Super Splash Park coming next spring
LUKE NOZICKA
Daily Egyptian

Carbondale community members can look forward to taking a dip in the city’s new Super Splash Park in May 2015.

The splash park will be located on Lewis Lane within the city’s Superblock complex. The property is located between the new Carbondale Middle School and the new Carbondale Community High School.

Kathy Renfro, executive director of the Carbondale Park District, said the park will cost $5.4 million.

“The Carbondale Park District received a grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in the amount of $2.5 million and we needed to raise another $900,000,” she said.

She said several community organizations already raised $700,000 via fundraisers.

Renfro said the park will have two pools. One will be a leisure pool consisting of a playground and splash features for children. The other is an eight-lane competition pool.

She said there will be a lazy river and competition pool with a one-meter long diving board. At the deepest, the competition pool will be 12 feet deep and the leisure pool will be 5 feet deep.

Renfro said the park is estimated to create 75 new summer jobs.

Renfro said the project has been in the works for years. For story please see PARK · 2

E-cigs can help smokers quit

Brett Bauden, co-owner of The Vape Shop, smokes an e-cigarette Monday behind the counter of the shop. The Vape Shop opened for business in Dec. 2013. The shop sells e-cigs for all levels of users and e-juice, which contains flavoring, and in some cases nicotine.

Brett said, “If you want to quit smoking cigarettes it’s effortless with e-cigs.”

Brown said, “He quit smoking the day the shop opened.

“People don’t miss their cigarettes when they switch and they’re not killing themselves doing it,” he said. The Vape shop is located at 606 S. Illinois Ave. and is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 10 p.m. to 5 p.m.

SAT format changes coming in 2016

MATT DARAY
Daily Egyptian

Prospective college students may have to adjust to a new standardized test format.

College Board President and CEO David Coleman announced March 6 the SAT is changing from its current overall score of 2400 to 1600.

The test will include three sections: reading and writing, mathematics and an essay section graded separately from the other two sections. The new format is scheduled for a spring 2016 release.

Lindauer said the changes made for 2016 affect the clarity of the test so students will have a greater understanding of the material.

She said full specifications of the exam and extensive samples of all sections will be available April 16, and Khan Academy, a non-profit education website, will provide free work samples of all sections.

Lindauer said the changes made for 2016 affect the clarity of the test so students will have a greater understanding of the material.

Changes are rare but not uncommon for the SAT.

The test, which was first used in 1926, originally gave takers 90 minutes to answer 315 questions ranging over several sections such as definitions, classifications, logical interface and paragraph reading.

For story please see SAT · 2

Lea Lannom, an SIU alumnus from Johnston City, plays bagpipes Saturday at Von Jakob Winery’s St. Patrick’s Day Festival. Lannom and keyboardist Holly Kee, who make up the band known as Roisin Dubh, played several Irish songs while spectators enjoyed their choice of four Irish dishes. The St. Patrick’s Day Festival was a two-day event that featured Irish food and music at the winery located near Alto Pass.

For story please see WINERY · 2
Winery celebrates Irish heritage all weekend long

JAKE SAUNDERS
Daily Egyptian

Many in southern Illinois were decked out in green for St. Patrick’s Day Monday, but Von Jakob winery got their celebration moving a few days early.

The winery’s annual event focused on traditional Irish food and welcomed a musical duo that added to the Irish flavor.

However, while Americans may enjoy the festivities surrounding March 17, the holiday may not have the same meaning here as it does in Ireland, English professor Jane Dougherty said.

“St. Patrick’s Day, as we think of it, is really an American invention,” she said. “In Ireland, St. Patrick’s Day was originally a religious holiday.”

But the holiday as celebrated in America is not restricted to one day.

“Every year we’ve always done something special for St. Patrick’s Day weekend,” Von Jakob tasting room manager Frank Wesseln said. “One of the biggest things we try to do are the food specials, and the past few years we’ve been trying to get traditional Irish music out.”

This year Von Jakob featured Roisin Dubh, meaning “black rose,” from Johnston City. The five-year-old group is comprised of duo Holly Kee, on keyboards, and Lex Lannom, on bagpipes, guitar and harmonica.

“The bagpipes have nine notes on it and that’s all you can play,” Lannom said. “But I still love the music and I love the way it sounds, and there’s only one guy in Centralia and one guy in Marion around playing [bagpipes].”

