Crimea vote rejected
See Pg 3

Need for Speed review
See Pg 4

National qualifiers
See Pg 11

First pitch at ‘the Itch’

Richard “Itchy” Jones throws out the first pitch Friday at the newly-renovated stadium named in his honor. The new stadium is the result of a $4.2 million project at the site of Abe Martin Field, which has been the Salukis’ home since 1964. Jones, who holds the record for most wins as an SIU coach in 21 years, said he was pleased with the stadium. “I think the playing surface, the lights and the dugouts [make for] a very nice facility for the players and the coaching staff to play,” Jones said.

JENNIFER GONZALEZ
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Please see BASEBALL - 12

New marijuana legislation requires higher education

KYLE SUTTON
Daily Egyptian

As social reform continues to change over time, the marijuana conversation is beginning to move from one looking down on a long-time prohibited narcotic to one focusing on a rising industry within the economy.

Twenty states across the nation – including Illinois – have enacted laws legalizing the use of medical marijuana, with Colorado and Washington being the only two states legalizing weed for recreational use.

According to a Feb. 26 New York Times article, there are at least 17 states who either have bills in the state legislature or ballot initiatives to legalize the regulated use of marijuana for adults. Oregon and Alaska are the two states most likely to integrate new policies, according to the article.

The introduction of medical research into medical schools.”

First and foremost, we need to start getting the science into medical schools,” she said. “It’s insanity that we can’t have a conversation about reality in medical schools.”

While medical research is the most important aspect of cannabis Jones wants to see in schools, she said courses educating students on drug policy will probably be the first to be integrated.

“Drug policy, I believe, will be studied similar to the way we study alcohol prohibition and the rise of organized crime,” she said.

JENNIFER GONZALEZ
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Please see MARIJUANA - 2

Crab Orchard catch

A seagull pulls a fish from Crab Orchard Lake Saturday in Carterville. The lake sits on the Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge, which, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, acts as a natural ecosystem to sustain migratory water fowl and native southern Illinois fish species.

JENNIFER GONZALEZ • DAILY EGYPTIAN

Please see DUNN - 2

Dunn opens up about SIU’s confidential search process

LUKE NOZICKA
KAYLI PLOTNER
KARSTEN BURGSTAHLER

Incoming SIU president Randy Dunn may have been a late arrival to the presidential search, but was a nominee all along.

“The Presidential Search Advisory Committee was formed in late September. Dunn said he was a potential candidate months before he agreed to apply. President Glenn Poshard announced his retirement July 25, and it wasn’t long before Dunn was notified of the open position.”

“Different friends and colleagues from southern Illinois had been texting and emailing that information,” Dunn said.

He said R. William Funk & Associates, the search committee’s chosen consulting firm, approached him to be a nominee in mid-October.

“While the position really was a dream job for me and certainly very attractive, having just started out (at Youngstown State University), it was going to be really impractical if not impossible to become a candidate,” Dunn said.

Despite declining the nomination, Dunn told the search firm to keep him in mind.

“I certainly said, given my ongoing interest in fact, that would be my job of all jobs to end my career with,” Dunn said.

Please see DUNN • 2
Christophertorchia
AssociatedPress

PRETORIA, South Africa — Children charred about the Oscar Pistorius murder trial at South African schools, startling parents with details about how the athlete fatally shot his girlfriend. That Big audiences in South Africa are watching a 24-hour television channel dedicated to coverage of the sensational trial. Turns of phrase from the courtroom — the defense lawyer’s “I put it to you” challenge to prosecution witnesses — are creeping into popular culture.

The rise and fall of the double-amputee runner, who competed in the London Olympics in 2012 and then killed model Reeva Steenkamp less than a year after an inspirational triumph, is a consuming saga for South Africans that has drawn sheership comparisons to reality television shows. The more people hear, the hungrier they are for more.

