Officials search for answers

By Joe Littrell
Special Assignment Writer

Law enforcement officials continued interviewing residents and neighbors Monday for leads on the arson-sponsored fire that has killed four SIUC students.

Nine residents of the building have not been located for interviews by the police and Carbondale Police Chief Don Strom urged those residents to contact the police.

About 20 calls with possible leads from neighborhood residents and others also are being investigated, Strom said.

Firefighters fought the blaze early Sunday morning at The Pyramid apartment complex, 504 S. Rawlings, for more than an hour after being alerted by the building’s automatic alarms. Most of the building’s 44 residents escaped the blaze, except by jumping from the upper floors.

Cheng Teck Wong, 23, Ronald A. Madu, 22, Kim Song Ho, 22, and Lai Hung Tang, 23, were pronounced dead Sunday. Nine more were taken to area hospitals.

A memorial service for those who died in the blaze will be at 1 p.m. Friday in Shryock Auditorium.

Of those nine, Marzina Ab Wahid, 28, and Amit Singh, 19, remain in critical condition, police said. Gergana Zlateva, 23, and Simona Dimitrova, 23, have been upgraded from critical to stable condition. Several others remained in stable condition, and one was released after treatment.

The building itself was up to city codes, Carbondale Fire Chief Clifford Ch门诊 said.

Despite rumors, all but two of the 911s had functioning smoke detectors.

Carbondale Police are utilizing all possible resources to investigate the blaze. Strom said, including the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. 17-member National Response Team, the state Fire Marshal’s Office, the state Police, Monson, the Illinois State Police, the Carbondale Police, the Carbondale Fire Department, the Carbondale Police, and SIUC Police.

see INVESTIGATION, page 5

Students fear for their safety

Despite police assurances, some suspect racial problems

By John McCadd
and Teri Lynn Carlock
Special Assignment Writers

SIUC student Jeong Hoon Choi says he has felt at home since he first set foot in Carbondale about three years ago. But now Choi, a senior in electrical engineering from Korea, has a few doubts.

He, like many other international students, said he is panicking because of an arson fire early Sunday morning at The Pyramids apartment complex that killed four international students.

"I don’t think they’d make a fire because international students live there, or at least I don’t want to believe it if it’s true," Choi said.

"That would be discrimination.

“Not many people have been mean to me, and I really don’t care about that anyway,” he said. “I know they (Americans) students) are not any better than me — we have the same chance — 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to do the same thing.

Choi said it makes him sick that the fire was declared arson by investigators.

"If someone made the fire, they must be the devil — to have caused the deaths of four people and injury of others," he said. "Sure, it can happen on accident, but if it was set on purpose, they wanted to kill somebody.

"I think maybe somebody must have hated the manager of the building or they did not have any good feelings for The Pyramids apartments."

Although Choi does not live in The Pyramids, he said plans to apply for fire insurance.

"When I heard the story from my friends, we talked a lot about fire insurance — how we have to get individual policies," he said. "I have a fire alarm in my apartment but I’m going to do something more because I’m worried."

see INTERNATIONAL, page 6

Mosque destruction triggers India riots; at least 200 dead

Los Angeles Times

NEW DELHI, India—At least 200 people were killed and hundreds injured Monday as bloody religious riots erupted in the Indian capital and several other Indian cities after the destruction by frenzied Hindu nationalists of a revered Muslim mosque in the northern city of Ayodhya.

Scores also were wounded in violent anti-Hindu demonstrations in a half dozen cities in Bangladesh and Pakistan, neighboring Muslim countries, while other clashes and peaceful protests were reported in nations across the Muslim world.

Violence continued Tuesday after the destruction by frenzied Hindu nationalists of a revered Muslim mosque in the northern city of Ayodhya.

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Swimmers finish first in invitational

Davis finishes first in 4 events

By Andy Graham
Sports Writer

The SIUC women’s swim team ended its half of the season on a positive note. The Salukis added one more to their winning streak of three this weekend when they swam their way to become champions at the Bearcat Invitational.

The meet was one which the Salukis had been looking towards for some time, coach Mark Kluepner said.

SIUC was amongst nationally recognized competition, including Kenyon College, whom the Salukis found most challenging and Louisville, a team with notable individual talent and host team Cincinnati, who has recently been ranked a top 25 team in the country.

The Salukis got ahead early, winning the 200 medley relay. They continued to dominate the competition throughout the meet, winning 11 individual events and all four relays.

Training pays off for SIUC men

By Andy Graham
Sports Writer

Training paid off for Saluki men’s swimming team as it stepped up and took over at the Bearcat Invitational. Junior Kevin Rosepapa said, “We were rested and sharper. I was really impressed and think the training paid off.” Rosepapa said SIUC overpowered the other five teams in the Invitational with 1,205 points. Kenyon followed with 802, Cincinnati finished third with 609, Penn State had 437, Xavier had 195 and Oberlin College had 58.

Freshman Ward Bracken, who said that the team did great this weekend. “Everybody was trying their hardest,” Bracken said. “We outnumbered them in the finals. Where we had seven in the finals, they had only one. We were pretty dominant in this meet with each of us trying for our best times.”

see MEN, page 15

Jackson tells owners need for changes

Zapnews

LOUISVILLE — Major league baseball owners voted 15-13 Monday to re-open negotiations with the players’ union on a collective bargaining agreement. The current agreement was to run out on December 31, 1993. The reopening of the negotiations leaves the option open for the owners to lock the players out of spring training next spring.

Owners locked out the players for 32 days prior to the 1990 season.

Earlier, the Rev. Jesse Jackson addressed the owners. Jackson came to speak about the current racial climate in major league baseball, in light of the recent allegations surrounding Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott. Jackson was flanked by former major leaguers Frank Robinson, Dave Parker and Leon Durham and by civil rights activists Andrew Young and Russell Means.

While not specifically mentioning Schott, Jackson told the owners there is a need for “restitutional change” in baseball. He said the owner’s attempts at self-policing, using “foxes to guard the henhouse,” has led to the owners being embarrassed by Schott’s conduct.

Jackson also asked owners to remember the plight of black baseball players.

Jackson held a press briefing, telling reporters that major-league owners have a great opportunity in the battle against racism and real problem of racism among most groups because of the high visibility of their business. He also referred to baseball’s protection from antibtrust laws, saying that protection remains in effect even though baseball’s owners have not been “alleged other responsible.”

Jackson said he was also concerned by what he said was baseball’s exclusion of minority players from coaching and front-office positions once their playing days are over.

He said his Rainbow Coalition will see BASEBALL, page 15

see MEN, page 15

MVC season not far away for Salukis

By Karyn Viverito
Sports Writer

Clear the way for the basketball Salukis. The list can go on from Street and Smith’s The Sporting News to the NCAA 1992-93 preview. The SIUC men’s team finds itself sitting atop the polls and moving up in the top-25 Missouri Valley Conference.

Being led by the MVC’s unanimous selection for all-conference, senior forward Ashraf Attaya, SIUC has a combination of size and experience that is going to be hard for other MVC teams to beat, said Illinois State coach Bob Bender.

SIUC and the rest of the MVC is now concerning itself with non-conference games in the beginning stretch of the season, but the coming of January and the start of MVC action is not far away.

In the last three seasons, SIUC has won two MVC championships, but it has failed to make it to the NCAA Tournament because it did not win the MVC Conference tournament at the end of the season that earns the team an automatic bid.

This is partly due to the size in the talent and competition in the MVC over the last three to four years and Saluki head coach Rich Vriens said it does not look to get any easier.

Although I thought the conference was tough a year ago, I find that it has improved going into this season,” he said. “It is going to be tough for us to repeat as conference champions, and it will be a great challenge.”

The three teams that have been predicted by most publications and the MVC coaches themselves to give SIUC a run for the title are Illinois State, Southwest Missouri State and Tulsa.

ISU tied the Salukis for the MVC title last season posting a conference record of 14-4 in a season performance that earned Bender Coach of the Year after taking the Redbirds from last place to first in one season.

This season could be as promising for the Redbirds with ISU returning four starters to the floor to produce a team that has a strong MVC season not far away for Salukis

see MEN, page 15

Salukis to see tough competition from 2-0 TTU

By Jay Reed
Sports Writer

As finals week approaches, the SIUC women’s basketball team faces a tough test as 2-0 Tennessee Tech books into the Arena tonight.

The Golden Eagles, which hold a four-game losing streak against the Salukis, enter the 7:05 contest averaging 81.5 points and 42.5 rebounds in victories over Florida and the UT-Chattanooga.

Saluki head coach Cindy Scott said the Salukis will have a tough time matching up against the Tennessee Tech defense. “The thing that scares me the most is that they have such a good, powerful defense, and our offense is not that good,” she said.

Leading the way for the Golden Eagles is senior center Roschelle Vaughn. The Charlotte, Tenn., native has averaged 20.5 points and 8.5 rebounds in TTU’s two victories this season. Vaughn was an Ohio Valley Conference pick last season finishing first in field goal percentage in the OVC with .602, second in scoring at 18 points a game and 79.8% in rebounding with 8.4 a game.

“Vaughn is a very dominant and powerful post player,” Andru Davis said. “We’ll have to give her a lot of respect.”

Billey is averaging 15 points and 4.5 rebounds a game. Billey was 14th in the nation last year in three pointers connecting on 81 of 208 for 38.9 percent.

TTU has won three consecutive Ohio Valley Conference titles and have been invited to the NCAA tournament four consecutive years.

“Our programs are very similar, and this has turned out to be a neat little series for us,” Scott said. “This will be another tough game for us.”

The Salukis balanced scoring attack of Anita Scott, Kelly Firth, Angie Rougeon, Robin Smith and Tiffany Gordon will try and get the Salukis to the .500 mark at 2-2 with a win.
The revised security standards will require patio doors.

Valerie Storer, 1100 E. Grand

Property Owners/Property Managers/
Landlords and Residents

On November 17, 1992, the City of Carbondale revised the minimum security standards for door and window lock for all residential dwellings located within the City limits of Carbondale. Effective February 1, 1993, the revised security standards will require all exterior windows other than fixed windows or those designed not to be opened less than 12 inches of ground level to have locking devices installed. Also, the security standards will require locks on all entrances and patio doors.

The Building and Neighborhood Services Division in conjunction with the Carbondale Police and Fire Departments, Southern Illinois University Law Enforcement Program and Murdale True Value Store will conduct seminars concerning the new security standards on:

December 9, 1992, at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
January 27, 1993, at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

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

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

SUPREME COURT REFUSES ABORTION CASE

The Supreme Court dealt a blow to abortion Monday by refusing to revive a challenge to a Mississippi statute that requires a woman to be counseled and then wait 24 hours before ending her pregnancy. The justices, without comment, left intact a federal appeals court ruling that declared the statute unconstitutional. The court refused to delay a district court decision that denied abortion providers a hearing when they tried to stop the law from being enforced.

MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

The eight round of bilateral Middle East peace negotiations began Monday with a scaled-down Palestinian delegation taking part. The gathering was overshadowed by an attack in the Gaza strip Monday in which Palestinian gunmen killed four Israelis and wounded 15 more. The negotiations are expected to falter this week as the Eighth of the first day of the intifada which falls on Wednesday. The Palestinians brought only four delegates as to what they call an Israeli-fear's to take the talks seriously.

SHUTTLE CREW SUCCEEDS IN EXPERIMENT

The five astronauts aboard the U.S. space shuttle Discovery successfully performed a laser experiment on Monday designed to help locate downed pilots or the position of enemy troops. The crew used sensors to pick up a laser beam loaded with information and fired it from the shuttle. The data is normally sent by radio, which could be intercepted more easily. The seven-day shuttle flight, which is primarily military, is to end on Wednesday.

IF READERS SPOT AN ERROR IN A NEWS ARTICLE, THEY CAN CONTACT THE DAILY EGYPTIAN ACCURACY DESK AT 536-3331, EXTENSION 233 OR 228.
DE photographer shoots away as flames consume his residence

By Terr Lynn Carlson
Special Assignment Writer

Daily Egyptian photographer Seokyong Lee went beyond the call of duty last weekend when he took pictures of a building on fire—especially because it was his residence.

Lee, a senior in advertising from Korea, was in his studio apartment on the first floor of The Pyramids apartment complex when an arson fire started early Sunday morning and claimed the lives of four students.

"I fell asleep around 12:30, but then I heard some girl yelling, 'Help me, help me!'' Lee said. "At first I ignored her, but when she kept screaming, I worried she might be getting raped or something."

"When I pulled back my curtains and looked out the window, I saw all this light from the fires—the ones going on."

Lee opened his apartment door and saw smoke, so he called the fire department. When they told him the fire already had been reported, he grabbed his jacket and camera and fled the building.

Those items are his only possessions which he and other survivors of the fire wait to be allowed back into their apartments to determine the condition of their other belongings.

When he went outside, he saw injured people lying on the ground and paramedics giving CPR to another man who was later whisked away by ambulance. But Lee did not let the injured people and paramedics shock him. He tried to get to his car, but it already was blocked in by the firetrucks and police cars which had reached the scene.

"I couldn’t think about anything—in fact all I needed film so I could take pictures—I don’t know why," Lee said.

So he asked a bystander if he could give him a ride to get film, but the man refused.

"I told him I worked for the DE and that it was very important to me, but he yelled at me and called me crazy," he said.

So he then asked three other men for a ride.

"And they said 'How much would you pay for a ride?'” he said. "But I didn’t have any money."

After searching for a particular friend and failing, Lee finally found another friend who agreed to take him to a cash station to get money, then to a store to buy film.

"I told the film into my camera on the way back to the fire so I’d be ready to jump out and start shooting," he said. "But even at the time I did not know it was a serious fire."

Lee said he took photos of a firefighter rescuing a victim from a third-story window, paramedics giving CPR to another person, a woman who was in shock crying and firefighters evacuating the burning building.

His photos are the only ones taken of the burning building, and the DE was the only local newspaper with fire photos published Monday. The Associated Press also plans to use his photos.

Lee said he stayed outside watching firefighters extinguish the fire until 4 a.m. His apartment is among the ones damaged and Lee has not been permitted to check the condition of his belongings.

"I have a stereo, CD player, IBM computer and TV," he said. "I asked a firefighter about the damage and he said everything on the first floor is wet."

His professors have given him incomplete grades in his classes because of his inability to reach his books and the possibility his belongings could be damaged. He said he will be allowed to complete the courses next semester.

The apartment manager has provided alternative housing for Lee and other tenants, and he said he has received canned food and toiletries from the Red Cross and a few clothing items and blankets from friends.

Federal team to help in arson investigation

By Jonathan Senft
Special Assignment Writer

A federal response team will help local police pinpoint motives for the arson at The Pyramids apartment complex.

Police said experts from the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms will assist Carbondale police in their investigation of the fire, which took the lives of four students Sunday morning.

The federal response team was called to assist efforts already under way police said.

The St. Louis-based team consists of 17 members from cities around the Midwest.

The team had passed through the remains of the D wing of The Pyramids apartment building Monday to take preliminary notes.

Carbondale Police spokesman Kent Burns said the response team was called in because of the loss of life in the fire.

Additionally, the assistance was necessary to complement the investigation with resources and equipment.

"The federal response team has equipment and resources that the Carbondale department simply doesn’t have," Burns said.

Jerry Miller, assistant special agent for the team, explained that the first step for the team is to put men out on the street to conduct interviews with anyone who may have seen something happen.

Also, they will gradually collect evidence to come to a conclusion.

Miller said the team will be here as long as the job takes to be solved.

"There is a very serious crime involved here, and we must get the suspect caught, a maximum punishment must be considered," he said.

Burns said the response team will help Carbondale police by conducting extensive interviews to try to find some motive for the arson at the apartment complex.

"Because the incident involved international students, officials want to be thorough as possible in the investigation," he said.

Carbondale Police Chief Don Strom said arsonists are tough cases to solve, and the team is necessary to add to manpower and equipment.

Tell your folks that more college students choose Macintosh than any other computer. They’d want you to be in good company.

Ask for an Apple Macintosh computer this holiday season and join all of the students who’ve discovered that no matter what they do, Macintosh helps them do it better and faster. That’s because Macintosh is so easy to use. And the thousands of available software applications work in a single, consistent way. So once you’ve learned one, you’re well on your way to learning them all.

The advantages of Macintosh don’t end when school does. In fact, the majority of Fortune 1000 companies use Macintosh computers. So ask your Apple Campahol, Techer to help you choose which Macintosh to put at the top of your holiday gift list. Macintosh. It’s more than a present, it’s a future.

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New college would ease CCFA demise

THE COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATIONS and Fine Arts could soon be no more. Four units and the University Museum agreed to move to the College of Liberal Arts after the University was recommended for elimination by SIUC President John C. Guyon's long-term planning committee in October.

However, four other units were not asked to move — the Department of Cinema and Photography, the Department of Radio and Television, the School of Journalism and the Broadcasting Service.

This oversight on the part of university administrators betrays their lack of concern for the field of communications, which has become increasingly important in the information-based society of today.

The University's planning committee did not give much thought to communications in its recommendations. The committee apparently does not value communication, which causes its plan for the future to be flawed.

SIUC administrators have left communication departments to their own devices, with no guidelines as to what actions should be taken. The three academic units have basically been forced to create an alternate plan.

LAST WEEK, THE PHOENIX Committee, formed by members of the CCFA units that were not asked to move to COLA, proposed the formation of a new College of Communication to give the estranged departments a home.

The new college would preserve the identity and diversity of the individual departments, which could get lost in the COLA shuffle.

While SIUC Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Provost Benjamin Shepherd's main criticism of CCFA was the lack of centrality, the proposed College of Communication would provide a unity and focus that previously was lacking under the CCFA administration, through centralizing the study of communications.

The three academic departments would have increased communication under the College of Communication proposal through more efficient course development.

THE PHOENIX COMMITTEE PROPOSED an alternate set of core classes for the College of Communications that would differ from COLA requirements.

In addition, certain classes would be eliminated and consolidated to increase the efficiency of the colleges and to save money.

The Phoenix Committee proposed that classes in the new college be cross-listed so that students would have freedom to choose courses outside their departments. As technology blurs the lines between once separate aspects of communications and the media, students will need to be proficient in areas outside their specialization. The cross-referencing of classes would afford students extra opportunities in the communication field.

THE MOVE TO COLA MAY BE in the best interests of some departments who will benefit from the better administrative leadership.

But academic departments involved in communications would lose much in the transition. Students, staff and faculty in communications have special needs that cannot be fulfilled from an integration with COLA.

The College of Communications may not be the best choice, but for the abandoned departments, it is a workable choice. A void must be filled that was created by the Planning committee, who devalue a field that is of critical importance as we approach the 21st century.

Letters to the Editor

Message fine but mistakes abound

For a long number of years, I have suffered silently through the inconsistencies, headline errors, misspellings, poor grammar and plain simple errors of fact printed in the Daily Egyptian. Such errors occur because the writer failed to accurately check the facts or allow proofing of their story by the individual or group spokesperson concerned.

I have long realized this paper is (or is supposed to be) a teaching and learning tool, and mistakes can be overlooked, however, the editorial of the November 25 issue finally "snapped the cable." I APPLAUD THE DAILY EGYPTIAN EDITORIAL STAFF FOR THE FOCUS UPON THE TOPIC OF THE EDITORIAL AND STRONGLY SUPPORT THEIR MESSAGE, for I am an avid women's basketball fan! I am therefore grateful that they do indeed recognize that the SIUC women's basketball team is very deserving of fan support, and have expressed that recognition!!

I was, however, very upset that the editorial was full of errors of fact which may well have detracted attention from the message they were trying to express. These errors were too numerous to elaborate each one, but some of those most glaring were: 1) The women Salukis have NOT played in Saluki gym since 1986. 2) The team advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament NOT conference in 1992. 3) The fourth star senior is Tiffany Bolden NOT Tiffany Balder.

I do however, compliment you on your support of the women Salukis!! — DuWayne C. Engelt, Professor in Zoology

To avoid holocaust, America should act

Recently, we have been hearing about the atrocities committed by 'Neo-Nazi' skinheads on foreigners in Germany.

It seems like everyone just reads about it and does nothing.

This is distributing considering what happened in Germany fifty years ago.

On November 24, 1993, the Daily Egyptian published a story that three foreigners were killed in Germany by right wing extremists.

Despite all these acts of violence, the German government has not undertaken any action to curb extremist activities.

Meanwhile, these belligerent individuals infringe upon the acts of other people.

Foreigners are blamed for the immense and difficult problems that now plague the German nation.

The right wing extremist use the innocent foreigners as a scapegoat for the internal problems of Germany.

It is time for the American government to exert pressure on Germany to stop this madness.

It is a moral duty for America to save innocent foreigners before they are killed one by one.

America should act now before everything gets out of hand like the war, it is in Bosnia.

If nothing is done about this problem, history will repeat itself and we will see another holocaust in the immediate future. — Chris Tirtha, doctorate student, physics and Dewayne T. Bowlin, graduate, chemistry

Third world order, equality — you got it

When they came for the Neo-Nazis, I did not help, I believe in the right to free speech, but not theirs.

When they came for the Conservative Southern Baptist, I did not help. I believe in freedom of religion, but not if you have to answer to God.

