.

Calls to Stilwell’s business in a Washington suburb went unanswered Wednesday. His attorney in Kansas City, James R. Hobbs, said Stilwell would plead not guilty to the charges against him.

"Mr. Stilwell vehemently denies the allegations in the indictment," Hobbs said in a statement.

The indictment also charges that Stilwell "willfully and knowingly" instructed a supposed support to give documents to Stilwell, who is accused of keeping from authorities she believed he or she killed herself last year in Columbia, South Carolina, and, with the undecideds, "Truly anything can happen," said Bob Katter, president of the AFC.

"It's a whole new game in South Carolina with the undecideds, President Bush.

"It's a whole new game in South Carolina with the undecideds, President Bush.

会造成全球恐怖主义的"，他写道，"的确,美国和伊斯兰世界之间的战争永远不会停止。但经过这次的审判,我认为这是一次胜利。"
Police welcome experienced officer to community

Lydia Bargielski
Daily Egyptian

Christina Stange’s 3-year-old son, Matthew, thinks he might want to follow in his mom’s footsteps—or be a baseball player.

Officer Christina Stange was initiated into the Carbondale Police Department at the City Council meeting Tuesday.

“I grew up always wanting to do some kind of police work,” Stange said. “Whether it be federal, state or community...I always wanted to be in law enforcement.”

Stange was previously stationed in Willcox, Ariz. for nine months working for the Border Patrol after living in Chicago. Being a Border Patrol agent, she said she focused on immigration, naturalization and drug law violations. She said police work is different because it focuses on traffic, ordinance and criminal Illinois state violations.

Stange said she did not know anyone in the police department prior to transferring but since she has started training she has met many friendly coworkers.

Stange was born in Normal but said she moved around a lot when she was younger and many of her family members live in southern Illinois. Jan Cleveland, Stange’s cousin and teacher, said their family is very excited to have her in southern Illinois.

“I think Carbondale is lucky to have her,” Cleveland said. “She’s a great officer and is very diligent and dedicated to her work.”

Cleveland said Stange brings more qualities than just being a good police officer to the force. When Stange went out on patrol with another officer, they picked someone up who only spoke Spanish. Stange is bilingual and was able to assist.

“We are very happy that she is joining us,” said Deputy Police Chief Calvin Stearns, who is sitting in for Police Chief Bob Ledbetter while he is on vacation. “She brings valuable experience from working Border Patrol.”

Lydia Bargielski can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 258 or lydia.bargielski@siu.edu.
TODD A. KULHANEK
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Welcome back, Salukis. I can only hope you had a wonderful holiday with your family and friends, as well as a much deserved break.

I began my column midway through last semester, and in the interest of diving right in I did not properly introduce myself. I also neglected to outline to you what I intended to do within these pages. As it is the New Year, I feel that now is the right time to do both, as they are linked to a better understanding of the path I wish to walk with you.

To know where we are headed I think it is helpful to know where I intend to go. This is a column in regard to American financial mismanagement has brought us to a more fundamental notion of freedom, of truth, of one’s duty to nation and fellow citizens.

The path can lead to a more fundamental notion of freedom, of truth, of one’s duty to nation and fellow citizens.

I firmly believe that to align oneself with a particular party and to vote with blindness on issues simply because that person represents your party is to compromise, to trade off and to abandon those principles that were instrumental in America into its current position on the world stage. (I have already addressed the wisdom of that position in a previous article that can be found on the Daily Egyptian Web site, www.siuDE.com).

That said, as the semester begins and we embark on this next round of learning and understanding, I hope you will allow me to take you along a path rarely traveled in this modern, politically correct era — the path of openness and honesty. The path can lead to a more fundamental notion of freedom, of truth, of one’s duty to nation and fellow citizens.

Let’s see if we can gain a better understanding of the issues of equality and fairness between the genders, and among the races and cultures. It is likely some frank discussion of certain topics will stir some toes along our path, but don’t worry. It will be OK.

In our society we’re not used to walking the rugged trail. We would rather take the sidewalk. Together we will cover some rough ground, but please keep in mind that for us to see more clearly for us to grow during our travels, this cannot be a one-way discussion. Your opinion is important to me and everyone else who decides to walk with us. The debate, the discourse, is essential to the journey. You owe it to your fellow travelers to make your opinion known, whether you agree or disagree. We want to hear from you.

We need to hear from you so that we have a chance to end our journey with a better understanding of issues that impact us all, and not to end up right back at the beginning of the trail.

Kulhanek is a senior studying paralegal studies and administrative justice.

THEIR WORD

Obama and Clinton spar

McClatchy-Tribune

How can we not talk about race and gender? Barack Obama is trying to become the nation’s first black president. Hillary Clinton wants to be the first woman to win the job. Race and gender shouldn’t dominate voters’ assessments of the two front-running candidates for the Democratic nomination. But it would be silly to pretend that those factors will not play a role in this historic campaign.

They will, and that means that tender sensibilities will sometimes be offended. Rack it up to growing pains, as the pool for potential president is expanded. White men have long had a lock on the job. Moving beyond that exclusionary past is a sign of social and political maturity. But such momentous change doesn’t come without controversy.

