An undying dream

Two community events kick off a week of celebrating the life of Martin Luther King Jr.

Cristian Stelle
Daily Egyptian

From children in strollers to white-haired citizens, people from all backgrounds gathered to demand equality for all and to promote the dream of Martin Luther King Jr.

The life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be celebrated this week, with several events sponsored by the city of Carbondale and SIUC Student Development. The Freedom For All March and the celebration of King at the Carbondale Civic Center were two events that kicked off the week.

Roughly 80 people met Monday at the Interfaith Center to participate in the Freedom For All March, which ended at the Carbondale downtown pavilion.

Jannelle Sanderson, an intern for student development in multicultural services, said she believes having a march is a good idea because King held marches as a way to spread his message to people.

Sanderson, a freshman from Saul Village studying business marketing, said though no classes were held Monday, she felt the march would start the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration week off positively and get students involved early.

As the crowd marched toward the pavilion it sang chants, such as "I too, have a dream," and "Keep the dream alive."

Karen Burnham, a resident of Carville, said she and her husband read about the march and decided to participate.

"It's important to remember and celebrate a special life," Burnham said.

Demetrous White, a senior from Chicago studying psychology and president of the Undergraduate Student Government, marched Monday.

"It's important to remember people who fought for a change and celebrate it," White said. "I think we need it again, he said.

In response to the scheduled loss of recreation facilities due to Saluki Way, administrators and architects have developed what they call a "master plan" for campus recreation.

Current plans for Saluki Way, a massive overhaul of campus, would cause the university to lose six of 12 tennis courts, three of six playing fields and a cricket pitch. The "master plan" would allow the university to maintain its current number of facilities and add new elements, such as adapted fitness trails, artificial turf and an outdoor band shelter, said Willie Ehling, director of recreational sports and services.

A proposed $25.00 per semester increase in the Campus Recreation Fee, currently $6, would pay for the plan.

Ehling said the fee increase would last for six years under the plan if approved by the RSS advisory committee. At the end of six years, he said, the extra money will drop off the fee.

"Any time, $25 is a lot of money. In this environment, it's an ugly request," Ehling said. "I mean, however, was it, We have an opportunity for land," Ehling said. "This land will be fully fire and allocated for other purposes if we don't have a master plan for outdoor recreation."

The Sahki Way plan calls for a new football stadium in top of a three-lighted playing fields and 12 tennis courts.

Ehling said $1.2 million of the project's $83 million bud-

See REC, Page 8

Fire alarms ignored after chemical spill

Emergency text message system in the works

Barton Lorimor
Daily Egyptian

When two students pulled a fire alarm after a chemical spill on Friday morning, a group working in a laboratory decided it was not a top priority.

After a small explosion in a Life Science II laboratory cabinet caused near two gallons of chemicals to spill throughout a room, a group of students in the building ignored the alarm and continued working, said SIUC Public Safety Director Todd Sigler. Officials plan to review the response to the situation this week.

The SIUC Building Emergency Response Team was at the scene shortly after 9:05 a.m. and evacuated the building within 10 minutes, SIUC spokesman Rod Siervis said.

The building was re-opened almost three hours later after the spill had been contained.

Members of the Center for Environmental Safety ventilated the building and cleaned up the spilled chemicals, which included sulfuric acid, Siervis said. Those involved with the cleanup also found shattered glass, which was the remains of the chemicals' containers, in room 158.

A fire alarm was already set off in the building when the fire alarm was set off.

"It's really important to remember and celebrate a special life," White said. "It's important to remember people who fought for a change and celebrate it, said White."
Thompson Woods littered with debris

Brandy Oxford
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Coffee cups, Bacardi bottles and construction debris have become part of the "natural state" of Thompson Woods.

In 1940, Lavinia Rendleman, deputy director of construction management services, said identifying the source of trash in the woods might be an issue.

"You'd have to delineate if it's paper, is that from students and faculty or is that from construction," Keith said.