When they came for anti-abortionist, I did not help. I believe in a woman's right to choose, but not if their choice is life.

They hit the smokers, gun owners, and uninsured motorist, d-banded the military, and allowed free mass immigration which drove the wage level down to 75 cents an hour.

Under the guise of victims rights they eliminated the Exclusionary Rule, and the rights to Due Process.

When we finally eliminated the power of these filthy little pawns to challenge us we stacked the Congress with our boards of directors and reinstated the Sedition Act.

I still laugh at the dogs who used to call themselves liberal, my foolish slaves now willing to kill each other while scratching the ground for bread crumbs.

You wanted a new world order, you got it.

You wanted third world equality, you got that too.

Now pledge your allegiance to my global corporation, or I'll oil my machinery with your children's blood. — Brad Camis, Graduate, unclassified
UNIVERSITY, from page 1

VICE President of Student Affairs Harvey Welch said short-term loans are being made available to the victims of Sunday’s arson fire. “We are waiving a blanket exception to the victims of Sunday’s fire,” he said, “Student Affairs has the power to make this money available to the victims whether they are eligible to receive a loan or not, and we are going to do that.”

But Welch said he would like to see the victims exhaust the other avenues of assistance before they come to the University. “The Red Cross has announced a cash fund of $250,000, and over $2,500 has been collected by Pastor (Robert) Gray of Our Savior Lutheran Church,” he said. “Since those are gifts and not loans, I just want to get that money first.”

Juhlin called and said the day the response has been pretty good.”

“Cor said she had talked to at least 10 people from family housing and that they were very excited in helping to help.”

Katheryne Pavv, coordinator of student development is heading up the Volker Core. Pavv said she is contacting student organizations on campus such as the Greeks and other registered student organizations to help collect donated items, get them to the donation centers such as Our Savior Lutheran Church and distribute the collected items to the victims of the fire.

“We are also looking into the translation needs of the study both during now that they are in different places where they are used to,” she said.

“But we are not sure if that is a need or not.”

“The whole campus is pulling together in this,” she said. “It is really amazing.”

Gray who is coordinating the collections efforts at Our Savior Lutheran Church said at a press conference yesterday that about 1000 women’s sweaters, 750 clothes for women and men, tocolaries, and $2,500 dollars in cash.

Gray said they were offering what they could 20 minutes after also said the assistance for donations was made.

“We think we will be able to meet the immediate needs of the students pretty well,” she said. “The response was just absolutely overwhelming.”

SOMALIA, from page 1

force as powerful as the U.S. Marines.

“We welcome,” one teenager said, waving his AK-47 assault rifle. “Welcome to it. I will be happy to give it to the U.S. Marines.”

But in their routine radio broadcast, the Somali warlords, who have chopped up the capital into blocks of power and carved the starate conscription into novles of armed clans, stopped short of making such offers. They instead promised “full cooperation” with the American military forces that have invaded the United Nations, which sanctioned the unprecedented humanitarian operation.

INDIA, from page 1

The Carnegie appeared to be among the great powers most furthest from success in this first independent and partition 45 years ago. A Cabinet officer, who asked not to be named, said government officials have been “fed up” with the Indian government’s words against Pakistan. But other officials said the talks and the Hopkins PR in several ways, as heavily armed military troops order rest.

Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao’s minority government appeared in sharp disarray as calls increased for him to resign. Rao was shouted down twice in the lower house yesterday and was unable to speak in the pandemonium. Opponents called for a national strike today to protest the government’s failure to protect the Babri mosque and to keep religious peace.

Late Monday, the government moved to have fundamental groups, and there were reports that security forces might be massing to retake the temple grounds.

The always fragile religious tolerance in the world’s second most populous nation appeared to disintegrate in city after city, as enraged mobs of Hindus battled Muslims, who make up about 12 percent of the country’s 860 million people. Hardly have religious riots here spread so far so fast.

Many of the victims were killed when police opened fire on rampaging mobs that attacked temples, a crime that was also committed. The death toll was reported high, and the country’s business and exports.
"I've been hearing it from friends so they can open the doors to international students," Khan said.

"My friend lives on my wing, and the lobby is unsafe," he said. "But if that happens, I'll run out." He said he fears the complex.

"Everybody except two people upstairs are international students," Chaney said. "There isn't a lot of racial tension though, because international students and Americans never talk to each other.

"There's not been a pattern (of racial violence) there or anywhere else. Specifically, we've looked at police reports from the area and there's no indication that there's any kind of problem." — Don Strom

"There's not been a pattern (of racial violence) there or anywhere else," Strom said. "Specifically, we've looked at police reports from that area and there's no indication that there's any kind of problem."

But Pyramids resident Ronny Mark said he fears the fire was racially motivated because it was set deliberately in a predominantly international wing of the complex.

"Mark, a senior in chemistry from Tokyo, Japan, said he worries a fire or other violent crimes could happen on his wing, and other international students.

"Everyone knows the residents in the D-wing are international students," Mark said. "Since the fire was set deliberately, the (arsonists) knew we were going to hurt Japanese and Chinese students and that worries me."

Chris Chaney, a junior in aviation management from Centralia, said because the complex mostly houses international students, he also suspects the fire was racially motivated.

But, he said he does not think the arson was the result of an internal dispute, because there has not been noticeable racial tensions within the complex.

"Everyone except two people upstairs are (international students)," Chaney said. "There isn't a lot of racial tension though, because international students and Americans never talk to each other."

"My friend lives upstairs, and when he comes down the hall, they all go in their rooms," he said.

He said he thinks it should be mandatory for The Pyramids to have hallway fire extinguishers, many of which were removed and not replaced before the fall semester began.
Memories of victims alive in heart of friends, pros

By Chris Davies

A tragic fire at The Pyramids apartment complex that police say was caused by arson has claimed the lives of four of SILC's brightest students. Cheng Teck Wong was among them.

Wong was a senior in electrical engineering from Johor, Malaysia, who would have graduated this summer, died in the blaze.

Jah Wah Chin, dean of the College of Engineering, expressed the condolences of the entire college.

"It is a tragedy to see the death of such a young person," he said. "We are all heartbroken."

Chin said the college would award Wong his degree in electrical engineering posthumously.

"This young man had great potential and was an excellent student," he said. "We will grant him his degree, which he has earned.

Heartfelt emotions concerning the students' death reach across the entire campus.

Christopher Bock, a linguistics teaching assistant, was Wong's instructor. Bock said he had no warning classes.

"It was hard trying to teach the class Wong normally attended," he said. "Wong will be missed, he was a good student."

Wong's friends said the news of his death is too overwhelming to put into words.

Peng Po, a SILC graduate student in computer science, said the most difficult part of the situation was contacting Wong's parents.

"We contacted his parents, but I was not ready to break the news to them about Wong," he said.

"A friend who was on the line with me told them the news, and I transferred them in on the specifics," Po said.

Po said Wong was very involved in campus projects and was close to many of the international students at the University.

"Wong was vice president of the Chinese Student Association from 1990 to 91," he said. "He also was involved in the Malaysian association and was very helpful to those and other organizations.

Po said Wong's parents will arrive today to take care of funeral arrangements.

A good student, a likeable person

By Lynelle Marquardt

Ronald Moy, a 23-year-old senior from Chicago, planned to graduate in two weeks with a degree in economics. But he was one of four killed in the Sunday morning fire at The Pyramids apartment complex.

Moy is remembered by acquaintances as quiet, a good student.

Michael Shields, associate professor of economics, was an advisor of Moy's.

"He was a good student and he was a very quiet, likeable person," Shields said. "In two weeks, he would have been home — safe."

Greg Skyles, a graduate assistant in public administration from Lake Zurich, said he remembers Moy from a biology class.

"He was a real sharp guy — pretty intelligent. He used to go out of his way to be helpful to people," Skyles said.

"Ron was a very quiet person who often helped me study for tests. He said the degree of the disaster hit him when he realized he knew one of the victims of the blaze.

'We were like kind of the color red, vivid, bright and always smiling'

By Jeremy Finley

An SILC student from Kowloon, Hong Kong, has been described as enthusiastic, talented, and even as the color red.

Lai Wah Tam was described as the color red by her friend and dance partner Melissa Castells, a junior in forensic resource management from Rockford, Illinois.

"She was kind of like the color red, vivid, bright, and smiling," she said. "She was always smiling.

"She was close with four students who lost their lives at The Pyramid apartment complex Sunday morning. Tam was a senior in marketing scheduled to graduate in December.

She was very involved on campus, especially with the Southern Illinois Repertory Dance Theatre. Castells said.

"She was a dancer," she said. "In Hong Kong, she taught little girls dance. She was mainly a Ballerina and did modern dance.

Donna Wilson, assistant professor of physical education and faculty coordinator of the group, said Tam was selected for the group in 1991 and was extremely dedicated to all the interests in her life.

"Whenever she made a commitment, she gave 100 percent," she said. "Her studies were very important to her. She had a great sense of humor. She was a very interested young lady."

Tam also had talent in the classroom.

Linda Sehler, Tam's academic adviser, said Tam took a lot of classes and seemed to handle them well.

"She was an excellent student, and she was taking an exceptional overload of classes," she said.

Robert Waldron, a Ph.D lecturer in marketing and finance, said Tam was a student of his, and the event has left him in a state of shock.

"I have nothing but praise and sorrow for her," he said.

"It's a rare loot, not only to the University, but a whole lot to humanity."

Waldron said Tam was taking a very difficult case analysis class, and was doing well with the course.

"She was an extremely dedicated student," he said. "She was truly an outstanding student."

Tam also involved with making international students feel at home at her chosen University.

Carla Coppel, assistant director of International Programs and Services, said Tam was one of the most active members of the organization.

Coppel said Tam played a large part in student orientation.

"I knew her, everyone knew her," she said. "She helped us guide students in the new student activities. Everything that we needed from her she would give."

Coppel said being a student volunteer that helps with student orientation requires being friendly and outgoing, and Tam had all these qualities and more.

Above all, Castells said Tam had a beautiful personality.

"She always made you feel good about yourself," she said. "I can't believe someone would do this. I think President Guyoo should give her a diploma, or give it to her parents."

"A quiet person with a sweet disposition"

By Melissa Willo

A lecturer in the departments of marketing and finance said Kimioka Ajitaka was a very likeable student.

"She was an A student," Robert Waldron said. "I enjoyed having her in class because she was very personable with a good sense of humor."

Ajitaka, 25 a senior in marketing from Osaka, Japan, died in a fire Sunday morning at The Pyramids apartments.

She was remembered Monday as a quiet, gentle person and a very dedicated student.

John Galvan, a senior in marketing from Rockford, said as a classmate Ajitaka was quiet and soft-spoken.

"She never had much to say but she seemed to know what she was doing," Galvan said.