One flap arose recently when Clinton said that the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.’s dream only began to be realized when President Lyndon Johnson passed the Civil Rights Act. It was, no doubt, a comment on the value of presidential leadership, as the Clinton camp said. It’s a good bet she didn’t intend to alienate blacks, a key Democratic voting block. That would be political suicide, and Clinton is not given to self-immolation. As for Obama, he will no doubt lose some white supporters if he sheds his race on his race, or on issues closely identified with blacks. But he’ll lose black supporters if he plays down race too much and sidesteps those issues.

These minefields aside, it’s encouraging that a lot of men and women of all races appear to have moved beyond identity politics and are simply trying to decide who would make the best president.

TODD A. KULHANEK
todd618@aol.com

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Kulhanek is a senior studying paralegal studies and administrative justice.
**GUEST COLUMN**

Sobs, gulps and a few long sighs: Democrats articulate their views

Dick Polman

McClatchy Tribune

From the next Democratic debate in Las Vegas, “It truly wonderful to be back in this beautiful state,” said Hillary Clinton, “as I think about the natural splendor of Sunrise Mountain, just to the east of this marvelous city, about all of you out there, a better life (long sigh), but this debate in with a hankie, who traveled across this valley more than a century ago were (choke) always of America, want you to know how much ah (head bowed) my mother and Kenyan father (intake time here?).”

I’ll reconcile my wracking sob for the closing statement. “I’ll check my wracking sob for the closing statement.”

Tell ya what, John,” said Obama, turning to Edwards, “I’ll lend you my hankie if you lend me your eyelids.”

“Done.”

Polman is a columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Gus Bode says: It’s time to send the DE a letter. Don’t like what your student columnists and editorial board have to say? Want to make your opinion heard on some other university website? Do something about it.

Send letters to the editor and guest columnist submissions to voices@dailyegyptian.com, and don’t forget to include your name, year in school, major, hometown and a phone number for verification.

**STUDENT COLUMN**

The treaty to end all peace

Colleen Lindsay
celen7@siu.edu

So, you want to get into the angry heartache, alone, smeared, with your hands tied behind your back? Really? You want to take the gun away from the commander of the firing squad and place the weapon into your own hands, so that you can feed the smooth metal of the pistol before you pull the trigger and shoot yourself? You want to charge the armed tank with your steady water pistol at your side.

Well, I think it’s stupid. But I guess I don’t know much about politics.

I got just in time to catch the last few sentences of the Republican debate in New Hampshire and was lucky enough to have a full nosh of the Democratic debate. It provided more than a laugh, and a chance to pick apart an argument.

One question that ABC News mediator Charlie Gibson asked regarded a possible nuclear attack by another country. This concerns me, so I was interested in hearing the Democratic response. Obama was first to answer. His answer struck me as the most interesting, especially regarding how he would react to other nations with firing threats. He stated that given his experience in the Senate, he would recommend reviving the “nuclear proliferation strategy.”

That’s a big, fancy term, for destroying our nuclear weapons for the so-called good of society. The thought process seems to be that if one country begins to destroy its nuclear weapons, then the world will magically follow suit. It is like follow-the-big-brother syndrome.

Unfortunately, the strategy does not plan on making sure that the leaders, and continue to hold on to these weapons. This would make the few who hold on to their weapons very powerful, so that they may be able to hold sway over the larger countries such as the United States, which made a stand for “Change.” It reminds me of a similar claim by anti-gun advocates who insist that more gun regulations equal fewer guns for the bad guys. What they don’t learn from history is that when you take away weapons from the good guys, the bad guys always find a way to keep theirs — and even make progress advancing their stockpile.

Obama did not just pull this strategy out of thin air. To give you a bit of history, let’s go back to 1968. That was when Washington, London and Moscow signed the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The treaty was ratified by the U.S. Senate in 1969, and entered into force in 1970. The treaty called for countries with nuclear knowledge to share this knowledge with the rest of the world for peaceful purposes only. It also called on these now-armed countries to gradually destroy their supply of nuclear weaponry.

This treaty has been the basis for all dealings with nuclear weapons as far as the United States is concerned. So, if this treaty is close to its 40th birthday, why haven’t we heard more about it? I always assumed such hulking bass and treaties got stuffed into congressional closets along with skeletons. However, time has proven that given the right situation and people, anything can come to light.

I am not saying that Obama believes in total disarmament. I should hope no one would believe that, given the world that we live in. He just has the idealistic notion that destroying some of our nuclear weapons will benefit us in the long run.

Back to the debate. The question asked how to protect the United States from nuclear attacks. In response, Obama made it clear that, while he elected, there would be fewer means of defense. He would evolve the 40-year-old treaty and begin destroying our only true method of self-defense.

Sure, our military might still have their rifles and maybe even those machine guns, if we’re lucky, but no any weapon that would make our ene my think twice about attacking us. There goes the United States, struggling to hold on to something, anything, while a little country with some nukes pushes it around.

Lindsay is a senior studying journalism.
Committee turns over code review

After almost a year, the review of the university’s Student Conduct Code is finally near completion. The nine-person committee in

Committee turns over code review:
October 2006: Seven SIUC students accused of beating a fellow student were granted a new trial by a judge who reviewed the Student Conduct Code.
March 2007: Student Conduct Code committee appointed to review and revise code.
August 2007: Meetings and focus groups held with students, faculty and staff.
November 2007: Committee begins drafting proposed changes to student conduct code.
December 2007: Committee turns in draft of conduct code to Chancellor Treadwell.