He said Thompson Woods has no area designated for construction materials and those things should not be in the woods. Dillard said there were a problem with construction debris in Thompson Woods and it appeared to be the result of irresponsibility or a need to secure materials, he would take care of it and contact River City Construction Company to try to prevent it from happening again.

"Just like anything else, if you have a big construction site, you're always going to have a few things that escape," Dillard said.

Trash in the side of Thompson Woods adjacent to the library was cleaned up shortly after Dillard and Keith were notified of its existence.

Phil Gattuso, director of plant and service operations, said those woods have been used as a dumping ground for trash and litter, but Plant and Service Operations employees said no problems has been identified.

Despite construction debris littering the side of Thompson Woods adjacent to Morris Library, Brad Dillard, associate director of plant and service operations, said he is not aware of any significant issues with trash blowing off the Morris Library construction site.

"If we noticed or thought it was the side of Thompson Woods, we would take care of it and contact the contractor," Dillard said.

"We try to patrol things like that with as often as we can with the staffing of campus," Keith said.

"We try to patrol things like that periodically and undergrowth in some areas of Thompson Woods, Russian olive and autumn olive. They want to remove the plants, but haven't been able to do so yet. He said he can't be sure where the unwanted plant species came from, but possibilities range from bird droppings to PSO's landscaping soil.

"Unfortunately, through the years, Thompson Woods has been used by the Physical Plant to put a lot of leaf litter and stuff that's collected from elsewhere gets dumped along the edges of the woods," Ruffner said. "This happens throughout history that woodlots are the trash pit. It's a historic thing, you know, you find old junkyards along the edges of the fields where the woods started. Out of site, out of mind."

Prescribed burnings, which have been used as educational opportunities over the last seven or eight years, have helped to remove the plants, but haven't been able to do so yet. He said he can't be sure where the unwanted plant species came from, but possibilities range from bird droppings to PSO's landscaping soil.

"Unfortunately, through the years, Thompson Woods has been used by the Physical Plant to put a lot of leaf litter and stuff that's collected from elsewhere gets dumped along the edges of the woods," Ruffner said. "This happens throughout history that woodlots are the trash pit. It's a historic thing, you know, you find old junkyards along the edges of the fields where the woods started. Out of site, out of mind."

Brandy Oxford can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 255 or brandy_oxford@siude.com.
**Democrats rally in South Carolina**

**U.S.: Attacks from Iranian-armed piercing bombs down in Iraq**

**White separatists protest MLK Jr. holiday**

**Calls to remove the Confederate flag from the South Carolina statehouse grounds received from speaker after speaker at the Capitol on Monday, a small band of flag supporters waved their signs and mocked the speakers’ sentiments at King Day at the Dome in Columbia, S.C., Monday, March 2, 2009. Joe Giarratano/The State**

**Martin Luther King Jr. called champion of peace in service**

ATLANTA (AP) — More than 2,000 people crowded Ebenezer Baptist Church on Monday to honor the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s commitment to peace and celebrate the importance of his legacy in this election year.

The service was a way for King's family to reach out to the nation on the 30th day in January. It has been a national holiday since 1986, and his birthday has been observed at Ebenezer Baptist — where King gained his national prominence — every year since his assassination in Memphis, Tenn., at age 39 on April 4, 1968.

"Martin was high, acted with faith, dreamed miracles that inspired us. Can we act without thinking?" she said. "King's legacy gives light to our hopes, permission to our aspirations and relevance to our dreams."
Residents and representatives brought concerns about parts of Carbondale crumbling at the Neighborhood Alliance meeting Saturday at the First United Methodist Church.

Mary O’Hara, a member of the Housing and Neighborhood Action Group, hosted and dedicated the meeting to the late “Mayor of Valley Road” Lintz Brown, an active resident. She said Brown wanted to build a better neighborhood by using communication.

Tracy Frischkorn, the Elverado Community Emergency Response Team program manager for the Elkville, Vergennes and Dowell areas, said she has about 10 years of emergency medical experience. She broke down what is needed to construct a Community Emergency Response Team.

