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Today:
High: 38, Low: 22

Tomorrow:
High: 47, Low: 26



NOVEMBER 21, 2008 | VOLUME 94, No. 67 | 12 PAGES

Legislators reject state budget cuts

Governor plans to collaborate with House

Brandy Oxford
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Gov. Rod Blagojevich tabled a bill Thursday that would save the state \$2.2 billion, but cost SIU \$17 million.

Rep. Mike Bost said Rep. Jay Hoffman suggested holding the bill

so the governor could collaborate with members of the House and gain their support.

"A lot of the proposals were pretty radical, and they didn't have enough votes to get it passed," Bost said.

Blagojevich wanted to push the bill through despite arguments with

Speaker of the House Mike Madigan, Bost said.

"Basically, the governor came to the realization that it wasn't going to work with Madigan, and it was just going to be an embarrassment to him," Bost said.

He said the state would continue to operate under the current budget, paying whatever bills it can, until the governor and legislators can come to an

agreement and pass a budget.

Bost said this year's budget is \$2.5 billion to \$3 billion more than the state can afford.

He said overspending has been a six-year bad habit in Illinois.

"Government would work right if we had responsible people at the helm, and we don't," Bost said. "There are many people who want to do what's right, but it's spinning

out of control."

SIU President Glenn Poshard testified to the House's general appropriations committee Thursday against the education portion of a bill.

Poshard said he understands the state's economic difficulties, but an 8 percent cut to Illinois' education spending is unacceptable.

See BUDGET CUT, Page 2



JULIA RENDLEMAN ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Graduate students in educational psychology, Jennifer Mulnix, left, and Amanda Minor practice Thai boxing in the student Recreation Center Wednesday. For more on martial arts, SEE PAGE 5.

USG confident it can continue to fund RSOs

Finance committee down to \$33,000

Jeff Engelhardt
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Ashley Epps wants all Registered Student Organizations to know that the initials USG do not mean the same thing as ATM.

Epps, vice chairwoman for the Undergraduate Student Government finance committee, said the group has done a good job getting the USG back on track after last year's financial crisis, but RSOs need to know they may not receive the full funding they want.

After starting the year with roughly \$120,000 to help fund RSO events, USG is now down to \$33,000 for the rest of the school year. Alpha Phi Alpha and the Skydiving Club paid back roughly \$6,000 of unused money to the senate, bumping USG's previous total up from about \$28,000.

USG Vice President Vincent Hardy

said he thinks the finance committee has successfully handled the limited budget of \$120,000. The two most expensive events the USG has funded so far are the Equestrian Meet and Kappa Alpha Psi Masquerade Ball.

The Equestrian Meet totaled \$9,825 and was the first meet in Carbondale in more than five years and featured 11 teams. The Masquerade Ball will happen in the spring and will include a week's worth of events, costing \$8,060.

"If you look at what the committee has done this year, they have done a good job of funding important parts of the event," Hardy said. "As the year goes on, you will see more partial funding."

While the Equestrian Meet and Masquerade Ball were in the thousands, a majority of the events funded have been less than \$1,000, which Hardy said has let the senate fund much more than the 19 groups they

gave money to last year.

"All the publicity our finance committee has received over the last few months has made RSOs aware that they can get money from us," Hardy said. "I think that has to do with us already being down to (\$33,000)."

Hardy said he thought roughly 30 RSOs have been awarded money so far this year.

Epps said she was impressed the senate had \$33,000 remaining but added RSOs need to expect the USG to only fund necessary items for events.

"RSOs come to us and think they are going to get full funding because they have in the past," Epps said. "But

they had full funding in the past because more money than we actually had was given out."

If you look at what the committee has done this year, they have done a good job of funding important parts of the event. As the year goes on, you will see more partial funding.

— Vincent Hardy
USG vice president

the SPC sells tickets to break even, the finance committee agreed \$5,000 would be sufficient.

USG highest funded events


Equestrian Meet	\$9,825
Delta Phi Mu International Dinner	\$4,000
Bioneers Conference	\$3,500
USG Leadership Conference	\$7,746
Kappa Alpha Psi Masquerade Ball	\$8,060
Beta Phi Pi National Domestic Violence Awareness Week	\$5,112
SIU College Democrats Non-partisan vote rally	\$5,118

Source: USG senate bills

DeAndré Elion ~ Daily Egyptian


The SPC Concert Series is not the only event in the spring that has already been funded, which finance committee chairwoman Krystin McDermott said

See MONEY, Page 2





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BOLT (PG)
12:40 1:30 3:40 4:20 6:05 6:40 8:30 9:00

TWILIGHT (PG-13)
1:10 4:00 4:50 7:00 7:40 10:00 10:30

FRI & SUN ONLY 1:50

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1:20 4:00 7:10 9:50

ZACK AND MIRI MAKE A PORNO (R)
2:00 5:00 7:40 10:15

MADAGASCAR ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG)
1:10 1:40 3:40 4:15 6:05 6:45 8:30 9:10

APPALOOSA (R)
1:30 4:20 7:00 9:45

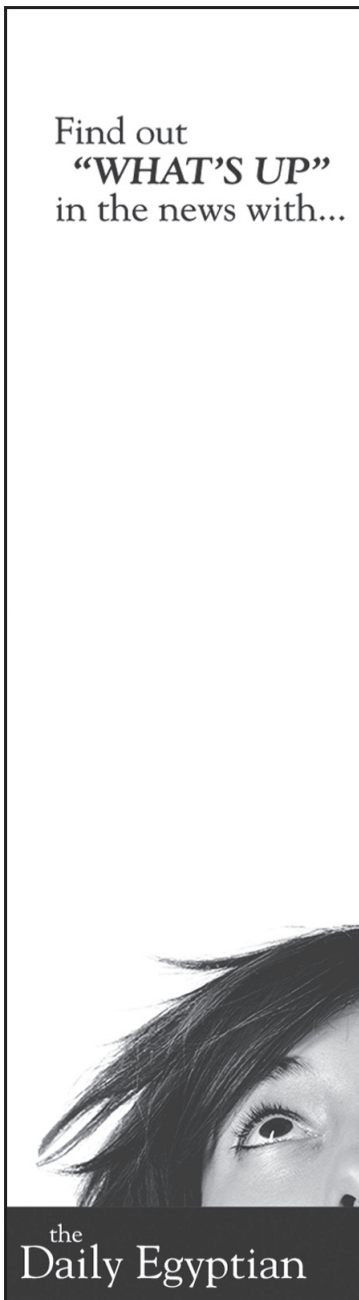
CHANGELING (R)
12:40 3:45 6:50 10:00

EAGLE EYE (PG-13)
1:15 4:30 7:20 10:05

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3 (G)
1:00 3:50 6:40 9:30

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There are no items to report at this time.