Student Conduct Code revisions enter final steps

Madeleine Leroux
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Fed up with (expletives) bail terms in a robbery case, O.J. Simpson said, according to a transcript, he had decided to double his bail to $250,000 — or both — or maybe that’s "inadvertent plagiarism" and should correct his mistakes.

"It was important that he take the time and do it right," Gross said.

After the review committee recommended he make the corrections in October, Poshard, who will then pass the proposal to an executive committee before it goes to the office of SIU President Glenn Poshard. Each will give their feedback on the proposed changes and return the proposal to the original committee.

Terry Huffman, director of Student Judicial Affairs, said some changes in the conduct code were made to incorporate institutional values, and cited the inclusion of the Saluki Creed to the conduct code.

"We went to a value-based code," Huffman said.

The Saluki Creed, available at the Student Affairs Web site, pledged Salukis to uphold the ideals of SIUC.

Huffman said other changes to the code include moving sections around and breaking them down to make them easier to read and understand.

There were changes that ranged from general procedures and proceedings to the general wording of the code," Sarvela said.

But Carbondale attorney Richard Fedder said he knew the code better than most and Student Judicial Affairs takes too many liberties in following it.

"The Student Conduct code uses clever words to pretend that it’s protecting students’ rights and it doesn’t," Fedder said. "It’s highly unfair on many points."

Fedder said students cannot trust the university to give them full protection when Student Judicial Affairs allows rules to be reinterpreted to their own liking.

"The question is this: Do you think it’s okay for the university to arbitrarily throw you out of school if they feel like it? I hope every student says no," Fedder said.

According to Huffman this was the first time Student Judicial Affairs asked for student input on the code revisions and there should be no surprises when it comes to the final changes.

Sarvela and Huffman said, though it is not possible to please every student with the code revisions, all viewpoints were included to improve the code.

"It will not be the perfect code and not everyone will be happy," Sarvela said. "I think, in the end, we will have a better code."

Allison Patty contributed to this report.

Madeleine Leroux can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 270 or mleroux@siue.edu.

Simpson’s bail doubled for breaking terms

Linda Deutsch
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAS VEGAS — Hands cuffed at his waist and a defiant expression on his face, O.J. Simpson listened to a judge bluster him Wednesday for an arrest last week on charges of assault, on or about August 13, for allegedly attempting to break into his former house. The judge doubled his bail, from $50,000 to $100,000.

Simpson’s attorney, Yale Galanter, told The Associated Press in an e-mail late Wednesday that bond had been posted and that Simpson was expected to be released from jail within hours.

Galanter had earlier said Simpson would post the deed to his home.

The former NFL star had been ordered to have no contact with co-defendants or witnesses after he was fined on bail in September on charges of orchestrating the armed robbery of two sports memorabilia dealers at a hotel room.

Wednesday’s brief custody hearing was called because Simpson mentioned co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart while leaving a spurring, foul-mouthed phone message two months ago for his bail bondsman, Miguel Pereira of You Ring We Spring.

"I just want, C.J. to know that ... I’m tired of this (expletive)," Simpson said, according to a transcript. "Fed up with (expletives) changing what they told me. All right!"

Though there was no indication Stewart received the message, prosecutor Chris Owings suggested it was threatening. The judge merely said she didn’t like the tone.

"I don’t know if it’s just arrogance, I don’t know if it’s arrogance, I don’t know if it’s ignorance," she said. "But you’ve been locked up at the Clark County Detention Center since Friday because of arrogance or ignorance — or both."

Simpson, wearing a dark jail shirt and pants with orange slippers, grimaced as Glass announced she was doubling his bail. He spoke only when asked if he understood the terms.

"Yes, your honor," the graying football star said evenly.

Plagiarism at SIUC:

September 4th — Former Chancellor Victor Croce released a list of plagiarizing parts of Southern at SIU.

October 26th — SIU President Glenn Poshard called for a committee to review SIU’s academic dishonesty policies.

Aug. 8th — The Daily Egyptian reports an investigation of plagiarism in textbooks.

Sept. 19th — Plagiarism committee releases working definition of plagiarizers.


This week — Committee begins work on system-wide plagiarism procedures.

Procedures:

CONTINUDED FROM PAGE 1

SIUC faculty leaders reviewed Poshard’s dissertation and its source material following anonymous claims in August that Poshard plagiarized portions of the document. In October the panel released a report that stated Poshard committed “inadvertent plagiarism” and should correct his mistakes.

Poshard did not return two messages for comment on the issue, but SIU spokesman Dave Gross said the president spent a considerable amount of time fixing the paper.

“It was important that he take the time and do it right," Gross said.

After the review committee recommended he make the corrections in October, Poshard said in an interview with the Southern Illinoisan he expected the corrections would take an hour to complete.

for Classifieds can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 254 or jsimpson@siuidaho.com.
University accused of discrimination, unfair discipline

Allison Petty

Richard Fedder is still fighting. Fedder is the attorney representing three former students who filed an appeal after their lawsuit against the university was dismissed in August 2007. Nakia Collins, Monet Williams and Trepidah Johnson, all former members of the traditionally black Zeta Phi Beta sorority, filed a lawsuit in summer 2005 alleging the university discriminated against them and denied their rights during Student Judicial Affairs disciplinary hearings.