“If there is a large scale disaster, you’re going to be on your own for a while,” Frischkorn said. “Volunteers are trained in minor fire suppression, gas and electrical shutoff, basic first aid, light search and rescue, the psychological aspect of disaster and the list goes on.”

A local council is the first step in organizing a response team. It must be comprised of decision makers of the community. Ideal members would include a city official, a police or fire representative, emergency management directors, local business owners and citizens.

Frischkorn said the CERT program can be funded by grants and that Carbondale is big enough to sustain multiple teams.

“Having volunteers in a community to assist [police and fire fighters] can really make a difference in life and death situations,” Frischkorn said.

Frischkorn gave examples of volunteers assisting in non-disaster situations and other benefits in having a designated group of people in case of emergencies.

Five students from John A. Logan Community College constructed a slide show and set up equipment for the meeting.

Dana Magney, a student studying to be an emergency medical technician, said they would get class credit for helping. She also spoke up about getting more sidewalks and keeping them clear and well lit.

“I think it’s a good idea to get involved and make some changes,” Magney said. “People who care about the community should be involved.”

O’Hara said the goal is to get interested people to attend the meeting at 5 p.m. on Feb. 6 at the Carbondale Civic Center where they will mold an emergency response model.

Lydia Bargielski can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 258 or lydia.bargielski@siude.com.
Socialism shmocialism

DANNY WENGER

dwenger@siu.edu

Apparently Venezuela’s president never heard the proverb about crying and milk.

On Sunday, Hugo Chavez announced during his weekly broadcast that Venezuelan farmers who sell their product outside the country are “traitors.” Since they are obviously horribly flawed people with no sense of patriotism, Chavez decreed that they deserved no less than to be stripped of their property. Chavez urged government ministers to find evidence of dairy producers who sell abroad so their farms could be expropriated.

No need to go easy on them either. “If the army must be brought in, you bring in the army,” Chavez told his cabinet.

The decision came about as a reaction to the milk shortages the country is experiencing. Recently, Chavez has had to face sporadic shortages of basic food products including chicken. To help stem the shortages, the country’s government is raising prices and losing its grip on price control.

The problems in Venezuela present a learning opportunity for the rest of the world. The lesson is that even 21st century socialism (as Chavez calls it) doesn’t work.

As Chavez continues to bring more private sector industries under government control, the people lose a certain amount of their freedom. In the case of the milk farmers, it’s the freedom to sell their product to Colombia or a gourmet cheese-maker, both of whom would pay a higher price for the milk.

Although the argument could be made that the farmers should sell to their countrymen, they should not be forced to do so. Had Chavez’s government paid more attention and used prices to control the supply of milk, the country would very likely not face the shortages. The farmers would be more willing to sell domestically because of the possible profits.

If the government let the market maintain itself, the high profits for agriculture would entice more investors. Increased investment would lead to increased production and—dum da dum—smaller chances of shortages.

Venezuela is currently experiencing economic growth thanks to the country’s oil production. As the populace gets more money, they can consume more. If the government holds down prices then supply can’t keep up. Eventually this could lead to an enormous spike in inflation when the prices have to sprint to catch up to demand and counter-balance shortages.

In a nutshell, Chavez himself causes the problems in Venezuela. But he doesn’t see it.

In a nutshell, Chavez himself causes the problems in Venezuela. But he doesn’t see it.

The lesson of Chavez and his government is more visible every day. It’s unfortunate that the Venezuealans have to suffer through this, but they made their own bed. Luckily thousands of them see the disarray in their homeland and aren’t happy. Hopefully they can continue to bond and keep Chavez from gaining too much control.

For the rest of us, we should take this chance to watch and learn. Socialism is for the birds.

Wenger is a junior studying Spanish and journalism.