The festivities began with the introduction of classical and traditional sounds stired from the winds of the bagpipe. Accompanied by the keyboarded synthetic sounds of a big band, the melody rose melodically strolled into a slowed pace. As the bagpipes rang out in an anthem-like pride, the keys helped project and place the instrument into modern setting.

If the music was not enough to bring the spirit of the Irish tradition into the area, the food certainly assisted.

“The Irish food specials are clearly traditional things. It’s stuff that the owner and head chef enjoy,” Wesseln said. “It is equal parts what we like and traditional stuff.”

The beer-battered catfish was succulent and tenderly prepared. It broke apart within, as its outside batter was crispy and delicate. With a slight dusting of sea salt, the taste was complimented with a homemade tartar sauce and a side of potatoes.

“We try to do as much as possible to make it ourselves, fresh, homemade, as little processing as possible,” Wesseln said. “We generally buy stuff in bulk and local and fresh to make it all ourselves.”

The corned beef — served with cabbage that brought an almost sour and puckering taste to the beef — was tenderly traditional and fell apart in a delicately delicious and rather savory way having been carefully cooked.

The shepherd’s pie, a meal comprised of beef, lamb, potatoes and carrots in a stew, was robust and subtlety noted with hints of beer-like tastes in its crafting. The flavors were welcoming and warm and the consistency is thickly engaging.

Dougherty said traditional Irish foods include boxty, a potato pancake, and colcannon, a dish which includes seaweed. Corned beef and cabbage, however, is not traditionally Irish but fashioned by American culture.

While the bagpipes were playing and the food was consumed, many perhaps may not have focused on the tradition of St. Patrick’s Day, though they certainly did enjoy the traditional taste in the atmosphere.

“Next year we’ll do something similar,” Wesseln said. “It’s just something that’s fun, people like it because you don’t have to be Irish to have fun on St. Patrick’s Day.”

Jake Saunders can be reached at jsaunders@dailyEgyptian.com, on Twitter @jake5d or by phone at 536-3311 ext. 254.

DAILY EGYPTIAN OPINION POLL RESULTS

Marijuana should be legal for all purposes at the federal level.

Marijuana should be legal for all purposes at the federal level but only for medical use

Marijuana legalization and usage should be left up to individual states

Marijuana usage should not be legal for any purpose

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Marijuana legalization and usage should be left up to individual states

Marijuana usage should not be legal for any purpose
Putin recognizes Crimean independence

JIM HEINTZ
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Ignoring the toughest sanctions against Moscow since the end of the Cold War, Russian President Vladimir Putin recognized Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula as an "independent and sovereign country" on Monday, a bold challenge to Washington that escalates one of Europe's worst security crises in years.

The brief decree posted on the Kremlin's website came just hours after the United States and the European Union announced asset freezes and other sanctions against Russian and Ukrainian officials involved in the Crimea crisis. President Barack Obama warned that more would come if Russia didn't stop interfering in Ukraine, and Putin's move clearly forces his hand.

The West has struggled to leverage to force Moscow to back off from annexing Crimea, Russia's pro-Moscow Parliament in Simferopol declared independence, and the Western reaction was muted, so that this opens the way for future Russian intervention in Ukraine," said Tim Ash, an analyst at Standard 

The collapse of a rebel bastion inside Syria has become Europe's worst security crisis in years. Western leaders called the Russian action a "historic insult." Putin recognizes Crimea independence

LEBANON FRANCHISES MORE VIOLENCE AS ANTI-ASSAD REBELS FLEE KEY SYRIAN TOWN

MITCHELL PROTHERO
McClatchy Foreign Staff

BEIRUT — The collapse of a rebel bastion inside Syria showed its effects inside Lebanon on Monday as rival communities rocketed one another, snipers opened fire along a critical highway near the Syrian border and at least two car bombs targeted Shiite Muslim villages in the Bekaa Valley.

Terrorism analysts and intelligence officials blamed the rise in violence on an influx of militants into Lebanon after Syrian government troops, led by their Lebanese Shiite allies from Hezbollah, took control over the weekend of Yabroud, one of the last rebel-held population centers in the mountains near the Syrian border.

