Don’t mess with happiness

Jesse W. Crow, 85, right, of DeSoto, and 90-year-old Nadine Phoenix of Graveline, share a Valentine’s Day kiss Tuesday at the Rehab and Care Center of Jackson County in Murphysboro. The two have been dating for the last 17 years and have no interest in getting married, they said. “We don’t want to mess with happiness,” Crow said. “We are extremely happy.” Crow said he comes to visit Phoenix, a temporary resident, everyday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Since Phoenix came to the Rehab and Care Center nearly a month ago, Crow said the doctors and residents have given her the nickname, ‘the Lovebirds.” “We don’t mind. We’re not shy about it,” Crow said.

Résumé experience, therapeutic activities offered at Craft Shop

Tiffany Blanchette
Daily Egyptian

Splattered soft clay onto a spinning wheel, smelling the thick scent of sawdust floating in the air while hammering nails into wood or soldering hot metals together to frame cut glass can all be experienced at one of the Student Center Craft Shop’s workshops.

The Craft Shop gives the opportunity to create a variety of arts and crafts at a low cost and offers instruction in many areas. The experience of instructing the Craft Shop workshops, which may reflect the skills students need during their careers, has come to benefit some SIUC graduates.

Ron Dunkel, Craft Shop coordinator, said teaching the workshops has made a difference for students when looking for a job because they build bullet points for their résumés. “Students who have taught workshops, graduated and gotten hired, have had their employers say they chose them because they’ve had that teaching experience working with the public,” Dunkel said.

The wages of teachers of the workshops come from the Student Center budget, which is funded by tuition fees, said Don Castle, Student Center Programs associate director. He said parts of the budget consist of fees and operational revenue, which help run the Craft Shop because it is not a profit-making area.

The cost to participate in the workshops, as well as the separate materials and services sold at the Craft Shop, function as cost-recovery measures, Castle said.

Most of the time, the workshop fees collected by the Craft Shop bring in enough funding to offset the cost of the materials per participant, Dunkel said.

Faculty Senate looks at hiring process, program review

Lauren Duncan
Daily Egyptian

The process by which a potential employee gets hired is being reviewed by the Faculty Senate.

At Tuesday’s meeting, senators discussed the potential changes to the process SIUC faculty go through to make a recommendation for hire. Provost John Nicklow said a new hiring plan is in the works, and will prioritize criteria reviewed by deans and committees when a prospective employee is under consideration.

Nicklow said one recent change to the hiring process is a new position request form faculty and deans must use to recommend someone to be hired.

The next step in revising the hiring process is to create a new committee, which will be formed to help the provost in selecting new hires, he said.

Nicklow said faculty can help form the committee that will work as an advisory panel for all recommendations of tenure and tenure-track hires. Once formed, the committee will review potential hires and refer them back to the provost’s office with recommendations, he said.

One of the main concerns the senators discussed was the new prioritized list Nicklow said may be formed to emphasize what should be looked at when reviewing a candidate.

Bill Recktenwald, Faculty Senate president, said some of the criteria that may be used for a prioritized list to judge whether an employee is hired is enrollment growth, research productivity and accreditation requirements.

However, Nicklow said the priorities deans look at do not necessarily focus on any of those areas.
**El Bajo**

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**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 20,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Friday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intersession editions will run on Wednesdays. Spring break and Thanksgiving editions are distributed on Mondays of the pertaining weeks. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale, Murphysboro and Carterville communities. The Daily Egyptian online publication can be found at www.dailyEgyptian.com.

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**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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<td>Pepsi and Pepsi Products 16 oz. &amp; pk.</td>
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**DE Daily Egyptian**

**KEEP UP on the go!**

DailyEgyptian.com
Derek Taylor, of Murphysboro, sells roses Tuesday in the parking lot of Ashley Furniture off of Route 13. Taylor sells flowers for a business called Beautiful Roses and said he does not normally sell flowers out of the van, but did today because it was Valentine's Day.

ATTENTION MAY GRADUATES

The deadline for students to apply for May 2012 graduation is Friday, Feb. 17, at 4:30 p.m.

- Forms for undergraduates are available in Woody Hall A117 or online at registrars.siu.edu/pdf/GraduationApplication.pdf. Call 618/453-2654 for additional information.

- Forms for graduate students are available in Woody Hall B114 or online at www.gradschool.siu.edu/graduation_app.pdf. Call 618/453-4523 for additional information.

- Forms for law students are available in 130B Lesar Law Building or online at www.law.siu.edu/current%20%20students/PDF/GradAp.pdf. Call 618/453-6765 for additional information.