Joe Harder, lectures in marketing, said Ajitaka was a dedicated student.

"Her attendance in class was essentially perfect," Harder said. "She had a sweet disposition, but she was a quiet person. She was always smiling when you went up to her."

Harder said Ajitaka didn't stand out in the crowd, but through the course of the semester he came to expect her face.

"It was certainly shocking to think this could be a result of a fire, but I have met a few people," he said.

Cindy Lai, a sophomore in psychology from Singapore, said she frequently saw Ajitaka and a friend in the bandroom on the weekends.

"I knew she was graduating this semester," Lai said. "I also heard her say, 'I was looking for a marriage waiting for her in Japan."

'We hope she will recover through a miracle'

By Sanjey Seth

A Special Assignment Writer

Memories and hope remain alive for Mohd. Abu Wahid.

Wahid, from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was one of the victims of the fire that raged through the apartment complex, killing four instantly and injuring several others.

He remains in critical condition at the Belleville Memorial Hospital. Wahid was pronounced brain dead at the hospital Sunday.

Friends, instructors and acquaintances remember one outstanding characteristic about the freshman in vocational education — her enthusiasm for life and her work.

Wan Kamal Wan Ngi, vice president for international affairs of the International Student Council, said he initially was shocked to learn of Wahid's condition.

Napi, a fellow Malaysian national, visited the hospital Sunday, where she remains in the intensive care unit hooked to a life support system.

"There were about 60 Malaysian students at the hospital who came from all over to see her," Napi said. "Students come from SILC, St. Louis University and University of Missouri at St. Louis."

Napi said it was heartwarming to see people who did not even know Wahid present at the hospital.

"We all joined in praying the Yasen from the Konon (the Sacred B. of Islam)," Napi said.

The Yasen is the Muslim last rites prayer and it is performed so that the soul may leave the body in peace, he explained.

"We still hope Maslin — will recover through some miracle," Napi said. "We will continue to pray for her."

"I have spoken personally to the doctor in charge of Wahid and asked him the inevitable question. Would Wahid recover?"

"The doctor told me she only had a 1- or 2-percent chance of recovery," Napi said. "He also said that in his 20 years of experience, he would never have guessed a patient in as bad a condition as Maslin could still be alive — that gives me hope."

Napi said he had got to know Wahid when she agreed to his request to join the International Student Council.

Wahid was impressed with her portfolio of leadership qualities and experience in various capacities Wahid previously held in Malaysia.

Wahid also was the treasurer of the Malaysian Student Association.

Wahid had worked for a year as a stenographer, and was a tutor in the 'Institut Teknologi Masa,' an exclusive private school for high school graduating seniors.

Napi also was an academic adviser and held the position of residential staff in the ITM for two years.

"I have known her since she joined my class and she proved her enthusiasm through her work," Napi said. "I remember her telling me she loved the work and her enthusiasm."
Electronic substitute

Digital keyboards offer advantages, top Christmas gift lists

By Dan Leahy

Although toys may top most Christmas lists this year, some children will be looking for a musical instrument from Santa.

The piano has long been a favorite choice of kids of all ages, but the increased popularity of electronic keyboards shows the choice is becoming a difficult one.

"Electronic keyboards are less expensive than a new piano. The smaller keyboards retail for about $100, while a small upright piano runs anywhere from $1,200 to $2,000. Keyboards also possess an array of pre-set rhythms, different instrument sounds, and chords that harmonize automatically. But electronic keyboards are not considered toys by the stores selling them," Bill Beatty, owner of Beattie's Music Plaza in Benton, said that keyboards for outlet the traditional piano at his store.

Beatty said increased exposure to computers at an early age makes the computer-like keyboards fun for children.

"We are entering the digital world of music," Beatty said.

Jim Byasse, owner of Byasse Keyboard and Sound in Marion, said electronic pianos have come a long way by gaining acceptance in the marketplace for their quality.

"Electronic pianos are taking away from the expensive piano market that once meant the piano was poorly made," he said.

Byasse said although an electronic piano is a better learning tool for a child, they have not overtaken the piano market as some predicted 10 years ago.

"Electronic pianos probably have about 20 percent of the market right now," he said.

While many people find electronic keyboards interesting, there are some things to be aware of.

Donald P. Beattie, director of piano instruction at SIUC's School of Music, still feels that learning piano will help a beginner avoid the problems that come with switching from keyboard to piano.

"Changing from the electronic keyboard to the acoustic piano is a long-distance runner practicing on a smooth track and running a race in the sand," he said. "If you want a toy, it's great."

Beattie said keyboards offer advantages such as being portable and having a plug-in for headphones that makes for silent practice at any time of the day or night.

But all things considered, Beattie said he still prefers a real piano for beginners.

"If we’re talking about love of music and serious study, we’re talking about the acoustic piano," he said. "There is no real substitute."

Panelists charge ‘Malcolm X’ about money, not biography

By Lynelle Marquardt

Panelists in a discussion Sunday said the movie "Malcolm X" was a commercial money-making project and not a documentary.

Panelist Madlyn Stalls, a developmental skills training specialist and visiting professor in black American Studies, reminded everyone the movie was based on factual evidence.

"It would be good to compare how taking a commercial film and looking for a solution to the racial problems, she said. "The purpose of the film was a commercial money-making activity — not a documentary."

Instead of looking to the movie for solutions to the racial problems, Stalls recommended looking into Malcolm X’s life.

"We should look to look at how this person in reality looked for solutions in his life," she said.

Abdul Haq, leader of the Carbondale Moslem Center, was also a panelist. He also said people should learn from Malcolm X’s life.

"When you look at Malcolm’s life, you should be able to find something from each stage of his life," he said. "Malcolm saw himself as a living solution."

Haq said Malcolm X believed moral reformation was needed first. Also the African-American people needed a belief and dignity of themselves.

Iblil Haq, director of SIUC’s Head Start, said the different stages of Malcolm X’s life are important to learn about.

"That’s the meat of Malcolm’s life," she said. "Someone evolving, living, growing and learning. We grow based on experiences we have.

Panelists also discussed the scene in the movie when the flag was burned.

Panelist Lorenzo Henderson, an undergraduate studying administration of justice from Chicago, said the structure of society in the United States leads to the disrespect of the flag.

"As long as this lies of society exist we’re going to continue to disrespect the flag," he said.

Ann Saunders, associate professor of the School of Art and Design, said although some people disrespect the flag for various reasons, they also express good things as well.

"This is an interesting dichotomy," she said. "The ideas that are set down in the constitution are represented by the flag."

Pacifiers latest trend in hip-hop fashion symbol

By: Zaanews

NEW YORK — The world of street trends operates on a rule of contradiction.

"Fat" means "cool," "dope" means "hip," and teenage rappers Kris Krome wear their bassy Guu-jeans backwards.

Now, from this teen world normally associated with adult- erly comes the ultimate symbol of pacifier.

Inner-city teens have been spotted sporting small, plastic pacifiers around their necks. Some even suck on their "nipples" — available for $1 to $4 at street vendors and in boutiques in New York, Philadelphia and Washington — a kind of pet.

Elaine Tyrrell, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, wasn’t yet sure whether she would call the colorful, hard plastic items pacifiers or jewelry. But, she noted, it is illegal to produce real pacifiers with ropes, ribbons or necklaces attached because the items can then choke babies.

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Remember dreams accomplish wonderful things, and on March 7th 1993, ten dreams will come true. All of this for the low price of $10. To pick up your order form just visit the Southern Illinois University Student Center bowling and billiard establishment.*

* Tournament is open to U.S. residents 18 years of age and older. Void where prohibited by law. No purchase necessary. Send name, address and $5.00 postage and handling to Dream Shot Inc. P.O. Box 5050, Glendale, IL 60139.

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WAHID, from page 7

responsible and thoroughly punctual individual.

"She would be early for all the meetings and all the events we planned," Khan said, "She was also so polite and calm. Never got angry about anything at all."

Richard Bailey, a teaching assistant in linguistics at SIUC, spoke fondly of Wahid, a student in a class he taught.

Bailey said the students in his class were affected by her unfortunate accidents as well.
Brochure exploits misunderstandings says Liz Savage

By Vincent S. Boyd

Businesses seeking information about the Americans with Disabilities Act can contact a number of government and private agencies. But the information is generally free or offered at minimal cost.

- The federal agency that works on hiring the disabled. The data is available in standard print, large print, audio cassette, Braille or a computer disk.
- A program of the University of West Virginia, this organization can provide detailed information on requirements businesses need to follow.
- The Small Business Administration (1-800-868-2433).
- The National Council on Disability (1-800-875-1874).
- The American Clinical Laboratory Association (1-800-638-8255).
- The American English Language Hearing Association (1-800-638-8255).

Businesses are encouraged to contact the Washington-based Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, Washington, D.C. It has conducted seminars around the country, training disabled people.

Savage said she has encountered widespread ignorance about who is legally required under the ADA.

She said she wants to stress several points:

- ADA requirements are far simpler than people think. To meet the legal requirements of the law, usually only minor changes to existing businesses are needed.
- For most non-retail companies, structural or architectural changes to accommodate the disabled will not be required until disabled individuals are hired.
- The ADA is not a quota bill.

- The ADA will require many companies to rewrite their employment application forms; to install more open-door policies for disabled applicants, and to provide special training for the disabled.
- The ADA provides businesses with guidelines to do what is financially and physically reasonable.

Cross-up in line swamps student with hotline calls

By Brian Gross

A phone line cross-up swamped an automatic calling system with more than 100 calls in three hours Sunday night from relatives seeking information on a widespread alert about the Pyramids apartment fire.

An alert went out over local police scanner from St. Louis, who found his home night to find. He was all scrambling and machine. He talked to 80 people from 14 states and two countries before he found the problem.

A University hotline number was set up to provide information on Sunday's fire. The family was sent to the service and broadcast on CNN, phone calls came in from around the United States and the world.

The system was crossed temporarily Sunday night, and Elsetime to place operator at 11 p.m.

"I didn't know what to tell them," he said. "I had to keep answering the phone in case it was the phone company. They were all scrambling to find out what happened."

The phone company did not explain what happened, Elsetime said. "Our number is not any number," he said of the hotline number, 453-5775.

GTE spokesman Jim Marin said he did not know what happened. SICU handles its own number, but sometimes GTE is asked for help, he said.

The hotline is being handled by the office of International Programs and Services.

Rosie Brown, a receptionist in the office, said she had been busy all day. Monday, said the calls slowed down some Monday afternoon. She said she was not sure how long the hotline would be open, but more than 80 operators would continue answering the phones at night.

Another person also received phone calls by mistake Sunday night. Brown said the wrong number was given by local media. University News Service said a typo was made in giving out the number to the media.