Collins, Williams and Johnson were accused of breaking and found guilty by Student Judicial Affairs. Each was suspended for three years, with their transcripts frozen during that time. Williams' suspension was later reduced to two years.

"I feel very strongly that my clients were victims of an unfair procedure. They never did this hazing. It's completely bull," Fedder said. "I believe someone at the university actually thinks they did, but ... the more you investigate this, the more clear it is that nothing happened."

The plaintiffs claim the university discriminated against them and deprived them of the right to due process during disciplinary hearings, according to court documents. The documents name five individual defendants: Walter Wendler, former university chancellor; Terry Hoffman, director of Student Judicial Affairs; Khnasiis Grace, hearing officer for Student Judicial Affairs; Nancy Hunter, assistant to the vice chancellor for Student Affairs; and Chuck Leonard, university police officer.

Fedder said vague wording and rules for manipulation in the Student Conduct Code were largely responsible for his clients' situation. He added that he believed his clients received different treatment than white fraternities previously disciplined by the university.

Debbie Nelson, associate general counsel for the university, said she would not comment on specifics of the case.

"(The case) is in the process of appeal right now," Nelson said. "We still continue to vigorously defend the university and the defendants for the actions that were taken."

"Fourth years as an attorney, Fedder said he has never represented a case at the appellate level. He said he is unsure about the outcome, but believes his clients' cause should be important to all students who value their rights to fair discipline.

"Do I think we're going to win? Ed says it's less than 50-50," Fedder said. "I think, however, our arguments are right. But being right doesn't always win."

Allison Petty can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 219 or allison.petty@wduke.com.

ELECTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Students like freshman Tara Dreyer, an 18-year-old physiology major from Chicago, are already getting involved. Dreyer is a volunteer at the field office for Republican presidential candidate Ron Paul in Carbondale. The February primary will be the first election she is of age to vote, and she plans to cast an absentee ballot.

A recent bill approved by Illinois legislators moved the state's primary election date to the first Tuesday in February, which is a month earlier than previous years. As a result, potential voters are scrambling to register and make their voices heard on the Feb. 5 election, which will feature primary selections in the race for president.

White said voters still have a chance to cast their votes in the upcoming primary. The first step is to become a registered voter. The deadline for normal registration was Jan. 8, but a grace period is in effect until Jan. 31.

To register in Carbondale, potential voters should visit the clerk's office at the county courthouse in Murphyboro. An applicant needs to have been a Carbondale resident for at least 30 days, a U.S. citizen and age 18 or older. Photo identification and proof of residence must be presented.

White said those living in residence halls are considered residents as well. Voter registration cards will be sent to the applicant in the mail.

Voters who register during the grace period must cast their ballot at the time of their application. If the Illinois State Board of Elections rejects an application, the voter's ballot will not be counted.

If a student is already registered with another voting precinct, but still wishes to vote in the primary, White said she would recommend applying for an absentee ballot, or even switch their existing registration to Jackson County. No voter may be registered in two areas.

Gale Stieg, spokeswoman for the Cook County clerk's office, said she did not know how many absentee ballots had been sent to SIUE students. She said voters from Cook County suburbs can download a mail-in application from http://www.voterinfofet.com. The site also has links to similar Web sites that service the City of Chicago and suburbs in Lake, DuPage and Will counties.

The deadline for absentee ballots to be mailed to voters from Jackson County is Jan. 31, White said. Voters from Jackson County have been taking advantage of early voting, which began on Monday. Reinhardt said Jackson County voters who know they will be away from their voting precinct on Feb. 5 have been taking advantage of the service instead of filing for absentee.

White said early voting will be set up at the Carbondale Civic Center for Jackson County from Jan. 22 to Jan. 24, and again Jan. 29 until Jan. 31. Early voters can also cast their ballots at the county courthouse any day, except for the holidays on Jan. 21.

Charlie Howe, a community activist and candidate for district 115 in the Illinois House of Representatives, said it is important for students to be involved each year — not just during a presidential election.

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Funds to Fix Campus

SIU looks for ways to pay for deferred maintenance

Story by Brandy Oxford • Photos by Ryan Rendleman

T he university may not be able to navigate the next fiscal year due to financial and administrative inadequacies. The SIU Board of Trustees is considering using student tuition to help fund deferred maintenance projects on campus.

The university’s facilities are in dire need of repair, and student tuition is a viable source of funding. However, the university faces a $1.9 million deficit in its 2011 budget, which has led to increased utilities and deferred maintenance projects.

The SIU Board of Trustees is considering a $2 million fee to fund deferred maintenance projects, which would be a major source of funding for the university.

“The university is facing a significant budget deficit, and we need to find a way to address it,” said SIU President Glen Poshard.

The fee would be used to address maintenance issues on campus, including leaky roofs and falling ceilings. The university has a seven-mile-long underground tunnel system that connects buildings around campus.

“The tunnel system is in need of repair, and we need to address this issue,” said Poshard.

The university has already received two capital funding bills, which have been used to address deferred maintenance issues. However, the university still faces a $1.9 million deficit in its 2011 budget.

“SIU is in dire need of funding, and we need to find a way to address it,” said Poshard.