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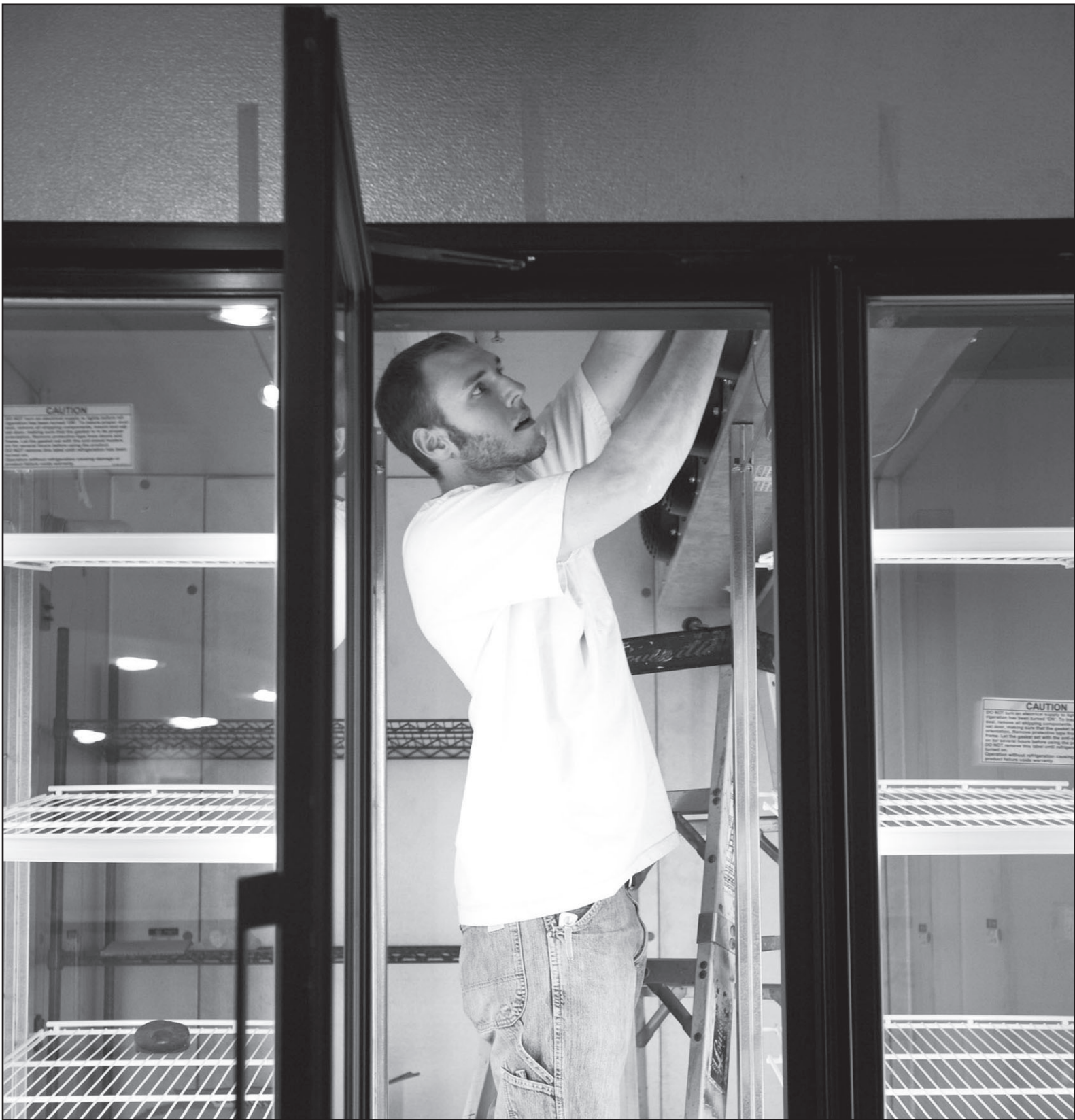
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JULIA RENDLEMAN ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Stewart Clark, 20, of Carterville, does electrical work on the freezers Thursday in the new convenient store scheduled to open in the Student Center after the winter break. Students were invited to participate in a competition to name the new C-Store. The winner of the competition will be

announced in the coming weeks and will win an iPod Shuffle. The store under construction is located where the Information Station used to be.

Housing residents prepare to move

Residence halls to be empty by Saturday evening

Barton Lorimor
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Like most University Housing residents who plan to remain on campus during Thanksgiving Break, Sagnik Dey had to find an alternative place to live for the week. Lisa Marks, associate housing director, said Brush Towers and Thompson Point residents must vacate their residence hall rooms by 4 p.m. Saturday until 1 p.m. Nov. 30 because the regular housing staff, such as resident assistants, will not be on campus to supervise the buildings. The campus dining halls and express areas close at 3 p.m. today as well, Marks said. Marks said students in need of a place to live during the break can sign up for break housing, which allows displaced students to live in vacant University Park dormitories, which include Neely, Boomer, Wright and

“For seven more dollars (than break housing), I am getting Internet and food from the hotel.”
— Sagnik Dey
freshman from Kuwait studying mechanical engineering

Allen halls. The accommodations cost \$18 per night and the deadline to sign up is 3:30 p.m., she said. Dey, a freshman from Kuwait studying mechanical engineering, said he plans to stay in a Carbondale hotel for the week instead of signing up for break housing. He said for a few dollars more he could continue to use the Internet, which is shut off on campus during the break, and have breakfast and lunch at the hotel. “For seven more dollars (than break housing), I am getting Internet and food from the hotel,” Dey said. “Overall, it’s a good deal.” Dey said he feels annoyed about moving out of his dorm room and will miss his friends and his daily visit to the Recreation Center during the break. But not all of the students who remain on campus will have to find a friend with whom to

crash or sign up for break housing. Marks said students who regularly live in University Park and University Hall can remain in their dormitories. Crystal Bouhl, public relations for housing, said not all of the nearly 250 students who remain on campus during break are evicted from their rooms. She said some organizations, such as Saluki Athletics, have paid housing to keep staff on campus in certain residence halls. Most of the athletes live in the same building, Bouhl said, which makes it possible for them to stay in the regular rooms. “(Athletes) have special arrangements,” Bouhl said. “If there is another large group of students, they could talk to us and we could arrange that.” Barton Lorimor can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 263 or barton.lorimor@siude.com.

BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS

COMPILED BY MADELEINE LEROUX

The Carbondale Police Department runs a house watch program, designed to provide extra security for those who will be out of town through the holiday break. The program is free and available to all Carbondale residents. To find out more information or sign up for the

program, contact the police department at 457-3200. The SIUC Department of Public Safety also runs a free house watch program available to all students. To find out more information or sign up for the program, contact the DPS at 453-3771.

- Try using timers for lights, televisions or radios to give the impression that someone is home.
- Do not let mail or newspapers pile up while away by having someone collect them or by placing a hold on all mail through the post office.
- If possible, have someone periodically check the residence throughout the break.
- While traveling, try to bring any electronic equipment, such as laptop computers, digital cameras or video game systems as they are common targets for criminals.
- Always check that all doors and windows are shut and locked.

Sources:
Carbondale Police Department
SIUC Department of Public Safety

Auto aid effort collapses — December reprieve?

Julie Hirschfeld Davis
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The \$25 billion rescue plan for the auto industry, desperately sought by Detroit's beleaguered Big Three, collapsed Thursday as Congress drew the line at one more bailout, and Democrats said they wouldn't even consider it until the companies produced a convincing plan for rebuilding their once-mighty industry.

The demise of the rescue — at least for now — left uncertain the fate of General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler LLC, and sent Wall Street spiraling to its lowest level in years. The Dow Jones industrials dropped 445 points, the second straight plunge of more than 400, and hit the lowest point in nearly six years.

The carmakers have been clobbered by lackluster sales and choked credit, and are battling to stay afloat through year's end. Failure of one or

more of the Big Three would be a severe further blow to the floundering economy — and to many Americans' view of the nation's industrial strength — and throw a million or more additional workers off the job.

Thursday, the government reported that laid-off workers' new claims for jobless aid had reached a 16-year high and the number of Americans searching for work had soared past 10 million. Congress approved a measure to extend jobless benefits through the holidays, and the White House said President George W. Bush would quickly sign it.

But Democratic leaders scrapped votes on the auto rescue, postponing until next month a politically tricky decision on whether to approve yet another unpopular bailout at a time of economic peril, or risk being blamed for the implosion of an industry that employs millions and has a broad reach into all aspects of the U.S. economy.

"Until they show us the plan,

we cannot show them the money," Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said at a hastily called news conference in the Capitol.

GM and Ford quickly issued statements promising to submit the blueprint the Democrats demanded.

Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said Congress might return to work in early December for a vote on aid to the carmakers — but only if they show Congress they could use the funds to transform their struggling industry into a viable one.

For now, however, the Democrats said the aid plan lacked the support to pass Congress and be signed by Bush.

Bush and congressional Republicans had balked at Democrats' suggestion to draw emergency auto industry loans from the \$700 bil-

lion Wall Street rescue fund. And most Democrats were unwilling to go along with a separate, bipartisan effort backed by the White House to temporarily divert an existing program to help carmakers produce vehicles that burn less gasoline to cover the companies' immediate financial needs.

But with GM warning it could go under before year's end, Democratic leaders were unwilling to close up shop for the year and appear to turn a deaf ear to the industry. They called for a Big Three viability plan by Dec. 2, scheduled hearings that week on the report, and said a vote on a bailout could come the week of Dec. 8.

"Yes, we're kicking the can down the road, because that will give us the opportunity to do something positive,"

Reid said. "But that will only happen if they get their act together."

The White House criticized the delay, saying the plan to let the automakers tap the fuel-efficiency loans for their short-term cash needs should be considered.

"If there are lawmakers who want to help the automakers, and they have a path to do so, why are they going to kick the can down the road?" said Dana Perino, the White House press secretary.

The chief executives of the Big Three automakers appealed personally to lawmakers for the loans this week, saying their problem was the economic meltdown that has walloped their industry — not that they were manufacturing unappealing cars.

But whatever support they found sagged when it became known that each of them had flown into Washington aboard multimillion-dollar corporate jets. Reid observed that was "difficult to explain" to taxpayers in his hometown of Searchlight, Nev.