Tens of thousands of civilians already had fled the fighting into the relative calm of the Lebanese side of the border. But by Sunday night it became apparent that many rebel gunmen were also fleeing into Lebanon.

At midnight Sunday, a suicide bomber struck a Shia mosque in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley. The bomber detonated his device outside the mosque as worshippers were gathering for an evening prayer. The explosion killed 11 people and wounded 40 others.

"This is an extremely dangerous time for Lebanon," he said. "We could be one incident away from States and Sunni turning this into a civil war." The official said that it remained unclear if the uptick in violence was a temporary flash as militants escape the Hezbollah stronghold around Yabroud or if the escalation represented a new commitment by Syrian rebel groups to expand operations into Lebanon as they lose territory inside Syria.
New uncertainty about missing Malaysian plane

IAN MADER  
Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Officials revealed a new timeline Monday suggesting the final voice transmission from the cockpit of the missing Malaysian plane may have occurred before any of its communications systems were disabled, adding more uncertainty about who aboard might have been to blame.

The search for Flight 370, which vanished early March 8 while flying from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing with 239 people on board, has now been expanded deep into the northern and southern hemispheres. Australian vessels scoured the southern Indian Ocean and China offered 21 of its satellites to help Malaysia in the unprecedented hunt.

With no wreckage found in one of the most puzzling aviation mysteries of all time, passengers' relatives have been left in an agonizing limbo. Investigators say the Boeing 777 was deliberately diverted during its overnight flight and flew off-course for hours. They haven't ruled out hijacking, sabotage, or pilot suicide, and are checking the backgrounds of the 227 passengers and 12 crew members — as well as the ground crew — for personal problems, psychological issues or links to terrorists.

"The fact that there was no distress signal, no ransom notes, no parties claiming responsibility, there is always hope," Hishammuddin said at a news conference.

Malaysian Airlines CEO Ahmad Jauhari Yahya said an initial investigation indicated that the last words ground controllers heard from the plane — "All right, good night" — were spoken by the co-pilot, Fariq Abdul Hamid. A voice other than that of Fariq or the pilot, Zaharie Ahmad Shah, it would have been clearest indication yet of something amiss in the cockpit before the flight went off-course.

Malaysian officials said earlier that those words came after one of the jetliner's data communications systems — the Aircraft Communications Addressing and Reporting System — had been switched off, suggesting the voice from the cockpit may have been trying to deceive ground controllers. However, Ahmad said that while the last data transmission from ACARS — which gives plane performance and maintenance information — came before that, it was still unclear at what point the system was switched off, making any implications of the timing murky.

The new information opened the possibility that both ACARS and the plane's transponders, which make the plane visible to civilian air traffic controllers, were turned off at about the same time. It also suggests that the message delivered from the cockpit could have preceded any of the severed communications.

"There is a raised eyebrow, like Spock on Star Trek — you just sit there and go, 'Why would anybody do that?'" Gadzinski said of what he is hearing among pilots.

Other pilots in the United States cautioned against reading too much into what little is known so far about the actions of the Malaysia Airlines crew.
Go to sleep — or else

SARAH GARDNER  
Daily Egyptian

It’s no secret that getting adequate sleep each night is pivotal for general well being. Many studies link sleep deprivation to serious long-term health issues such as stroke, diabetes, osteoporosis and even cancer. One study by the National Sleep Foundation determined that a mere 15 percent of teens reported getting 8½ hours of sleep on school nights. I would easily find myself within that 15 percent.

Working for the newspaper and also being a double major doesn’t make it easy. Managing time is both a great strength and weakness of mine. I say this because I am able to dedicate myself to two different disciplines while also dedicating much of my time to the DAILY EGYPTIAN. It is a weakness because occasionally I let certain areas slip, such as general health, nutrition and even social life.

Having mono makes you tired. There is no way around it, so for the first part of my spring break, I was forced to rest — and really mean it. While lying on the couch watching Netflix my sound like the best break ever to some, to me it was torture. Knowing there were so many things I could and should probably be doing to get ahead in my classes, catch up with friends, or just enjoy being at home made it even more depressing. I tried to make the best of it. I watched the second season of HBO’s “The Newsroom,” one of my favorites, and then watched an entire season of “Scrubs” on Netflix. In a way, getting mono during spring break was a blessing. It would have been much worse had I been diagnosed a few weeks earlier, or just after break, when I would be in the thick of projects, assignments and work. At least I had a full week to do absolutely nothing and recover. My mindset shifted from being upset to thankful.