The university is considering using student tuition to fund deferred maintenance projects, which would be a significant source of funding.

“When you don’t have the ability to build new buildings with capital funds and when you don’t have the ability to repair older buildings with capital renewal funds that are adequate, what you’re doing is endangering the teaching and learning environment,” said Poshard.

The university is also considering a $2.5 million capital renewal fund to address deferred maintenance issues on campus.

When you don’t have the ability to build new buildings with capital funds and when you don’t have the ability to repair older buildings with capital renewal funds that are adequate, what you’re doing is endangering the teaching and learning environment.

— Glen Poshard

President
Zaneer Segu, a graduate student from Sri Lanka studying chemistry, removes salts from protein mixtures in Neckers Hall Wednesday morning. Segu will then use a technique called mass spectrometry to gather information about the mixture’s properties.

Copper thieves target scraps, traffic lights for quick score

Pat Barry's more than three decades in law enforcement has taught him that copper thieves often are cagy vultures, raiding construction sites of metal to sell for scrap and a quick score. But the boldness of the rip-offs in his turf lately has Barry agast.

In Illinois' Will County near Chicago, thieves have stripped miles of electrified lines from along railroad tracks, risking life and limb and, in some cases, disrupting traffic along the rails to cash in on soaring copper prices.

"We haven't seen the real aggressiveness like this for some of these thieves' until recently, said Barry, a former law enforcer who's now the spokesman for Will County's sheriff's department. "But what it also tells you is that if they're willing to do that, they're willing to do it anywhere.

There's no shortage of evidence. Around Council Bluffs, Iowa, the theft of copper wire from freeway lights is on the upswing, with roughly 11,000 feet of wire worth more than $11,000 ripped from light poles, state transportation officials say. The thieves routinely have yanked out as much as 300 feet of the wire at a time, in many cases rendering stretches of the highway dark and dangerous.

"I think they're more brazen, even hitting high-visibility, well-traveled stretches, said Dena Gray-Fisher, an Iowa Department of Transportation spokeswoman. "In talking to our colleagues across the country, there's a pattern of thieves trying to do this.

In Hillsborough County, Fla., two men have been accused of stealing a mile and a half of copper wire worth $5,000 that CSX train operators in Jacksonville use to transmit signals.

Thieves are proving just as bold, if not resourceful, overseas.

In England, thieves recently tore out copper natural gas pipes from the sides of homes and other buildings, in some cases forcing the evacuation of two blocks of residences, a football club and a village hall as flammable gas leaked from the severed lines. English thieves have also made off with underground telephone cables to have the copper in them recycled.

In Australia's New South Wales, thieves on Monday stole hundreds of yards of copper wire worth $5,000 from railroad signal poles.

Driving the lawless pursuit of copper is its price, which has tripled in recent years amid intense demand for the metal by rapidly developing countries such as China, India and Malaysia. Copper, 60 cents a pound in 2001, now fetches more than $3 a pound. It's very lucrative," Gray-Fisher said.

Scrap-metal thievery is not a new phenomenon, with robbers for decades stepping up their plundering of copper from vacant houses, businesses, construction sites, churches and even graveyards whenever the price of the metal goes up.

Over the past year or so, anything has been fair game — siding, gutters, spools of electric cable, pipes, even beer kegs. Some of the more brazen thieves have raided salvage yards, then sold the stolen metal back to the businesses.

Many states are trying to crack down with measures that, among other things, would require scrap dealers to keep detailed records on those who sell them metal, creating a paper trail that could lead to arrests.

But Barry, the sheriff's spokesman, expects the choppy U.S. economy and a slowdown in homebuilding, meaning less copper-containing items out in the open, may force desperate copper thieves to look elsewhere for their booty. Two men arrested and charged recently in some of the Will County railroad thefts, for instance, were jobless electricians, Barry said.

Such pillaging from railroads and freeway lighting can carry a human cost.

On freeways, motorists depend on good lighting when snowfall and drifting snow can make driving treacherous, Gray-Fisher said.

Wiring stripped from railroads may expose thieves to electrocution and motorists to malfunctioning crossing gates and signals, though Union Pacific's Mark Davis said many of those systems are backed up by batteries that, if power is cut, would keep the gates down or lights flashing until crews make the fix.

In cases when stolen wiring disables a railroad signal, train crews passing through the area are required to slow and report the problem to a dispatcher who sends out a repair crew.

With some 32,000 miles of rail in the U.S., most of it west of the Mississippi River, Union Pacific doesn't have a shortage of wiring that's alluring to would-be thieves, Davis said. And though much of the wiring increasingly is buried fiber-optic line of no value to pil- lagers, Davis said there's no ques-tion the company's copper line is a hot commodity.

"I would say that normally we get a report of two, maybe three attempted thefts a month; it's now two or three a week," he said.