Wile the position really was a dream job for me and certainly very attractive, having just started out (at Youngstown State University), it was going to be really impractical if not impossible to become a candidate. — Dunn

SIU president

Marijuana

CONTINUED FROM 1

“The position really was a dream job for me and certainly very attractive, having just started out (at Youngstown State University), it was going to be really impractical if not impossible to become a candidate.”

— Dunn

SIU president

Oscar Pistorius trial enters popular culture

Dunn said he does not know who contacted him in early January. “The consultant had been asked to specifically see at that point if I would be willing to send in my [curriculum] vita and meet with the board,” Dunn said. “I certainly didn’t say, ‘Wow, if you have me up to talk with you, I’m just automatically going to drop everything,’ but I think given [the search firm] charge from SIU was so at least try to have me come and have a conversation with the board.”

Dunn said he does not know who contacted the consulting firm, but the board showed a serious interest in him.

Dunn submitted his application Jan. 10, and interviewed with the SIU Board of Trustees Feb. 12 in St. Louis. Dunn said everyone on the board was physically present except Vice Chairwoman Donna Manering, who also serves as chairwoman of the presidential search committee. Manering voted via conference call.

The next day, during the SIU board’s Feb. 13 press conference, Chairman Randall Thomas said the board was ahead of schedule in finding a new president, but would not comment on when an announcement would be made. The original search timeline called for a new president to be named in April.

On Feb. 14, the trustees announced they would meet to name a new president on Feb. 17.

Dunn’s contract with SIU, effective Feb. 17, states he must begin work before Aug. 17. Just hours after Thomas announced Dunn’s hiring, Dunn met with the Youngstown State University Board of Trustees in a special meeting. Dunn then submitted his 180-day notice to leave YSU, making his earliest possible leave date Aug. 17, exactly one day before SIU’s 2014-2015 school year begins.

However, it was announced Wednesday Dunn will leave Youngstown Friday.

Dunn said he agreed with partaking in a confidential search, and would have been hesitant to apply had the search been public. “I’d have to think about it very carefully,” he said. “I’m not saying I wouldn’t, but it would clearly have been something Ronda and I would’ve had to think through very carefully because in so doing there’s an impact on the campus that’s employing you.”

In May 2013, Dunn was a finalist in the presidential search at Illinois State University, which uses a transparent search method. Dunn was one of the final four candidates who held an open forum with the student body to address what they felt was required of a president. However, SIU’s search was done with the promise of confidentiality.

“It’s not a question of saying one’s better than the other, or you prefer one or the other,” Dunn said. “It’s kind of depends on the nature of the position and the nature of the institution, what the history is and how previous searches have been done. I don’t believe one [format] is better than the other.”

Dunn said had the search been public, he would have informed the Youngstown Board of Trustees of his candidacy, but was able to continue his relationship with the YSU board because SIU’s search was confidential.

Dunn said he plans to be settled in southern Illinois by May 1. With Pullard’s contract ending June 30, Dunn expects to take over the presidency July 1.

Now in his 50s, Dunn said SIU will be his last employer.

“This will be the last job for me. I do not plan to leave this position until retirement,” he said.
US rejects Crimea vote, cites Russian intimidation

President Barack Obama told Russian President Vladimir Putin on Sunday that Crimea’s vote to secede from Ukraine and join Russia would never be recognized by the United States.

The two leaders spoke after residents in Crimea voted overwhelmingly in favor of the split.

The White House said Obama told Putin the Crimea vote violates the Ukrainian constitution and occurred under duress of Russian military intervention.

He also said the U.S. was prepared to impose retaliatory penalties on Russia.

Obama urged Putin to work with Ukraine as well as Western nations to resolve the crisis diplomatically. Obama also asked Putin to support the deployment of international monitors to help prevent violence in Ukraine as that country prepares for spring elections.

Even before official results were announced, the White House denounced the vote, saying “no decisions should be made about the future of Ukraine without the Ukrainian government” and noting that Russia had rejected the deployment of international monitors in Crimea to ensure the rights of ethnic Russians there were protected.