I realized that while many of my friends were having fun in warm destinations, living it up—or drinking it up — I was generally happy doing nothing. The one time I did “do” something, and traveled to Chicago for a few days, I paid the price for it. My sore throat returned, sending me back to the hospital for another round of medication. I know recovery is slow for mono, and doing too much too soon is detrimental to the process.

I realized that I have to budget my energy and figure out what my body can or cannot handle. It’s not a matter of laziness, weakness or whining; it’s cold hard facts. I have no choice but to change my ways, or face even more serious complications in the future.

I cannot stress enough the importance of deep and maintaining good health habits while in school. It’s a “do as I say, not as I do” situation for sure, but hopefully others will learn from my mistakes and not let the same thing happen to them.

I’m not usually the type to read self-help blogs, but in one piece on a blog called “The Freedom Experiment,” author Marthe Hagen ends with “It’s time to do a little less, so I can live a little more.” This stuck with me. If I want to live my life, and not spend five months of the year ill, I need to do a little less, and live a little more.

If your motto is “You can sleep when you’re dead,” be careful what you wish for. Instead try something more like “Eat. Sleep. Repeat.”

About Us

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 15,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Thursday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intersession editions run on Wednesdays. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale and Carterville communities. The DAILY EGYPTIAN online publication can be found at www.dailyegyptian.com.

Mission Statement

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

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Tuesday, March 18, 2014
Tennis
continued from T2
Lee said while she has never won the tournament, most of the time an SIU tennis player does take home a trophy in one of the brackets. However, she said a Saluki player winning it all is not a given, as there have been some pretty good players from the community who have participated.

"Usually someone partners with a player and they win, but you never know because there's some high schoolers and some good doubles teams in the community," Lee said.

Anderson said students hoping to participate should register quickly as the tournament usually fills up before the final day.

"It's grown every year," she said. "We usually have eight teams that we put into a bracket and then we have three different brackets, depending on skill level."

The competitors range from novices of the game who are just looking to have fun to community members who still compete in the sport regularly, Anderson said. With the addition of a student discount, Anderson and Lee said it helps spurs student participation.

"I don't know if students don't hear about it or everyone goes to practice, and they don't have time," Lee said. "Maybe some times people may have a hard time finding a partner, but it would be fun to have more students be involved."

People interested in playing should contact Anderson. She can be reached in her office at 618-453-5462 or by email at aanderson@siu.edu. As registration is open, Anderson needs the participant's name, skill level and t-shirt size. Anderson said she also needs to know if contestants want to play with a specific partner, a Saluki or will need a partner picked for them.

Anderson said although fliers have stated that registration ends Friday, she would like to have all contestants registered by 12:00 p.m. Thursday, before the team leaves to play their match at the University of Illinois.

For more information and to register visit: www.dailyEgyptian.com.

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Golf
continued from T2
"The only birdie I had was on 15 when I finally tried to hit a wind shot. I don't know what took me so long to decide to hit that on the 16th hole, but if I could've went into the round hitting wind shots, I could've played a lot better." Sophomore Mattie Lindner and freshman Brooke Cusumano continued their strong play in the spring season. Both finished in a tie for 24th while competing as an individual. Cusumano said the golf course this week played to her strengths.

"I really hit the ball well, that's one of my strong suits. I missed three fairways all weekend out of the 54 holes we played." For the second straight week, a Saluki competing as an individual finished high on the leaderboard. Freshman Xianmei Jin shot a 226 in the third round of the tournament to finish tied for 13th, her best finish of the spring season. Last week, Lindner finished in a tie for 24th while competing as an individual.

Rushing said she was pleased with the way her freshman teammates played in the windy third round.

"We're definitely improving, especially the younger class. I feel like they didn't hit that on the 15th hole, but if I could've finish tied for 13th, her best finish of the tournament, the lowest of her career.

Sophomore Tony McDaniel can be reached at tony.mcdaniel@dailyEgyptian.com.
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The 2014 NCAA Tournament bracket has been released, who will win the tournament and why? What team in the field could cause an upset?