"Besides being against the law, it's also extremely dangerous. That's our concern more than anything,"
WHAT'S GOING ON

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1/22
Hangar 9 Dollar Night with Punk Soul Brutha

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Gloria Bode says we’re kicking it on page 17, too!
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Weekly Crossword

Across
1. Uni novel, ... (15)
2. Latin-American dance
10. Donkey or King follower
14. Blair dye
16. Toast toppings
17. Cambodian currency
18. Libanes
19. Makes mistakes
20. Start of a quip
24. Church recesses
28. Give silent ascent
29. Part 2 of a quip
32. Staff symbol
35. Kind of moth
36. Glossy
37. Type of tuna
38. Part 3 of a quip
41. Ponder poem
42. Ayen
44. Tiller
45. More miscellaneous
47. Part 4 of a quip
51. Has a little lamb
52. Picker Dave

Down
1. Tudor queen
2. 5,000,000
3. Rank below
6. (Answers tomorrow)
8. (Answers tomorrow)
9. On the waves
10. Patella protectors
11. (Answers tomorrow)
13. Boastful talk
14. Blue dye
16. King or Donkey
17. Jumbles:
19. Makes promises
20. And... (6)
21. Not a... (5)
25. Hair holder
27. More achieveable
28. Vincent van __
30. Water daughter
31. Thole insert
32. Meaning of 43 Across
33. Name suffix
35. gilt
36. Smile
37. Make a penguin
38. No... (5)
39. Eureka
40. Heavenly prefix
41. “Morning” or “venom”
42. Breezy talk
43. "I love you" or "I've lost you"
44. Without ice
45. Vincent van __
46. On the waves
47. Partial letter to form the surprise answer
48. (Answers tomorrow)
49. (Answers tomorrow)
50. (Answers tomorrow)
51. (Answers tomorrow)
52. (Answers tomorrow)

Wednesday’s Puzzle Hints

1. Aggrandize
2. End of quip
3. Arc of river
4. Art
5. Wistness and Fleming
6. Takes advantage of
7. Took the wheel
8. Cheeky piece
9. Make a penguin
10. Patella protectors
11. Thole insert
12. “Morning” or “venom”
13. Breezy talk
14. “I love you” or “I’ve lost you”
15. Without ice
16. Vincent van __
17. On the waves
18. Partial letter to form the surprise answer
19. (Answers tomorrow)
20. (Answers tomorrow)
21. (Answers tomorrow)
22. (Answers tomorrow)
23. (Answers tomorrow)
24. (Answers tomorrow)
25. (Answers tomorrow)
26. (Answers tomorrow)
27. (Answers tomorrow)
28. (Answers tomorrow)
29. (Answers tomorrow)
30. (Answers tomorrow)
31. (Answers tomorrow)
32. (Answers tomorrow)
33. (Answers tomorrow)
34. (Answers tomorrow)
35. (Answers tomorrow)
36. (Answers tomorrow)
37. (Answers tomorrow)
38. (Answers tomorrow)
39. (Answers tomorrow)
40. (Answers tomorrow)
41. (Answers tomorrow)
42. (Answers tomorrow)
43. (Answers tomorrow)
44. (Answers tomorrow)
45. (Answers tomorrow)
46. (Answers tomorrow)
47. (Answers tomorrow)
48. (Answers tomorrow)
49. (Answers tomorrow)
50. (Answers tomorrow)
51. (Answers tomorrow)
52. (Answers tomorrow)

Solution to Wednesday’s puzzle

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

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Dear Hollywood: Stick to stand-up

ALICIA WADE
awade@siude.com

Time to be blunt, Hollywood. Some people just aren’t funny in movies — specifically Larry the Cable Guy. Sure, he has had all kinds of fame as the bumbling, mumbling, flan-nel and ball carrying, redneck comedian often seen wherever Jeff Foxworthy is. And this columnist is more than willing to admit to laugh-ing at his strange one-liners always ending in “Lord, I apologize for ...” when he has said something completely off-color.

And who hasn’t, in a moment of verbal weakness, said “Git-R-Done,” to someone? But his comedy doesn’t translate beyond his stand-up. So please, Hollywood, stop asking him to star in films that probably shouldn’t have been made anyway.

When he stars in films such as “Delta Farce,” “Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector” or his newest film “Weeds Protection,” set to release in February, he only helps to glutify a stereotypical redneck image which is based on cultural ignorance. Instead of having wit and knowledge drive these comedies, it is one dumb moment after another. “Dumb and Dumber” did it already, Hollywood. That was funny.

Larry the Cable Guy’s “Weeds Protection” endeavor looks to be about as bad as a movie could possibly be. The trailer is awful, filled with images of Larry hitting a woman, pelvis thrusting and causing a room of doctors to evacuate while giving him a bodily cavity search.

“Man my hand ain’t been this sore since the first episode of Baywatch,” Larry the Cable Guy bemoans. Is this really the best humor you could come up with, Hollywood? This columnist is trying to be understanding, Hollywood. It’s rough out there for you. Your writers are on strike and your actors are in solidarity with them. But sometimes, Hollywood, you just have to know a losing venture when you see one.

Audiences can only laugh at ignorance for so long. With witty and hilarious comedies such as “Juno” opening, we know you are capable of something better.

So don’t shortchange your faithful audience with terrible movies that rely on ignorance and a redneck stand-up comic for a laugh. Get a better script and funny actors, and let us know when you have a smart comedy worth seeing, Hollywood.

Oh, and keep Larry the Cable Guy off the silver screen. Please.

He is a lot funnier late at night on Comedy Central when only infor-mercials are playing.