THEIR WORD

Protect polar bears, not oil corporations

THE PROPOSAL

The polar bear has become an icon of global warming, often pictured amid sheets of melting Arctic ice. Now Ursus maritimus has become a flash point, not just a symbol, in the climate change debate.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposed a year ago to list the polar bear as a threatened species because its habitat is rapidly melting away. But on the eve of a final decision, the agency on Jan. 7 postponed it by up to a month.

Conveniently for the oil-centric Bush administration, the postponement allowed just enough time to go ahead with the Feb. 6 sale of oil leases in the Chukchi Sea northwest of Alaska, a prime polar bear habitat. But oil drilling could put further stress on a polar bear population whose future is already in doubt.

The Bush administration must give this iconic species the protection it deserves. First, the Interior Department’s wildlife service should go ahead and list the bear as “threatened,” one notch below “endangered” under the Endangered Species Act. Second, the department’s Minerals Management Service should delay the oil lease sale until the wildlife service can finalize its decision and determine what new protections are needed for the bear.

Protect first, drill later.

That’s essentially what Rep. Ed Markey, D-Mass., rightly asked for at a congressional hearing Thursday examining the Interior Department’s actions on the polar bear and the oil lease sales. Policy-makers should be acting now to protect the bear, not hastening its possible demise. The extinction of a species is irreversible. And there’s little reason to rush into the hunt for oil in environmentally sensitive areas, especially since fossil fuels contradict the clean energy future America needs.

Even without new oil drilling, it’s clear global warming poses an ever-growing peril to the world’s polar bears, now numbering 20,000 to 25,000. The U.S. Geological Survey concluded in September that future melting of the Arctic ice could result in a loss of two-thirds of the world’s polar bears by 2050, including all of Alaska’s. The disappearance of the ice sheets deprives the bears of habitat as well as prey, leaving them at risk of drowning and starvation.

The polar bear listing will be one of the most significant environmental decisions for the Bush administration. It would be the first animal listed as imperiled because of the impacts of global warming. And it would have major implications for the Bush administration’s duck-the-issue stance on climate change.

The Arctic oil isn’t going anywhere and we need to make sure the polar bear isn’t either.

This editorial appeared in the San Jose Mercury News on Friday.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Try to find another way to help or find your goal. This bomb, this weapon, it’s not good to use for anybody." — Omar bin Laden, son of Osama bin Laden in a public plea for his father to stop encouraging violence
Is Illinois mandating vilification?
TODD A. KULHANEK

Most likely we are all familiar with the recent tragedy kidnapping and murder of Meredith Emerson, the hiker who vanished from a Georgia state park earlier this month. While that is clearly a tragedy, there will be no real change. What remains the same is that we have a lazy media, and that in order to keep shareholders happy we will bend on creating an entertaining storyline to fill the void during the writer's strike. They continue to perpetrate non-issues, keeping us distracted, uninformed and entertained. Rather than talk about the discrepancies over hand- counted votes and electronic votes in New Hampshire. Rather than investigate important stories, the media has chosen to remain silent and instead fill up our time with unnecessary and often inane stories. The recent Rove Paul controversy is the perfect example. The facts were that first, Paul never won any of those racist narratives. Next, he has been endorsed by many African Americans. The NAACP president of Austin considers him a close friend and a complete non-racist. Finally, Dr. Paul is the only candidate with a chance who is proposing an end to the war on minorities that disproportionately effect minorities. Both the war on terror and the war on drugs minorities the hardest. Dr. Paul has promised to end the war on terror, which is mostly fought by poor whites and minorities. He has also said he would end the ridiculous and costly drug war and pardon all non-violent drug offenders. That doesn't sound very racist to me. The moral of the story is that change is very grey. But the word has no inherent positive or negative connotation. Change is one word used as a term for self improvement for the whole. So when you hear broad concept words like "change," "responsibility" or "security," do yourself your American duty and ask questions. Otherwise change is just a little less of the same.