“Russia has sparked those calls as well as outreach from the Ukrainian government and instead has escalated its military intervention into Crimea and initiated threatening military exercises on Ukraine’s eastern border,” the White House said.

“Russia’s actions are dangerous and destabilizing,” the White House said.

U.S. officials reaffirmed that the Obama administration will, along with the European Union, impose penalties on Russia if it annexes the strategic region. They also warned that any Russia moves on east and south Ukraine would be a grave escalation requiring additional responses.

Secretary of State John Kerry called on Moscow to return its troops in Crimea to their bases, pull back forces from the Ukrainian border, halt incitement in eastern Ukraine and support the political reforms in Ukraine that would protect ethnic Russians, Russian speakers and others in the former Soviet republic that Russia says it is concerned about.

In a call with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Kerry urged Russia “to support efforts by Ukrainians across the spectrum to address power sharing and decentralization through a constitutional reform process that is broadly inclusive and protects the rights of minorities,” the State Department said.

It was their second call since unsuccessful talks Friday in London.

Kerry expressed “strong concerns” about Russian military activities in the southern Ukrainian region of Kherson, just north of Crimea where Russian troops appeared Saturday, and about “continuing provocations” in cities in east Ukraine, the department said.

Pilot suicide a taboo topic in past crash probes

A dozen years ago, U.S. investigators filed a final report into the 1999 crash of EgyptAir Flight 998, which plunged into the Atlantic Ocean near the Massachusetts island of Nantucket, killing all 217 aboard.

They concluded that when co-pilot Gameel El-Batouty found himself alone on the flight deck, he switched off the auto-pilot, pointed the plane downward, and calmly repeated the phrase “I rely on God” over and over, 11 times in total.

Yet while the National Transportation Safety Board concluded that the co-pilot’s actions caused the crash, they didn’t use the word “suicide” in the main findings of their 160-page report, instead saying the reason for his actions “was not determined.” Egyptian officials, meanwhile, rejected the notion of suicide altogether, insisting instead there was some mechanical reason for the crash.

There was also disagreement over the cause of the crash of SilkAir Flight 185, which plunged into a river in 1997 during a flight from Jakarta, Indonesia, to Singapore, killing all 104 passengers and crew. A U.S. investigation found that the Boeing 737 had been deliberately crashed, but an Indonesian investigation was inconclusive.

Monashair officials have been investigating a crash that killed 33 people in November. They say preliminary investigations indicate that the pilot of the Monashair Airline plane airboard for Angola intentionally brought it down, and they’re continuing to look into his possible motives.

A 2014 study by the Federal Aviation Administration indicates that in the U.S. at least, flying remains a remarkably safe mode of transport and pilot suicide is a rare occurrence.

The study found that during the 10 years ending in 2012, just eight of 2,758 final aviation accidents in the U.S. were caused by pilot suicide, a rate of 0.3 percent. The report found that all eight suicides were men, with four of them testing positive for alcohol and two for antidepressants.

The cases ranged from a pilot celebrating his 21st birthday who realized a woman didn’t want a relationship with him, to a 69-year-old pilot with a history of drinking and threatening suicide by plane.

Seven of the cases involved the death of only the pilot, in the eighth case, a passenger also died.
‘Need for Speed’ stalls in commercial gear

KARSTEN BURGSTAHLER
Daily Egyptian

At Walt Disney World, there’s a ride called “Test Track.” The attraction simulates the strenuous process a car must go through to prove it can hold up on the road, and riders are sent through anti-lock break tests and steep grade hills.

Recently Disney updated the corporate sponsor GM. When I got on the ride last week and heard the automatic voice announce that OnStar was kicking on, I audibly grumbled. I’ve had it with this kind of product placement. But now I can.

“Need for Speed” (Rated PG-13; 130 Min.) is a car movie about cars — it’s inevitable. Teenage guys like to fantasize about driving Ferrari 200 miles per hour down the road. But where “Need for Speed” stumble is in its stilted refusal to do much to make this anything beyond a well-shot commercial. It doesn’t reach the melodramatic family-drama heights of the original “Fast and the Furious,” but it also doesn’t approach the ridiculous heists and chases of the later “Fast” movies. What’s lacking here is a scene where Ludacris actually delivers the line, “Uh guys, they’ve got a tank!”