“Yes, we’re kicking the can down the road, because that will give us the opportunity to do something positive.”

— Harry Reid
senate majority leader

Venezuela's Chavez campaigns for allies in Sunday's elections



WALTER OBREGON ~ McClatchy Tribune

Adan Chavez, shown here talking with locals, is running for governor to maintain his near-absolute control over the country's political system in the face of Venezuela's deepening economic and social problems.

Tyler Bridges
THE McCLATCHY TRIBUNE

BARINAS, Venezuela — The crowd stretched as far as the eye could see down Camejo Street.

On President Hugo Chavez's home turf, some 10,000 people lustily cheered Tuesday night for Julio Cesar Reyes, whom Chavez has branded a "traitor" because he's vying with Chavez's older brother to be the next governor of the state of Barinas. Chavez's father holds the job but isn't running for re-election.

"We're not afraid of anyone," Reyes said in a clear allusion to President Chavez and his family. "We're going to build a new society."

With many residents convinced that Chavez's father and brothers have stolen public money and abused power, Barinas is the highest-profile race in Sunday's state and local elections and represents one of the best opportunities for Chavez's opponents to gain ground.

With his near-absolute control over the political system at stake, Chavez has been campaign-

ing furiously across the country, including three visits to Barinas during the past two months.

After 10 years in office, he needs a strong showing to maintain momentum for further extending government control over Venezuela's economy, retain his pre-eminent role over Latin America's leftist bloc and win public approval early next year to be allowed to seek re-election rather than have to leave office when his term ends in 2012.

Political analysts say that Chavez has strengthened his candidates' fortunes in recent weeks.

Judge orders release of five terror suspects at Gitmo

Lara Jakes Jordan
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — A federal judge Thursday ordered the release of five Algerians held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the continued detention of a sixth in a major blow to the Bush administration's strategy to keep terror suspects locked up without charges.

In the first case of its kind, U.S. District Judge Richard J. Leon said the government's evidence linking the five Algerians to al-Qaida was not credible as it came from a single, unidentified source. Therefore, he said, the five could not be held indefinitely as enemy combatants, and should be released immediately.

"To allow enemy combatancy to rest on so thin a reed would be inconsistent with this court's obligation," Leon told the crowded courtroom.

As a result, he said, "the court must and will grant their petitions and order their release."

As for the sixth Algerian, Belkacem Bensayah, Leon said there was enough reason to believe he was close to an al-Qaida operative and had sought to help others travel to Afghanistan to join the terrorists' fight against the United States and its allies.

Leon also urged senior Justice Department leaders and high-level officials at other government agencies involved in the case not to appeal his ruling. The Justice Department said later Thursday it had not decided whether it would.

Leon said the five Algerians already have been improperly held for seven years and deserve to go home. He said an appeal could delay their release for up to another two years.

"This is a unique case," Leon said, trying to assuage any Justice Department fears that hundreds of

other detainees also could be released based on his ruling. "Few if any others will be factually like it. Nobody should be lulled into a false sense that all of the ... cases will look like this one."

One of the men to be released is Lakhdar Boumediene, whose landmark Supreme Court case last summer gave the Guantanamo detainees the right to challenge their imprisonment.

The Algerians' attorneys said they would appeal Bensayah's detention but hugged each other and colleagues in congratulations after Leon's ruling.

"It's a relief," said attorney Robert C. Kirsch.

The Bosnian government already has agreed to take back the detainees, all of whom immigrated there from Algeria before they were captured in 2001.

Justice spokesman Peter Carr said the department is pleased Bensayah will remain at Guantanamo but "we are of course disappointed by, and disagree with, the court's decision that we did not carry our burden of proof with respect to the other detainees."

Leon was appointed by President George W. Bush and has been sympathetic to the argument that the president has broad authority during wartime. In 2005, Leon ruled that this same group of detainees had no right to challenge their detention in civilian courts.

Thursday's ruling is the first since the Supreme Court cleared the way last June for civilian courts to hear challenges by terror suspects being held indefinitely without charges.

It largely hinged on Leon's definition of an enemy combatant, which he said included al-Qaida or Taliban supporters who directly assisted in hostile acts against the United States or its allies.

WASHINGTON

Congress rushes jobless-benefits extension to passage

WASHINGTON — Jarred by new jobless alarms, Congress raced to approve legislation Thursday to keep unemployment checks flowing through the December holidays and into the new year for a million or more laid-off Americans whose benefits are running out.

The economic picture was only getting worse, if Wall Street was any indication. The Dow Jones industrials dropped more than 400 points for a second straight day, reaching the lowest level in more than five years, and the Standard & Poor's 500 index fell below lows established six years ago.

WASHINGTON

Gates now looking to accept longer stint as defense secretary

WASHINGTON — What Robert Gates once called "inconceivable to me" — his remaining as defense secretary beyond Inauguration Day — is looking a bit more conceivable to the rest of Washington.

The 65-year-old former spymaster has turned publicly mum on the circumstances under which he would stay, even briefly, after President-elect Barack Obama takes office. But one of the leading scenarios for a wartime transition at the Pentagon has Gates holding the fort, at least for some months.

POLAND

Polish, Swedish scientists say they have identified Copernicus' remains, grave

WARSAW — Researchers said Thursday they have identified the remains of Nicolaus Copernicus by comparing DNA from a skeleton and hair retrieved from one of the 16th-century astronomer's books.

The findings could put an end to centuries of speculation about the exact resting spot of Copernicus, a priest and astronomer whose theories identified the Sun, not the Earth, as the center of the universe.

OHIO

Investigation says agency director improperly checked records on Joe the Plumber

TOLEDO — An agency director improperly used state computers to find personal information on "Joe the Plumber," a government watchdog said in a report released Thursday.

There was no legitimate business purpose for the head of Ohio's Department of Job and Family Services to order staff to look up the records, Inspector General Tom Charles said.

Investigators weren't able to determine whether the searches were politically motivated.

Get in with Ord: Martial arts teaches discipline, respect

Audra Ord
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Editor's note: This is the 14th story in a weekly series featuring recreational opportunities through SIUC and the southern Illinois region.

Any kid who has ever watched Mr. Miyagi of "The Karate Kid," or any Jackie Chan or Bruce Lee flick, has probably wanted to emulate the awesomeness, discipline and power of these Hollywood heroes.

But martial arts is more than throwing punches and kicking. Life lessons such as discipline, self control and respect are also taught and impressed upon martial arts students.

"You have to have a focused and disciplined mind to have a focused and disciplined body," said Brian Stanfield, president and instructor of the Aikido club.

There are seven martial arts

sports clubs offered through SIUC, and several martial arts classes are offered through the Recreation Center each semester.

Stanfield, a graduate student from Indianola, Iowa, in philosophy, said he enjoys the spiritual aspect of Aikido as much as the physical aspect. He said Aikido is not a punch-and-kick, competitive style of martial arts — it has more to do with subduing an attack using grappling, pins and submission rather than counterattacking.

"(Aikido) focuses on self-cultivation and self-discipline and emphasizes a peaceful resolution of violent conflict," Stanfield said.

Other martial arts disciplines place equal importance on discipline and respect.

Shinkendo, a Japanese martial art that translates to "way of the living sword," teaches the ideology of the ancient Samurai, said Shinkendo club president Kit Teatock.

Teatock, a senior from Mattoon studying aviation management, said that although many martial arts have become more of a sport or have lost practicality, Shinkendo is practical battlefield combat in the way the Samurai practiced it.

"We teach what a Samurai would've actually learned going out onto the battlefield," Teatock said.



JULIA RENDLEMAN ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Graduate students in educational psychology, Jennifer Mulnix, left, and Amanda Minor practice Thai boxing in the Recreation Center Wednesday evening.

"It's not in anticipation that we would ever have to use this, but it's trying to hold onto those traditions."

Evan Clark, the former president of the Kendo club, said the presence of different martial arts forms in popular culture sparks interest in the disciplines.

"In many instances, it is becoming more popular," Clark said. "But

as far as how people view it, I think in film ... martial arts gets very easily misconstrued."

Clark, a senior from St. Louis studying electrical engineering, said his experience in martial arts has helped him in job interviews because employers expect martial artists to be disciplined and well-trained.

Though martial arts is gener-

ally often misrepresented as a violent and dangerous activity, Clark said those who practice martial arts treat each other with respect. He said the people he practices and trains with become family, and they take care not to injure each other.

Stanfield said the discipline of Aikido also encourages control and safety.