O'Connor is a junior studying political science.
Rec

continued from page 3

However, current plans would move the three lighted playing fields on top of three unlighted fields used by some of the university’s 47 sports clubs, Ehling said. The university’s only cricket pitch would also be lost during relocations.

Ehling, who began working at the university in July, said recreation staff expressed concern about Saluki Way to him during the interview process. Since he took the job, he said, he has been working with administrators and architects to understand and respond to Saluki Way.

“From the time I got to campus, I was after information on what was the real situation,” Ehling said. “I knew there was an opportunity for me to help.”

Undergraduate Student Government President Demetrous White said he believed the plan would be a third way to charge students for facilities.

White said students already pay for the plan through the intercollegiate Athletic fee, as well as the half-percent increase in state sales tax. The tax increase, approved in August, will allow the city to contribute $1 million per year for the next 20 years to Saluki Way.

“Their saying Saluki Way is taking fields and we need to come out of our pockets and pay again. I don’t buy that,” White said. “I don’t support it and I think that for the most part, the student body is behind that.”

Rick Findley, who works for 360 Architecture, worked closely with Ehling and others to develop the plan.

Findley said the amount of open space and forested land surrounding the university made it unique among other campuses around the world. The master plan could help make the most of those assets, Findley said.

“[The master plan looks at] everything that’s there, all the available land, and try to maximize its use,” Findley said. “It does really look at all of the facilities on campus.”

Chiquita Watts said she supports the plan, but not the attached fee increase.

Watts, a junior from Chicago studying finance, is the executive director of Student Programming Council. She is also a USG senator representing the College of Business and Administration.

Watts said she planned to vote against the fee increase at the organization’s next meeting Wednesday.

“It’s a race gesture, but we’re here to get a degree,” Watts said, referring to the new facilities.

Amber Manning said she supports the master plan even though she will graduate before new facilities could be built.

Manning, a graduate student from Lanark studying educational psychology, works with sports clubs as a graduate assistant.

“(The plan) will allow all of our sports clubs to have newer, better facilities,” Manning said. “Fee increases, in my opinion, are inevitable. It never really worries me when I hear ‘fee increase’ because I feel any university I would be at that would be the case.”

Ehling said he hoped to speak personally with more students about the plan.

“I’ve been here six months. I haven’t had a chance to build relationships with students, for students to trust me,” Ehling said. “How I was trained and how I have been successful is students. Students have some of the best ideas.”

Ehling said he planned to attend the USC meeting Wednesday, at which senators are scheduled to vote on student fee increases.

The SIU Board of Trustees must vote to affirm the fee increases before they become effective. Fee increases are scheduled to appear before the board in February.

The board will vote on the increases in April.

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**CHEMICAL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

“It takes a while to cycle through a system of the several thousand emails that were sent out,” Sievers said of the automated message’s timing.

Announcements were made in Schneider and Mae Smith residence halls to alert students about the evacuation.

A possible improvement to communication during emergencies would be text messages. University attorneys are finalizing the deal with a text message vendor that would allow officials to dispatch emergency alerts to cell phones.

Undergraduate Student Government President Demetrous White said he did not see how such a system would hurt. A text message would be more immediate than an email, he said. White had been lobbying for a text message system that would also notify students if a class were cancelled.

White said he was also pleased with BERT on Friday, but was concerned that students were taking such a risk by not evacuating the building as fire alarms went off.

“I think that’s dangerous,” White said. “Students need to protect themselves when they are informed to evacuate.”

Peggy Cope, building director for Mae Smith, said students were cooperative during three unrelated evacuations in the residence hall Saturday. Malfunctioning censors in the building’s water lines triggered the alarms.

**KING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

have come a long way, but we still have a lot of injustice in America.”

The march was not Carbondale’s first chance to celebrate King’s life.

The Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. – an event consisting of a myriad of ways to honor him, from prayer to dance – was held at 4 p.m. Sunday at the Civic Center and was hosted by Rock Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Murphyboro, Christ Community Church of Murphyboro and Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship.