Groups offering helo to small businesses on details of how to hire disabled workers

By Vincent S. Boyd

Businesses operating out of the Small Business Incubator, said the business has not been contacted by the ADA.The business called the hotline number, which she said was mispronounced about the law.

"Small businesses persons are being taken advantage of," Savage said.

The manifold is provided free of charge by the federal government.

The Carbondale Chamber of Commerce said it has received no complaints about businesses without employment and public facilities more open to the disabled, "Savage said.

Mark Jones, sales manager for InfoQuest, a computer business that has received no charge since Sunday night, and sometimes been given by local media. He did not know what happened.

Savage, who is legally blind and a graduate student, was given by the company.

"She doesn't think she is responsible for businesses that open a family restaurant or a craft shop," Haywood said. "She didn't think she was responsible for running a business that was not open to the disabled."

"We need to educate the business community, and we will educate the business community," Savage said.
Irrescent droppings found, FAA analyzes to find origin

Zapgreg

Perhaps there is some timid old airplane — its nose dragging, its tires baled, its doors spotted with rust — rumbling in and out of O'Hare International Airport with a badly leaking toilet.

How else can one explain the descent of reports to the Federal Aviation Administration last week from pilots in a Chicago metropolitan area who believe an airplane's lavatory has dripped its contents on their homes and cars, their picnic tables and swimming pool covers?

The calls to the FAA followed news dispatches from a neighborhood in DuPage County that found itself draped with a 150-yard-wide, half-mile-long swath of odorless, iridescent green droppings.

According to a preliminary analysis, those droppings, which landed Wednesday on a neighborhood south of Burr Ridge, contain the green disinfectant used in airplane lavatories, said Michael E. Mont Elskelin, an FAA spokesman.

A second, similar sample was taken Friday by the DuPage County Health Department from a home in Warrenville, more than 10 miles away, according to officials.

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**Religion prevails regardless of Christmas commercialism**

By Melissa Willis

Entertainment Writer

Religious themes on the holiday still prevail despite a growing flood of Christmas commercialism.

Churches throughout Carbondale are preparing celebrations for this very special holiday.

Rev. B. R. Hollins of Rock Hill Baptist Church, 219 E. Monroe St., said the commercialism has gone into Christmas.

"But with the economy and job employment down, people are searching and looking toward the church for the Christ of Christmas and hope," he said.

Hollins said his church will celebrate Christmas at 7 p.m. Dec. 20 with a "Worship Around the Christmas Tree."

Gary Tindall, assistant manager at Venture, said the public has built up commercialism in the retail business.

"The retailer is in the marketplace to offer products and services to consumers to meet holiday needs," Tindall said. "We are out there to render a service to consumers as they are buying in the spirit of giving."

Tindall said that in the competitive marketplace each retailer is trying to get the jump on the other.

"With the state of the economy, retailers are putting in an extra effort to get Christmas items out," he said. "We started putting holiday items on the floor in mid-October."

Bill Baker, public relations coordinator of Wal-Mart Corporation said the day after Christmas was the kickoff into the holiday season.

"I don't see it being different this year from any other year as far as commercialism goes," Baker said. "Some years are up, some years are down. It depends on the voting of the values of the holiday that have held fast."

Baker said the main focus of the corporation is to take care of the customers.

"We try not to do anything our customers would not want us to," he said. "If we make a purchase it is always with the customers welfare in mind."

Gary R. Beljan, vice president of Illinois Retail Merchant Association said, Christmas is what people make it.

"The '90s is a decade of values," Beljan said. "People are building a framework that includes getting back to the basics of life, including Christmas traditions."

"In a sense Christmas is being tailored and perverted through commercialism," he said. Christmas is about prophecy, not profit.

Other people believe the real meaning of Christmas is still being celebrated.

Rev. Richard W. Padden of First Presbyterian Church USA, 310 S. University Ave., said for those who believe in the religious part of the season, commercialism is not overshadowing the real meaning of Christmas.

"I believe that it is appropriate that people give gifts in celebrating God's gift to human kind," Padden said.

"It is an appropriate response in spite of the headlines and the reality of life, there is a new song of joy and hope being sung around the world to celebrate the birth of a baby."

Padden's church will have a traditional Christmas Eve service at 6:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Rev. Donald G. Carlton of First Methodist Church, 214 W. Main St., said his church will celebrate Christmas Eve with two candlelight services at 7 and 11 p.m.

"We will reflect on the meaning and the birth of Christ," he said.

"We hope to provide an inspirational worship for our congregation and strengthen faith."

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 303 S. Peckar St., will celebrate Christmas Eve Mass at 5:30 p.m., a traditional Midnight Mass at 12 Christmas Day Mass at 9 a.m. on Dec. 25.

Roger Perich, director of music for the church, said the celebration for Christmas begins on Christmas Day.

"For most stores, Christmas ends on the 24th," Perich said.

Debbie Nettler, who directs the Religion of Christmas, the religious reason is the reason to celebrate. We celebrate Advent, the period including the four Sundays before Christmas, and the 12 days of Christmas from Dec. 25 through Jan. 6.

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**Have a safe holiday.**

*Drive Smart/Drive Sober*

Help keep the holidays joyous.

The Daily Egyptian, in cooperation with MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), is offering "Drive Smart/Drive Sober" tags free at the front counter in Room 1259 of the Communications Building. Please bring one in and pick up and remind yourself and your friends to have a safe Holiday Season.

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Mother Goose and Grimm by Mike Peters

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1. Movie 1991
2. Cartoon
3. Cube or block
4. Connect
5. Cat ear
6. Balloon
7. Caption
8. Alley cat
9. Library
10. Photo
11. Poster
12. Airport
13. Telephone
14. Library
15. Caption
16. Airport
17. Telephone
18. Harry
19. Street
20. Spell
21. Drink
22. Chemical prefix
23. Chemical prefix
24. Chemical prefix
25. Chemical prefix
26. Chemical prefix
27. Chemical prefix
28. Chemical prefix
29. Chemical prefix
30. Chemical prefix

Down
31. City block
32. Automobile
33. Home
34. Piano's name
35. Color
36. State
37. Musical sign
38. Hotel
39. Movie genre
40. Spice
41. Small weight
42. Broad
43. Actress
44. Magazine
45. Horse
46. Low
47. Shop
48. Corner
49. Small
50. Guy
51. Album
52. Seat
53. Four
54. Car passenger
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Across
1. I suggest you're one of those men who don't even date anymore.
2. Are you finding it?
3. I don't even care anymore.

Down
1. What will it take to reduce your staff by 30 percent?
2. Well, I've run some numbers...
3. And I figure I'll take about 85 rounds a piece.

Reverse Psychology

Kind of Risky, Don't You Think?
Right, the City of Carbondale float driven by six mechanical horses and a snowman rolls down Illinois Avenue. The float won the first place trophy for the second year for the best float. Below left, Shelly Stewart a sophomore at SIUC, marches in the Lights Fantastic Parade. Below right, Santa Claus rides down Illinois Avenue pulled by his nine lighted reindeer. An estimated 11,000 people braved the 30 degree weather and packed South Illinois Avenue Saturday night for the parade. More than 60 lighted floats, vehicles and marching bands, 27 more than 1991, made up the parade.

Staff photos
by
Ed Finke

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emphasizes on defense under Bender, along with an extensive use of the bench. The only Redbird to average double figures last season was senior forward Steve Fitz.

The MVC coaches' poll picked ISU to finish right behind the Salukis in conference play, but the title could be a toss up said Redbird guard Richard Thomett. "You could have gone with anyone from us to Southwest and even Tulsa in picking the top MVC team," he said. "A lot of teams are hungry for the title, including us."

ISU was 2-0 in preseason action against Arkansas-Express and the Iowa State National team and is 1-0 in the regular season after beating Lewis.

SMSU is expected to finish amongst the top teams in the MVC after finishing the season in third place at 13-5 and ending it off in triumph by winning the MVC tournament in St. Louis. Headed by new head coach Mark Bormen, SMSU will return four starters among the 10 lettermen that are back from last season's Salukis. Bormen was an assistant coach for the Bears before taking over for departed Charlie Spoothour, now head coach for St. Louis University.

Senior guard Rodney Perry said having Bormen as a head coach will not be like having a new coach at all. "Since he was an assistant to coach Spoothour, we know coach Bormen very well and we are expecting no surprises," he said. "I don't think it will shake us up as a team."

Returning starters, senior guard and unanimous all-conference selection Jackie Crawford said as far as the competition goes, SMSU is ready for anyone. "I think we are an older, more experienced team this season having been to the NCAA's last year, and we know what mistakes we need to avoid in order to win," he said.

SMSU was 2-0 in preseason and is also undefeated in regular season action after beating Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas State, and Idaho.

Tulsa is a team that has been on the rise after finishing the season 12-2 in the MVC. It ended its stint in the championship game of the MVC season after upsetting the favorite to win it all—SJC.

This season Tulsa returns four starters and a total of seven letterwinners, but the future of its season may end up on a bleak note. Tulsa was placed on NCAA probation that will prohibit the Golden Hurricane from competing in post season action, including the MVC tournament.

Tulsa was 2-0 in preseason and is now 2-2 for the regular season after a split with Hawaii. They suffered a loss against Long Beach State and defeated North Texas in their home opener.

Rounding out the MVC are Wichita State, Indiana State, Northern Iowa, Creighton, Bradley and Drake.

While these teams are not expected to pose a major threat overall, there is talent that could pull some upsets on the season, said Tulsa head coach Orlando "Tubby" Smith. "As a whole, the conference will be better from top to bottom as it's been in a long time," he said.

BASEBALL, from page 16

form a Rainbow Sports Commission to look into the such issues as the exploitation of black college athletes and how they are prepared for life beyond the athletic field.

And while his current target is major-league baseball, Jackson was also critical of the National Football League. Both will be

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Puzzle Answers

BASKETBALL, from page 16

Kenyon, the previous division three NCAA champions were the prettiest "good Victorian," he said.

Finishing first for the Salukis included Tony "razzle in the 1650 freestyle with a time of 15:56.22; Randy Roberts in the 100 backstroke with a time of 51.93, and Chris Hagenbaumer in the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:07.54.

The Saluki relay team of Ryan Kelley, Trent Fischer, Mark Wicher and Doug Filling was successful in the 200 freestyle event placing first with a time of 1:25.76.

The Saluki 400 medley relay team of Roberts, Filling, Hagenbaumer and Wicher finished first with a time of 3:25.92.

WOMEN, from page 16

NCAA consideration in the 400 individual medley.

"The meet went really well. There was a lot of team spirit," Davis said, "I'm shooting for qualifying time (in the 400 IM) now. To do this, I'll have to swim practice twice a day during the next month working extremely hard.""
Santa’s job not so easy

By Lynelle Marquardt
General Assignment Writer

Santa Claus never ceases to be amazed by what kids will ask for for Christmas. And sometimes being Santa isn’t easy when he has to tell children they can’t have everything they want.

