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Faculty questions Cheng's budget numbers

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U.S. needs better education to compete in global market

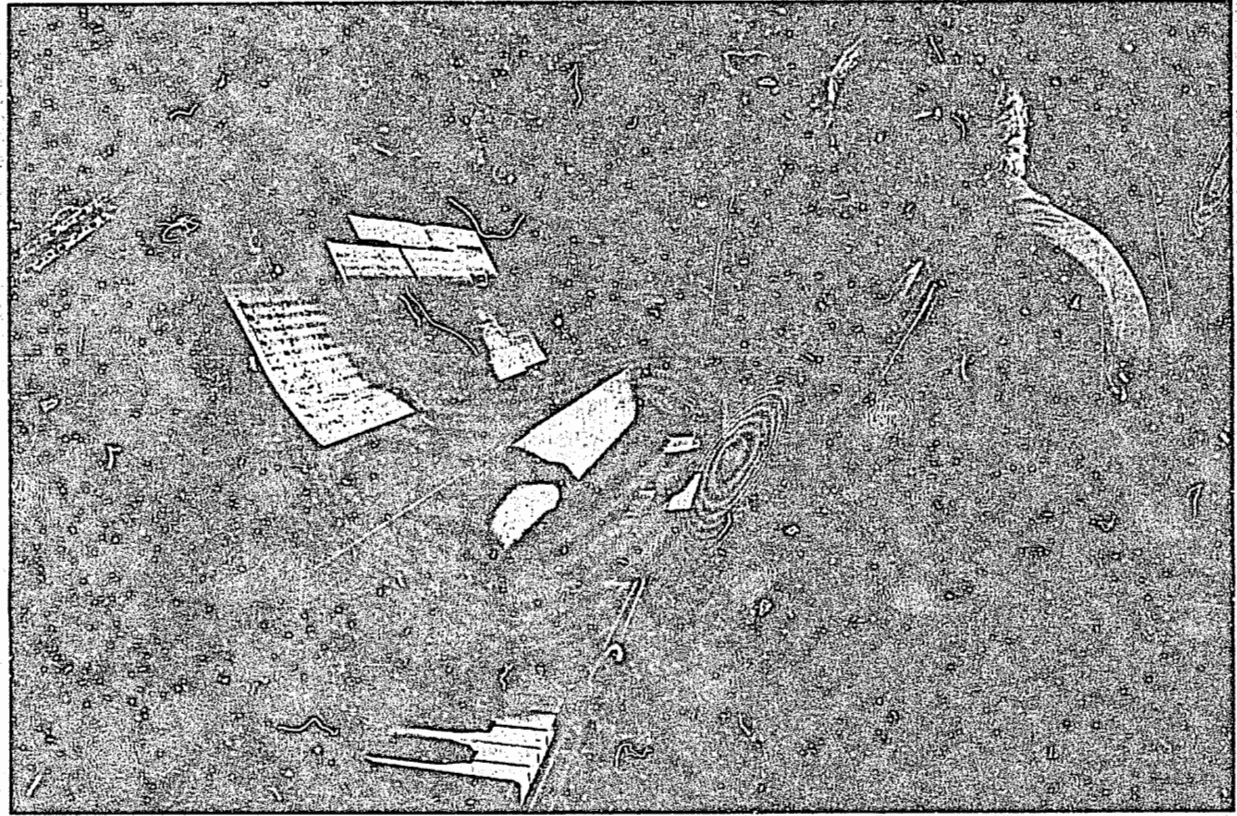
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FAT SUTPHIN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Frank Stemper, a professor in the School of Music, poses for a portrait while Stemper has won the ASCAPLUS Award, which recognizes composers of non-playing his Steinhart baby grand piano Sunday at his home in Carbondale. Stemper has won the ASCAPLUS Award, which recognizes composers of non-mainstream music, 23 times.

Music professor's experiments earn acclaim

RYAN VOYLES
Daily Egyptian

Frank Stemper said even as a kid, he knew there was something wrong with rock 'n' roll. "Even then, I was 13 years old; I was a pretty good (rock 'n' roll jazz) player," Stemper said. "But then I would be playing and I would think, 'This is always the same sort of thing.' I wanted to find something new."

of music, said he realized what was wrong when he went to college and heard Beethoven for the first time. "I heard this Beethoven string quartet, and I thought, 'My God, how different is that?'" he said. "This lasted for over 40 minutes. Not everybody could play that, and you certainly couldn't go about singing that. I would say pop music is just a sound bite, and a Beethoven symphony, or maybe something I would write, would be huge. It would be like

an epic. You're telling the whole story of the universe in 30 to 40 minutes." Stemper's epics have continued to garner international recognition: The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, a musical association that represents more than 400,000 composers, songwriters, lyricists and music publishers, awarded Stemper with the ASCAPLUS Award, a cash award presented to writing members of any musical genre whose work mer-

its prestige but fall into non-mainstream venues, according to the society's website. The award is Stemper's 23rd from the society. Stemper's work has been performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City as well as cities across Asia and Europe. He said he appreciates his work being recognized by his peers. "It's the kind of thing were I have to tell them everything I'm doing,

and they can sort of keep tabs on it, like Shryock (Auditorium), who pays dues to be part of ASCAP," he said. "Then I get the money. It's a nice situation." Jeanine Wagner, director of the School of Music, said having a professor like Stemper win awards showcases the quality of teaching at the university. Please see PROFESSOR | 4

Going undeclared could cost graduate students

BRANDON COLEMAN
Daily Egyptian

Graduate school applicants who don't meet the minimum GPA requirements for the school of their choice have options, but they come at a greater cost, said Patricia McNeil, graduate school assistant dean. McNeil said students who go the

undeclared route are more eager to prove their worth, and more than half of the six to seven undeclared graduate students she works with each year eventually gain admission to the school and department of their choice. But an undeclared graduate applicant doesn't receive the same amount of financial aid and faculty attention as an applicant with a de-

clared major, graduate school supervisor Lu Lyons said. McNeil said she expects to be bombarded by seniors set to graduate in May who want to know how they can get into grad school but have yet to start the applications. Preparation for graduate school should start during an undergraduate's sophomore year, McNeil said.

The graduate school does not have an application deadline, but many departments have varied deadlines. For example, the deadline to apply for graduate study in psychology is Feb. 1 while the deadline to apply for graduate study in mechanical engineering is March 1. The departments, for the most part, their primary concern is to

work with admitted students," McNeil said. "(Undeclared students are) working at a disadvantage because they really don't have a home. There's no faculty around to mentor them because they're not in the track to be mentored." Please see GRAD | 4

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The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 20,000. Fall and spring semester editors run Monday through Friday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intercession editions will run on Wednesdays. Spring break and Thanksgiving editions are distributed on Mondays of the pertaining weeks. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale, Murphysboro and Carterville communities. The DAILY EGYPTIAN online publication can be found at www.dailyegyptian.com.

Mission Statement

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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 Funds raised support the library's history room, large print books and fund special projects for the library such as book cases and computer upgrades.

Correction

In the Jan. 18 edition of the Daily Egyptian, the story "Grant for renovations to Aituchs building to be accepted by City Council" should have said "The celebration of the life and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. will continue today as the Carbondale City Council accepts a \$62,000 grant from the state" and "The money will help the museum pay for external doors, a roof, windows, doors, heating and cooling, and cost overruns." The DAILY EGYPTIAN regrets these errors.

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Council denies group home, approves two-way traffic

KAYLA KEARNS
Daily Egyptian

Twenty-five signatures in a petition were handed to Mayor Brad Cole Tuesday at the city council meeting in protest to NeuroRestorative's request to build another group home in Arrowhead subdivision.