After Feb. 17, you will be assessed a late fee. The final registration deadline for May graduation is Friday, March 9. Fees will appear on a future Bursar statement during the current semester.

You also can submit your graduation application during Grad Bash '12, set for 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 16 in the Student Center Ballrooms. Take advantage of one-stop shopping for all your graduation needs during this celebration of the Class of 2012!
"If a student is knitting a hat, the cost of the yarn is calculable so we can include that cost within the workshop fee," Dunkel said. "The problem in doing this for some workshops such as woodworking is that the cost can be incalculable. A participant can build a tiny wooden box or an 8-foot-tall entertainment center, and there’s a cost difference between some scrap pieces of wood and $50 plywood sheets."

Dunkel said the workshops must also meet a minimum enrollment number in order to be held.

The decision on which workshops to have comes from the interest expressed by the student body and the community, Dunkel said.

"We try to mix things up and have some variety each semester, but mainly it’s dependent on instruction," Dunkel said. "We have to have a quality instructor, so if we get somebody who is interested, they fill out their proposal and we determine if they have the skills."

If the proposal is accepted, the Craft Shop staff works with the instructor to create a syllabus and determine the fees needed for the workshop, he said.

Aside from scheduled workshops, the Student Center Craft Shop also offers a variety of walk-in activities.

There are many reasons students should consider coming to the Craft Shop, Dunkel said. Also, because the shop offers a variety of activities, it can reach a broad group of students and community members, he said.

He said the shop could be a place for people to continue artwork they began in high school but hadn’t had many chances to explore within their declared majors.

The Craft Shop can also be a place to seek some therapy, or stress-relieving moments, during the week, he said.

The shop also offers students help with class assignments such as in architecture and art classes, Castle said.

Desiree Handley, a senior from Andalusia studying studio arts, said the shop is often an open studio where students and community members can come to work on projects.

Along with the available help, the Craft Shop can help students and community members save money when creating arts and crafts. It also offers the use of larger, more expensive equipment, such as pottery wheels and mat cutters, and it also provides services such as framing.

Dunkel said it would be more expensive to fund a project from a craft store, especially for projects requiring the technical equipment.

"The reason I think students should get involved is that these things are lifelong hobbies and they’re healthy things to do," Dunkel said. "Students are developing habits for life, so why not develop healthy and rewarding habits?"

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Why gay marriage is inevitable

MICHAEL KLRKMAN
Los Angeles Times

The year 2012 is shaping up as a big one for same-sex marriage. Last week, the Washington state legislature passed a bill allowing gay marriage, and New Jersey Governor Chris Christie may follow suit soon (though New Jersey’s Gov. Chris Christie has promised a veto). North Carolina and Minnesota are conducting referendums this year on constitutional amendments to ban gay marriage, and Maine is likely to conduct a referendum on legalizing it.

On Tuesday, the U.S. 9th Court of Appeals reminded us that courts too have something to say on the subject. In a case challenging the constitutionality of California’s Proposition 8, that court ruled in favor of gay marriage.

Because its ruling was so narrow that it may not be applicable outside California, the U.S. Supreme Court may decide to review this decision. Eventually, though, the Supreme Court will take a gay marriage case. How might the justices decide it when they do?

As recently as seven or eight years ago, there might not have been a single justice prepared to declare a federal constitutional right to same-sex marriage. Opinion polls then showed that Americans opposed gay marriage by a 2 to 1 margin, and a Massachusetts court decision declaring a right to gay marriage under the state constitution produced an enormous political backlash. Now, with 13 states enacting constitutional bans.

Even liberal justices such as Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen G. Breyer, who are friendly with gay marriage, might well have been wary of venturing too far in advance of public opinion and stoking further political backlash.

The situation has since changed dramatically. Opinion polls now consistently show that a slender majority of Americans support gay marriage. State supreme courts in California, Connecticut and Iowa have ruled in its favor, and legislatures in five states have enacted gay-marriage statutes. If liberal judges on state supreme courts now regularly support gay marriage, liberal justices on the U.S. Supreme Court are likely to do so as well.

A number of constitutional issues today — abortion, affirmative action, campaign finance reform and the death penalty — divide the Supreme Court 5 to 4, with Justice Anthony Kennedy providing the critical swing vote. How might Kennedy approach the gay marriage issue?

Kennedy often converts dominant social mores into constitutional commands to bring outlaw states into line with the majority. In this case, the states that allow gay marriage are in a distinct minority, suggesting he might be reluctant to identify such a right. Even a majority of Americans reporting that they know somebody who is openly gay tripled between 1985 and 2000, reaching 75 percent. One study indicated that 90 percent of Americans who reported knowing someone who is gay, 65 percent favored other gay marriage or civil unions, while only 35 percent of those who reported not knowing any gay people supported them.