This is the first year Carbondale and Murphyboro have combined their individual community events for one joint celebration of King. The Rev. Phil Nodstrum of Christ Community Church in Murphyboro said he feels that King’s goal of desegregation is being accomplished between Murphyboro and Carbondale by combining their celebrations.

“Dr. King is looking down on us with a bit of a smile today,” said Nordstrom.

The mayor of Murphysboro, Ron Williams, presented the Spirit of Dr. King Community Service Award to community member Maggie Parker. Parker has dedicated her time to community service, taking part in everything from protests to raising money for the homeless.

“This honored to receive an award named after Martin Luther King, a man who dedicated his life for equality and justice,” Parker said.

The celebration featured performances by the Southern Illinois Children’s Choir, the Murphyboro Christian Academy Dance Team and the Jasper Singers.

Cristian Stelle can be reached at 536-3312 ext. 270 or cstelle@siu.edu.

**SALES & RENT**

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 **Real Estate**

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 **Real Estate**

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3 BDM, NOV, Dec. 1st, 1st bdm, each with private bath, house, S/E, 1st bdm, 2nd bdm, 1000 ft, mls 2204-6500, 636-3732.

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Geocaching: A treasure hunt for everybody

Audra Ord

People love hidden treasure — success of films such as "Sahara," "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "National Treasure" is proof of this.

For those who have always wanted a treasure hunt of their own, there is an adventure game called geocaching — an activity that combines global positioning technology with old-fashioned treasure hunting.

Geocaching, pronounced "cash-ing," is a pastime everyone can enjoy. All that is needed is a GPS device and a sense of adventure.

The goal of the game is to locate a cache — a hidden container of any size — using GPS coordinates, which are primarily found online. Smaller caches may contain only a logfile, which is used by caches to record the date they found the cache. Larger caches may contain multiple items, which are mostly cheap trinkets.

Some caches contain trackable items called Geocoin and Travel Bugs. These items are given a destination by the owner, and they may "TNLN": Take Nothing, Leave Nothing, in geocache-speak.

"It’s easier to leave a card and not take anything...I don’t really need a bunch of junk. To me, it’s more fun just to see what’s there, see who been there and see the area than collect it," Urbanek said.

Though geocaching was developed to incorporate GPS technology, it is possible to find caches without a GPS device, though it’s more challenging. "It’s just a way to be outside, kill a few hours and feel like you're actually doing something," Urbanek said. "It’s a feeling of accomplishment."

Most Travel Bugs are attached to items as they travel. Urbaneck said she and her boyfriend found a Travel Bug attached to an alien necklace that was on its way back to the east coast from California.

When a cache containing items is found, caches typically exchange one item for another, which means the contents of the container are constantly changing. However, some people play the game just for the sense of accomplishment of finding the cache, and they may "TNLN": Take Nothing, Leave Nothing, in geocache-speak.

"It’s just a way to be outside, kill a few hours and feel like you’re actually doing something," Urbaneck said. "It’s a feeling of accomplishment."

A geocache found around the campus lake walking trail holds miscellaneous objects that caches leave behind for the next scavenger. As a form of treasure hunting, geocache hunters search for these hidden boxes all over the world using the latest GPS technology.
After they allowed a seven-point lead to diminish in the first minutes of the second half, the Salukis (9-9, 1-6 MVC) used a 11-2 run to keep the game out of reach of the slumping Shockers (8-10, 2-5 MVC), according to The Saluki Times.

Senior forward Randal Fay said he felt the pressure the Salukis put on Wichita State in the second half as the Shockers struggled to keep up.

“You could tell,” Fay said. “They came down and they were just kind of dragging a little bit and we were full of energy. That’s what all that conditioning and all of that is worth.”

Mullins and sophomore Josh Falker both added 11 points each while the Saluki bench added 18 points to help guide the team back to even ground.

Lowery said getting much-needed points from the bench is key for the Salukis to perform like the successful teams of the past few years.