Unemployment reaches 14-year high

Graduating seniors remain optimistic

Justin Lange
DAILY EGYPTIAN

As seniors prepare to graduate either in December or May, the job market shows little welcome. However, some students seem undeterred.

As 240,000 more jobs were cut in October, unemployment is at a 14-year high. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment has reached 6.5 percent across the country.

Locally, the situation is similarly grim.

"I wanted to do something that I felt had a future."

— Justin Baker
senior from Du Quoin
studying chemistry

For the past three years, the Midwest has had the highest unemployment rate in the country. In 2007, 5.1 percent of persons able to work in Illinois were unemployed. The unemployment rate in Illinois rose 0.4 percent from 2006 to 2007, from 4.6 percent to 5 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

The Man-Tra-Con Corporation provides assistance to those who want to find jobs. The not-for-profit organization works with local employers to provide

workshops, résumé assistance and programs to train individuals, said

Rosie Robinson, business services administrator. She said the corporation has seen an influx of people in the past year.

"Our resource rooms have been full the past few weeks," Robinson said. "We've experienced an influx of people using our computers and fax machine."

News of the recent downturn in the market and rising unemployment has not dimmed the optimistic outlook of some students.

Justin Baker, a senior from Du Quoin studying chemistry, is set to graduate in December. Baker said recent layoffs would not affect his post-graduation plans. Baker said he plans to attend graduate school to give him more employment opportunities. He wouldn't be concerned even if he planned to

enter the workforce immediately, he said.

Baker said he chose chemistry because of the large number of job opportunities. He said those obtaining degrees in social sciences might not be as lucky.

"Even if I wasn't going to grad school, I would still be fairly confident I could get a job, but there is definitely a decrease in job availability," Baker said. "I wanted to do

something that I felt had a future."

Mitchell Rabe, a senior from Vandalia studying agricultural systems, plans to graduate this spring. Rabe has been actively searching for a job in the mining industry. While he has not been successful so far, Rabe said he is confident he will obtain a job in his field.

Rabe said several of his friends are not so lucky; they have recently become unemployed because of

U.S. unemployment statistics

- 63 percent of population employed
- 240,000 jobs cut last month
- Unemployment rose from 4.8 percent last year to 6.5 percent
- 10.1 million people unemployed as of October
- Midwest has highest unemployment rate for past 3 years

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

DeAndré Elion ~ Daily Egyptian

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Bigotry, pure and simple

Avery Smith
GUEST COLUMNIST

The passing of Proposition 8 has sparked a lot of talk about same sex marriage. This issue has been compared to civil rights issues. Some have drawn parallels between the disallowing of same sex marriages and the past issue of interracial marriage, and that discrimination is wrong no matter what. Others have said that marriage is not a “right” in the same sense as the rights granted in previous civil rights movements, and thus, it is not the same.

And then there’s the question of choice. Some claim that being gay is a choice, unlike being a certain ethnicity or being male or female. I don’t agree with this sentiment. I believe that there is substantial scientific evidence pointing away from homosexuality, or heterosexuality for that matter, being a choice. However, let us assume, for the sake of argument, that it is a choice. Why should that matter? You know what else is a choice? Being religious. But can you imagine what would happen if the government decided to all of a sudden ban Christians or Jews from getting married for no real reason? People would freak out. There would be millions upon millions of very angry people out there.

And yet, many of the people who would be mad in that hypothetical situation are the same people who work fervently to stop same-sex marriages. So, once again, even if homosexuals do choose their orientation, why should that matter?

Now, I know some people might be inclined to say something along the lines of “But Avery, my dear boy, some people choose to be murderers or thieves and we put them in jail, denying them their rights. So, you see, choice does matter.” Of course, they probably wouldn’t say it with a British dialect like the voice in my

head, but that’s beside the point. The biggest difference here is that murderers and thieves are a detriment to society, whereas married homosexuals would not actually negatively affect those who so desperately oppose it.

Lastly, there is the issue of religion, particularly Christianity, forbidding homosexuality. Many Christians will point to Leviticus 18:22 where it says “Do not lie with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable.” Now, I’m not debating that this passage condemns homosexuality. However, let us look at Leviticus 19:19 “Do not wear clothing woven of two kinds of material,” Leviticus 11:12 “Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that shall be an abomination unto you,” and Leviticus 19:27 “Do not cut the hair at the sides of your head or clip off the edges of your beard.” These three passages forbid, respectively, wearing blended fabrics, eating shellfish and cutting your beard. All three of these forbidden acts are things that I would wager many people who oppose same-sex marriage for religious reasons do on a semi regular basis.

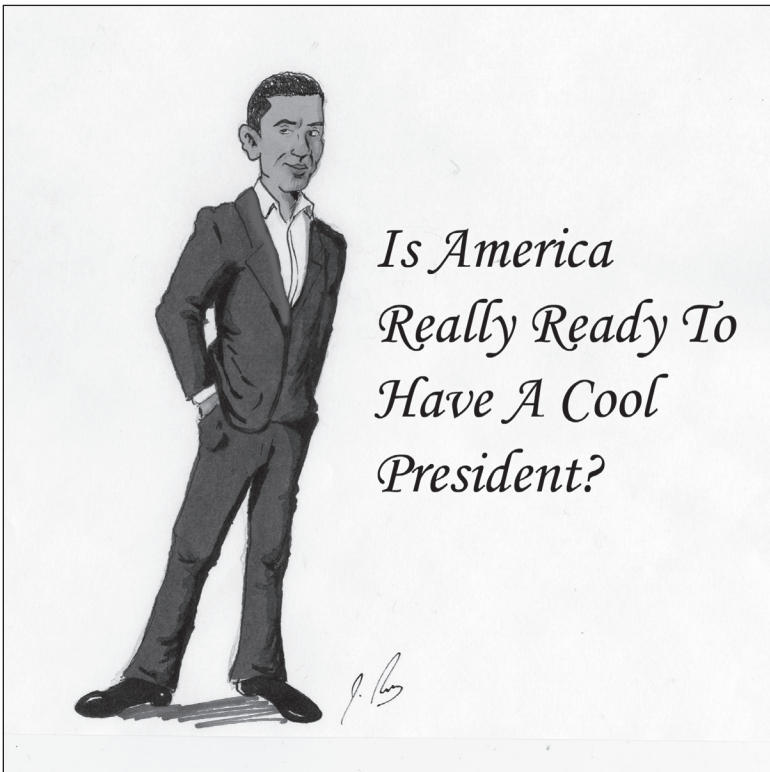
So it would seem to me that any Christian who opposes homosexuality but wears cotton-poly clothing, eats clam chowder or shaves is nothing more than a hypocrite. Of course these are just three examples; Leviticus is, at times, a laundry list of things not to do, many of which are outdated.

Quite frankly, I don’t care what people believe; that is their right. But they have no right to force their beliefs onto others.

So it would seem the question is now, how are people who oppose same-sex marriage any better than racists or sexists? Because, in the end, it’s all just bigotry, pure and simple.

Smith is a freshman studying information systems technologies.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



THE COUNSELING CORNER

Academic survival skills:
The power of procrastination

Abby Gaffey
GUEST COLUMNIST

As the end of the semester approaches, many students find themselves in a particularly challenging position as they negotiate how to accomplish all the assigned tasks before their respective deadlines. Many look back on the semester and question decisions about their coursework, asking themselves, “Why did I wait so long?” Although there can be countless responses, the true answer probably includes procrastination.

Procrastination is the avoidance or delay of completing a task which needs to be accomplished. According to William J. Knaus’s book, “Do It Now: Break the Procrastination Habit,” it is estimated that 90 percent of college students procrastinate at some point during their college career, and individuals who chronically procrastinate have a higher dropout rate. Feelings of guilt, inadequacy, depression and self-doubt are commonly associated with procrastination, often interfering with both the professional and personal success of students. With such negative consequences, why procrastinate?

In order to eliminate procrastination from your life, it will be important to identify the root cause. Commonly identified causes of procrastination include: poor time management skills, difficulty concentrating, persistent worries, negative self-beliefs, personal problems, finding the task boring, unrealistic performance expectations and fear of evaluation. Identifying your personal causes of procrastination is an important step to identify how to change your behaviors.

Overcoming procrastination is often a complex task, but combining simple solutions can result in the ability to accomplish tasks in a

timely manner. Effective planning is especially important at this time in the semester when big projects, papers and exams are typically due. It is important to segment big tasks into smaller, more manageable steps then to distribute each of these steps reasonably within a given timeframe. Monitoring your progress and assessing signs of procrastination should continue throughout the project and be addressed accordingly.