NeuroRestorative had requested a special use permit that would allow a group home in the rural residential district. The Carbondale Revised Code states that an occupancy permit could only be issued when a group home is located more than 800 feet away from any other group home. The special use permit would allow NeuroRestorative to build closer.

Approximately 13 homeowners in the subdivision were present to discuss the issues they had with the building.

"Children who are used to riding their bikes with minimal traffic will be at a safety risk, as well as inconvenienced by the increase of traffic flow that will come from adding a second group home," said Teri Hogan, a homeowner in the Arrowhead subdivision.

Greg Wilkerson, of Carbondale, who did not originally sign the petition, voiced several problems with the proposal, including the impact that business could have on preserving property value for future residents and achieving Carbondale's community goal of raising the city population.

Council member Corene McDaniel urged the community and fellow council members to put themselves in the shoes of the



Mayor Brad Cole addresses community concerns during Tuesday's City Council meeting regarding NeuroRestorative's request to build a group housing unit. The proposed unit would

have gone next to an existing housing unit for NeuroRestorative patients on West Clayton Road and Chippewa Drive in Carbondale, but the request was denied by a 5-2 vote.

patients of NeuroRestorative and their families.

"With this facility, I believe the community thinks, 'That's a great idea, just not near me,'" McDaniel said.

A motion to deny the addition passed by a vote of 5-2.

The council unanimously approved a proposal to convert a stretch of East College Street between Washington and Wall Streets from one-way to two-way traffic with no parking on either side.

The council met with

STEVE BERCYNSKI | DAILY EGYPTIAN

66 Children who are used to riding their bikes with minimal traffic will be at a safety risk, as well as inconvenienced by the increase of traffic flow that will come from adding a second group home.

— Teri Hogan
Arrowhead subdivision homeowner


said they would consider at a later date.

The council unanimously passed a request by Sunset Drive landlords Lisa Thomas and Jessica Lagona for the city to rezone 1211 W. Sycamore St. so they could build two apartment lots.

The council also accepted a \$62,000 grant from the Department of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for renovations to the Atucks building, Atucks High School, which opened in 1948 as an all-black school, closed in 1964 and the building remained vacant, only being used for vocational classes for nearly two decades, until it was purchased by the city in 2005.

"To see progress to the museum brings music to our ears and dancing to our feet," McDaniel said.

Kayla Kearns can be reached at kkearns@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 265.



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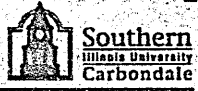
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PROFESSOR
CONTINUED FROM 1

"It's a real validation of what it is we do, particularly the talent we have here on the faculty. ... Of course we already know we're good," Wagner said with a laugh.

Stemper, whose compositions are performed by orchestras, chamber ensembles and vocalists, said he views his work as music, yet he does not see musical styles, such as pop, as music.

"Doesn't (pop) just get boring?" he said. "Year after year, somebody makes a hit, then 18 other bands do something that is similar to that. Pop music is something that they're trying to sell to you. I can't do that. I think pop music is the way it is because the audience doesn't do its part. They don't listen to the music. They're being told that it's cool to like this music and to go out and buy it. Does anybody go out and explore different kinds of pop or other kinds of music?"

Stemper, whose website prominently features the quotation "aggressively unpretentious," said he doesn't want people to think of him as a music snob.

"When I say those things about pop music, it's not because I'm thinking I'm better; it's just the way I think it is," he said. "It's the only thing that makes sense to me. I almost feel like I'm a jazz musician who is not a square."

Wagner, whose background is as a vocalist, said she has performed several of Stemper's compositions. She said his writing creates an interesting clash of style, including a combination of silence followed by a cluster of music.

"It's not something you put on the radio and people think, 'Oh, this is fantastic,'" Wagner said. "I think his work is the type that does better in live performance because it is a total experience."

Stemper says he goes about writing his music compositions the same way a miner goes about

mining.

"A miner goes to work and sometimes he gets lucky, and sometimes he doesn't," Stemper said. "Most of the time he's not going to get anything, but that's the way I see composing. Most often nothing happens, but every once in a while something comes and you build off of it. It seems absolutely perfect."

Stemper will serve as composer in residence this fall at the Fundacion Valparaiso in Almeria, Spain, to work on music. He said though his music may challenge some listeners, he's proud of the recognition he and SIUC have received from his work.

"Every time my work gets performed at these places all over the world, SIUC gets mentioned alongside my name," Stemper said. "That can only help our university and the school."

Ryan Voyles can be reached at rvoyles@dailyygyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 258.

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GRAD
CONTINUED FROM 1

Going undeclared may help undergraduates who struggled academically get into grad school Lyons said. For example, in order for a student to be admitted to a specific SIUC graduate program, he or she must have a GPA of at least 2.7 during the last two years of coursework. But as long as an applicant has proof of a bachelor's degree, he or she can become an undeclared graduate student with a GPA of 2.0.

The catch is that undeclared graduate students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in the first 12 hours of graduate coursework, McNeil said.

Additionally, undeclared graduate students can only receive financial assistance through loans for one year, and they would not qualify for any fellowships, assistantships or aid while undeclared. Departments are also not required to accept undeclared graduates after they have declared a major, even if they passed their classes, McNeil said.

"(Going undeclared) is a waste of time because you already know, for the most part, you're wanting to go to graduate school and why you're wanting to pursue a specific discipline," she said.

Declared graduate students compete for admission, McNeil said. At SIUC, the graduate school of psychology selects 30 graduates among more than 300 applicants, whereas the electrical engineering department selects more applicants who meet the minimum requirements, Lyons said.

Lyons said preparation can help a student get into graduate school. A well written purpose of intent statement and cover letter, along with strong letters of recommendation, make applicants stand out, she said.

Department-specific graduate students may not be eligible for grants, but they are eligible for more funding than an undergrad in the forms of graduate assistantships, tuition waivers and graduate fellowships, she said.

Associate Graduate School Dean David Wilson said there are three types of undeclared graduate

students: those who struggled academically, those deciding whether they want to go to graduate school, and those who met department requirements but applied late.

"A lot of times, students wait until they get to their senior year and decide they want to go to grad school but then they haven't maintained their GPA to do so," said Director of Student Support Services Renada Greer.

Even though some departments do not require a Graduate Record Examination (GRE), it is mandatory for the Proactive Recruitment of Multicultural Professionals for Tomorrow program, Graduate Dean's and Master's fellowships.

Greer said student support services helps undergrads complete their graduate school applications and find assistantships. Her office provides workshops led by specialists from the graduate school to teach inquiring undergrads how to apply to school for a post secondary degree, she said.

Brandon Coleman can be reached at bcoleman@dailyygyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 259.

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Faculty association questions budget shortfall

JULIE SWENSON
Daily Egyptian

As the SIUC Faculty Association meets this week to continue negotiating its contract for fiscal year 2011, members of the association and Chancellor Rita Cheng both used the phrase 'myths and assumptions' to describe how the university's financial situation has been discussed.

November's town hall meeting, where Cheng detailed the budget situation, prompted the association to respond with a report, "Budgetary Myths and Assumptions," Dec. 21. The 20-page document outlined what the association believes it owes the university, and what the university owes it: shared governance, good faith bargaining and public accountability.

It also outlines what faculty association member Dave Johnson said is "an apples to oranges problem." The association crunched the budget numbers from the town hall meeting and came up with a very different result, a shortfall of approximately \$440,000, compared to Cheng's original projected \$15.3 million, Johnson said. Unpaid closure days Nov. 24, Dec. 23, Jan. 3 and March 15, days when classes weren't in session, were supposed to save the university \$2.6 million according to documents Cheng presented at the town hall meeting.