Santa said some of the children he talks with at the University Mall are greedier than others, and he tries to explain to these children that they cannot have everything.

“When they ask for big gifts, I just tell them there are a lot of children in the world and some of them don’t have enough to eat,” he said.

For children who ask for nearly impossible gifts, Santa uses families being reunited, Santa tells children that some things are up to the people involved.

“Santa, despite the magic of Christmas, can’t do some things,” he said. “You have to be careful not to give kids false hopes.”

Children are not the only ones who enjoy seeing Claus, he said.

“Some of the people who most enjoy Santa Claus are older people,” he said. “They get their joy from seeing the little ones seeing Santa Claus.”

Tony Daniels, a graduate assistant at the SLU Recreation Center, impersonates Santa Claus at the annual Women’s Center Christmas party.

Daniels, who is African-American, recalled a potentially uncomfortable situation at a party. A little girl told him he did not look like the real Santa.

“I believe everyone in the room was waiting to see what this little girl had to say,” Daniels said.

But the tension was broken quickly, and the situation turned comical.

“She said, ‘You’re not the real Santa Claus — your beard isn’t long enough!’

Daniels said he entertains the children with hip-hop versions of the traditional Christmas carols.

He said his favorite thing about being Santa Claus is that he is able to give his own gifts to the children.

“I get to make them laugh and smile,” he said. “I think they get as big a kick out of it as I do. It’s really a big kick to see the smiles on their faces when I come into the room.

“I also enjoy seeing the smiles on their mother’s faces,” he added.

Debbie Mack, mall marketing director, said University Mall has the true Santa and also five of Santa’s helpers because Santa is so busy this time of year.

About 70 kids from the Union County Head Start program in Anna visit Santa Claus at the University Mall. The children were on a field trip last Friday.

“We get Santa Claus himself from the North Pole,” she said. “Actually there are six Santa’s — one of whom is the real one and five of whom are his helpers.”

Mack said Santa’s helpers are chosen carefully.

“They are hired who have real lists and the kids have realistic sets, and some of the requests make the merry old saint laugh.

“Before hiring any of Santa’s helpers, an extensive background check is done,” Mack said.

After they are hired, the helpers attend a one day training session where they learn what to expect at the University Mall Santa helper, but mostly individual personalities make each of Santa’s helpers special.

Mack said Santa and his helpers will be at University Mall during mall hours until one hour before closing through Christmas Eve, when they must tend to other duties.

Santa said most of the kids who visit him have realistic lists, and some of the requests make the merry old saint laugh.

“I met these two little brothers about 5 and 6 years old,” he said. “One wanted a guitar and one wanted a saxophone because they wanted to start a band.

Another time, a child had a big request.

“There was kind of a big boy who wanted me to bring him a great big truck and a big motorcycle, and I asked if he had a great big chimney,” Santa said.

Santa said all he wants for Christmas is for everyone to have a Merry Christmas and to remember the real meaning of the season — peace and joy.

He said he looks forward to returning to the North Pole after Christmas.

“I look forward to all the work I have to do for the next Christmas and gearing up for the short gardening season at the North Pole,” he said.

Christmas Guide index

2 Video rental choices: classics vs. modern hits
5 Holidays are vulnerable: time for unfortunate
7 Economy may assist charities, raise funds
Trees traditional around world

More families buying transplants in 1992

By Jeremy Finley
Special Assignment Writer

Although a traditional fixture in homes across the United States, the Christmas tree has its roots in many nations around the world. According to "Let's Celebrate Christmas," by Carol Huppings, the Christmas tree is a German custom that is believed to be brought to the United States in two ways. The German-born Moravians who lived in Bethlehem, Pa., in the mid-18th century are sometimes credited for bringing the decorated tree. Also credited are the Hessian soldiers who during the Revolutionary War decorated trees during Christmas to remind them of their home in Germany.

According to "The Great American Christmas Almanac," by Irena Zole, the first Christmas tree was planted in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to California. But the origin of where the custom originated remains a mystery with several possible explanations, according to "Let's Celebrate Christmas."

The custom may come from pagan winter feasts where evergreens were used in fertility rites to insure that spring would come. The Christmas tree also is thought to be a descendant of the Paradise Tree used in medieval plays about Adam and Eve.

Rolly Mulligan, owner of Treasure in Carbondale, said his store both sells and grows trees, and he is seeing an increase of people who buy transplant trees. Mulligan said families will buy and plant a tree so they can have remembrances of past Christmases. Mulligan said families will buy and plant a tree so they can have remembrances of past Christmases. Mulligan said families will buy and plant a tree so they can have remembrances of past Christmases. Mulligan said families will buy and plant a tree so they can have remembrances of past Christmases.

"More people, particularly younger people, like to get the most for the money," he said.

People will buy both a cut tree and a smaller tree they can plant, often times having the two trees in the same room, Mulligan said. The most widely purchased tree is the scotch pine tree, he said. The scotch is a dense tree, with stiff needles and good color. Mulligan said he does not believe his business has been hurt by artificial trees.

"It's my belief that people are never proud to have an artificial tree," he said.

"Sometimes the tree is a hand-me-down from someone who didn't want it anymore," Patty Crowe, manager of Kirlin's at the University Mall, said the popularity of ornaments as gifts or decorations for Christmas is present and future.

Grandparents and parents will buy ornaments for their own homes; when they are on their own they will have ornaments for their own tree, she said. Crowe said the overall low prices of ornaments make them good gifts, but more so the ornaments can carry certain memories. "Most of the time the ornaments are inexpensive, and everyone seems to put up a tree," she said. "But each one will bring back memories from other years."

Crowe said though the store receives new ornaments every year from manufacturers, there are certain ornaments that remain popular. Train and carousel ornaments are regular favorites, but this year's most popular ornaments are more geared toward the individual, Crowe said.

"One of our most popular ornaments is the Star Trek ornament that is a second in a series," she said.
Laughter or cry with favorite holiday videos

Two connoisseurs of video offer their advice on the best selections to rent during the holiday season. Just like snowflakes, no two are alike.

One prefers flipping on a timeless holiday classic and gives a "Casey Classic" seal of approval to movies with the proper spectacle of Christmas cheer.

The other, weary of the sentimental dribble, recommends modern-day, realistic movies that make us laugh. The select few movies with the right mixture of humor and sentimentality are labeled with the "Tony Touch."

Casey: My first selection is absolutely the most monumental achievement in holiday films. "It's a Wonderful Life" takes a glimpse at the life of a suicidal businessman who is shown that the world is truly a better place with him in it. Clarence the guardian angel shows the confused George Bailey what a horrible place his town would be if not for Bailey's wonderful life.

Not only is it sincere and honest—watch only the black-and-white version, not the bomb; Ippenwal 10 movic!—calmly analytical and gives a "Cary Classic"

Tony: Oddly enough, the film was considered a bomb in its time, but it has evolved into one of the most beloved classics of all time. It provokes a mixture of emotions that let you see life as it should be—a luxury, not a hardship. And what else should be felt at Christmas?

Tony: What else? Humanity as it truly is, of course. Think of the timeless classic "A Christmas Story," my all-time favorite movie, starring Peter Billingsley as Ralphie. If Ralphie isn't an accurate picture of a child anticipating Christmas, I don't know who is. The hopes and fears of a young boy wanting THE ULTIMATE GIFT—and his efforts to convince everyone he should get it—make for a hilarious but heart-warming series of events. Almost everyone who celebrates Christmas can identify with that.

What is more realistic than a child acting for a Red Ryder BB-gun, a mother that thinks he'll shoot his eye out and a potty-mouthed father that wants to let him grow up like a normal 8-year-old?

Casey: More realistic? Try a little girl who questions the existence of Santa Claus—the man who brings children worldwide joy and happiness at Christmas. We all have doubts at some point or another, but the Oscar-winning "Miracle on 34th Street" actually supports the belief that Kris Kringle is more than a myth.

Casey: This, my friend, is a timeless classic—watching the trial of Santa has become as much a tradition as decorating the tree. And what could be more heartwarming than watching a mother and daughter's obstructed imagination take flight, and actually questioning to your own mind for a brief moment the existence of St. Nick?

Tony: He may not be heartwarming but how about...the frosty majesty of the winter landscape—and an a-hole in his bathrobe, empying a chemical toilet into the sewer. Now that is holiday humor. It is just the kind of awkward family humor that makes "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" one of the greatest movies of all time. Clark W. Griswold and family are razy to the point of exageration—even you could pick up on that.

But the exageration is only because too many crummy things happen to a family too full of dolts. The truth and beauty of the movie lies in the reality of Clark trying to give his family the perfect Christmas and stupid cousin Eddie using all his dim wits to ruin it. What family doesn't have characters like those two, and what family hasn't experienced similar crises during the holiday season?

Casey: Your egg nog must be spiked. My family has some characters, but come on—how can you find Christmas spirit in the turmoil of others? You need a lesson in Christmas 101 from the animal that actually saved the holiday. That's right, the beloved "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer."

Tony: Not only did "Rudolph" conquer unchatered ground in the way of live animation, but it continues to give people of all ages a memorable glance at life in the North Pole. Once again, my pick takes the unfortunate character and proves his worth. These classics pull off the strings of viewers' hearts, not their inner sense of humor. Anyone can laugh as a bunch of hapless souls wreak havoc at a Christmas gathering, but it takes a person with a keen sense of empathy to find joy; nay, in a light-hearted story of love and good will.

Tony: Emptiness, schmemptiness. Just like spilled egg nog, choice movies poke fun at the reality of Christmas. But people wanting a mix of love, good will and humor can get the whole package in "Home Alone."

Tears actually come to my eyes when I see scenes of families reunited after years of disagreement or after traveling thousands of miles to reach home. And for that touch of fantasy my partner loves so much, Kevin actually believes he made his family disappear.

But oh fun it is to watch an 8-year-old boy outsmart a couple of brainless cats, physically and mentally torturing them with lumps, on the head instead of lumps of coal.

Casey: Wait a minute, let me get this straight. You have tear ducts? Christmas really is full of delightful surprises. You always reminded me of that stiff who hated Christmas—I believe his name was Ebenezer Scrooge. Charles Dickens' tale of the man whose Christmas spirits have been shattered in "A Christmas Carol" cannot be outdone.

Visitied by three ghosts, Scrooge is shown the error of his ways and receives a fresh outlook on Christmas and life in general. Once again, this classic tale sends the message that a gracious and generous attitude is the only path to true happiness. And there's many versions available, with stars ranging from George C. Scott to Mickey Mouse.