A second reason that gay marriage seems inevitable is that young people so strongly support it. One study by political scientists found a gap of 44 percentage points between the oldest and youngest survey respondents in their attitudes toward gay marriage. A 2011 poll found that 70 percent of those age 18 to 34 supported gay marriage. It is hard to imagine a scenario in which young people’s support for gay marriage disintegrate as they grow older. The trend in favor of gay marriage has accelerated dramatically in the last three years. Before 2009, the annual rate of increase in support for gay marriage was about 1.5 percentage points, but since then it has been closer to 4 percentage points. Statistical models predict that in another dozen years, every state will have a majority in favor of gay marriage.

In recent years, many conservatives have begun to acknowledge the inevitability of gay marriage, even as they continue to strongly oppose it. In March 2011, Albert Mohler, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, said on a Christian radio program that “it is clear that something like same-sex marriage is going to become, non-negotiable, legalized and recognized in the culture.” “It’s time,” he continued, “for Christians to start thinking about how we’re going to deal with that.” That a particular social change may be inevitable, given certain background conditions, does not mean that opponents will cease fighting it. While Southerners continued to massively resist Brown long after most of them came to believe that school desegregation was inevitable.

Similarly, those who believe that gay marriage contradicts God’s will are not likely to stop fighting it simply because their prospects of success are diminishing.

Moreover, because religious conservatives are both intensely opposed to gay marriage and highly mobilized politically, they are likely for the next several years to continue exerting significant influence over Republican politicians who need their support to win primary elections.

Although the ultimate outcome of the contest over gay marriage no longer seems in doubt, plenty of fighting remains until that battle is over.

MEMORABLE SINGER, AND A CAUTIONARY TALE

The following editorial appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer on Tuesday:

The story is familiar. Beautiful, talented singer, actor, dancer, and on down the list, succumbs to a tragic, likely accident that may have involved drug abuse. Whitney Houston was added to that roll call Saturday. She was 48. Like so many others, she is gone too soon, and yet she will always be with us.

Almost from the time the little girl from Newark, N.J., opened her mouth in song, it was clear she would one day be a star. And why not, given her lineage? Gospel great Cosby Houston was her mother, pop music icon Dionne Warwick her aunt, and the queen of soul, Aretha Franklin, her godmother. Little “Nippy,” as they called her, surpassed them all in the millions of records she sold globally.

But the singing sensation, who as a younger gained a reputation as being too squeaky clean to be believed, passed into maturity with an appetite for cocaine and marijuana, she admitted. Her tempestuous marriage to equally drug-dependent R&B singer Bobby Brown failed. Three times she went to rehab. Her voice suffered. The comeback that always seemed so close never came.

Houston’s life may serve as a cautionary lesson to some, and that’s fine. It’s a lesson that can’t be taught too often, or too early. But that’s not the point of those who should be remembered. Remember her as the only pop singer to have seven consecutive No. 1 singles on Billboard.

Remember her as the singer who put Francis Scott Key on the Top 10 charts as a lyricist for her thrilling rendition of “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Remember her as the talented actress in films like “Waiting to Exhale.” Remember her as the voice heard on tape in countless weddings, singing her signature hit, “I Will Always Love You.”

Remember her as the memorable singer she was.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Say no to logging and drilling in Shawnee National Forest

DEAR EDITOR: On Thursday, 3:30 p.m. in Benton, there will be a hearing regarding the U.S. Forest Service’s land management plan for the Shawnee National Forest which will allow logging and open up areas to possible oil/gas drilling.

The reason for the hearing is because the previous management plan has had a federal injunction against it since 1997, precisely because it included such things as logging and drilling.

In other words: If this injunction had not been in place for the past 13 years, there could have been thousands of acres logged and oil/gas drilling within our unique and breathtaking natural areas we are fortunate to live near.

Lifting the injunction and allowing the proposed management plan would be unforgivable.

The Shawnee National Forest is the third smallest national forest in our nation and the only one in Illinois. Can we not leave what little natural beauty we have left alone and protect them at all costs?

I, along with many others I know, reside in southern Illinois primarily because of the natural beauty of the Shawnee National Forest. It is one of Illinois’ prized assets and a continued source of revenue through tourism. The Shawnee National Forest will be far more valuable to the state of Illinois whole and intact than it could ever be scarred and destroyed.

I urge anyone who can make it to the hearing to do so. The federal court and the U.S Forest Service need to know the citizens of Illinois are in support of protecting and saving the Shawnee National Forest.