"Some of this has to do with the complexities of accounting, of course; there are different ways of doing budgets at different times, but I think one thing we've been frustrated by is this oft-repeated figure in the press that the university is facing a \$15.3 million shortfall," Johnson said. "We're saying it's \$400,000, and that's huge, but most of that has to do with the apples-and-oranges problem. The \$15.3 million is essentially, if you go back to fall 2009 and look at all the bad things that have happened fiscally since then and then none of the good things that have happened since then, then you can come up with a figure like that."

Johnson, one of the co-authors of "Budgetary Myths and Assumptions," said the budget shortfall Cheng used included federal stimulus and state-funded grant money the university didn't receive, such as the Illinois Veteran's Grant, both of which accounted for approximately \$10.5 million of the projected \$15.3 million shortfall. Including those figures in the budget shortfall was misleading because everyone knew the university wouldn't receive the funds, he said.

"Back in fall 2009, nobody thought we were going to have \$15.3 million more than we actually did," Johnson said. "Everybody knew that the stimulus was going away."

6 Back in fall 2009, nobody thought we were going to have \$15.3 million more than we actually did. Everybody knew that the stimulus was going away.

— Dave Johnson
faculty association member

Randy Hughes, the association's president and a co-author of the paper, said complicating factors affected the association's findings.

"(The \$400,000) ... it be the shortfall, it might not be, because we've mentioned a number of areas where we don't have information, where it might even mitigate the \$400,000," Hughes said. "(The paper) focused on the reports that were made in the town hall meetings. We focused on those items that were raised, but there are other things out there that we also mention that may actually reduce the \$400,000 level."

Cheng said the association's findings and her original projections were virtually identical aside from formatting differences and that the original projected shortfall hasn't changed much.

"There has been a little bit of change downward in the sense that we had more of a decline in enrollment than we expected, and there were other moneys that we thought were coming in that aren't, but they're not marginally different from the \$15.3 million," she said.

One of the major problems Cheng said she had with the association's findings is that it seems to assume the university still had some money to cut out from its year 2010 budget.

"We learned in June and early July that, in fact, that budget that we built was overstated, because we weren't going to get that \$15.3 million. But we had already authorized spending all that money, so we had to, over the summer and in the fall, make adjustments in our spending so that it could match what we knew would come in that was \$15.3 million less than we had assumed in the spring," she said. "Now, you can go back and say, 'Well, last spring we should have known that we weren't going to get as much money, and I'd say, 'I agree with you, but in fact, the budget was built with \$15.3 million more money than we had to spend.'"

Cheng said after talking to the individual colleges on campus, it was determined that a 10-percent reduction would result in a layoff of many faculty members, and operating budgets being slashed to the point where the colleges

couldn't afford computers, paper and other tools it needs to function. She said that was when she decided on the 4-percent cuts that were implemented in August and maintained the hiring freeze. The cuts would be painful but still allow the university to continue to operate, Cheng said.

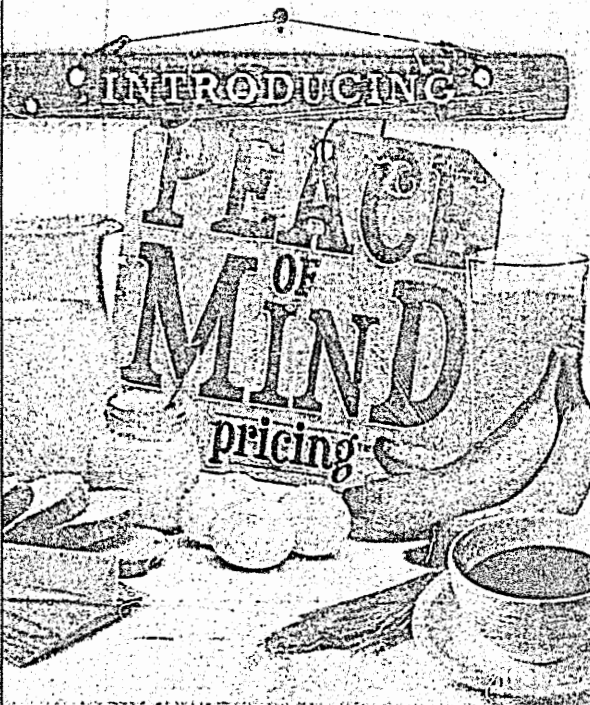
Cheng also said the university gets a little more tuition money from each freshman class that comes in, as it pays a higher rate than the previous class.

Hughes and Johnson both said the faculty association wants more transparency as far as talking about the financial state of the university and releasing information.

If the current budget shortfall is less than Cheng projected, the association's portion that Cheng asked the members to save may be more than what was needed, and the association may seek reimbursement for faculty who have taken furlough days, Hughes said.

Julie Swenson can be reached at
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Voices

6 • Wednesday, January 19, 2010

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EDITORIAL CARTOONS



GUEST COLUMN

US must compete with China in education

TRUDY RUBIN
McClatchy Tribune

Chinese President Hu Jintao is coming to Washington amid much gnashing of teeth over whether Chinese power is growing as U.S. might wanes.

The Chinese military clearly feels empowered. Beijing has gotten more aggressive with Japan and Southeast Asian nations over claims to disputed territory. China has also failed to rein in its ally, nuclear-armed North Korea, whose bizarre behavior threatens the region.

Moreover, just before Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates arrived in Beijing last week in hopes of improving ties with Chinese military officials, China test-flew a stealth fighter jet, clearly proclaiming its new muscle.

Yet, if we are concerned about competition from China, we should look beyond Beijing's growing military — and economic — might. Far better to focus on China's progress, and our lag, in educating our future workforce. That's where the real Chinese challenge lies.

After all, despite China's military growth, its Asian overreach is pushing its neighbors to ally more closely with Washington. And despite the current recession, the U.S. economy is still powerful and innovative. But we are failing to produce the educated manpower we need to compete in a globalized world.

Consider this: In 2009, a rep-

resentative sample of students from Shanghai outscored their counterparts from 65 countries in reading, math, and science in a respected test given by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, an organization of the world's 34 leading industrial powers. The United States scored 17th in reading, 29th in math, and 23rd in science.

"We have to see this as a wake-up call," Secretary of Education Arne Duncan told the New York Times.

True, there are problems in comparing a cross section of 15-year-olds from China's most highly developed city, population 20 million, with broader samples from other entire countries, including the United States. Yet the results — which OECD administrators say they believe were legitimate — should still jolt us. They reflect a Chinese culture of education that stresses long classroom hours and far less time spent on extracurricular activities.

If the Chinese can produce these results in Shanghai, it's obvious they can reproduce them in many more cities in coming decades.

I saw the product of China's educational drive when I spoke with students in May on the campus of Beijing's Tsinghua University — the Chinese equivalent of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Among them were a future biologist, economist, journalist and engineer.

What struck me was their

Economic pressures are driving our cities and states to slash budgets for schools and colleges, just as China pours funds into its universities to make them world-class and draw the best talent from abroad.

self-confidence and optimism, and their awareness of the world. They all spoke excellent English; some wanted to do graduate work in the United States, but all said they would return home for their careers.

These students saw education as a path to wealth in China's materialistic society. But many also said they studied to fulfill the expectations of their parents, who had sacrificed much to put them through school and university. They saw this as a filial duty in a culture that traditionally has put a high value on education.

Their words made me recall my experience teaching at a Philadelphia-area university. My Asian and Asian-American students seemed the most driven to get As.