Tony: For those that can't relate to jolly OLD Englad like you can. Mr. Shakespeare, the newer version of the movie, "Scrooged," offers a look at a cold, calculating, callous network executive that will go as far as stapling paper antlers to mice to make a buck.

People today have strayed much further from the Christmas spirit than they did in old Ebenezer's time, and Bill Murray's role fits the bill of many professionals in the 1990s.

But the main reason this movie is better is the humor. Instead of simply showing how far removed the modern-day Scrooge is from holiday spirit, the ghost of Christmas present smashes him in the head with a toaster. Much more effective than letting him figure it out on his own, isn't it?

Casey: Your points are well-taken, and I must admit I'm a sucker for modern-day Christmas tales, too. This season seems to bring people so much joy they lack throughout the year, and when films—classics or not—are able to capture that cheer, well, they've got my vote. Take some time out this Christmas to watch any of the videos mentioned, and I guarantee you can't go wrong.

Tony: Actually, the classics are pretty high in my book. Too. Old or new, realistic or not, the "Casey Classic" and "Tony Touch" award-winniers all will give viewers a special Christmas feeling of well-being. They are all quality films that make us realize just how important the holidays are.

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Open letter to Santa: Magic is in believing

Dear Santa Claus,

Unlike the vast majority of your mail, Santa, this is not a letter about what I want for Christmas or how I am looking forward to your arrival on Christmas Eve. That's what I would have written about 10 years ago.

Santa. I recall placing homemade cookies and a glass of milk on the table for you before drifting into sleep at an unusually early hour on Christmas Eve. Then the following morning I would leap from bed with the slightest crack of daylight and rush to the tree to behold the wrapped treasures awaiting me.

But one Christmas several years ago my hopes dashed a way as quickly as your sleigh in the brisk winter air. I saw my parents eating the cookies I had left for you, and it was they—not you—placing gifts under the tree.

I had defended you in front of all my friends who claimed you were a fake only to be deceived on Christmas Eve!

Well, I'm in college now, and I should know better than to think an old man in a red suit could spread Christmas cheer around the world. I know you'll never read this letter. I also know you won't squeeze down my chimney on Christmas Eve to deliver gifts or eat the cookies left for you. You never have.

Yet I still believe in you.

You see, Santa, some of my childhood faith has been contained after years of rude awakening to how the real world functions. I live in a world full of skepticism, a world in which things people cannot see or touch are deemed bogus. You, dear Santa, are included on that list.

But the Santa Claus I awaited with febrile anticipation every Christmas was not an old man with a beer gut who dropped around a sack full of toys. The Santa I revered was one of dream—dreams—that the world would be peaceful and people everywhere would receive a bit of happiness on Christmas morning.

And that is the Santa in whom I still believe.

I find Christmas to be the season of perpetual hope. Each holiday season, I see a world of harsh realities miraculously transform into a deliverance of joyful sharing among multitudes of people. Yet the same people find it difficult to grasp the concept of a Santa Claus.

Santa, you are not a lie. For more than 1,500 years you have inhabited the spirit of Christmas as the famous gift-bearer, hovering in the hearts of believers everywhere. You have brought Christmas cheer to a countless number of children worldwide—as you did when I was young—and each year they put their whole-hearted faith and trust in you to do so. But that childhood faith is what makes our existence tolerable, and it's been lost in many people.

I don't care that you never appeared when I stayed up all night waiting for you to come down my chimney. Some of the finest wonders of the world cannot be seen, nor envisioned by even the most vivid imagination. Santa Claus is real in the hearts of those capable of believing, those who can put faith in what cannot be seen.

Without this ability, Santa, there would be no love, no romance, no hopes, no dreams—nothing to make life worth living. These things, like you, Santa, rely on faith for their existence, and without them, where would the world be?

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Two connoisseurs of video offer their advice on the best selections to rent during the holiday season.

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Not only is it sincere and honest—watch only the black-and-white version, not the one with the Cinerama pink and blue colors added—but it is one of a few films that secures its theme without the influence of a jolly little man in a sleigh.

Oddly enough, the film was considered a bomb in its time, but it has evolved into one of the most beloved classics of all time. It provokes a mixture of emotions that let you see it as you should be— a luxury, not a hardship. And what else should be felt at Christmas?

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Casey Hampton
Casey Classics
1. "It's a Wonderful Life"
2. "Miracle on 34th Street"
3. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"

Tony Mancuso
Tony Touches
1. "Christmas Story"
2. "Christmas Vacation"
3. "Home Alone"

For a Red Ryder BB-gun, a mother that thinks he'll shoot his eye out and a poverty-monger father that wants him to grow up like a normal 8-year-old?

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But the exaggeration is only because too many crummy things happen to a family too full of dolts. The truth and beauty of the movie lies in the reality of Clark trying to give his family the perfect Christmas and stupid cousin Eddie using all of his dim wits to ruin it. What family doesn't have characters like those two, and what family hasn't experienced similar crises during the holiday season?

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Tony: Empathy, a-chroma. Just like spiked eggnog, choice movies poke fun at the holiday season. People can't face a mix of love, good will and humor can get the whole package in "Home Alone."

Tony: Actually comes to my eyes when I see scenes of families reunited after years of separation or after traveling thousands of miles to reach home. And for that touch of fantasy my partner loves so much, Kevin actually believes he made his family disappear.

But oh what fun it is to watch an 8-year-old boy outsmart a couple of brainless oafs, physically and mentally torturing them with lumps on the head instead of lumps of coal.

Casey: Wait a minute, let me get this straight. You have tear ducts? Christmas really is full of delightful surprises. You always reminded me of that stiff who hated Christmas—I believe his name was Ebenezer Scrooge. Charles Dickens' tale of the man whose Christmases have been shattered in "A Christmas Carol" cannot be undone.

Visited by three ghosts, Scrooge is shown the error of his ways and receives a fresh outlook on Christmas and life in general.

Once again, this classic tells the message that a gracious and generous attitude is the only path to true happiness. And there's something for everyone, with stars ranging from George C. Scott to Mickey Mouse.

Tony: For those that can't relate to jolly OLD England like you can, Mr. Shakespeare, the newer version of the movie, "Scrooged," offers a look at a cold, calculating, callous network executive that will go as far as stapling paper antlers to mice to make a back.

People today have strayed much further from the Christmas spirit than they did in old Ebenezer's time, and Bill Murray's role fits the bill of many professionals in the 1990s.

But the main reason this movie is better is the humor; instead of simply showing how far removed the modern-day Scrooge is from holiday spirit, the ghost of Christmas past smashes him in the head with a toaster. Much more effective than letting him figure it out on his own, isn't it?

Casey: Tony's points are well-taken, and I must confess from a sucker for modern-day Christmas tales, too. This season seems to bring people so much joy they lack throughout the year. And when films—classics or not—are able to capture that cheer, well, they've got my vote. Take some time out this Christmas to watch any of the videos mentioned, and I guarantee you can't go wrong.

Tony: Actually, the classics are pretty high in my book, too. Old or new, realistic or not the "Casey Classic" and "Tony Torch" award-winners will all give viewers a special Christmas feeling of well-being. They are all quality films that make us realize just how important the holidays are.
SIUC's wish list for the holiday

By Christy Gutzewski
Special Assignment Writer

Although usually buried behind a desk of paperwork and planning proposals, SIUC administrators still find time for the spirit of Christmas and are asking Santa to give higher education a break from budget cuts.

Each official had individual wishes and concerns for the University in the coming year, but common themes on everyone's list included employee unity and money, money and more money.

Harvey Welch, vice president for student affairs, said he wished the University community could learn to live in peace and harmony.

"If we could learn to do that then all our problems would be solved," he said.

Welch also would like the University to receive a budget that would supplement its educational mission.

"But there's not a very good chance of that happening," he said.

John Jackson, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said he wishes Santa Claus was not a fictional character.

"If so, I'd ask for a barrel of money," he said.

Other deans had wishes for their schools and colleges, too.

Richard Moy, dean of the School of Medicine, asked for a little holiday magic.

"I wish there was some way we could magically undo the damage to morale and collegiality that has occurred in the past year because of budget restraints," he said.

Graduate School Dean John Yopp said he wishes the Illinois Board of Higher Education would decide all SIUC graduate programs should be kept and funded.

"I also wish the University community could work together in peace and harmony to decide what we should have in the way of graduate programs and do so before New Year's Day," he said.

Donald Beggs, dean of the College of Education, said "I hope the state of Illinois doesn't rescind any of its budget for higher education next year."

Russell Detcheverry, dean of the College of Science, said "I'd ask for money for the College of Science, a Ph.D. in Physics and then more money."

Juh Weh Chen, dean of the College of Engineering, said an engineering annex tops his Christmas list.

Chancellor James Brown said he has three wishes for the University for Christmas: money, love and understanding from those whom higher education serves.

In response to the damage done to SIUC's reputation from its ranking in Playboy magazine's top party school list, Jack Dyer, director of University Relations, said he wishes bankruptcy for the publication.

President John C. Guyon wished health and happiness to all University staff and students and asked Saint Nicholas for one additional favor.

Guyon said it would be nice if the acronym "POPE"—for IBHE's Priorities, Quality and Productivity Initiative—instead stood for Peace, Quiet and Prosperity.
Open letter to Santa: Magic is in believing

Dear Santa,

Unlike the vast majority of your mail, Santa, this is not a letter about what I want for Christmas or how I am looking forward to your arrival on Christmas Eve. That's what I would have written about 10 years ago.

Santa, I recall placing homemade cookies and a glass of milk on the table for you before drifting into sleep at an unusually early hour on Christmas Eve. Then the following morning I would leap from bed with the highest crack of daylight and rush to the tree to behold the wrapped treasures awaiting me.

But one Christmas several years ago my hopes dashed away as quickly as your sleigh in the brisk winter air. I saw my parents eating cookies I had left for you, and it was they—not you—placing gifts under the tree.

I had defended you in front of all my friends who claimed you were a fake only to be deceived on Christmas Eve?

Well, I'm in college now, and I should know better than to think an old man in a red suit could spread Christmas cheer around the world. I know you'll never read this letter. I also know you won't squeeze down my chimney on Christmas Eve to deliver gifts or eat the cookies left for you. You never have.

Yet I still believe in you.

You see, Santa, some of my childhood faith has been averted after years of rude awakenings to the real world functions. I live in a world full of skepticism, a world in which things people cannot see or touch are deemed bogus. You, dear Santa, are included on that list.

But the Santa Claus I awaited with fervent anticipation every Christmas was not an old man with a beer gut who dragged around a sack full of toys. The Santa I revered was one of dear—dreams that the world would be peaceful and people everywhere would receive a bit of happiness on Christmas morning.

And that is the Santa in whom I still believe.