Lucia Amorelli
Makanda resident
Faculty
Continued from 1

Nicklow said he has seen hiring searches fail three times in a row. Because of that, he said he is asking what the university can do differently. He is saying himself on how interdisciplinary components might affect hire in different departments across campus.

Another potential change discussed at the meeting was university program review. As part of a recently enacted public act that requires universities to review and work on their programs’ weaknesses, the program changes committee submitted a five-page letter to Chancellor Rita Cheng. Feb. 6. The letter detailed the committee’s progress in the creation of a rubric for program review.

Committee member Stephen Ebbs wrote in the letter, programs should be able to present their own information on their strengths in addition to the committee’s recommendations.

Recommendations on how the program review will be implemented must be submitted by Feb. 29.

“We would expect that the programs themselves would be best able to articulate their strengths rather than asking an assembled committee to research those strengths,” Ebbs stated in the letter.

Senator Allan Kanes said an update of new programs at the university over recent years is significantly longer than the list of terminated and consolidated programs. That imbalance, he said, may be reviewed by legislators who view the report and might question what is being done with programs that have low enrollment.

“If we’re not doing anything at all about it, somebody’s going to say to us, ‘You need to get rid of these programs,’” he said. “Before that happens, we need to make this decision ourselves.”

Kanes said there are options outside of elimination that can be used to work with programs that have low enrollment. The internal review by the committee, could help that outcome, he said.

Nicklow said before the deadline at the end of the month to submit the proposed metrics for program review at SIUC, the provost’s office is compiling comments from faculty in different departments about how programs can be measured for presentation to the state legislature.

Lauren Duncan can be reached at lduncan@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 268.
Illinois doctor receives four life terms in pill mill case

ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A Chicago doctor who prosecutors say dispensed more of the powerful painkiller oxycodone from 2003 to 2005 than any other physician in the country was sentenced Tuesday to four life terms in the overdose deaths of four patients.

Dr. Paul Volkman made weekly trips from Chicago to three locations in Portsmouth in southern Ohio and one in Chillicothe in central Ohio before federal investigators shut down the operations in 2006, prosecutors said. He was sentenced in federal court in Cincinnati.

“This criminal conduct had devastating consequences to the community Volkman was supposed to serve,” Assistant U.S. Attorneys Adam Wright and Tim Oakley said in a court filing ahead of Tuesday’s hearing.

“Volkman’s actions created and prolonged debilitating addictions; distributed countless drugs to be sold on the street; and took the lives of numerous individuals who died just days after visiting him,” they said.

The 64-year-old Volkman fired his attorneys earlier this month and said he acted at all times as a doctor, not a drug dealer.

“The typical drug dealer does not care how much drugs a client buys, how often he buys, or what he does with his drugs,” Volkman said in a 28-page handwritten court filing Monday, maintaining that he did all those things and more for his patients.

Volkman was also handed prison terms ranging from 10 to 20 years on 13 other counts related to drug trafficking. He received five years for possessing a weapon while participating in drug trafficking.

He was also convicted of eight other distribution counts that prosecutors said resulted in fatal overdoses but didn’t leave enough time to convict him of them.

One of the four patients whom Volkman was convicted of killing through an overdose was Steven Heneman. He died on April 20, 2005, shortly after Volkman prescribed a combination of oxycodone, hydrocodone and other drugs, according to the 2007 indictment against Volkman.

“He was no more than a cash cow to them,” his mother, Paula Eastly, said Tuesday after the sentencing. “The week before he died he tried to commit suicide and they knew that, and they still used him. So that’s how money-hungry they were.”

Eastly, 59, of Greenup, Ky., said she takes comfort in Volkman’s long sentence and the message it will send to other doctors who illegally prescribe pain pills.

“We cannot do anything about the past, but we can do something about the future,” she said.

Volkman declined to testify at a lengthy trial last spring that saw 70 government witnesses, including pharmacists, police investigators, clinic employees and patients who received pills from Volkman.

A 2007 indictment alleged Volkman went to work at the Tri-State Health Care and Pain Management clinic in southern Ohio in 2003. The clinic was operated by a mother and daughter who have since pleaded guilty to one count of operating Tri-State as a place whose predominant purpose was the illegal distribution of prescription drugs.

Denise Huffman and her daughter, Alice Huffman Ball, testified against Volkman at trial. Benchetrit on Tuesday sentenced Denise Huffman to 12 years and eight months in prison. Huffman, 58, also faces three years of supervised release after she serves her time.

Huffman Ball was sentenced last year to five years in prison.

The indictment against Volkman said patients came from hundreds of miles away and were charged $125 to $200 in cash for visits to see a doctor.

Prosecutors said Volkman rarely, if ever, counseled patients on alternate treatments for pain, such as physical therapy, surgery or addiction counseling. Volkman denied the allegations and said he always acted in good faith.