The Chinese model, which produces stressed-out students and still involves much rote learning, may not fit here. But its rigor provides a sharp contrast to a U.S. system that is failing to produce the educated workforce we need to compete globally.

"A generation ago," Duncan writes in *Foreign Affairs*, "the United States had the highest proportion of college graduates in the world. Now, it ranks fifth among developed nations and is tied for ninth ... among those aged 25-34."

The statistics for high school education are even more dismal: About one-fourth of U.S. ninth graders fail to graduate secondary school within four years, Duncan says. Among the 34 OECD countries, only Mexico, Spain, Turkey and New Zealand have higher dropout rates than the United States.

And when it comes to fluency in foreign languages — which is vital for a globally competitive workforce — the U.S. system is a loser. In Europe, students start learning foreign languages in kindergarten. As for China, some studies project it will soon have the largest number of English speakers in the world among its population, if India doesn't get there first.

Of course, the United States has many excellent public and private high schools and still has the world's best universities. But economic pressures are driving our cities and states to slash budgets for schools and colleges, just as China pours funds into its universities to make them world-class and draw the best talent from abroad.

And it gets worse. This year, says Duncan, China will award more doctorates in engineering and the sciences than any other country. Until this year, that distinction was held by the United States.

So, when Hu visits Washington, members of Congress should focus at least as much on China's brainpower as on its military power. If they want to compete with Beijing, they should consider the funding of math, science and language teaching, and of basic research at universities, to be as important as funding military hardware.

And they, along with President Obama, should come up with new ways to inspire students and parents about the value of education. Chinese parents and students revere education in a way that too many of our adults and young people no longer do.

"Fifty years later, our generation's Sputnik moment is back," President Obama told a college audience in North Carolina in December, referring to the Soviet Union's surprise 1957 launching of a satellite that spurred an explosion of U.S. investment in math and science teaching. This is a theme he probably will stress in his State of the Union address.

Yet too few Americans remember Sputnik, which occurred when the country was still able to unite around common goals. And fewer still are familiar with those shocking OECD stats about Shanghai.

Those figures should jolt us. The nations with the best-educated workers will lead the global economy. China gets it. Obama gets it. But unless Congress and the rest of us get it, China will roll past us no matter how many missiles we build.

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@siue.edu.

Notice

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"I was addicted to being governor."

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, former governor of California, in his first formal interview since leaving office

"Yes for democracy, yes for freedom, no for chaos."

AHMAD FRIAA, Tunisian Interior Minister, urging his countrymen to stop rioting and start working with the police

Iraq's security berated after 52 die in bombing

LARA JAKES
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber killed 52 people among a crowd of police recruits in Saddam Hussein's hometown Tuesday, shattering a two-month lull in major attacks and spurring calls to keep the U.S. military in Iraq beyond 2011.

It was the second time in three days that efforts to bolster Iraqi police and army soldiers have backfired. The violence underscores persistent gaps in the security forces' ability to protect the country, despite seven years and \$22 billion in training and equipment provided by the U.S.

In an all-too-familiar scene, the suicide bomber joined hundreds of recruits waiting outside a police station in Tikrit to submit applications for 2,000 newly created jobs — a plum, if risky, opportunity in a country with an unemployment rate as high as 30 percent.

At about 10 a.m., the bomber detonated his explosives-packed vest. The blast left blood, flesh and clothing sprayed across the dirt ground. A nearby car was peppered with shrapnel. In addition to the 52 dead, 150 people were wounded, authorities said.

"I saw wounded people running in my direction calling for help and asking me to take them to the hospital immediately," said taxi driver Abdul-Hamid Mikhlaif. "I saw sev-

eral bodies on the ground as the policemen started to shoot in the air."

Loudspeakers from the city's mosques implored people to donate blood for the wounded. A grenade that had not exploded was found near the scene.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki blamed the strike on terrorists who he said have continued their history of "shedding the blood of innocent people and targeting young brave who came to serve their country and defend its security and stability."

"The frequency of these heinous crimes with the same style indicate a blamish on, or clear negligence by the responsible authorities," al-Maliki said. "We will follow up the matter with all seriousness in order to determine negligence ... and the cause of the occurrence of this painful tragedy."

Questions immediately arose over what measures security forces had taken to prevent yet another such attack.

One recruit said the job applicants were frisked before they entered the station's yard.

"We were waiting in the line to enter the police station yard after being searched when a powerful explosion threw me to the ground," said Quteiba Muhsin, whose legs were fractured in the blast. "I saw the dead bodies of two friends who were in the line."

"I am still in shock."

A statement posted on a militant website by the Islamic State of Iraq, an al-Qaida front group, praised the bombing as a "suicide martyrdom" but stopped short of claiming responsibility. Tikrit, located 80 miles (130 kilometers) north of Baghdad, is the capital of Sunni-dominated Salahuddin province, and the city sheltered some of al-Qaida's most fervent supporters after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion ousted Saddam.

Local politicians blamed al-Qaida.

"This is evidence that the entire Iraqi nation is being targeted. It is a clear failure by the security forces, and I expect there will be more attacks," said Falah al-Naqeeb, a lawmaker from Salahuddin who has been nominated by the Sunni-dominated Iraqiya political coalition to be Iraq's next defense minister.

Al-Naqeeb said attacks likely will spike if U.S. forces leave Iraq at the end of the year.

"The Iraqi security forces need the expertise from the Americans," he said. "They shouldn't be in a hurry with the withdrawal. And the Iraqi government should reconsider the withdrawal date, because our forces are not yet ready."

The Dec. 31 withdrawal deadline is part of a security agreement between Baghdad and Washington from which neither side has budged so far. Moreover, an attack by an Iraqi army soldier that killed two U.S. troops Saturday during a

training drill in the northern city of Mosul casts further doubt that the military would be willing to stay.

A senior U.S. Embassy official this week maintained that the year-end deadline will stand until the Iraqi government explicitly asks for it to be extended. If a request is made, President Barack Obama would have to approve it amid a hostile American political climate as he eyes re-election in 2012.

"There is no discussion right now on that issue, because there is no request," the embassy official told reporters in a briefing where he agreed to talk on condition of anonymity to discuss diplomatic issues more candidly.

Douglas Ollivant, who oversaw Iraq issues at the National Security Council in 2008-09 after two U.S. Army tours here, said it's still too soon to judge the ability of Iraqi forces.

"Objectively speaking, can we help them more if we stay longer? Obviously, yes," said Ollivant, now a contract adviser to NATO forces in Afghanistan. "But they have to make their own decisions."

The performance of Iraqi forces has varied wildly throughout their training. The army is generally seen as competent, while police forces are uneven depending largely on their location, training and support. Meanwhile, local militias such as the Sunni-run Sons of Iraq and the Kurdish peshmerga were given little

equipment and training until they recently began to be integrated into police and army ranks.

Insurgents have long found recruitment centers a favorite target, taking advantage of lax security measures just outside protective barriers at police and army stations and the confusion caused by desperate jobseekers scrambling for work.

A similar strike on an Iraqi recruitment center and army headquarters in central Baghdad last August left 61 dead and 125 wounded. Two weeks later, militants attacked the same building again, detonating a car bomb and trying to shoot their way in, killing eight and wounding 29.

Tuesday's bombing followed a two-month lull that saw mostly small-scale bombings and shootings across Iraq instead of spectacular violence.

It was the deadliest attack since Nov. 2, when rapid-fire bombings and mortar strikes killed 76 people and wounded more than 200 in at least 13 Baghdad neighborhoods in a demonstration of insurgents' ability to carry out coordinated strikes from one side of the capital to the other.