I picked Florida two months ago and I am going to stay with the Gators. Some teams could cause them problems but they’ve been a solid team all season. This team has a lot in common with the last two times they won the title. Oklahoma State as the eight seed in the West region could cause problems for a lot of teams. They will be in the Elite Eight. — Tyler Dixon

I’m going with the Duke to win it all. With the leadership of seniors Andre Dawkins and Tyler Thornton, both deadly three point shooters, and Quinn Cook, a tested floor general, they have the players who know about playing in meaningful March games. Not to mention the team has the nation’s best freshman in Jabari Parker and a very good scorer in Rodney Hood. My surprise team would be Providence. The surprising Friars had a nice season in the Big East, and look to continue that in their very winnable first-round match up with North Carolina. — Tyler Davis

I’m picking Michigan even though I cannot stand them. They’ve got, in my opinion, the best 3-point shooter in the NCAA in Nik Stauskas. Harvard is my upset special. Not for any reason, I just think it would be neat to see Harvard make a run to the sweet 16. — Tony McDaniel

It’s definitely hard to choose, but in my opinion Arizona will beat Florida in the championship game. The Wildcats have so much potential and I think they have a big chance to beat the big dogs! There is no way they will let any other team in the West beat them. Although I’m a Duke fan, I think Arizona and Duke will go head-to-head with the Wildcats coming out on top to play the Gators. — Symone Woolridge

The Florida Gators will be champions because of their match-ups. They will easily get to the Elite Eight, and will have enough momentum to win the last three games. My upset teams are Memphis and Connecticut, they will both make the Sweet Sixteen. — Aaron Graff

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**IMAGINING GEOGRAPHIES**

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GALLERY TALK with artist Jak Tichenor (WSIU)

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Panelists will share the perspectives and contributions each brings to important discussions about environmental policy and the management of our region’s beautiful spaces and rich environmental and human resources.
A muddy beginning

Women's golf finishes fourth

Women's tennis offers to play with students

SPORTS

Page 12 • DE
Tuesday, March 18, 2014

SPORTS

TONY MCDANIEL
Daily Egyptian

Two teammates on the SIU softball team have each been Salukis for two years, but their days of playing together go back much further than Charlotte West Stadium.

Junior pitcher Alyssa Wunderlich and sophomore shortstop Kerri Gonzalez have played softball together since they were children.

“We started playing on the same teams when I was 10 and she was eight,” Wunderlich said. “We’ve pretty much been playing together for as long as I can remember.”

The two began their softball careers with the Naperville Diamonds, a youth softball team in their hometown. They played on separate summer league teams and were sometimes opponents. In high school, Wunderlich and Gonzalez took their talents to Naperville Central High School, where they found success finishing fourth in the Illinois state softball tournament in 2009.

Wunderlich said Gonzalez stepped up big for the Redhawks in their run through the tournament despite being a freshman.

“Kerri did awesome. I didn’t pitch as much because my sister was a senior, she pitched most of those games,” she said. “We had great momentum and great team chemistry then and we made a great run. It was a lot of fun.”

Gonzalez and Wunderlich earned plenty of individual awards at Naperville Central. Both players were Dopage Valley All-Conference selections and Wunderlich was an All-State honorable mention in 2011.

All of their success warranted the attention of SIU softball coach Kerri Blaylock, who said both players had qualities that stood out.

“Alyssa, it’s her size and in summer ball the way she commanded her presence on the mound,” Blaylock said. “I think Kerri was just always really scrappy and a really good defensive player. I’m one of the types of people that can give up all included in a good defensive middle infield.”

Wunderlich is a year older than Gonzalez, meaning she signed with SIU one season ahead of her high school teammate did. Gonzalez said playing with Wunderlich was vital in her decision to come to SIU.

“After she committed, that’s when Kerri started looking at me, and obviously (Alyssa) was encouraging me to go there,” Gonzalez said. “I trust her opinion a lot. The way I felt about the program, the team and the coaches, she felt the same. That reassured me and made my decision a little bit easier.”

Gonzalez and Wunderlich said they never thought that they would play softball together at the collegiate level.

“It just kind of worked out that way. We both fell in love with the school, fell in love with the program and both chose to come here,” Gonzalez said. “If you would’ve asked me years and years ago when we were little if we would’ve played college together, I would’ve probably said no.”