Students are often managing multiple projects at the end of the semester. In this case, time management, organization and realistic expectations are extremely important. Writing a study schedule including due dates, study time, free time and prioritizing will help manage multiple tasks. Self-care is also an important aspect to consider as the brain and body only have so much energy to give and need to be nourished. Healthy sleeping and eating habits, maintaining a regular exercise routine, and relaxation need to be included when prioritizing and scheduling.

The semester is coming to an end, and many students have a lot of work to do before it does. It is important to realize it is not too late to get organized! By trying new strategies of time management, effective planning and self-care, you just might surprise yourself. If you believe you have compromised your grades or your personal development by procrastinating, it will be important to take the time to reflect on why this happened in order to prevent future occurrences. Seek out necessary student services if you are experiencing problems. There are many programs on campus prepared to assist students with their struggles.

Gaffey is a professional psychology intern at the Counseling Center.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Seventy-five percent of our planet is covered by water — can you swim?

DEAR EDITOR:

This letter is in response to Wednesday’s photo column, “Victories are temporary, photos are forever” by Brandon Chapple. By definition, an ignorant is a person who is lacking knowledge or sophistication. Truth be told, swimming is indeed just guys and gals swimming up and down in their bathing suits. In fact, as is true for many areas of life, such as athletics and academia, the layperson sees an incomprehensible accumulation of facts and events that seemingly serve no purpose. Let us take, for example, football. To the non-expert, this sport might seem like a bunch of guys running into each other while passing a weird-shaped ball, wearing funny, high-shouldered outfits. Pablo Picasso’s paintings might appear to be a bunch of oddly placed forms that a kindergartner could easily create with a bunch of Crayolas.

It is of no surprise then how someone who is not well versed in a field that requires knowledge, insight and awareness might find such activities rather boring. The sport of swimming is one of many such activities.

Taking such unfortunate, bored laypersons into consideration, let me mention a couple of facts about swimming. Because space is limited, I will focus only on the most current event worth mentioning. At the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, American athletes participating in the sport of swimming single-handedly won exactly one-third of all the gold medals for the United States, 12 out of 36. As a sport, swimming has brought hope and pride to millions of Americans. Swimming, when pursued as a competitive sport, requires an incredible amount of self-discipline, perseverance and hard work. It is not like writing the same sentence forward and backward over and over, at least not any more than Picasso is a kindergarten drawer, football is a bunch of guys in funny outfits, or Leo Tolstoy is a dramatic guy writing random words on a piece of paper.

What matters is not the record broken. It is not the photo taken either. What matters is that swimmers strive for excellence, learn to work as a team, develop character, and create joy and pride. What counts is the magnificence of the struggle. Or, as the ancient philosopher Plato stated: You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation.

Nora Bunford
SIUC 2008 alumna

ABOUT US

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

“We are working with humans here and we are prone to human error.”

Ginger Kerrick
NASA flight director, after an astronaut lost hold of a tool bag during a spacewalk. The bag was worth about \$100,000 and floated away into space.

NOVEMBER 21, 2008 • 7

GUEST COLUMN

Most Americans want free choice in health care

Devon Herrick
McCLATCHY TRIBUNE

DALLAS — As a new Congress begins to look at health care insurance options, some of the members are already discussing proposals for a single-payer, universal health care plan.

That’s not the best solution. Senators and representatives would be much better off focusing on health care solutions that effectively bring down health care costs, expand access to quality care and reward patients for shopping around.

Advocates of single-payer health plans want the U.S. government to be the only entity that pays for health care: With Uncle Sam picking up the tab, proponents predict health care spending would be reduced, administrative burdens would be eliminated and doctors would be free to practice as they wish.

Do they really believe that adding another major program to the federal government would actually eliminate administrative headaches and make it easier for doctors? We need only to look to our neighbors to the north, in Canada, for a clear view of what we could expect under a single-payer system.

The biggest problem is the wait; for office visits, diagnostic tests, lab work, even surgeries.

There are only so many doctors and is only so much medical equipment in Canada. That means most patients can not get the help they need when they need it. At any given time, nearly 750,000 Canadians are waiting for a medical procedure. According to a report by the Commonwealth Fund, 42 percent of Canadians with chronic illnesses said they had to wait more than two months to see a specialist. Another major problem faced by those in a single-payer system is the health risk that is faced by participants.

A recent study by the Fraser Institute indicates that much of the health technology in Canada is aging and outdated. Such equipment has a higher risk of failing, may be less accurate and may not provide the most up-to-date medical readings. As consumers, all we want is health care that is

reasonably priced, of high quality and that is convenient — without having to wait months on end for needed surgery.

Many of us already have had experiences with limited access to health care — through HMOs. Such plans tried to control health costs by controlling which doctors patients could see, limiting the specialists that one can visit and reducing the options that were available.

It did not catch on because few Americans like limited health care options. We want to make our own choices based on what is best for our health and our wallet.

Instead of wasting time on a system that limits our choices, creates long waiting times and has the potential to jeopardize our health, the United States should opt for a system of innovation and choice.

The best reform would liberate doctors to meet patient needs in innovative ways, free patients to become smart shoppers and allow a competitive medical marketplace to allocate resources while raising quality and lowering cost in the process. Mandates

should be avoided in favor of making more options available through consumer-driven health plans. Most such plans include the expansion of health savings accounts to encourage greater participation. Patients with health savings accounts are significantly more likely to talk to their doctor about treatment costs and options, track their health-care payouts and estimate future expenses.

So would you rather make your own choices on medical care and cost options, or delegate the quality, cost and timing of your care to the federal government? Now is not the time to move ahead with proposals for single-payer, universal health care. Nor is next year or the year after that. Instead, Congress should act now to let American consumers — not federal bureaucrats — make their health care decisions. When we force medical providers to compete on price, we’re all much better off.

Herrick is a senior fellow specializing in health care economics at the free-market oriented National Center for Policy Analysis.

GUEST COLUMN

Amy F. Isaacs
McCLATCHY TRIBUNE

WASHINGTON — It is no longer news that at least 47 million Americans lack health insurance, and an additional 50 million are “under-insured” — meaning whatever ails you is excluded. But we seldom hear that private health insurance wastes \$350 billion every year, enough to pay for high-quality comprehensive health care for everyone.

Nearly one-third of our health care costs are eaten up by overhead: marketing, billing, profits, denying coverage and hassling patients and doctors. While 30 cents of every dollar of health costs pays for overhead, Medicare costs 3 cents on the dollar. Today, rising health-care costs cause one-half of all personal bankruptcies, three-fourths of whom have insurance.

Politicians promise us “universal health care,” a phrase now devoid of meaning. The government would help us buy private insurance, especially through employers. As the economy hemorrhages more than 200,000 jobs every month, insurance costs soar, and with employers large and small — including state and local governments — unable to afford to insure their employees, an employer-based system has become a non-starter.

In fact, relieving the auto and steel industries of the burden of providing health insurance for their employees and retirees would make those vital industries more competitive with industries around the world whose governments have assumed health-care costs. Besides, Americans want free choice of a doctor, rather than a free choice of an insurance company, each of whom offers a confusing array of benefits, deductibles, co-pays, annual and lifetime caps.

A single-payer system simply means government-financed, privately delivered health care: no deductibles, no co-pay. The Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act, sponsored by Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., and more than 90 fellow representatives in the 110th Congress is the answer.

It provides for doctor, dentist, prescription drugs, mental health, nursing home and home health care, eyeglasses and hearing aids. ADA and a broad coalition of groups representing doctors, nurses, medical students, labor unions, grass-roots citizens and faith-based advocates support the Conyers legislation.

Under his bill, everybody would have a

card to present to a health-care provider. No more hassle or cost. Doctors can already bill Medicare electronically. That would be their only “paperwork.” There are other benefits for patients. For instance:

- The government would negotiate prices of prescription drugs.
- Electronic records would foster continuity of care and reduce medical errors.
- Complete data would be available so a professional board could determine best practices: which treatments work and which don’t.
- Doctors would emphasize prevention.
- Hospitals would be paid based on a global budget negotiated to cover their costs, rather than current practice of billing for each aspirin and each test.

We know the powerful \$500 billion-a-year insurance industry and the super-rich pharmaceutical industry — reluctant to lose their bonanza — will barrage the airwaves with ads to scare and confuse the public.

They’ll argue that people will run to the doctor unnecessarily, that patients’ bad practices are causing soaring costs. The data show otherwise. Rising costs are attributable to overuse of emergency rooms by people who have no family doctor or available clinic, by doctors over-ordering expensive technology and by unnecessary surgery performed by for-profit hospitals.