Associated Press writers Qasim Abdul-Zahra and Saad Abdul-Kadir in Baghdad and Sameer N. Yacoub in Amman, Jordan, contributed to this report.

Can Chile's mining minister work another miracle?

EVA VERGARA
Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile — The Chilean official widely cheered for overseeing the rescue of trapped miners was besieged by hundreds of angry protesters Tuesday as he tried to resolve a paralyzing strike over gas prices.

Laurence Golborne, whose warm manner and skilled management of the rescue of 33 trapped miners last year made him highly popular, was given the additional job of energy minister Sunday. President Sebastian Pinera sent him to Punta Arenas in southernmost Chile to end blockades that have stranded hundreds of foreign tourists.

About 1,000 people chanting anti-government slogans converged on a radio station where Golborne was being interviewed, prompting officials to call in riot police, who escorted the minister out of the building through a tunnel of shields, his head tucked beneath an officer's arm.

Hours later, Golborne met with more protest leaders and offered to reduce the planned 16.8 percent price increase to

3 percent while also maintaining the amount of subsidized gas each customer gets. Chile's state-owned National Petroleum Company (ENAP) had planned to reduce the amount from 25,000 cubic meters to 1,000.

Some protest leaders said they were drafting an agreement to end the strike, and some blockades were relaxed overnight, but it was unclear Tuesday whether all of those involved would go along.

Solving the region's long-term energy needs may prove to be a more complex challenge than extracting men from a collapsed copper and gold mine. Golborne, who polls suggest has the best shot at succeeding Pinera three years from now, could see his popularity plummet if he doesn't find a solution.

The deaths of two women who were knocked into a bonfire last week when a unidentified trucker rammed through a blockade radicalized many residents, and Golborne lost maneuvering room when Interior Minister Rodrigo Hinzpeter threatened to invoke a "state security" law that could ultimately involve sending in soldiers to dismantle the blockades and

jaul the organizers.

Organizers had been letting some trucks and buses get through for humanitarian reasons, but Hinzpeter's announcement made them call for a total blockade of Punta Arenas. Mayor Vladimiro Mimitica said it was like trying "to put out a fire with gasoline."

Golborne's offer of a 3 percent price hike, roughly equal to inflation, came with promises of other subsidies and money to help weatherize homes for the region's 158,000 residents.

The strike has cost the Magallanes region more than \$4 million in tourism income, industry leaders say, since trucks, buses and taxis in Punta Arenas blocked access roads to the airport, seaport and highway. The city is a jumping-off point for destinations across southern Chile and Argentina.

To the north in Puerto Natales, about 1,600 tourists have been stranded, many of them Americans and Europeans who can't get in or out of the Torres del Paine national park. The Argentine air force said Monday that it managed to fly out 113 of its citizens, but many travelers from other

countries are still stuck, and food supplies are running scarce in places.

The hotels are already empty, without tourists. Torres del Paine Mayor Anahi Cardenas complained. "We don't know if we're going to be able to recover."

The state security law calls for imprisoning people "who impede the free access to bridges, streets, roads or other public spaces." But protest organizers said invoking it against peaceful demonstrators only strengthens their resolve.

"We haven't broken a single window. That's why we don't understand the logic of the application of this law," said one spokesman, Dalivor Eterovic.

ENAP is nearly \$4 billion in debt and heavily subsidizes energy prices in far southern Chile, where frigid temperatures require more consumption and the cost of living is 30 percent higher than elsewhere in the country.

The Magallanes region is the only place in Chile, which imports 93 percent of its energy, where natural gas is extracted.

ENAP sells 60 percent of this methanol to Methanex, a Canadian company, to defray the cost

of subsidizing the other 40 percent to power the region's homes and industries. Developing more reserves is a priority because the current supply is due to run out in just seven years.

ENAP general manager Rodrigo Zocor said the subsidies must be removed to increase profit margins and thus incentives to develop more local gas supplies.

But local union and civic leaders suspect the company also wants to reduce subsidized consumption so that it can sell more gas at higher prices to Methanex.

Pinera, who promised during last year's presidential campaign not to raise energy prices, has said the long-term solution is to develop Chile's energy infrastructure, with renewable sources and a better transmission network. But this could take many years.

For Golborne, the opportunity to solve Chile's latest crisis may prove to be a Trojan Horse — attractive, but dangerous, said Bernardo Navarrete, a political analyst at the University of Santiago.

"What Pinera is doing is seeing to it that all of his ministers have to bear political costs," Navarrete said.

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WIRE REPORTS

IRAQ

Suicide bombing targeting Iraqi police recruits kills 40, wounds at least 75

BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber blew himself up Tuesday in a crowd of people waiting to apply for jobs with the police, killing at least 40, officials said, in the latest strike against Iraqi security recruits.

The death toll was still rising more than two hours after police said the bomber joined a crowd of about 100 recruits outside the police station in Saddam Hussein's headquarters of Tikrit, some 80 miles (130 kilometers) north of Baghdad.

Loopholes from the city's recovery were calling on people to donate blood for the wounded.

One Tikrit policeman said at least two of the dead were police officers. A second police officer said a grenade that had not exploded was found near the scene.

The casualties were confirmed by Dr. Anas Abdul-Hussain of Tikrit hospital.

WASHINGTON

Experts doubt GOP claim that Obama's health care law would cost 650,000 jobs

WASHINGTON — Republicans pushing to repeal President Barack Obama's health care overhaul argue that 650,000 jobs will be lost if the law is allowed to stand.

But the widely cited estimate by House GOP leaders is the latest creative use of statistics in the health care debate, which has seen plenty of examples from both sides.

Republicans are taking their thumbs-down legislation the "Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act" postponed after the mass shootings in Tucson, a House vote on the divisive issue is now expected Wednesday, although Democrats promise they'll block repeal in the Senate.

A recent report by House GOP leaders says "independent analyses have determined that the health care law will cause significant job losses for the U.S. economy."

It cites the 650,000 lost jobs as Exhibit A, and the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office as the source of the original analysis behind that estimate. But the budget office, which references the costs and consequences of legislation, never produced the number.

CALIFORNIA

Post this on Facebook? Calif. surf city considers electronic wall of shame for DUI mug shots

LOS ANGELES — Police in a city ranked top in the state for alcohol-related traffic fatalities might soon be trying a new tactic to keep drunken drivers off the road: Electronic shaming on Facebook.

In a spontaneous move that has raised the hackles of privacy advocates and been met with resistance from a police department fearful of alienating residents, a councilman in Huntington Beach wants police to begin posting the mug shots of everyone who is arrested more than once for driving while under the influence.

"If it takes shaming people to save lives, I am willing to do it," said Devin Dwyer, the councilman behind the proposal. "I'm hoping it prevents others from getting behind the wheel and getting inebriated."

Dwyer initially wanted the police department to post on Facebook photographs of everyone arrested for DUI in the bar-laden beach town just south of Los Angeles. He has watered down his proposal — now only repeat offenders would be featured on the virtual wall of shame — in hopes of winning support from the rest of the seven-member council, which is set to vote on the issue Tuesday.

NEW YORK

Kristen Stewart of 'Twilight' fame talks privacy, money in Vogue

NEW YORK — Kristen Stewart is living an atypical life for a 20-year-old. Ever since she took on the role of Bella Swan in the "Twilight" films, she's crossed over into youth-idol status where emotions run high and she has zero privacy.

The actress says in the February issue of Vogue magazine that she can't go to a shopping mall and that it bothers her she can't be outside often.

Stewart is working on the final two films in the saga and says her wish is for the fans to be happy with the outcome.