In their time at SIU, both players have stepped into important roles for Saluki softball. Gonzalez started at shortstop and is one of the top defensive players, her .772 fielding percentage is among the highest on the team.

Wunderlich is a power pitcher who has 18 strikeouts in 31.0 innings pitched this season.

Blaylock said she is a great role model for the team as well.

“She’s a hard worker, probably one of the hardest on the team,” she said. “If you could have a model of how you want your daughter to be, she would probably be it.”

Gonzalez and Wunderlich still have one more year as teammates before SIU before Wunderlich will graduate. Gonzalez said she hopes that the two of them can continue to make memories after their playing days are done.

“Hopefully we’ll be able to look back and have a conference tournament championship under our belt,” Gonzalez said. “I think that would be really cool.”

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Women’s golf

Women’s golf not only halted 15 teams, but also the wind this past weekend in the Sunshine State.

The women’s golf team bounced back from a tough tournament their last outing with a top-five finish at the JMU Eagle Landing Invitational this weekend.

Brigham Young University finished first in the invitational with a score of 892. SIU’s combined three-round score of 901 was good enough to give them sole possession of fourth place, and their second top-five finish of the spring. The Salukis finished nine shots off of the lead, and two shots behind the Blue Hens of the University of Delaware in third place.

At the end of the second round SIU sat in fourth place, just seven shots off the lead. Coach Alexis Mihelich said her team made a good decision to win.

“We played consistent and we are right there in the mix,” Mihelich said in a Saluki Athletics press release. “If we can keep the ball in the fairway and hole some puts we can make a run at the lead.”

Unfortunately the weather had other plans for the Salukis. The final round of the tournament brought with it 35 mile-per-hour winds that pushed the ball all around the course and made it difficult for the Salukis to make a charge up the leaderboard.

Senior Casey Rushing led the Salukis most of the weekend. Rushing shot a 73 in the first round and added a 70 in the second round. She had a solid grasp of first place after 36 holes. Rushing’s play slipped a bit during the windy third round. She shot a 77 in the final round to finish in a tie for fourth place with an overall score of 220.

Rushing said she had to compensate for the wind in the third round.

“A few shots I didn’t really commit to because the wind would stop and then gust up again so I wasn’t totally committed to

Women’s tennis

Women’s tennis offers to play with students

TYLER DAVIS
Daily Egyptian

It is not every day that an average Carbondale business owner or SIU freshman gets the opportunity to play doubles tennis with Division I players.

The women’s tennis team is hosting a fun event this weekend, which allows students to play doubles with a friend or even an SIU women’s tennis player.

The annual Saluki Challenge will be held Sunday, March 23 at University Tennis Courts near Saluki Stadium. Women’s tennis coach, Audra Anderson, said the tournament is usually held inside but they are hoping to host it outdoors this year. In the case of inclement weather, Anderson said the tournament will be moved to the indoor courts at the Garden Grove Event Center in Carbondale.

Anderson said the competition usually allows SIU tennis, senior Korey Love said she appreciates those who follow the team and the Saluki Challenge is a good way to interact with them.

“I’ve always had a good experience playing with a member from the community,” Love said. “It’s a lot of fun and you get to meet new people in the tennis community who are always rooting for you.”

While community member participation is a constant, the team hopes to increase the number of students who come out for the event. To encourage student participation, Anderson has offered SIU students a $10 discount. Registration is $45 per participant, but Anderson said students can register for $35.

“We usually don’t get much student participation in this fundraiser as we do in the fall fundraiser,” she said. “I’m hoping to get more this year by offering a student discount.”

The tournament is open to men and women, and doubles teams can be coed. An SIU tennis shirt, drinks and dinner are included in the fee and each competitor gets one free drink.

“IT’s a lot of fun,” Anderson said. “It’s competitive but it’s not cut-throat. We give out trophies, we have a meal and there’s a silent auction going on. It’s a great environment.”

SIU tennis shirts, baskets and other items areAz were auctioned off.

The women’s players are reserved on a first come, first serve basis and Anderson said they are usually chosen quickly. Senior Anita Lee has been a tennis player for four years at SIU and said she enjoys participating in the event.

“It’s a really fun mini-tournament and we play with the people that reserve us earliest,” Lee said. “It gives us a chance to interact with the people in the community that play tennis.”