What “Need for Speed” doesn’t lack, however, is a cool leading man on his way to better things. Aaron Paul is about the only bright spot in the movie as Tobey Marshall, a mechanic who ends up losing a friend in a street race against his rival. That rival, Dino Brewster (played with an apparent lack of interest by Dominic Cooper), hides the evidence that he was involved and lays all the blame on Marshall, who ends up going to prison.

Two years later, Marshall gets out. He wants revenge, and he’ll get it by traveling across the country in a ridiculously fast Mustang as random people try to kill him to try to get their hands on a Lambo. Ludacris is the only guy to ob-tain another car is never really explained. It sounds like a bad reality show, but no, this idea was actually greenlit to become a movie.

Returning to Paul, the actor has the presence and the chops to be a Steve McQueen in his own right. He proved himself on “Breaking Bad” and we see a bit of Jesse’s simmering anger here, but not quite enough to convince us Paul is into the character. It’s as if he loved the idea of taking on a McQueen-esque role, but saw the script and realized it was too late to back out.

Beyond Paul, the characters might as well be professional drivers on a closed course. We get little-to-no background about his crew, and neither do the audience. The old rivalry between Marshall and Brewster is more like two upset guys willing to do ridiculous things to each other to get revenge.

Because the plot provides zero engagement and neither do the characters, “Need for Speed” is stuck in a limbo filled with meaningless car chases and less meaningful dialogue. All we’re left with is a bunch of flashy explosions and revved engines.

Bottom line: there’s no soul to this cold steel mass of a movie. And it’s going to take a lot more than a good performance from Paul to bring it back to life.

Karsten Burgstahler can be reached at kburgstahler@dailyegyptian.com, on Twitter @kburgstahler_DE
Editorial Policy

Our Word is the consensus of the Daily Egyptian Editorial Board on local, national and global issues affecting the Southern Illinois University community. Viewpoints expressed in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Egyptian.

Staff Column

It’s already summer in Hollywood

KARSTEN BURGSTHALE
Daily Egyptian

“Transformers” flick in the pipe. And even though we’re not at summer yet — the forecast for Monday in Carbondale is 47 degrees, and as of press time the city is under a winter-weather advisory — for Hollywood, the line between seasons has been blurred. And it’s all Katniss Everdeen’s fault.

Two years ago, “The Hunger Games” debuted in a spring slot, March 23. The film was a massive success, grossing $115 million in its first three days and winning the third-highest-grossing weekend of all time (at least, at that time). “The Avengers,” “The Dark Knight Rises” and “Iron Man 3” had yet to hit theaters. Events were beside themselves: sure, they had seen “300” gross more than $70 million its first week five years earlier. But it was at that moment they realized audiences didn’t care if a blockbuster came out in the summer or in the spring; if they had a hit movie, they could put it anywhere in the calendar they wanted.

Because of this, summer movie season really began two weeks ago with “300: Rise of An Empire.” Every weekend between now and the middle of August has a movie hoping to emerge as a huge hit. It was the villain Syndrome in “The Incredibles” who said, “When everybody’s super, no one is.” He was talking about superheroes, but the same can apply to our movie theaters.

As Hollywood continues to push summer back into the snow, artsy films that could usually survive in these realms are losing their footing. Soon the only time we’ll get to see well-written, well-acted pieces will be the final four weeks of the year when Oscar campaigns kick into high gear. We’re dangerously close to this scenario now.

“Usually the cold signals the approach of solid filmmaking. But when every movie is special, those that don’t have a huge marketing budget can’t be. It was the villain Syndrome in “The Incredibles” who said, “When everybody’s super, no one is.” He was talking about superheroes, but the same can apply to our movie theaters.