Now that "Twilight" has made her a star, Stewart tells the magazine, she's trying to figure out what to do with the money she's made from her work. Stewart says it would be "amazing" to help fund halfway houses for people who need their kind of support.



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Poland faults Russians in president's crash

MONIKA SCISLOWSKA
Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — Russian air traffic controllers failed to warn the crew of Polish President Lech Kaczynski's plane that it was off course shortly before it crashed last year in Russia, Polish investigators said Tuesday.

Interior Minister Jerzy Miller, who heads a Polish panel investigating the crash, made the claim nearly a week after the release of a Russian report that laid the blame squarely on the Poles.

The April 10 crash in dense fog in Smolensk, Russia, killed Kaczynski and 95 others. Issues over blame for the crash have revived tensions between Poland and Russia that the two countries have worked recently to overcome.

All along, there has been agreement that the Polish pilots' decision to land the plane in heavy fog was a key reason

for the crash. Yet Polish authorities have reacted with anger to the Russian report for putting all the blame on Poles; they believe Russian air traffic controllers and the state of the airport, which lacked sophisticated navigation equipment, must have played a role too.

Miller said Russian controllers consistently told the crew the plane was on the correct course to land, but the aircraft was actually flying 70 yards (meters) below the level where it should have been. He said it was also 60 yards (meters) off course just seconds before it crashed close to the airport.

"The controller should not be telling the crew that they are on the right course while they were off course," Miller said. "There is no information at all from the control tower to the crew to tell them that they are not on the right path to descend."

Miller presented parts of the

recorded conversation between the crew and tower coupled with a video animation of the descent.

In the recording the tower tells the crew that all airport systems are on speed ready.

Russia's Interstate Aviation Committee, which released its report on the crash last week, reacted to Poland's accusations and said Tuesday it would publish the entire transcripts of the remarks recorded by Russian air traffic controllers, Russian news agencies reported.

"With the aim of objectively informing the international community (about the crash), a decision has been made to publish the entire transcript of the recordings of all conversations that were registered by the dispatcher recorders," said Alexei Morozov, the committee's technical head, according to Interfax.

Mexico police: founding member of Zetas captured

OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's federal police have arrested a founding member of the brutal Zetas drug cartel, a man who controlled drug smuggling routes and the kidnapping of Central American migrants in southern Mexico, officials said Tuesday.

Flavio Mendez Santiago, 35, was arrested along with a bodyguard outside Oaxaca City. He was in charge of operations in the states of Oaxaca, Chiapas and Veracruz, said Federal police anti-drug chief Ramon Pequeno.

Pequeno said Mendez Santiago, known as "El Amarillo" or "The Yellow One," controlled the smuggling of Central and South American migrants and was in charge of moving them to the northern states of Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas, on the border with Texas.

The Zetas are suspected in the disappearance of more than 40 Central American migrants in Oaxaca last month. The travelers were last seen Dec. 16 near the city

of Itepec along the sun-scorched transit route for thousands who ride northbound freight trains.

The gang is blamed for massacring 72 migrants in August in the northern state of Tamaulipas.

Mendez Santiago also controlled the main overland drug smuggling routes from Central America, Pequeno said.

Mendez Santiago, a former soldier, was recruited in 1993 by the Gulf cartel and years later served as bodyguard for then leader Ostel Cardenas Guillen.

The federal government had offered 15 million pesos, about \$1.2 million, for information leading to his arrest.

Formed from a small group of elite soldiers based in Tamaulipas who deserted to work for the Gulf drug cartel, the Zetas earned their notoriety for brutality by becoming the first to publicly display their beheaded rivals.

The Zetas began gaining independence from the Gulf cartel after Cardenas Guillen's extradition to the U.S. in 2006 and finally split from their former bosses last year. They have since

been fighting for control of northeast Mexico, the traditional home base of the Gulf cartel.

That fight raged on Tuesday. Five mutilated bodies were dumped in the central plaza of the small town of Montemorelos southwest of the industrial city of Monterrey, according to a spokesman for Nuevo Leon state Public Safety Department, which oversees police.

The severed head of one was left on top of a message threatening a rival gang, the spokesman said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly about the events. The text of the message was not revealed.

Seven other people were killed earlier Tuesday in the Monterrey area, including a suspected drug dealer who was shot dead after opening fire on soldiers, the public safety spokesman said. Five others were killed during a gunfight, and another was found dead in an apparent cartel hit.

Associated Press Writer Mark Walsh in Monterrey, Mexico, contributed to this story.

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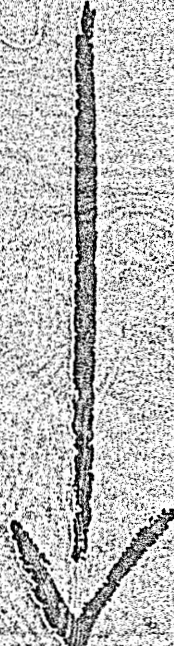
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STATE WIRE REPORTS

Western Illinois University picks new president

MACOMB, Ill. — Trustees of Western Illinois University have named Provost Jack Thomas the school's 11th president.

In a unanimous vote Tuesday, university trustees chose Thomas among four finalists picked by a search committee.

Thomas is replacing President Al Caskin, who plans to retire in June. Caskin took office July 1, 2002, during the university's 50th anniversary of its founding.

Thomas says he has 100 days in office. He will be spending most faculty and student time to determine what they believe are the most pressing issues on campus.

Thomas was chosen over Elizabeth Sauer, University President Henry Gross, Hartman Michigan University President Susan Koch, and Tim Hahna, special assistant to the chancellor for international studies and senior vice of the University of Houston.

Falls on by Chicago firefighters in ER surge

CHICAGO — By following and saving in Chicago have led to a surge in falls and in patients seeking emergency treatment.

Northwestern Memorial Hospital's ER has seen a 20 percent increase in urgent care visits due to the weather. Dr. Rahul Ramesh-Bhargava, MD, says he's seen an increase in falls and ER visits.

As a result, the hospital has had to increase the number of staff and the number of beds.

Chicago man ordered back in prison

BELTON, Ill. — A judge in southern Illinois has ordered a Chicago man to spend more than 20 years in federal prison in connection with multi-year-growing operation.

Thirty-five-year-old Carlos Ramirez pleaded guilty in October to US District Court in southern Illinois.

The judge ordered Ramirez to serve 20 years in federal prison.

Chicago man Ramirez was arrested in 2008. He was ordered back in prison in 2010.

The judge ordered Ramirez to serve 20 years in federal prison.

Seventeen US soldiers killed in Iraq by IEDs

BARNHILL, Ill. — A southern Illinois community is mourning a tragic loss with a fallen US soldier when his body was returned to his hometown.

Twenty-five-year-old Army Sgt. Michael Murray of the 10th Mountain Division was killed in Iraq on Sunday.

The two were assigned to the 1st Signal Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, 4th Infantry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, Texas.

A US statement issued Sunday says a third soldier was wounded. Authorities say at least one third soldier was killed.

Barnley graduated from Parkland High School in 2007.

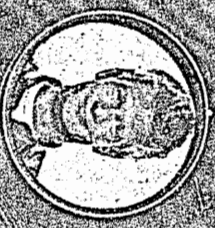
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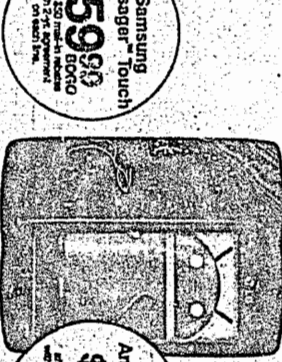
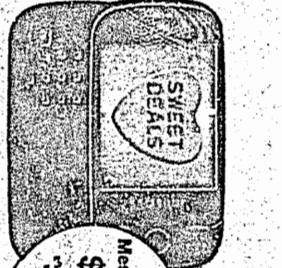
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Durbin: States should not impose death penalty

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — States should not impose the death penalty because of the difficulty in administering it fairly, although the federal government should retain that authority in cases involving terrorism or treason that endanger many lives, U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin said.