In fact, Medigap policies purchased to cover unaffordable co-pays and deductibles are another insurance industry cash cow. Not to be forgotten, an insurance company’s fiduciary responsibility is to its stockholders, not to patients. Insurance companies are the problem, not the solution.

In 2003, Barack Obama said a single-payer system was a good idea, but he feared it was not politically feasible. ADA members worked tirelessly for his election this November, and we agree with him that health care is a human right. We believe that the American people will convince politicians that a single-payer system is politically feasible and an economic and moral imperative.

With soaring personal bankruptcies and unemployment, state governments forced to cut back on our tattered safety net, the question is not whether we can afford to enact single-payer health care, it is whether we can afford not to.

Isaacs is the national director of Americans for Democratic Action.

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Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author’s contact information, preferably via e-mail. Phone numbers are required to verify authorship, but will not be published. Letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. Non-academic staff must include position and department. Others include hometown. Submissions should be sent to voices@siue.com.

BASKETBALL

Fouls keep key Salukis off the floor

Lowery: Bad defensive positioning to blame

Sean McGahan
DAILY EGYPTIAN

NEW YORK — The Salukis who were in the best position to make an impact on the floor Thursday were kept off of it by costly fouls that ultimately lost SIU a potential upset victory.

SIU (2-1) had five players finish with four or more fouls in its 83-58 loss to No. 5 Duke at Madison Square Garden. Among those were the team's three leading scorers who could have changed the outcome if they didn't have to be kept out of the game for key stretches.

Perhaps the most costly was a Tony

Boyle intentional foul on a fast-break play that led Duke to a 7-0 run with 6:40 remaining in a game that was then still up for grabs.

With the play, senior forward Boyle became the second Saluki to foul out of the game. The Madison Square Garden crowd became the sixth man with a loud uproar that continued until Duke clinched its fourth victory of the season to stay unbeaten.

SIU coach Chris Lowery said Boyle's foul in particular kept the team from staging a comeback.

"That killed us. We couldn't get back going," Lowery said.

The Salukis kept the game close in the first half by forcing Duke charges

on offense. These hustle plays limited the Blue Devil's offense to a season-low 29 points.

But some adjustments by Duke and some shortcomings from the Salukis left the foul situation more one-sided in the second half. Duke got to the free-throw line 28 times in the half, compared to 11 attempts from the Salukis.

A total of 40 converted free throws is obviously a difference in a 25-point loss, Lowery said.

Although he characterized many of the fouls as ones the officials could have let go, the errors were mostly a result of bad defensive positioning, he said.

"We were taking charges and doing the things we needed to do in the first half, then we got caught up

with 'I need to guard my man' in the second half and didn't play the type of team defense that allows us to help and recover," Lowery said.

These late fouls also forced freshman center Nick Evans to exit prematurely from the best game of his career. Evans led the team in the first half with seven points, but fouled out with eight minutes left in the contest.

Evans' final two fouls occurred within three minutes of one another at times when a Duke player wasn't in a good position to score.

If Evans could have stayed on the floor, the outcome could have been different, Lowery said.

He said fouls also limited the play of Carlton Fay. Fay finished with four fouls and a team-high 17 points.

Although the tide turned drasti-

cally for the Salukis after the break, senior guard Bryan Mullins said it wasn't a result of Duke doing anything differently.

Mullins said the Salukis were to blame for the mistakes and costly fouls they made, and they knew Duke would take advantage of the shortcomings.

"They're a good team," Mullins said. "If you make a mistake, they're going to make you pay. We made a couple mistakes, and they made us pay."

But Mullins said the Salukis don't have time to dwell on those mistakes as they prepare to turn it around today against either UCLA or Michigan. The results of other play in the tournament were not available as of press time.

Yankees control shifts to Steinbrenner's son Hal

Ronald Blum
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — For more than three decades, George Steinbrenner's imprints were all over the New York Yankees.

Blockbuster trades, pricey sign-

ings, hirings, firings — they all needed his OK.

No more.

The omnipresent owner's colorful 35-year reign of pronouncements, threats and bluster ended Thursday when he passed control of baseball's most famous and successful fran-

chise to his youngest son, Hal.

"I realize it's a great responsibility," said Hal Steinbrenner, who turns 40 on Dec. 3. "My dad is, needless to say, a tough act to follow."

The elder Steinbrenner has gradually withdrawn from the Yankees' day-to-day operations in recent years

as his health faded, and brothers Hal and Hank were appointed co-chairmen in April.

George Steinbrenner, now 78, headed a group that bought the club in January 1973 for an \$8.7 million net price and became one of the most high-profile owners in all

of sports. He dominated the back pages of New York's tabloids, earning the nickname "The Boss" as he spent lavishly on players and changed managers 20 times during his first 23 years as owner, feuding with Billy Martin, Yogi Berra and Dave Winfield.

DUKE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Duke guard Gerald Henderson was one of four Blue Devils to score in double figures, leading all scorers with 20 points. After missing both of his shot attempts in the first half,

Henderson rebounded with a strong second period where he shot 50 percent from the field, scoring all of his points in the process.

Blue Devils head coach Mike Krzyzewski said his team's focus allowed it to withstand the Salukis' opening salvo.

"Their toughness knocked us back a little bit in the first half," Krzyzewski said. "We were not in sync offensively. Obviously Southern Illinois had the most to do with that."

Sophomore forward Carlton Fay led SIU with 17 points and fresh-

man guard Kevin Dillard chipped in 10 points and seven assists in the losing effort.

Senior guard Bryan Mullins, who scored only four points while dishing out six assists, said he and his teammates will need to have a short memory as SIU plays the loser of

the UCLA-Michigan game in the tournament's consolation round.

"There's really no time to dwell on this because we're going to have another tough opponent," Mullins said. "We're going to have to come out ready to play from the start (Friday)."

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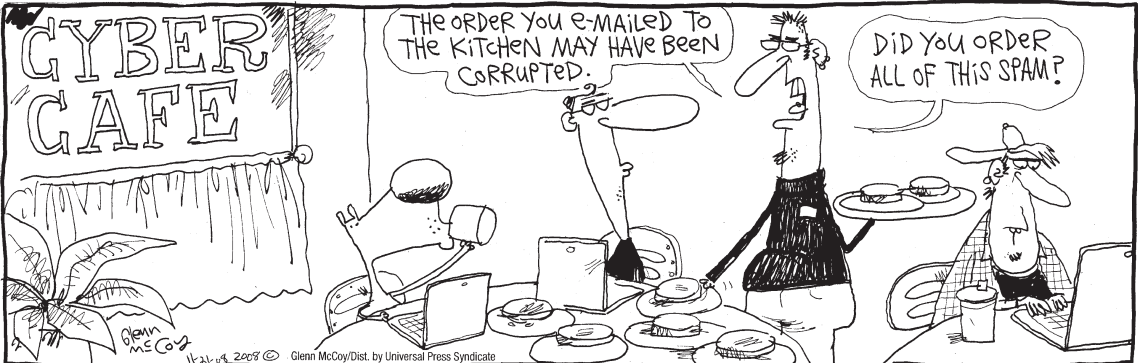
Girls and Sports