As Hollywood continues to push summer back into the snow, artsy films that could usually survive in these realms are losing their footing. Soon the only time we’ll get to see well-written, well-acted pieces will be the final four weeks of the year when Oscar campaigns kick into high gear. We’re dangerously close to this scenario now.

“Usually the cold signals the approach of solid filmmaking. But when every movie is special, those that don’t have a huge marketing budget can’t be.
SALUKI
BRACKET CHALLENGE
PRESENTED BY THE DAILY EGYPTIAN

SPONSORED BY:

TIP OFF
MARCH 18, 2014

ALL PICKS MUST BE MADE BY THE OPENING TIP-OFF OF THE FIRST DAY OF GAMES

• FREE ENTRY, 1 ENTRY PER EMAIL ADDRESS
• 1ST, 2ND, 3RD WIN PRIZES FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES
• PERFECT BRACKET SELECTION WINS.....

$10,000 FROM DELL SPORTS

SIGN UP AT:
WWW.DAILYEGYPTIAN.COM
(CLICK ON THE BANNER TO REGISTER)
The Beatle Brothers said hello and goodbye to Hangar 9 Friday. The tribute band from Mount Vernon has been playing music for more than 20 years.

“Our whole purpose and ambition is to share the music, and the love of the music that The Beatles brought forth, to the new generation. If we can turn one fan on to The Beatles then we’ve accomplished our goal,” drummer Brent Hahn said.

The band began the evening with classic melodies from some of the early Beatles albums, such as “Rubber Soul,” “A Hard Day’s Night,” “Help!” and others.

The three-part harmonies of each member —Hahn plus Del Herbert on guitar and Jake Schofield on bass —flow together alongside lead vocalist Scotty Qualk.

As if to recreate the experience of The Beatles’ success and sensation as they ushered in a different genre of music, the band performs with as much enthusiasm as possible.

“We were there when it happened; that change that came overnight. The one thing they can’t show today is the culture shock of what happened overnight,” Herbert said. “So we get together as weekend warriors and play.”

As the band entered “If I Needed Someone” and “You Can’t Do That,” there was a rock ‘n’ roll presence ingrained with a matching vocal melody. It’s perhaps a little more scratch than Lennon, but it is propelled with equal enthusiasm.

The strings pluck the melodic and memorable notes to “Ticket to Ride” in true Beatles fashion as the drums power and move the song along. Each song begins strong and ends the same way. And in performing “A Hard Day’s Night,” the drums tap to syncopated rhythms of guitar strings plucking and strumming as the bass fuels the background. The melody drives hard as if truly “working like a dog,” as it were, as the song bears gently out.

The band played a version of “Mr. Tambourine Man” modeled after rhythms The Byrds blended into it. The rendition of the popular Bob Dylan song worked wonderfully into their repertoire of songs; it was presented with such a poise and elegance that it sounded reminiscent of the 1960s.

“Eight Days a Week” was presented with the recognizable staccato strum as it rolled out in an undulated rhythm that, if the music had yet to do so, easily encouraged a tapping of the bones to a dance. Each song performed by the band simply found its roots and dug them up.

Harmonica was introduced into the introductory notes of “I Should Have Known Better.” Qualk’s falsetto brought a relaxed and soft effort into the music. This song gave a clear juxtaposition from the harmonies presented earlier, with the vocals now driving the melodies in an effervescent whim.

The harmonies came rising back full force by mid-set with “Chains.” It was an effortless presentation and the band blended a touch of Beatles bravura into their contemporary placement.
Between songs, the band members were light-hearted and joked intermittently with the crowd. "I've hardly ever missed a show that they've played. We follow them all over because they do an excellent job," said Jan Kennedy of Woodlawn. Donnie Ulrich, also of Woodlawn, said he appreciated the group was more concerned with the music than the crowd size. "We're big Beatles fans. We've seen them over and over again and their performances are excellent. They don't do it for a whole bunch of people to show up; they just enjoy doing it," Ulrich said.

Perhaps altogether these attributes have helped the Beatle Brothers gain a successful following of their own. "It's not for the glitz or the glamour on our part, but for the love of The Beatles," Hahn said.