Durbin told The (Springfield) State Journal-Register that he had

always supported the death penalty, but has come to believe that "life in prison is penalty enough." He said that view was influenced partly by those of the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun and retired Justice John Paul Stevens.

"They both at the end of their careers came to the same conclusion: that after a lifetime of supporting the death penalty and trying to make it fair, that we had largely failed as a nation, and I cannot escape their

wisdom on this issue," said Durbin, the second-ranking member in the Senate. "I really believe that on reflection, the burden is now on those supporting the death penalty to prove its fairness."

Although his comments come as Gov. Pat Quinn decides whether to sign a bill passed by the Illinois General Assembly that would end the death penalty in Illinois, Durbin said he is not trying to tell Quinn what he should do.

"I will not lobby him, because I think it's a matter of conscience," Durbin said.

Quinn supports the death penalty but has also kept in place the moratorium on capital punishment instituted in 2000 by former Gov. George Ryan after the death sentences of 13 men were overturned and Ryan concluded the state's death penalty system wasn't working.

In some of those 13 cases,

evidence showed the suspects were innocent. In others, the trials were deemed unfair or confessions were found to be coerced by abusive police. Since then, the number of overturned capital cases has risen to 20.

Prosecutors say significant reforms have been put in place since the moratorium was imposed, including more money and training for defense attorneys, videotaped interrogations, and easier access to DNA evidence.

Bill Clinton urges Chicago crowd to back Emanuel

DEANNA BELLAND
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Former President Bill Clinton lent his support and celebrity to a former top aide on Tuesday, telling a crowd of hundreds of people they should back Rahm Emanuel's bid to be the next mayor of Chicago because he's "fearlessly honest" and not afraid to push for change.

"If you want a big mayor ... if you want to reinvent yourself one more time and come out better than ever, if you want the Windy City to have a gale force of leadership, Rahm Emanuel is your mayor," Clinton told the crowd.

Clinton praised Emanuel, one of his former top aides and campaign finance director, as one of the key reasons he was elected president. Emanuel returned the praise, extolling Clinton's accomplishments during two terms in office.

"I could not ask for a better role model than you," Emanuel said to Clinton.

Clinton made the high-profile visit to Chicago to stump for Emanuel, one of six candidates in the Feb. 22 race to replace the retiring Mayor Richard Daley. Unless a candidate gets

a majority of the voters there will be an April runoff.

Clinton told the crowd that Emanuel is "fearlessly honest" and is not afraid push for change. Being Chicago mayor is a big job and he said Emanuel knows how to set good policy and make things happen, the former president said.

Emanuel hopes Clinton can persuade Chicago voters to support his bid for mayor, despite a former mayoral contender's warning that Clinton risks his popular standing with the African American community by backing Emanuel rather than a black candidate.

Three of his rivals, former U.S. Sen. Carol Moseley Braun, former schools president Gary Chico and City Clerk Miguel del Valle, have emphasized their deep city roots while claiming Emanuel is more of a Washington insider. Braun has the support of many black leaders in the city, while Chico picked up the endorsement of Congressman Luis Guterrez this month.

Chico used Clinton's visit to criticize the ties between Clinton and Emanuel as a "cozy relationship."

Clinton, appointed Emanuel to mortgage giant Freddie Mac's board

"If you want a big mayor ... if you want to reinvent yourself one more time and come out better than ever, if you want the Windy City to have a gale force of leadership, Rahm Emanuel is your mayor."

— Bill Clinton
former President

In 2000, Emanuel served on the board when Freddie Mac misstated its earnings by \$5 billion for 2000-2002. When the problem was uncovered in 2003, top executives were forced out.

Chico alleged Emanuel had a chance to blow the whistle during the "Enron-type scandal."

"It was a test of character and he failed," Chico said. "He looked the other way."

During a news conference, Chico called on Emanuel to answer more questions about what he knew.

Emanuel campaign spokesman Ben LaBolt said Chico's claims weren't credible.

Last month, Braun said Clinton's campaigning for Emanuel amounted to an outsider helping an outsider.

Emanuel worked for Clinton during the 1990s, first as a top campaign staffer and then as a senior

adviser. He played a role in a number of policy initiatives, including passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement, which has been unpopular with unions.

Larry Bennett, a DePaul University political scientist, said bringing in a figure of Clinton's stature to campaign on his behalf could help underline Emanuel's importance.

"It probably represents a plus for Emanuel," Bennett said, author of "Third City: Chicago and American Urbanism."

"It suggests, I've got some leverage," he said.

U.S. Rep. Danny Davis, a former candidate who bowed out of the race in December, warned when the Clinton visit was announced that the former president could jeopardize his "long and fruitful relationship" with the black community if he campaigns for

Emanuel instead of a black candidate. Clinton at one point was dubbed "the first black president" because of his appeal to African-Americans.

But Bennett said "it's hard to imagine" the visit undermining the strength of that relationship.

Braun, who has been named the "unity" black candidate by a coalition of black leaders, also criticized Clinton's visit, even though Clinton appointed her as ambassador to New Zealand after she lost her Senate seat in 1998. "What we have is an outsider running for mayor and bringing outsiders in to help him," she told reporters shortly after Clinton's visit was announced.

Emanuel's right to run for mayor has been challenged, based on the fact that he lived outside the city for nearly two years as he worked as chief of staff for President Barack Obama in Washington. But the Chicago Board of Elections ruled him eligible after deciding he did not abandon his Chicago residency.

A Cook County judge agreed with the ruling, but an attorney for several objectors has said he will continue to appeal the judge's decision, all the way to the state Supreme Court if necessary.

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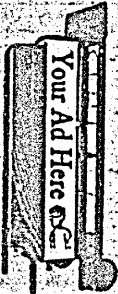
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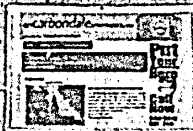
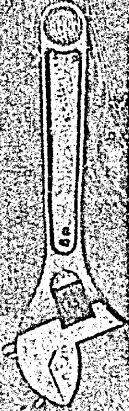
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Jordan's son more than namesake for Central Florida

KYLE NIGHTOWER
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Marcus Jordan has always wanted to make a name for himself on the basketball court, and not be just known as the son of NBA great Michael Jordan.

He found the place to do it at Central Florida. Though not exactly known for its basketball tradition, the 6-foot-3, 205-pound guard knew UCF was the program for him.

"It was the first and last visit I made," Jordan said. "I just loved it. The facilities were new and it was definitely a place where I could go in and play right away. I think that was the biggest thing. Me and (UCF teammate) A.J. (Rompra) sat down and said we can start something new and create our own little legacy here."

"I just wanted to come in and make an impact right away and throughout my four years leave something that UCF had never seen before."

Less than two years later, that conversation between the best friends and former Whitney Young high school teammates in Chicago is turning into prophecy.

Jordan not only led the Knights to a Division I-best 14-0 start, but the sophomore is the face of a program in fast transition under first-year coach Donnie Jones. Jordan is making basketball relevant at the school.

After finishing non-conference play unbeaten and achieving the program's first-ever Top 25 ranking

*M*arcus may not be the freakish athlete that his dad was, and nobody is, but he's definitely a capable scorer that is making his own name.