“That means somebody can have a bad game, and that’s how we’ve always been,” Lowery said. “We’re always allowed one person to have a bad game because people have always picked them up and the last two games we’ve been able to do that.”

The Salukis will take their win into the second week as they head to Springfield, Mo., to take on the Missouri State on Wednesday. Tip-off is at 7:05 p.m.

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Megan Kramper
DAILY EGYPTIAN

After spending the first half of the season in the shadows of his teammates, senior forward Randal Falker has emerged as a leader. Falker dominated Saturday, leading the Salukis to a 63-52 win over the Wichita State Shockers with 15 points and six rebounds.

Coach Chris Lowery said Falker’s performance was instrumental in the last two Saluki victories, both Saturday and Tuesday’s 16-point, 9-rebound performance over Evansville.

Falker looked to be the caliber of player the Saluki coaches expected him to be all season as he hit the opponent hard in the paint, dished the ball out of double teams and hit the occasional 15-foot jumper.

“Now you’re starting to see what we’ve been wanting him to do for the last two months,” Lowery said.

Salukis aggressiveness key in victory

Jeff Engelhardt
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Elbows to the chest, headfirst dives into the first row, and fourth strikes to the head are all in a day’s work for the SIU mens basketball team.

The Salukis (9-9, 4-3 Missouri Valley Conference) returned to their roots in Saturday’s 63-52 victory over Wichita State (8-10, 1-6) and played with the type of intensity and aggressiveness that earned them the moniker “Floorburn U.”

Neither team was able to break away early in the game, but midway through the first half the Salukis picked up the intensity and earned trips to the free throw line. SIU had a streak in which nine of 11 points came from the charity stripe.

Coach Chris Lowery said when the Salukis play with that type of energy good things will come out of it.

“We just played hard again and that’s what we have been trying to get them to do,” Lowery said. “I thought we did a good job of taking it to them and forcing the action on offense and drawing fouls.”

The majority of the scrappy play came from the bench with freshman Carlton Fay and senior Tyrone Green. Both players took several charges and were constantly on the floor going for loose balls.

Men’s Basketball

Salukis pick up weekend split

Matt Hartwig
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The SIU women’s basketball team got just what it needed Sunday to keep pace in the Missouri Valley Conference.

After the Salukis dropped Friday night’s game to Drake 55-52, they battled with Creighton back and forth and eventually held off the Blue Jays 75-74 in overtime.

Active leading scorer Jayne Swerre struggled out of the gate, missing all six shots she took in the first half. But the senior guard got into a rhythm when it mattered most, hitting her final five shots of the game — including a game-winning jumper with 10 seconds left in overtime.

Swerre, who finished with 11 points and six assists, said she didn’t have the best of games, but knew late in the game she had to grind through it.

“I didn’t want to freak out because things weren’t going our way,” Swerre said. “I just wanted to stay within myself and try and not force anything too hard.”

Swerre wasn’t the only Saluki battling through a poor first half. After failing to record any points or rebounds in the first half, senior forward Courtney Sales responded with a 10-point second half, including a pair of shots in the paint to tie the game twice with less than a minute to go in regulation.

Sales said she dug down and let the game come to her.

“My coaches have always told me I can take anyone off the dribble, and that’s what I did,” she said.

SIU (7-9, 3-3 MVC) was tied with Creighton (9-7, 2-3 MVC) at halftime and the Salukis’ defense didn’t let up against the MVC’s best 3-point shooting team.

On top of holding the Blue Jays to 5-of-13 shooting from beyond the arc, SIU also held senior guard Ally Thrall to 2-of-9 shooting.

After criticizing the leadership of upperclassmen through most of the season, Saluki coach Dana Eikenberg credited the seniors for the win.

“I really challenged these guys and our seniors really rose to the occasion,” Eikenberg said. “These guys really gave the freshmen the confidence to do what they needed to do.”

The team lacked that confidence in Friday night’s loss to Drake,

Eikenberg said, when it came to attacking the basket.