11/21



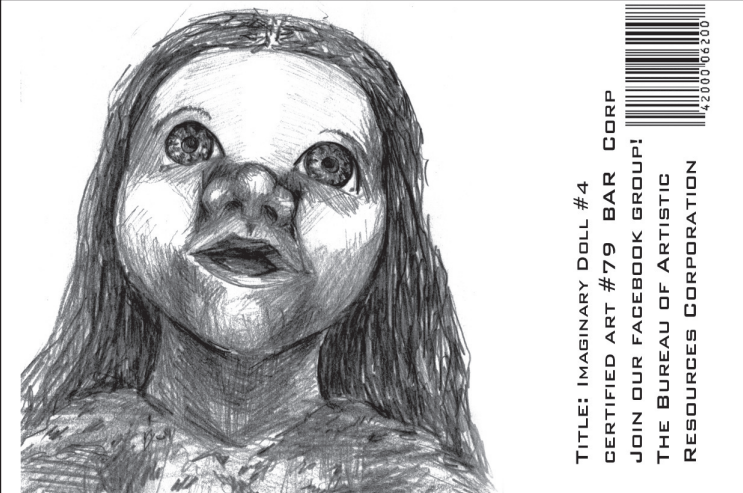
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By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday — You're a teacher, a coach and the brains behind the operation this year. The others respect your wisdom, and well they should. You give them something to think about and work toward. To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — **Today is an 8** — If you're not already working for yourself, you probably should be. You're knocking yourself out for low pay, and that's the way most entrepreneurs start out. Give it some thought. You might like the fringe benefits.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — **Today is an 8** — The sun's going into Sagittarius for the next four weeks. This is the area that brings emphasis to your financial holdings. You have natural talent, but guard against surprises. Stay in charge.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — **Today is a 6** — Stick with your family's traditions. If you don't have any, make up some. You'll find that doing the same old thing is very comforting now. Cinnamon and ginger are recommended.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — **Today is a 7** — Practice makes perfect but, as you may have noticed, it can take a while. Keep at it; you're losing your inhibitions and your terror of making mistakes. That last should almost be used up.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — **Today is an 8** — There's way too much for one person to do, so get as much help as you need. This job pays well enough that you'll come out ahead. If this is totally not happening in your life, move over to where it is.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — **Today is a 6** — Continue to let your loved ones build up your confidence. They think you can do anything, even when you wonder. Trust them. They're probably right this time.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — **Today is a 5** — A behind-the-scenes negotiation works out well for you. This could be a trade or you get it free for hauling it away. You don't have to tell anybody how much you paid, unless you want to brag.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — **Today is a 7** — Hurry and start whatever it is that you want to have grow and be abundant. Pray for what you want to learn easily in the coming year. Make lists of your wishes as well as your resolutions.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — **Today is an 8** — You can advance your career now and make a lot more money. This might involve making a change, but it's not impossible. Think about the pros and cons. Yes, a decision will be required.

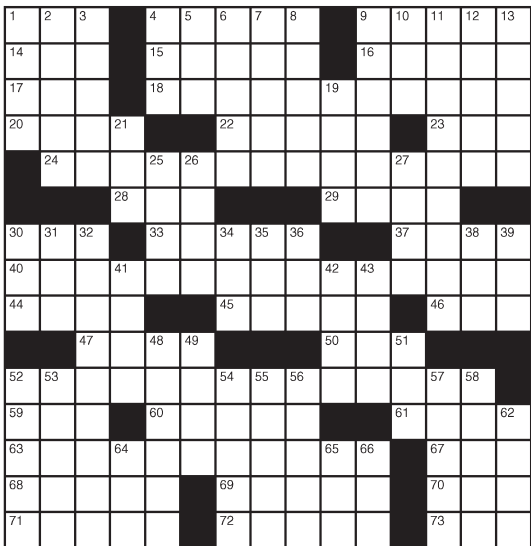
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — **Today is a 7** — Friends can make a connection better than you can yourself. Luckily, you've been getting better at delegating responsibilities. That hasn't happened yet? Well, here's a chance to practice.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — **Today is a 5** — Conditions are changing in your favor. The next few weeks should be fun. Keep sorting through your expenses to see if there are any you can cut. It gets easier with practice.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — **Today is a 7** — By now you should have your plan just about figured out. That's good, because you're about to take on more responsibility. You can do this, especially if you're prepared. So, prepare.

THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
1Moon buggy
4Hops kilns
9Frozen rain
14Clare of "Bleak House"
15Disney's Little Mermaid
16Isle in the Bay of Naples
17ATM number
18Barbra Streisand sequel?
20Kind of crazy?
22African river
23Pioneer filmmaker
Browning
24Adam Sandler sequel?
28Ryan or Tilly
29Shut with force
30Affirmative action?
33Overwhelming defeats
37Metric meas.
40Lee Marvin sequel?
44Pueblo dweller
45Church table
46Dawn goddess
47Take five
50Saturn model
52Molly Ringwald sequel?



By Edgar Fontaine
Dighton, MA

11/21/08

- 59Thing, in law
60Aired again
61Sports group
63Dennis Hopper sequel?
67Type of whiskey
68Whiffs
69Basketry willow
- 70Dyeing tub
71Funeral arrangements?
72Counts (on)
73— out (barely get by)
- 2Archie's better half
3Beatles phenomenon
4Big galoot
5Indonesian islands
6Inasmuch as
7Domingo, e.g.

Solution to yesterday's puzzle



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- 8Hurl
9Roll of papyrus
10Fail to keep up
11Typify
12Wrong call
13Spanish accent mark
19Patronage
21Record speed?
25Roz on "Frasier"
26Borodin prince
27Shifty shark
30Utmost degree
31So it's you!
32Tongue —
34Actress Hagen
35— the cows come home
36TV unit
38Sign of summer
39Add — (extras)
- 41Lose on purpose?
42Precipitation
43Let lapse
48Fast-lane woe
49Stadium level
51Future louse
52Occurring before surg.
53Standing by
54Actor Flynn
55Poker option
56Nepal neighbor
57Boldness
58Whitewater vessel
62Parcel (out)
64High dudgeon
65Poetic twilight
66B&O and Reading

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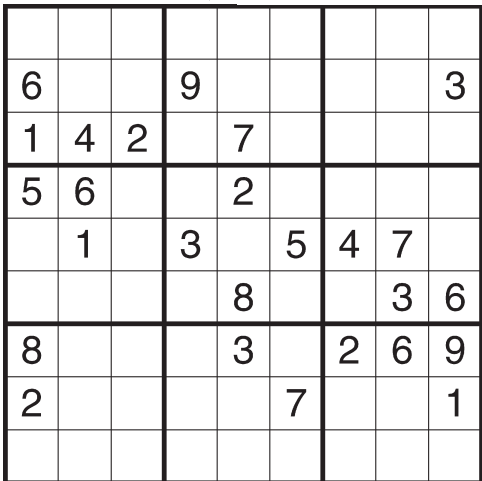
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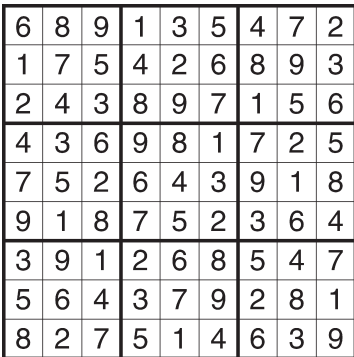
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

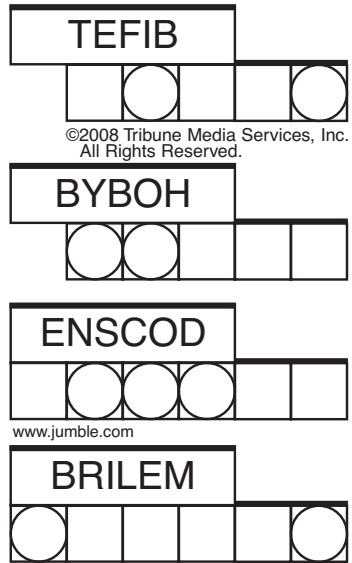


Solution to yesterday's puzzle



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Ans: IN " " (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's's Jumbles: VIGIL BRINY RITUAL TRAGIC
Answer: The trial lawyer liked to barbeque because he enjoyed — GRILLING


THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Saluki Insider

The 35-year reign of George Steinbrenner as boss of the New York Yankees has ended as Steinbrenner has stepped down and given control of the team to his son, Hal Steinbrenner. What does this mean for the Yankees?





BRIAN FELDT
bfeldt@siu.edu

Absolutely nothing. The Yanks will still go after the biggest free agents with deep pockets and will continue to make fans across the country angry with their ways. Hal will do the same thing Hank did. What I would like to see is Hal revolutionize the process and start to offer being smart about spending tons of money. Probably not, but here's to hoping.

The New York Yankees are going to win the World Series because of this move. With Hal Steinbrenner at the helm, A-Rod won't choke in October, the pitching staff will come on strong and the Tampa Bay Rays will fall back into the basement. It is either that or no change at all. I am on the fence about it.

JEFF ENGELHARDT
jengel@siu.edu





STILE SMITH
ssmith@siude.com

It means the team is going to keep running the exact same way it did with George in control. Hal Steinbrenner is pretty much a clone of his father and the Yankees are going to keep throwing a lot of cash at the best free agents in baseball and continue to be one of the best teams in baseball.

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Sports Brief

Warner added to Payton Award watch list

SIU running back Larry Warner has been added to the Payton Award watch list, which honors the top offensive player in the Football Championship Subdivisions.

The award's watch list features 16 FCS players and will be pared down to three finalists Dec. 1, with the winner being announced at the annual Sports Network Awards banquet Dec. 18 in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Warner has rushed for 1,123 yards and nine touchdowns this season but has also become one of the nation's most threatening special teams players and has scored on three kickoff returns — an SIU record.