— Seth Davis
CBS Sports college basketball analyst

with wins over Florida, Miami and South Florida, UCF dropped out of the poll this week following back-to-back losses. The Knights (14-2, 1-2 Conference USA) will look to recover Wednesday night when they face East Carolina (9-7, 1-1).

"They are definitely one of the big stories of the season — no question," CBS Sports college basketball analyst Seth Davis said. "Marcus may not be the freakish athlete that his dad was, and nobody is, but he's definitely a capable scorer that is making his own name."

That individuality extends to everything about Marcus. While he has never shied away from the spotlight that comes along with being Michael Jordan's son — Marcus is clearly his own person.

He wears No. 5. Instead of his father's famous No. 23. His forearms and biceps are stenciled with several tattoos. He also sports facial hair and goggles on the court, which are both departures from his father's clean-shaven look in college.

Michael Jordan, owner of the NBA's Charlotte Bobcats, has been to several games in two years. He declined to be interviewed for this story, saying through the Bobcats that

he didn't want to overshadow Marcus' success.

He doesn't really have to worry about that, not as long as Marcus is producing results.

The shooting guard is currently leading the Knights in scoring, averaging 16.5 points, and is second in assists (3.2), while posting five 20-point games. His scoring average is double that of his freshman year, and his field goal, 3-point and free throw percentages are all up as well.

Coming out of high school, Marcus Jordan was a solid, but middle-tier college prospect at best. He posted a handful of big games at Whitney Young, but averaged just over 10 points and four rebounds a game his senior season.

He had written offers to schools like Stanford, Iowa, Miami, Butler and Toledo. Older brother Jeff was at Illinois, so going to Iowa would have allowed Marcus to join him in the Big Ten. But then-UCF coach Kirk Speraw sold him on being a member of the first recruiting class to play in the university's new 10,000-seat arena.

Jordan earned C-USA freshman honors last season even though he was slowed some by a preseason knee

injury. He was also the center of last year's shoe flap over him wearing his father's Jordan-brand shoes instead of the school's contracted Adidas apparel (UCF's teams now wear Nike).

After a disappointing 15-17 season, Speraw was fired and Jones came in promising a new, faster style. To prepare, Jordan lost 15 pounds in the offseason (down from 220) and was in the gym alongside his teammates each morning taking "hundreds of shots." His dad offered advice over the phone.

"He was just telling me to be in shape because he knew coach Jones was bringing that up-tempo style of play," Marcus said. Michael "knew how dedicated I was to really just getting my game to the next level. He was giving me tips and pointers whenever I had questions and stuff like that, but really he was just telling me to be focused and work hard every day, because eventually it will pay off."

Jones, who has also had Jordan play more point guard this season, said giving him the ball late in games has been easy.

"We like him having the ball in his hands to make a score, get a foul or make a play," Jones said. "He's got the ability to do all three of those things and I think anytime you have that, it's a good quality."

Rompra, also Jordan's roommate, said dealing with the extra attention is nothing new for Marcus.

"I think just always having it helps him the most," Rompra said. "I sent

him a text a few days ago and told him 'You did this on your own. Just keep it up.' It's just the way he goes about things. He's not cocky. He's not any of that. People say he's spoiled."

"But he's the most humble person I've ever met."

Soon it will be a family affair on the court at UCF.

Jeff, who spent his first three seasons at Illinois, has transferred to UCF. He is sitting out this year after averaging 1.6 points with the Illini last season.

Marcus said having Jeff around has been a big help staying focused on just basketball this year.

"I kind of got to sit back and watch him go through everything and learned how to deal with it before I had to go through it," Marcus said. "Just him being here as a senior and (having) his basketball IQ. If I have questions I can go to Jeff."

As for the newfound fame for UCF and himself, he plans on taking it as it comes. But in a wide-open C-USA, leading the Knights to their first NCAA tournament berth since 2005 is clearly a goal.

"It's definitely been different," Jordan said. "We've gone from hunting teams, like UF and Miami, to now we're the hunted. Everybody wants to boost their program by beating us. It's kind of a mentality change for our team."

"But as for me being the leader of the team, I'm just trying to go out and play my game."

Sounds familiar.



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Help Wanted

BARTEENDING, UP TO \$800/WAY, no exp necessary, training provided, 800-965-8520, ext 102.

LOCAL HOME CENTER is seeking a part-time lumber yard employee to join our team. Duties include: loading and delivering materials to job sites, unloading and stocking materials delivered to our yard, providing outstanding customer service, working well with others, and helping keep our yard organized and clean. CDL license a plus but not a necessity. If you are dependable, self-motivated, capable of lifting and carrying heavy materials, and a hard-worker, apply in person to Tony at Wright Do-It Center, 208 S. William St., Murphysboro.

PIZZA DELIVERY DRIVER, neat appearance, PT, some lunch hours needed, apply in person, Quince Pizzeria, 218 W Freeman.

HELP WANTED PREMIERING Urban Style Nightclub, seeking PT bartenders, waitresses, & security staff, for Thursday, Friday, & Saturday nights, positions require 15:20 hrs per week, exp not necessary but a plus, w/d train, EOE. Please call 618-694-7798 for more detail info.

BARTENDERS, W/L, TRAIN, fun, energetic, personality, Great Tips & Salary Johnson City only 20 min from Carle, 962-9402 or 922-0000.

SALES CLERK, PT, MUST be 21yrs old, apply in person, 51 Liquor Mart, 113 N. 12th St., Mboro.

JANITOR Mon-Fri, Evenings, 14 hours/week, \$8.25/hour, must work breaks, R/R Janitorial, 549-6778.

DISABLED FEMALE, SEEKING female personal assistant, MUST be reliable, responsible & have transportation, living involved & home-work, MUST be pet friendly, 11.25/hr, 618-534-2893.

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A TRIP TO THE STRIP

THE DAILY EGYPTIAN'S NEW COMIC PAGE, RUNNING EVERY WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY.

THE ARGYLE SWEATER

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The Duplex



Baker Street Puzzle

brings a new word or logic puzzle each week.



Randy Glasbergen is one of America's most widely and frequently published cartoonists and humorous illustrators. His freelance and syndicated cartoons are seen all over the world in newspapers, magazines, greeting cards, books, calendars, advertising, blogs, and websites.

Difficulty Level: 1 2 3 4 5

ROCK TRIVIA

Q: What three former members of the Yardbirds went on to achieve superstardom in other bands?

By Jeff Beck, Jimmy Page, Eric Clapton

Word Roundup is an innovative variation on a classic format, combining the challenge of a crossword with the quick-solve satisfaction of a word search. Unlike most word searches, in which the player knows what words to look for, Word Roundup gives crossword-style clues for the hidden words. If you think word searches are too easy, or if you're looking for a new wrinkle on an old favorite, give Word Roundup a try!

WORD ★ Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Eight months □□□□□□□□
- Three baseball hits □□□
- Two things that are commonly brushed □□
- Two four-letter countries □□
- One way to turn □

Answers to Saturday's puzzle: ATHENS BERLIN WARSAW VIENNA PARIS ROME / ZANY ZOO ZIP ZAP / MARINES ARMY NAVY / BEARS BULLS CUBS / HITCH ALI

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1/17

J M M A Z A V I R Z R B
 J U A A P X U E R E J C
 D U L R Y R B G B A V E
 O H N Y C M I O U Z N L
 U A Z E E H T L X S X P
 B I X C K C P E R U T I
 L R E V O T E E T H K R
 E D S I N G L E L E F T