I find Christmas to be the season of perpetual hope. Each holiday season, I see a world of harsh realities miraculously transform into a deliverance of joyful sharing among multitudes of people. Yet the same people find it difficult to grasp the concept of Santa Claus.

Santa, you are not a lie. For more than 1,500 years you have inhabited the spirit of Christmas as the famous gift-bearer, hovering in the hearts of believers everywhere.

You have brought Christmas cheer to a countless number of children worldwide—as you did me when I was young—and each year they put their whole-hearted faith and trust in you to do so. But that childhood faith is what makes our existence tolerable, and it's been lost in many people.

I don't care that you never appeared when I stayed up all night waiting for you to come down my chimney. Some of the finest wonders of the world cannot be seen, nor envisioned by even the most vivid imagination.

Santa Claus is real in the hearts of those capable of believing, those who can put faith in what cannot be seen.

Without this ability, Santa, there would be no love, no romance, no hope, no dreams—nothing to make life worth living. These things, like you, Santa, rely on faith for their existence, and without them, where would the world be?

Viewpoint
Casey Hampton
editor

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One person's cheer is another's depression, psychologists say

By Dave Kazale
General Assignment Writer

For many, Christmas evokes images of family gathered around the tree opening presents or sitting around the dinner table enjoying a turkey dinner. But for some from far away might die. Children play with cousins. Adults catch up on what is new.

But for others, Christmas evokes fear, panic and depression. Without a family to celebrate, they wonder what joy can be found in a season dedicated to giving and sharing loved ones.

This is the darker side of Christmas, the side that gets brushaside as the TV stations air "It's A Wonderful Life" 10,000 times in both the new colorized version and the black and white version.

The darker side has no place in the holiday juggling balls. It has no place on the brightly decorated city streets. But the darker side is linked to Christmas to the point where it is the happy image at Christmas that lead to things like depression.

Psychopharmacologist Evelyn Evans said one of the causes of holiday depression is the fantasy of what people imagine Christmas should be opposed to the reality of what it is for them.

"People depressed at Christmas time may have a family, but it may not be their dream of what an ideal family is," Evans said. "At this time of the year, people with heavy symbols of love and peace, and those symbols do not coincide with the context of their own life.

Evans said these expectations are what cause people to search for something good that has to do with the holidays, but they do not get.

Evans also said the culture helps to shape what people might get depressed at Christmas. She said when settlers first came to America, people were afraid of some type of police state, and because of that, parents taught their children that any discussion of home life was forbidden.

That view on the privacy of home life is now an aspect of our culture. Evans said we feel we must present a happy image to others even if things are terrible at home.

"As Christmas time there is an intensification of depression," Evans said. "The image of happiness is stronger at Christmas."

Carbondale psychologist Michael Althoff also said expectations are one of the biggest causes of depression at Christmas.

Althoff said Christmas is a time for children, things, and memories of childhood are brought back by those things. When those own childhood was not idealistic, depressed people will think about their life ideally, Althoff said. "In the conflicts of ideal versus real people come out feeling they are on the short end of the stick.

Some of those "real" factors could be things like lost or hurting relationships, Althoff said.

"People may have lost parents, boy- friend and girlfriend," he said. "Someone could remember back to a previous Christmas when things were good, and not there is no one to celebrate with."

Carbondale psychologist James Peterson called the heightened holiday expectations the "Commuter Illness." "The people shopping when you can't," he said. "You see people happy about what you depressed. This contrast in the comparisons is one thing that can cause depression."

Peterson said feelings tend to be intensified at Christmas time. For example, he said if people normally feel lonely, the feeling increases at that time of the year.

Althoff said another big factor to depressions the holidays is life money aspect.

"There is a lot of social pressure on people to buy presents for people," Althoff said. "You feel guilty about what you want money. "

"Wage earners have even more pressure on them," vi said. "They think people will look down on them if they don't give the family lost of present. Even the children get pressured from home by comparing what other kids got for Christmas to what they got."

Althoff also believed alcohol to be a factor in the formula for holiday depression.

"Alcohol is also known at Christmas there is more of it," he said. "People throwing parties and having family get-togethers encourages people to participate in a behavior, which is self destructive year-round, and even more so around the holidays.

For college students, other factors could have had an impact.

Psychopharmacologist Shawn O'Laughlin, who is a doctoral candidate at SIUC, said students face many challenges and stressful events at the holidays. Things like finals, packing everything away to go back home and finding the normal excuse of school all can lead to holiday depression for students.

"Another factor is that when students go home, they find themselves falling into the same parents and social roles that existed before they went to school," O'Laughlin said. "The student goes back to less control over their lives. It's not the house of apartment, and that can lead to depression."

The most important remedy for holiday depression is to remember all of the psychologist mentioned was the ability to talk to someone.

"The most important thing in general is seeking support," Althoff said. Other things that might be looked at easily is taking a realistic way as far as gift giving is concerned, he said.

Althoff said keeping some type of normal routine, like exercising or studying is a good way to fend off holiday depression.

"It's important to give yourself some type of activity to keep involved," he said. Althoff said looking at the real meaning of Christmas is another way to ease the holiday pressure.

White Christmas seekers should head to Chicago

By John rezanka
General Assignment Writer

A local meteorologist says residents of Southern Illinois who are dreaming of a white Christmas better wake up and smell the eggnog.

But SIUC students going home to Chicago for Christmas may wake up Dec. 25 and find their dream has come true.

A.D. Horley, a meteorologist, says the probability of seeing snow fall on Christmas is slim for Southern Illinois' but chances are better for people from northern Illinois.

"We have had a white Christmas in Southern Illinois three times in the last 92 years," Horley said.

He said Southern Illinois has a one in six chance of seeing snow falling on Christmas day and if you include all the snowflakes one week before Christmas, the chance is one in six of having some snow on the ground.

Northern Illinois has about a one in six chance of seeing snow falling on Christmas day and if you add one in three chance of having some snow on the ground, Horley said.

John Donson, SIUC professor of history, said having a white Christmas is part of the nostalgia associated with the holiday season.

The idea of a white Christmas really spread when the song "White Christmas" came out during World War II, he said. The song really caught on with U.S. troops stationed in the tropics. They were thousands of miles away from home fighting in a hot, sweltering war.

"I like to have a white Christmas but I prefer having a safe Christmas," Webb said. "During the Christmas season, there is more traffic, more partying and more alcohol involved in driving, which combined with snow, that increases the possibility of being involved in a vehicle collision."
Self-proclaimed Scrooge says ‘Humbug to all’

Traditionally the Christmas season has been thought of as a time to enjoy the company of family and friends, celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and most dentists on an open fire.

Maybe I’ve been living in a parallel universe but I have yet to experience a Christmas similar to the holiday described above.

Christmas is a time to be neurotic about hanging shiny balls on a dying evergreen tree in the living room and making notes of alternate exits from the house in case the tree erupts in a blaze of flames and Garland.

Christmas is a time when you must kiss relatives under the mistletoe, the same relatives whose dental hygiene was publicly condemned by the American Dental Association.

But what about the gifts? You remember that hideous sweater your grandmother gave you? The one you pretended to be excited about while calculating in your mind the estimated retail value you will receive when you return it on Dec. 26? But that horror is only one day at the end of two months of Christmas hell.

The day after Halloween the onslaught of holiday nausea begins. Step into any department store and you are besieged by tacky ornaments and blinking colored lights. Is it really necessary to make every home in the country look like a recreation of your favorite casino in Las Vegas?

Even people who usually exercise tact and good taste when decorating are overcome by “that holiday spirit” when Liberate possesses their bodies, and the next thing you know revolving pink plastic Christmas trees that play beloved holiday music are popping up all around town.

All the little children love Christmas. Why? Because in this society we have been taught to be materialistic pack rats with an unquenchable need to acquire everything that is new and better.

Santa Claus is a huggable delivery van bringing good boys and girls G.I. Joe’s latest attack vehicle and, of course, Barbie’s most fashionable acid-washed jean jacket.

While I’m on the subject of Santa Claus, is it just me or does this guy scare the hell out of you? How does he know whose been naughty or nice?

Even more alarming, he knows when you are sleeping and he knows when you’re awake.

This Santa character sounds remarkably similar to H. Ross Perot. How does he afford all those inventors?

I’m sure oy now a large percentage of you readers are thinking “My God, this guy has absolutely no Christmas spirit!” You could not be more correct.

But don’t feel sorry for me, I’m at peace with my disdain for the Christmas season.

For those of you who do celebrate the Christmas holiday with the fervor of a jackal devouring the carcasses of a reindeer, Merry Christmas.

And to the rest of you, I’ll be spending Christmas evening with fellow victims of the holiday at my favorite bar.

Stop in and I’ll buy you a drink—we’ll toast to a better future, a future where we are free from the Gestapo tactics of Jolly Ol’ Saint Nick.
Economy may bring charities better season

By John McCadd
Special Assignment Writer

Local charity organizations expect the poor’s worst enemy — the economy — to be a friend this Christmas.

Many charities depend on donations from people to feed the poor, and the nationwide recession is giving people an awareness of how the poor are suffering.

Susan Metcalf, director of Good Samaritan House, said during Christmas season, a large influx of people are in need because of cold weather.

She said Good Samaritan House, the chief homeless shelter in the Carbondale area, usually is filled with poor’s friend this month.

Local charity organizations are providing transitional and holiday travel assistance as well.

During Christmas, the shelter will give food baskets, toys and clothes to needy families.

Half of the agency’s funds come from the state, and the other half comes from donations — both halves have remained constant despite the recession.

“(Governor James) Edgar said, if you didn’t lose (funding) you won,” she said. “We have definitely come out on top, considering what’s happened to other state agencies.”

She said an important part of the agency’s state funds, which are allocated in part from the Illinois Department of Public Aid’s budget, have remained steady despite several statewide layoffs.

Jerry Sword, Southern Illinois Salvation Army major, said the economy is most painful to those who aren’t used to taking from others to have a meaningful Christmas.

He said the Salvation Army funds Christmas dinners and toy giveaways for needy Jackson, Franklin and Williamson County residents — most of whom are laying off victims.

“A lot of people are used to supporting themselves,” Sword said. “It’s like a slap in the face to have to turn to an agency like ours.”

He said Salvation Army donations increased most in 1991, when Southern Illinois unemployment figures took their largest leap.

“In 1991 we budgeted $60,000,” Sword said. “Somehow, we got $67,000, which made us want to budget $70,000 this year.

“It’s weird, because we budgeted $60,000 (in 1991) considering the economy would decrease donations,” he said.

Sword said the preponderant amount of donation money is gathered through bell-ringing, which began Nov. 16 toward the Christmas season.

The food giveaway is expected to take place Christmas Eve at the Taylor Motor Company building in Marion.

For further information, people may call the Salvation Army at 937-4111.