The 5-foot-5-inch running back from Vicksburg, Mass., also has a chance to crack SIU's top-10 in rushing yards in a single season if he runs for 55 yards against Illinois State Saturday.

Past Salukis on the Payton Award watch list include quarterback Nick Hill (2007), running back Arkee Whitlock (2006) and quarterback Joel Sambursky (2005, 2004). No Saluki has ever won the award.

Brian Feldt can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 256 or bfeldt@siude.com.

NATIONALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Head coach Matt Sparks said the most difficult aspect in the meet for Schirmer should be running without his teammates.

"In high school, he went to the state meet by himself and struggled," Sparks said. "He has to get used to the fact that he's going to go on a warm-up and it might be him by himself."

Another aspect of the meet Sparks said could play a factor for Schirmer would be the weather. Temperatures are expected to be in the mid-30s in Terre Haute — Schirmer has spent a majority of his training in warm temperatures.

Schirmer said staying true to his work ethic all year should help him throughout the race. He said he would not hold anything back.

"I want to stay in the front pack like I've tried to do all year," Schirmer said. "I'm just going to go out there and leave everything on the course. I'm not going to hold anything back because this is the last race of the year. I'm going to do what I have to do to get that spot."

Stile Smith can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 282 or sts34@siu.edu.

PREVIEW

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

"We set out at the beginning of the season to win a conference championship, and this game presents that to us," Lennon said. "It is satisfying to a certain point, but we still haven't finished what we have started."

An SIU win would clinch a share of the Valley crown and its automatic playoff bid because SIU defeated Northern Iowa earlier this season.

A loss, though, would force the Salukis (8-2, 6-1 MVFC) to earn their sixth straight playoff appearance via an at-large bid, which is selected by the Football Championship Subdivision Football Committee.

But Lennon and the Salukis are not taking any chances.

"This is a must-win situation for us," Lennon said. "If we win, we are in, and if we don't win, we don't know what is going to happen."

The Redbirds (3-7, 2-5 MVFC) enter the game on the verge of their second consecutive losing season and have lost five of their last six games.

Redbirds head coach Denver Johnson, (whose job is rumored to be on the line) said the 2008 slate was the most difficult season of his nine-year career with Illinois State.

"It has been such a disappointing year," Johnson said. "But the kids are resilient. It's been the most frustrating season I've been associated with. But we are trying to make the best out of the last week of practice."

— Denver Johnson
Redbirds head coach

frustrating season I've been associated with. But we are trying to make the best out of the last week of practice."

Illinois State's season may have been epitomized during its 48-45 overtime loss to Western Illinois last week. The Redbirds scored 17 second-half points but lost on a last-second Western Illinois field goal.

"That was a heartbreaking loss," Johnson said.

But the overtime loss is what has Lennon concerned.

"You look at what they were able to do with Western Illinois by putting up 45 points — that was very impressive game from an offensive attack," Lennon said.

Illinois State boasts three playmakers that could pose threats to the SIU defense.

A running back duo of Geno Blow and Walter Mendenhall present a combination of speed and strength while wide receiver Eyad Salem has quickly developed into one of the Valley's top receiving threats.

"(The running backs) have two different styles that you have to be aware of because that can give you some problems defensively in adjusting to who is in the backfield," Lennon said.

Mendenhall enters the game on a recent tear that has seen him rush for more than 400 yards and seven touchdowns in the last three games.

Mendenhall was limited in carries early in the season but has cashed in on a bigger role as of late.


Defensive nose tackle Chris Arthurs said Mendenhall's limited playing time has made him somewhat difficult to prepare for.

"When you don't know much about a guy or he hasn't had a lot of reps in a season, it's a little bit harder to prepare for him," Arthurs said. "They are both good backs who can run the football well, so we have to plug some gaps and stop them."

Brian Feldt can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 256 or bfeldt@siude.com.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Friday, November 21, 2008 • 12



Sophomore Carlton Fay led SIU with 17 total points in the Salukis 83-58 loss to Duke Thursday at Madison Square Garden.

STEPHEN RICKERL ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Duke deals first loss to Salukis

SIU outscored 54-35 in later half of 25-point loss

Luis C. Medina
DAILY EGYPTIAN

NEW YORK — In its first two games the SIU men's basketball team was carried to victory by its second-half surges.

It took an acrobatic second-half effort by Duke to unplug the power.

The No. 5 Blue Devils (4-0) scored 54 second-half points en route to an 83-58 win against the Salukis. The loss knocked SIU (2-1) into the tournament's consolation round.

After a well-contested first half that featured a back-and-forth defensive struggle, Duke used a barrage of high-flying dunks and an accurate stroke from the free-throw line to move into the championship round of the 2K Sports Classic.

It was SIU's most lopsided loss since falling to the University of Southern California, 70-45, in the championship game of the inaugural Anaheim Classic in 2007.

SIU head coach Chris Lowery said the team played well enough in the first half to win as the teams slugged in a defensive struggle.

"They took everything away from us that we try to do and we expected that," Lowery said. "We made them turn the ball over and they're not used to having a negative assist to turnover ratio like that. I thought we really got after them and made them do some things they really didn't want to do."

The first half featured a back-and-forth battle with neither team able to take a commanding lead without having to withstand its

opponent's countering blow. The Salukis were able to force 17 turnovers, but were unable to turn the turnovers into points.

Unable to take advantage of the Duke's uncharacteristic play, SIU found itself trailing 29-23 at halftime.

Neither team shot the ball for a high percentage to open the game, as each team's defense limited the number of open looks its opponent saw. The Salukis made only 8-of-32 field goal attempts in the first half, but were able to hold the Blue Devils to 6-of-19 from the field.

The Blue Devils opened up a 12-point lead within the first five minutes of the second half by scoring 12 of the half's first 18 points, doubling its six-point halftime lead in the process. But it didn't stop the Salukis from making one final push.

SIU, which notched come-from-behind victories in its first two games, cut Duke's 12-point lead to five with 11:08 remaining in the second half. But this time, it was unable to completely come back from a double-digit deficit despite attempting more shots than its opponent.

One of the deciding factors in Duke's victory was its ability to get to the free-throw line and convert on its opportunities. The Blue Devils made 85 percent of their free throws as they outscored the Salukis 40-12 from the charity stripe.

"Their toughness knocked us back a little bit in the first half. We were not in sync offensively. Obviously Southern Illinois had the most to do with that."

— Mike Krzyzewski
Blue Devils head coach

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CROSS COUNTRY

Schirmer runs solo at NCAA Nationals

Junior runner has chance to become first SIU All-American since 1984

Stile T. Smith
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Jeff Schirmer has a shot at a title no SIU cross country runner has received since 1984 — All-American.

After a season full of top finishes, the junior cross country runner has the opportunity to accomplish his season-long goal of competing in the NCAA Championships.

Schirmer finished ninth in the NCAA Regionals Saturday to qualify for the NCAA Championship, which is scheduled for 11:48 a.m. Saturday in Terre Haute, Ind.

Schirmer said he worked harder than he ever has before in the summer to become an all-American.

"It would mean a whole lot," Schirmer said. "It's a whole year of training. It would just be a dream come true."

Schirmer has finished in the top

10 in every meet he has competed in this season, including two first-place showings in the Saluki Invitational and the Panther Open.

The last Saluki runner to achieve all-American status was Chris Bunyon, who finished 21st in Nationals during the 1984 season.

Bunyon, 50, of Cobden, said while he enjoys being recognized as the last Saluki all-American, he would love to see Schirmer take the honor.

"I'm very happy that I was the last one, but it was 24 years, and it

would be really good to give that up to somebody that's deserving," Bunyon said. "I've never met him, but he looks like the type of kid that would have the guts and determination to do whatever he wants."

Schirmer would have to finish in the top 40 in the meet to qualify as an all-American.

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"It's a whole year of training. It would just be a dream come true."

— Jeff Schirmer
Saluki runner

FOOTBALL

Playoffs on the line for SIU



EMILY SUNBLADE ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Junior defensive end Dolapo Adu attempts to tackle South Dakota State University running back Kyle Minett during the Saturday win against the SDSU Jackrabbits.

Salukis travel to ISU for season finale

Brian Feldt
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Dale Lennon will finish the season as the most successful first-year head coach in SIU history, but he is not satisfied.

The SIU football team travels to Illinois State Saturday and is guaranteed to end the season with at least eight wins, which would make Lennon just the third coach to finish with a winning record during his first year at SIU.

Furthermore, Lennon could become just the third coach in Missouri Valley Football Conference history to win the league during his first year in the conference.

Lennon, though, said the focus remains on Illinois State.

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