Alicia Wade can be reached at 536-3313 ext. 275 or awade@siude.com.
Defensively, the Salukis ranked eighth in the MVC, but senior pitcher Shawn Jay said the defense is underestimated and should play well this season. “The best way I can think of to describe our defense is like playing with everybody because we know we can beat anybody out there, so we’re just ready to go,” Jay said. “This team is mentally tough and physically stronger and an all-around better team this year.”

After the last three seasons ended in 30-plus wins and near NCAA tournament bids, Callahan said this team could be ready to break the glass ceiling.

Callahan said this team is capable of a 40-win season and an MVC championship, which would lead to an NCAA tournament appearance. “There aren’t many NCAA teams that get in (the tournament) with 34 wins,” Callahan said. “We finished tied for fifth last year and our goal this year is to finish at the top of the conference and get to 40 wins and hopefully the postseason stuff will take care of itself.”

Jeff Engerbretson can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 269 or jengel@siu.edu.

### Defense (Continued from Page 20)

There are two major differences between this season and the 2006-07 season.

The non-conference slate has been made more difficult to navigate and unexpected departures have forced the Salukis to rely on freshmen to pick up the slack.

Taking a page from the men’s basketball team, SIU added major opponents both on the road and at home. Also like their counterpart, the Salukis have struggled against tougher foes.

Among the early season losses for the Salukis were Western Kentucky, Green Bay, DePaul, Illinois and Western Kentucky.

All four teams are seeded in the top of the conference and the postsea-son stuff will take care of itself.”

### Battle (Continued from Page 20)

be the consistent threat for the Saluki; but he hasn’t yet provided the offense needed to put them above 500.

With the loss of Jamaal Tatum, who averaged 15.2 points per game, no Saluki has stepped up to pick up the slack for a consistent basis. Falker has seen his slumps, including going score-less for the first time since 2005 in the Saluki loss to Charlotte on Dec. 8.

Falker has been swarmed by double teams all season long — preventing him from getting the ball in the rim. Scoring was the problem when the Salukis lost to Drake for the first time since 1999 on Jan. 2. Only junior guard Wesley Clemmons managed to score in double-digits.

The Saluki backcourt has also failed to make up for the differ-
ence when the Salukis have been stopped on the inside, though junior guard Bryan Mullins has improved his scoring from 6.3 points last year to 10.5 points this season. ESPN personality Stephen Bardo, who announced the Salukis’ pre-season Maroon Madness event, said it has to be up to sophomore Josh Bone and junior guard Wesley Clemmons to step in and knock down important shots when the time comes.

“The young guys, they just have to step in and assume the responsibility,” Bardo said. “They don’t have to carry the load, but Wesley Clemmons has to step in and hit the jumper when it’s available or he has to drive when it’s available. Bone is the same way, he has to step up and knock down a ‘j’ when it’s available.”

“They don’t have to recreate anything — they just have to step up into their roles and trust in their teammates.”

### Defense

One of the most notable sta-tistic changes this season is the number of points the Salukis defense has allowed.

Known for their defense, the Saluki have allowed their oppo-nents to score an average of 61.8 points per game — 5.6 more points than last season, which in many games has been the decid-ing factor.

SIU can’t seem to fill the void in its defense after the gradu-a-tion of Tony Young — who was second in steals for the Saluki last season.

Saint Louis coach Rick Majerus, whose team went on a 13-0 run in the final four minutes of the MVC Tournament bid. This season, the Salukis have finished at the bottom of the conference in scoring defense with 62.9 points per game. SIU has outscored its opponents both on the road and at home.

The Salukis have had one of the most successful seasons in Saluki history last season when they won the MVC regular season cham-pionship and a sixth-consecutive NCAA Tournament bid. This season, the team finished the season with the highest national ranking in school history, which led to a No. 4 tournament seed.

The resulting national expo-sure and respect from MVC coaches and media, who usually picked the team to finish at the bottom, has been a huge focus for nearly everyone on the team.

“We’re SIU. We’re going to have a target on our backs,” Clemmons said in a radio inter-
view after the loss to the Drake.

Sealing the deal

In most of the Saluki losses, everything has come unglued when the clock winds down. In addition to the Saint Louis collapse, SIU lost Indiana State fight its way into double-overtime in the Salukis 64-62 loss Saturday.

The heartbreaker to Butler is often blamed on Graves’ late 3- point, but the Saluki’s 3-for-12 performance at the free-throw line led to the loss of an extra cushion the Salukis needed in the final minutes of the game.

At the mid-point of the season, the Salukis have a number of difficulties to overcome and will face more as they enter the bulk of tournament play. SIU is on a push for their seventh-straight NCAA tournament appearance.

Megan Klopfer can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 256 or mklopfer@siu.edu.
SWIMMING AND DIVING
SIU heads south to prep for season

Luis C. Medina
Daily Egyptian

While most students dealt with freezing temperatures during winter break, members of the SIU swimming and diving team spent time in an outdoor pool.

The Salukis spent a week of their winter break in San Juan, Puerto Rico, training and preparing for their upcoming spring season that begins Saturday at Missouri State.

Coach Rick Walker said the trip was a good experience for the Salukis, who were able to take advantage of the warm weather and work in the Olympic training center as well as an outdoor swimming pool.

“All we could do is eat, sleep and swim,” Walker said. “It brought the team together.”

SIU did not compete in the 2008 Copa Coqui Invitational like originally planned, but continued to train in the world-class facility. Teams in the competition included Syracuse University, Bucknell University and the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez.