CALL FOR POSTERS
11th Annual Undergraduate Research Forum
Student Center Ballrooms
April 16, 2012

To recognize and celebrate research and creative achievements by undergraduate students, the Office of Sponsored Projects Administration (OSP) and the Office of the Provost will sponsor the 11th annual SIUC Undergraduate Research Forum, featuring:
• poster session
• prizes and award presentations
• refreshments!

All SIUC undergraduates who have engaged in their own original research or creative activity under the guidance of a faculty mentor are invited to display a poster explaining the methods and results of their project. Prizes will be given for the most creative poster presentation.

How to Participate: See the guidelines posted on the REACH web site (www.siu.edu/forum_guidelines.html) or contact Lori Foster (lori@siu.edu, 453-4532) or Mag-Paris (mparis@siu.edu, 453-4538) at OSP, Woody Hall C-206.

Deadline: Letter of Intent to Participate - March 9
Abstract - March 26

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<td>$10.98</td>
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<td>Purex Liquid Laundry Detergent</td>
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Divided opposition is key to Syrian regime’s power

ELIZABETH A. KENNEDY
JAMAL HALABY
Associated Press

BEIRUT — At a rented house just outside Syria’s border, a dissident known only as “The Doctor” maps out attacks. Planners speak by Skype with fighters on the ground in Syria, while others raise money, drumming up cash from fellow exiles to buy weapons.

The safe house offers a glimpse into the Free Syrian Army, a group of army defectors and others who are trying to overthrow President Bashar Assad by force.

The FSA has emerged as a significant hope for many Syrians who have all but given up on peaceful resistance against government tanks and snipers waging a deadly crackdown on protesters. But the group is highly decentralized — and comprises just one faction in a deeply divided and fractious Syrian opposition.

As the West and Arab states consider offering direct support to Assad’s opponents, there are serious questions about whether any opposition group is even remotely prepared to take the helm after more than 40 years under Assad family rule.

Indeed, Assad’s greatest advantage has been the weakness and lack of unity among the disparate forces opposing him.

Since the uprising began in March, a chorus of voices has risen against the regime. Besides the rebel fighters, there are distinguished exiles who hold little sway back home, aging dissidents who spent years locked in Syrian prisons and tech-savvy young people desperate to cast off a suffocating dictatorship.

Also within opposition ranks are various ideologies and motivations, from secular forces to religious conservatives to outright radicals. Separately, there are worries that al-Qaeda will take advantage of the chaos to increase its clout and carry out attacks on Assad’s regime.

The FSA allowed the Associated Press to visit one of its safe houses outside Syria on condition its location not be identified to avoid problems with the host country. The simple rented house is one of several the group operates in neighboring nations.

About 50 dissidents were gathered there, some communicating with commanders in the field via Skype, others coordinating the smuggling of medical supplies and fighters across the border.

They map out plans and advise fighters, sometimes after consulting with fellow operatives in Jordan, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, the dissidents said.

But so far, they have received no material support from other governments.

“We are an orphan group with a fighter surplus, but a serious deficit in weapons, ammunition and funding to finance our military operations against Assad’s criminal army,” said the man who asked to be identified as “The Doctor” — a nom de guerre he gained for his help in treating the wounded before he fled Syria.

The rebel fighters are mainly armed with automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades stolen from the military or bought on the black market — or even from corrupt members of Assad’s military.

“The Doctor” said.
Some local officials were encouraged that agriculture — and specifically Iowa agriculture — was to play such a prominent part in a trip by the future leader of the world’s most populous country.

“It sends a signal that the new leader is not a stranger to the U.S. and that he has experience and familiarity with America by reaching right into the heartland,” said David Shorr, a foreign-policy specialist at the Stanley Foundation, a Muscatine-based nonprofit that focuses on promoting peace and international relations.

Xi is expected to ascend to the nation’s highest office next year and could lead China during the next decade. His schedule called for him to meet with President Barack Obama on Tuesday in Washington before flying to Iowa. He’ll also stop in California.

China has become an increasingly important trading partner for the United States. It purchased $20 billion in U.S. agriculture exports last year, making it the top buyer of farm goods.

In 1985, Xi stayed with the Dvorachks, their 15-year-old daughter, and their dog in a four-bedroom, three-bath ranch home. The Star Trek-themed room had been left unchanged after the couple’s sons went to college.

Eleanor Dvorachek, now 72, recalled a handsome 31-year-old man who was calm and intensely focused on learning as much as possible during his brief trip. He kept busy until late each day, so all he needed when he returned in the evening was peace and quiet, she said.