Jake Saunders can be reached at jsaunders@dailyegyptian.com, on Twitter @saunders or by phone at 536-3311 ext. 254.

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

As workers cleared some of the last of the rubble Sunday from the site of a massive explosion this week in New York City, a pair of congregations gathered to mourn — one for its lost church and one for two members who were killed in the blast. At Bethel Gospel Assembly, tears mixed with the sounds of gospel music as the congregants remembered Griselde Camacho and Carmen Tanco, two of the eight people killed in the massive East Harlem explosion that leveled a pair of five-story buildings on Wednesday.

"We felt the void," said Michelle Robinson, the church business administrator. "Both women were very active members." Tanco often served as an usher at services and would greet her fellow congregants at the door, Robinson said. "We are a family and we're all just missing the big hugs she used to give," she said.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio praised the emergency responders who felt the explosion and "ran into the fire, ran into the danger because they knew they might be able to save one life." A fundraising drive will be launched to help those affected by the explosion. De Blasio's wife, Chirlane McCray, told the crowd. The money will support a relief plan that includes a victims' assistance fund to go toward funeral arrangements, rent and household expenses. The plan also includes counseling and outreach to immigrant communities.

De Blasio also visited the house of worship being used by members of the Spanish Christian Church, which had been located on the first floor of one of the destroyed buildings. After the three-hour service at the Church of God a few blocks from the blast site, several dozen members of the destroyed church fell into each other's arms amid tears and faint smiles.

For some, it was their first encounter since Wednesday's catastrophe. "We don't know where we will worship, we don't know what we'll do," said Carmen Vargas-Rosa, who led a meeting of church members. She said it could be years before a new permanent church location will be found.

At the scene of the explosion, there were signs the initial cleanup was ending while the investigation into the cause of the blast could begin. Police barricades were shrunk, and Madison Avenue, a block away, was fully opened to traffic for the first time since Wednesday. Pedestrians were able to walk within sight of the gaping hole where the buildings stood.

Brothers
continued from 7

Between songs, the band members were light-hearted and joked intermittently with the crowd. "I've hardly ever missed a show that they've played. We follow them all over because they do an excellent job," said Jan Kennedy of Woodlawn. Donnie Ulrich, also of Woodlawn, said he appreciated the group was more concerned with the music than the crowd size. "We're big Beatles fans. We've seen them over and over again and their performances are excellent. They don't do it for a whole bunch of people to show up; they just enjoy doing it," Ulrich said.

Perhaps altogether these attributes have helped the Beatle Brothers gain a successful following of their own. "It's not for the glitz or the glamour on our part, but for the love of The Beatles," Hahn said.

Jake Saunders can be reached at jsaunders@dailyegyptian.com, on Twitter @saunders or by phone at 536-3311 ext. 254.

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

As workers cleared some of the last of the rubble Sunday from the site of a massive explosion this week in New York City, a pair of congregations gathered to mourn — one for its lost church and one for two members who were killed in the blast. At Bethel Gospel Assembly, tears mixed with the sounds of gospel music as the congregants remembered Griselde Camacho and Carmen Tanco, two of the eight people killed in the massive East Harlem explosion that leveled a pair of five-story buildings on Wednesday.

"We felt the void," said Michelle Robinson, the church business administrator. "Both women were very active members." Tanco often served as an usher at services and would greet her fellow congregants at the door, Robinson said. "We are a family and we're all just missing the big hugs she used to give," she said.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio praised the emergency responders who felt the explosion and "ran into the fire, ran into the danger because they knew they might be able to save one life." A fundraising drive will be launched to help those affected by the explosion. De Blasio's wife, Chirlane McCray, told the crowd. The money will support a relief plan that includes a victims' assistance fund to go toward funeral arrangements, rent and household expenses. The plan also includes counseling and outreach to immigrant communities.