For junior back-stroke competitor Dani Quarry, who posted 14 top-5 finishes in the 2006-2007 season, the trip to Puerto Rico was her first time away from the mainland.

Quarry said the trip allowed the team to be more focused. In their time away from the pool, SIU swimmers enjoyed a trip to the beach and shopping while visiting Old San Juan, which hosts most of Puerto Rico’s central government.

“I was pretty tired and the next day we had a hard practice, but we had a lot of fun,” Quarry said.

Sense freestyle and butterfly competitor Stephan Ackermann, who was a member of the South African National Team before coming to SIU, said he enjoyed his experience in Puerto Rico.

“We’ve been to Orlando the previous years and this was the first year for me to go to Puerto Rico,” Ackermann said. “I wish they would do this every year.”

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**Basketball**

**SIU fights to regain control**

Senior forward Randal Falker battles his way out of a double team Tuesday night against Evansville. The Salukis have occasionally struggled to combat and capitalize on teams’ frequent double teams on Falker, who has been pegged as the heart of the Salukis on offense. A lack of aggressiveness from Falker has been named as a reason for SIU’s underachieving season by coach Chris Lowery.

**Early-season struggles carry over for men**

Megan Krramer

After the comparably seamless drives to the postseason of years past, this season has been an uphill battle for the SIU men’s baseball team.

The sub-.500 squad has had its share of problems that have farsighted up Internet chat boards and national media wondering what happened to the team that has made the NCAA tournament the last six seasons.

The members of the team and their opposition have offered several reasons for the slide from the national rankings.

**Non-confference schedule**

To date, SIU has played the fourth-toughest schedule in the nation, according to several RPI ranking Web sites. In the non-confrence schedule, the team dropped key home games against several Top-25 teams, including then-No.15 Indiana and then-No.16 Butler.

SIU did get its only win over a ranked opponent as it upset then-No. 24 St. Mary’s at home, giving the Gaels one of only two losses on the season so far.

Revel coaches have noted SIU’s rigorous schedule so far this season.

“Most teams in the country who play that schedule are going to be .500 or worse,” Butler coach Brad Stevens said after his team beat SIU on a buzzer-beater.

“It’s nice to be recognized on a national scale and we are appreciative,” Callahan said. “I guess you could say it’s a feather in our cap and it really means something to us. I’m glad it worked out that way.”

The focus and work ethic of the Salukis that led to a 34-win season is already showing this year as the pitching staff has braved weather of 30 degrees or less on a daily basis to throw bullpen sessions.

Pitching was a strong point for SIU last year as the staff finished second in the MVC with four complete games and third in the MVC with 17 saves. Preseason Brooks Wallace candidates Brent George and Cody Adams will lead a staff that lost only one pitcher, Jordan Powell, during the offseason.

Senior pitcher Ian Reinhart was one of the Salukis unwilling to settle for last season’s success and continued to work all throughout the summer.

Reinhart had the most appearances for the Salukis last season and gave up only two home runs in 40 innings, but that didn’t stop him from honing his skills during a summer league in Virginia.

Reinhart said he didn’t expect the Salukis to get that immediate attention but expects their ranking to be higher by the end of the year.

“I didn’t think we would be ranked that high in the beginning of the year,” Reinhart said. “I thought we would be that high towards the middle of the year, though, because I knew we would get out there and prove some things.”

A major reason for the Salukis’ preseason accolades is the amount of returning players. SIU lost Powell and outfielder Kevin Kouki, but return the top offensive threats from last season. Junior Mark Kelly and sophomore Aaron Roberts return to the Saluki leaders in hits.

Callahan said while the offense is important, the key to the Salukis’ success this season will depend on strong defense and how well they hold up at the end of the season.

Last season, the Salukis had a streak where they won 19 of 22 games, but a 7-6 streak followed and prevented SIU from building any significant win streak for the rest of the season.

**Critical weekend home games on tap for women**

Matt Hartwig

Players have left the program, the schedule got tougher and it doesn’t get much easier, but the SIU women’s basketball team isn’t ready to lay down in its defense of its 2007 Missouri Valley Conference championship.

The Salukis (6-8, 2-2 MVC) sit two games back in the conference standings with five teams ahead of them with 14 games remaining.

SIU’s record has sagged compared to the 2006-07 season when it was 9-8 overall with a 5-1 mark in the MVC at this point in the season.

**Baseball**

No. 33 Salukis refuse to rest on their laurels

Jeff Engelhardt

The Collegiate Baseball newspaper didn’t tell the Saluki baseball team anything it didn’t already know.

The annual Fabulous-40 Preseason Poll ranked the SIU baseball team at No. 33 after the team’s 34-win season and third-place Missouri Valley Conference finish.

SIU coach Dan Callahan said the national recognition is an honor that has the team excited to start the season.

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**Preseason rankings**

- **2007-2008**
  - Preseason rankings
  - Picked 2nd in MVC
  - Finished 53-25

- **2006-2007**
  - Picked 6th in MVC
  - Finished 34-22

- **2005-2006**
  - Picked 5th in MVC
  - Finished 38-21

- **2008-2009**
  - Picked 3rd in nation
  - Finished 7

**See BASEBALL, Page 18**