“My job was to provide him with breakfast and a quiet place for him to relax and think, to give him time to pull his thoughts together for the next day,” she said. “It was just a pleasure to have him in our home. He was very un-demanding.”

The language barrier made conversation difficult, but Xi was interested in touring the home and seemed impressed with the two-car garage and large concrete driveway that had a basketball hoop, she said.

She speculated that Xi wanted to return because volunteers in Muscatine were generous with their time as they showed the Chinese delegation their farms and the community, and invited them into their homes.

Cynthia Maeglin, who hosted two men who accompanied Xi in 1985, said she and her husband were accustomed to inviting overseas guests into their home since they hosted exchange students after studying abroad in high school. Xi and the Chinese guests would have breakfast, then leave for the day to visit farms and businesses. The men got an up-close look at small-town life, and Maeglin believes it stuck with them.
TRANSPORTATION BILL COULD HURT ILLINOIS PROJECTS

JASON KEYSER
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Illinois stands to lose $900 million in federal funds for highways and Chicago's transit system could be jeopardized by a Republican-led transportation bill expected to be voted on in the U.S. House this week, state and federal officials warned Tuesday.

Most troubling, they said, is that mass transit would no longer get steady funding from a portion of the federal gasoline tax, forcing transit agencies to compete for general funds with other programs and making them more vulnerable to cuts, said Illinois Transportation Secretary Ann Schneider.

The proposed shift "puts transit in a very difficult position," she said.

Schneider joined federal transportation officials at an event in Chicago Tuesday to drum up the interest of Midwest-based railroad manufacturers and suppliers in helping build high-speed rail and other projects. The officials say the bill in Congress could make their sales pitch tougher by raising doubts about once steady streams of funding necessary for infrastructure projects that take years to complete and have high price tags.

"You have to have predictability," Schneider explained Joseph Szabo, head of the Federal Railroad Administration.

In the House transportation bill, Republicans are proposing spending about $260 billion over nearly five years. It eliminates the guarantee of a portion of federal gasoline and diesel tax revenues for transit, a funding stream that cash-starved transit agencies in cities such as Chicago and New York have relied on for about 30 years. Instead, transit agencies would have to compete regularly against other programs in the scramble for funds.

House Republicans argue that is necessary because reductions in driving due to the economy as well as more fuel-efficient vehicles have lowered tax revenues.

The bill also eliminates locally popular federal programs that help underwrite bike lanes and pedestrian safety projects, including the Safe Routes to School program, to concentrate funding on highways. And it includes a reduction in funding for Amtrak totaling $308 million over two years.

"The House bill takes us back to the dark ages," Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood told reporters in Washington on Monday.

Schneider did not name specific projects that might be under threat in Illinois, but she outlined her concerns in a Feb. 3 letter to the state's congressional delegation. "This bill reduces resources, eliminates programs crucial to a functioning multimodal transportation system in Illinois and relies on unknown, unproven revenue sources," she wrote.

The letter included an analysis of the bill that found it would create a yearly shortfall of $137 million in federal highway funds — $900 million over the life of the bill — and included no investment for high-speed rail, a key area for Illinois as it seeks to open a high-speed rail corridor from Chicago to St. Louis by 2014.

Still, events such as one Tuesday in Chicago show the state is pushing ahead with that and other rail projects. Schneider said Illinois was looking to buy 84 double-decker rail cars for passenger service on routes through Illinois and into Michigan and Missouri.

"The governor (Pat Quinn) is very much committed to the Chicago-to-St. Louis corridor being a premier high-speed rail corridor," she said.
ACROSSES
1  Inspired “Turn On Your Love Light”?    11  Big
  5  Sang about “Little Earthquakes”  12  “...De-De-Delivery” by Ste Paul
  9  “At the car”  15  Pricey Phish song off “Billy
  11  What Todd Ritter went  Breaths”
  14  Springsteen’s “Spoke”?  21  “Trapped” Beac
  16  Vedder soundtrack ... “the Wall”  23  Panich “...End”
  17  ... “Smile” Hall and Gates  25  Kristofferson
  18  Nileta Costa “Pick or -”  27  U2 guitarist
  19  Fingers do this to catchy tunes  29  1984 live Duran Duran album
  20  Michael Martin Murphy ... “Knots in the Devil’s Tail”
  22  Social D... Between Heaven and Hall
  34  Metallica does this before they “Destory”
  27  Remones “Al’s Quiet on the ... Front”
  30  Waiting Souls “Tom ...”
  32  Pie-alow room
  33  Type of music?
  36  ... “... or hang a going”
  38  Lightning
  41  Bob Mie’s Brian
  42  Metallics “... Sandman”
  46  Marbey True Daze Grace song?  47  Tool song off “Aftena”
  48  Red Lorry Yellow Lorry band nickname
  52  what A&C guy swings
  54  Cherry and American
  56  “He said leave me alone I’m a ...”
  59  Needed to keep your job as a recording artist
  60  He had his Parsons Project
  62  Guns and Roses “Dust ’n ’”
  63  J-Aaron” first name
  66  Kid Rock “All Summer ...”
  67  R&B band The Word singer
  68  “REM” Glav No
  69  What we looked at “Pay” through
  70  “The ... is high but I’m holding on”
  71  What we used to listen to tapes on WHAT DOWN:
  1  Last Dead album “Built to ...
  2  ...for ... Doesn’t anybody stay in one place anymore?
  3  “You Gupta Know” singer
  4  Jacob St Teenage Fancrull band song
  5  Country music
  6  Where Jared Leto’s going in “90 Seconds”
  7  “So forget ... eat Cool J Cookies”
  8  What I’m from Barcelona has a “Collection” of
  9  Where knife “Muddy Banks” were
  10  Actress that played Mrs. Robinson