De Blasio also visited the house of worship being used by members of the Spanish Christian Church, which had been located on the first floor of one of the destroyed buildings. After the three-hour service at the Church of God a few blocks from the blast site, several dozen members of the destroyed church fell into each other's arms amid tears and faint smiles.

For some, it was their first encounter since Wednesday's catastrophe. "We don't know where we will worship, we don't know what we'll do," said Carmen Vargas-Rosa, who led a meeting of church members. She said it could be years before a new permanent church location will be found.

At the scene of the explosion, there were signs the initial cleanup was ending while the investigation into the cause of the blast could begin. Police barricades were shrunk, and Madison Avenue, a block away, was fully opened to traffic for the first time since Wednesday. Pedestrians were able to walk within sight of the gaping hole where the buildings stood.
BASEBALL
CONTINUED FROM 12
Reis said Callahan didn’t feel justified in asking for a new stadium because the team didn’t go to the national tournament for many years. “Dan would have been really proud of this facility,” Stacy said. Reis is also honored with the stadium. Greg Cook, the largest donor of the project, named it the “Mike Reis Press Box.”

Prior to Friday, Lozano was ranked 16th in the nation. Lozano said before nationals she had been physically ready to make it to nationals. Lozano was an All-American senior high jumper Kenya Culmer were the most track and field athletes SIU has sent to the NCAA Indoor Championships since 2012.

Lozano was the first to compete Friday, and she finished 15th in weight throw after launching 20.01 meters. Although she didn’t make the NCAA indoor high jump record, she finished 13th in Friday, and she especially wanted to represent SIU at such a big meet.”

Lozano was the underdog, and had to work harder to secure her berth to the nationals because she was within the top girls in the nation was setting a bit disappointing because his shot-put distance marks the third time he has been short by five inches. Freeman recorded his first collegiate hit and went 3 for 5. Sophomore thrower Josh Freeman finished in 10th place with three RBIs and a run scored. Senior Tyler Dray recorded his fourth save of the season. Senior Tyler Eaton said before nationals he had been working on his nerves a lot this season but just couldn’t get over them this meet,” she said. “I’m not going to blame my performance on that but I didn’t perform like I needed to.”

Although Lozano’s results didn’t go as planned, she has still taken positives out of her nationals experience. Before her throw Friday, throwing coach John Smith told Lozano she was the underdog, and had to work harder to secure her final position.

“He basically told me I was the one who no one expected to be here so I had to go out there and do my best,” she said. “After the meet he told me I moved up and I deserved to be there.”

Freeman finished in 10th place in the men’s shot put and Culmer finished in 16th in the women’s high jump. Freeman’s goal was always to make it to nationals; last season he was the outdoor Missouri Valley Conference champion and All-MVC. Freeman said his performance was a bit disappointing because his shot-put distance marks the third time he has been short by five inches. Freeman threw 18.90 meters.

“By making the state record in high school I was short by five inches, the Pan-America record I was short by five inches and now I was just five inches short from making the NCAA final,” he said. “Those five inches seems to be bugging me quite a bit.”

As an athlete who rarely gets nerves, Freeman said he felt a feeling he never felt before. “When I stepped into the ring for my first throw, I felt like a wall hit me and it was too much to handle.”

He could have picked his kids: he could have picked whomever,” Reis said. “The fact that Southern didn’t talk him out of it, the fact that nobody talked him out of it, the fact he wouldn’t let me talk him out of it, and I tried to, it means the world to me.”

The Salukis lost Friday 5-1, but won both games of Saturday’s doubleheader. The first win Saturday was the hundredth career victory for Henderson. Henderson was the underdog, and had to work harder to secure her berth to the nationals because she was within the top girls in the nation when it comes down to our weekend pitchers and bullpen and hitters,” Haug said. The Salukis play at 4 p.m. Tuesday against Eastern Illinois University at Illini Jones Stadium.

Aaron Graff can be contacted at agraff@dailyegyptian.com, on Twitter @Aarongraff, or phone 618-536-3311 ext. 269.