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Students may benefit from online tutoring

BEN CONRADY
Daily Egyptian

As more papers are being assigned for classes, there are different services students can use in order to perfect their writing.

Students can receive tutoring from any location on or off campus with the Online Writing Lab offered by the Writing Center.

The OWL provides service similar to the typical session at the Center but is an online venue for students to get writing and grammar help from the comfort of their own home.

Through the program, students and tutors meet in an online instant message format. Once logged in, a student can download his or her paper, and then both the student and tutor can correct any mistakes.

“The tutor reads the paper and then chats back and forth with the student about the paper,” said Jane Cogie, director of the Writing Center.

“The tutor can ask questions and connect the student to a resource that can help them.”

Cogie started the program in fall 2009 to connect with students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to be in touch with a tutor any time.

“The program meets the needs of students; whether they are a fair distance away, or if they are not feeling well, or if their child is sick and they do not have childcare for that day,” she said. “They can still get help with their paper or chat with a tutor.”

The OWL Program runs on less than $1,000 per year, all funded through a Veterans Grant provided by the state of Illinois through the Disability Support Services on campus.

While the OWL Program provides a more convenient form of assistance, Cogie said online service might not be the best tutoring style for everyone.

“There is something about face-to-face communication that is better for some people,” she said. “They can hear your tone of voice and the student writer can hear more of the content of the message that the tutor is trying to get across.”

Jerry Panosh, a sophomore from Elmhurst studying sports administration, said he prefers the face-to-face contact from the Writing Center tutors because it is easier to follow.

“It is a lot easier to understand someone talking to you compared to reading through text,” he said.

One of the tutors, Andy Hamish, a graduate student from Quarryville, Penn., in creative writing, said he agreed individuals might favor certain methods, but both are competent means of tutoring.

“I think they both have strengths,” he said. “Face-to-face tutoring can be more efficient, but I think the OWL is a nice option for people who do not have time to get to the center. It’s nice to have an option for someone who wouldn’t come to the center otherwise.”

Cogie said some students may prefer the online tutoring because it’s less personal. She said the more a student is involved in each platform, the better. The online session has more built-in involvement. Cogie said, so some students may find it easier to have a lack of physical presence.

Cogie said regardless of which method an individual prefers, the OWL does provide one luxury that the typical tutoring services offered at the Writing Center do not.

“This program allows for a student to get assistance while in their pajamas,” she said.
Friday at Jackson
ville State
Jacksonville, Ala.          3:30 p.m.

Satur
day vs. South Alabama
Jacksonville, Ala.         12:30 p.m.

vs. Southeastern Louisiana
Jacksonville, Ala.         5:30 p.m.

Sunday vs. South Alabama
Jacksonville, Ala.         10:00 a.m.

Jeneva McCall
Senior thrower Jeneva
McCall, a nine-
time All-American, plac
ded second in the w
eight throw and shot put at
the Iowa State Classic
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ay. Her throw
s of 56-04.75 in the shot
put and 74-07.25 in the
weight throw made
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field athlete of the week. She holds
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in the nation in the
weight throw and
fifth
in the shot put.

STANDINGS
MEN’S BASKETBALL
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
SCHOOL       CONF  OVERALL
Wichita State 13-2  22-4
Creighton      11-4  21-5
Missouri State  9-6  16-11
Illinois State  8-7  16-10
Evansville     7-8  12-13
Northern Iowa  7-8  17-10
Drake          7-8  14-12
Indiana State  6-9  15-11
Southern Illinois 5-10  8-18
Bradley        2-13  7-20

SCHOOL       CONF  OVERALL
Missouri State 9-3  16-6
Wichita State  9-3  15-8
Illinois State 9-3  14-9
Northern Iowa  8-5  15-9
Creighton      7-6  13-11
Indiana State  6-6  12-12
Drake          6-7  12-12
Bradley        4-9  13-12
Southern Illinois 3-10  7-17
Evansville     2-11  5-19

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Sunday      Woodstock, Ga.  SIU 18, Austin Peay 1
Sunday      Woodstock, Ga.  Miami (Ohio) 3, SIU 2

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Creighton rolls over the Salukis

JOE RAGUSA  Daily Egyptian

Creighton overcame a slow start Tuesday against the Salukis and put up record numbers in the process. The Bluejays beat SIU 88-69 Tuesday at the SIU Arena, setting a Missouri Valley Conference record of 77.5 percent shooting from the field.

“They got away from us and we panicked,” said coach Chris Lowery.

The Salukis kept pace with Creighton in the first half, until a 16-5 run by Creighton in the last 5:09 of the first half put them up 39-30 at halftime.

The Salukis forced Creighton to commit 16 turnovers while committing just six of their own. SIU also shot 50 percent from the field, but weren't able to overcome Creighton's record pace.

“It's disappointing to play that well offensively, and to allow them to shoot 77 percent is just astronomical,” Lowery said.

Creighton came into the game on a three-game losing streak where they shot 41 percent from the field and 23 percent from beyond the arc. In Tuesday’s game, Creighton shot 85.7 percent from beyond the arc in addition to the MVC-record from the field.

“The last couple games, we had been struggling from the field, and just to see some go in, it helps everyone,” Creighton forward Ethan Wragge said.

“It just makes you more comfortable out there, more relaxed, not uptight, and I think that was some of our problems in the last couple games.”

Wragge had 15 points on five of six shooting, all from beyond the arc.

Creighton forward Doug McDermott only played six minutes in the first half because of foul trouble, but he came alive in the second half, scoring 15 of his 18 points in the last 20 minutes.

“I just kind of told myself that as long we keep (the score) within a possession or two, we were going to stay and save him for the second half,” said Creighton coach Greg McDermott.

In the last two games, Saluki opponents have only missed two shots from beyond the arc. Indiana State Saturday made 12 of 12 while Tuesday, Creighton made 12 of 14.

“Our closeouts have been poor,” said junior guard J.J. Lindsay. “We have to be quicker to get to the shooters (on defense).”

Senior forward Mamadou Seck had a team-high 16 points, while freshman forward Daniel Daniels had 12 points and six rebounds. The Salukis go on the road Saturday to Muncie, Ind., to take on Ball State at 1 p.m.

Winter weather no match for Pamela Benitez

CALEB MOTSINGER  Daily Egyptian

Dedication and work ethic can take a college athlete far in their career, and for freshman swimmer Pamela Benitez, it has taken her 2,500 miles away from her home in El Salvador.

Benitez said the geographic transition has been new experience for her with the recent drop in Carbondale's temperature, Benitez said the climate change from her Central American home is a little hard to handle at times, but swimming helps.

SIU will hold the women's Missouri Valley Conference tournament beginning Thursday at the Edward J. Shea Natatorium, and enter the three-day competition ranked second. Benitez has only lost one event this season, and was awarded MVC Swimmer of the Week earlier this month.

Her success as a swimmer began years before in Central America.

Benitez won eight gold medals at the 2010 Central American and Caribbean Games. She said after that, she began to look for a scholarship to a U.S. university. When she expressed a desire to move north for school, she said her coach contacted SIU swim coach Rick Walker.

“As I got to know Pamela over the phone, the decisions that she had to make, and the way she handled herself made me confident that I was talking to the right girl,” Walker said. “Ever since she got here, she's proved me right every day.”

Benitez said her life revolves around swimming. The 20-year-old marketing major said her time spent in class and in the weight room only round out the hours between meets and practice.

“I’ve been swimming nonstop for 14 years,” Benitez said. “It’s a big part of my life. I don’t do much else besides that.”

Freshman swimmer Charlotte Davies referred to Pamela as a good egg — someone she couldn't say a single bad thing about.

Walker said Benitez has won 12 of 13 individual races this season.

Benitez said despite the upcoming tournament's intensity, she's well rested and ready.

SIU will compete against 10 teams during the MVC tournament Thursday through Saturday.

STEVE MATZKER  DAILY EGYPTIAN

Freshman freestyle swimmer Pamela Benitez talks with teammates Tuesday during practice at the Edward J. Shea Natatorium. Benitez has won Missouri Valley Conference Swimmer of the Week twice this season.