“For me, it was a really great experience. When I stepped into the ring for my first throw, I felt like a wall hit me and my arms started shaking and I was just really nervous.”

Freeman was forced to cope with his nerves before tossing his next throw. “It wasn’t nerves or me being anxious. I guess it just wasn’t a good day for me, or my day to shine.”

Even though Culmer, Freeman and Lozano competed in different events, each of them had one feeling in common. Although they all were a bit disappointed in their performances, they were grateful to have the opportunity to qualify. The Salukis have a week off before competing outdoors. Culmer, Freeman, Lozano and the rest of the Salukis will compete at the Bill Cornell Spring Classic at SIU March 28 and March 29.

Symone Woolridge can be reached at swoolridge@dailyegyptian.com or phone 618-536-5311 ext. 269.
Itchy Jones Stadium celebrates Saluki legends

AARON GRAFF  
Daily Egyptian

Roughly a week before the inaugural game at Itchy Jones Stadium, coach Ken Henderson and former coach Dan Callahan’s widow, Stacy Callahan, turned on the stadium lights for the first time.

The clubhouse, formerly known as Richard “Itchy” Jones clubhouse, is now named after Callahan. Callahan died in 2010 from neurotropic melanoma.

The field kept the name “Abe Martin Field” after Glenn “Abe” Martin who was SIU’s baseball coach for 19 years. The stadium is now named Itchy Jones Stadium after SIU’s most successful coach, Richard Jones.

“It’s named after me,” Jones said. “But we have to remember the fact that it was the players here that made it possible for this facility to be named after me.”

Jones left the Salukis in 1991 to coach the Illini and was rooting for both teams over the weekend. Illinois’ coach Dan Hartleb graduated from SIU in 1989 and served as a graduate assistant under Jones at SIU, then as an assistant for him at U of I.

SIU (10-8) had a four-game losing streak before hosting the University of Illinois (7-9) this weekend, but picked up a series win.

Before the first game, Jones threw out two ceremonial first pitches, first to senior catcher Matt Jones and then to Hartleb.

The voice of the Salukis, Mike Reisser, said a lot of people contributed to the stadium. He said former baseball players were upset when the basketball and football teams received new facilities but baseball did not.

Reisser said he was just starting in media when Jones was coaching and had almost 20 years of experience when Callahan was hired and became good friends with him. Reisser said Callahan cared about Reisser’s opinion.

“If he was still with us, his name wouldn’t be on [the clubhouse],” Reisser said. “He wouldn’t allow it, he’d fight that and he would win that because he never liked the attention.”

Callahan’s oldest daughter and SIU graduate, Alexa Callahan, said her dad would spend holidays working.

“This is where he spent most of his time, working in the clubhouse,” Alexa said. “That’s where the recruiting gets done and this is where we spent a lot of time growing up too.”

The clubhouse and scoreboard were two parts of the stadium that were not renovated because of the budget. Alexa said SIU made the right choice in keeping the clubhouse the way it is for now.

“I loved Abe Martin Field, but this is definitely more modern and gives them a chance to compete,” Alexa said.

Reisser said he still has a positive relationship with Callahan’s family.

“His family meant a lot to me,” Reisser said. “His dad listened to every word that we broadcasted. Callahan was only coaching home games toward the end of his career. Reisser said their last conversation has stuck with him.

“The last cogent conversation I had with Cal was in the dugout in the old ballpark, and it was clear he wasn’t going to make it much longer,” Reisser said. “He said, ‘Reisser, the thing that bothers me the most is not that I won’t see a new ballpark here, but that I never got us to the NCAA’s.'”

"Itchy Martin Field" now named after Richard Jones  "Itchy Jones" 19 years as Head Coach  Before the graduating commencement ceremony  For more information on the application process, please contact: Undergraduates – registrar@siu.edu or 618/453-2054  Graduate degree candidates – gradschl@siu.edu or 618/453-4523  Law degree candidates – lawreg@siu.edu or 618/453-0765  For information on the commencement ceremony, visit commencement.siu.edu, or call 618/453-7424.