the COAL

THE WORLD’S ONLY VERTICAL SHAFT MINE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TAKES VISITORS MORE THAN 600 FEET UNDERGROUND,

MUSEUM

DIG DUG: Nobel “Hub” Essex, a tour guide at the National Coal Museum in West Frankfort, demonstrates how a roof bolter works. A roof bolter is used in coal mining to reinforce the tops of tunnels by bolting in the roof every few feet.

Environmental regulations have made Southern Illinois’ high-sulfur coal unattractive to state power companies, forcing many of the region’s mines to shut down in recent years.

Among those was Old Ben No. 25, located about six miles east of West Frankfort, which closed in October 1994.

But last August, the mine opened again, that transported miners 600 feet underground into the mine started operating again. That was when the National Coal Museum had its first day of operation.

Since then, nearly 1,400 people from 34 countries and 45 states have traveled into the mine, the only vertical shaft mine in the world open to the public.

Throughout the entire year, visitors can take hour-long tours of an 800-foot stretch of the mine. The tours are guided by former coal miners, including Rosemary “Rosy” Baker, who lost her job when No. 25 closed in 1994.

Their mining days were behind themselves, but the tour gave them pride. They could see where once they had worked.

“After doing a hard hat, visitors feel air pressure building on their ears as they descend into the mine. The air is a few degrees cooler and a light, sweet-smelling breeze permeates the corridors. It’s the smell of unmined coal. Every few minutes, a faint trickling sound reaches the ear as a small piece of coal succumbs to gravity and rolls down the wall.

As visitors follow Baker through the mine on a path of rubber mats, they notice grates left by workers as the final stretch of No. 25 approached.

Across the corridor from a graffiti countdown to the close of the mine, one optimistic miner wrote, “Remember, it ain’t over till the fat lady sings.” Below that, a reply appears, “The fat lady is singing.”

Along the way the spunky Baker tells visitors about the everyday operation of the mine, right down to bathroom facilities, which were and are nonexistent.

“If you had to go No. 1, you’d just go turn three ways away,” Baker explained. “If you had to go No. 2, you’d have to make sure you went on the last exit or you’d run the whole mine out.

Next, she hops in a massive, 35-foot-long machine called a continuous miner and flies it up. A roof falls off a wall as a giant roller with hundreds of sharp, steel fingers spins to life while other mechanisms try to shove it out of the way — coal that the roller would crush off the walls if Baker actually were back at her old job.

As the group moves on to “Carter Corner,” the deepest part of the mine where then-President Jimmy Carter could reach during a 1980 visit, Carter’s trip into the mine was limited because he had to have constant communication with the outside world. A walkie-talkie could not reach as far as Carter Corner, where Baker met the president and was eyewashed by his Secret Service agent.

As the tale goes, a weapon-sniffing German shepherd took interest in Baker’s lunch bucket.

“They (Secret Service agents) don’t kid and cut up,” she told the group. “I told them all I had was half a meat loaf sandwich. and they still didn’t see the humor.”

The project that brought Baker back into the mine stems from geologist Chris Ledvina’s vision of a monument documenting the past, present and future of the nation’s coal industry. Ledvina was paralyzed after a fall at his home in 1978 while he was inspecting a mine, but the incident did not dampen his vision for being underground.

After earning a master’s degree in geology at Northeastern University and a doctorate in mining resources engineering at Northwestern University, he took a post as a professor at Northeastern University before his love for mines drew him back.
FRIDAY

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barnes &amp; Noble: Jim Skinner (Blues)</td>
<td>Room 1030</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bobby’s Beergarden: Darnell Boys (gospel rock)</td>
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<td>Copper Dragon: Bricktopes (rock/soul/jazz)</td>
<td>Room 1030</td>
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<td>Melange: Andrea Storer (Klezmer)</td>
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CAST MAKES SENSE OF AWKWARD SCRIPT

NOISES OFF: ACTORS overcome challenges of acting in play within play.

KELLY E. HEPFRENN
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Actors concocted a confusing blend of the actor as creator and actor as McClure Theatre Saturday night in the opening performance of "Noises Off." "Noises Off" is a play about a theater production called "Nothing On" that goes awry in the midst of love affairs between several cast members. The plot revolves around Dotty Otley (Kristi Shamburger), an aging actress with a financial stake in the production. She is involved in an ongoing love affair with a younger actor, Gary Lejeune (Charlie Clark.),

"Noises Off" begins to take shape when the voice of Lloyd Dallas (Tom Hafuman) echoes across the audience. Dallas is the director of "Nothing On.

The play consists of works linked by the Depression art of the Great Depression. The exhibit "Put to Work: Work Relief Programs of the time were not just aimed at employment people as well as the factory workers; in fact, they were aimed at anyone who could work. Roosevelt spearheaded these programs, which opened in 1935, to provide work for the unemployed. Roosevelt's work programs also put artists to work during the Great Depression.

One current feature is a collection of paintings by Maude Craig Owen of the University Museum. The paintings are on display at the University Museum through December 1998 as the exhibit "Put to Work: Work Relief Programs of the Great Depression."

People can view the work of artists involved in the Depression Art Project (DAP), which was the Works Progress Administration (WPA), also known as the Federal Art Project (FAP), the Works Progress Administration (WPA), also known as the Federal Art Project (FAP), and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), also known as the Federal Art Project (FAP).

Peterson relocated these programs during the early- to mid-1930s to help employ people during the Great Depression. These programs, organizations, hundreds of thousands of Americans found employment. Lost Hoffmann, Curator of Collections and Development at the University Museum, said the objective of the exhibit is to expose people to the works, sounds, feel and art of the Great Depression. The exhibit also shows patrons that federal work programs of the time were not just aimed at laborers.

People need to understand that the government took interest in the unemployed

Museum showcases Depression-era artwork

PUT TO WORK: Programs employed artists as well as farmers, factory workers.

MICHAEL MAROY
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

When former President Franklin D. Roosevelt said "Our greatest task is to put people to work," during the Great Depression, he was not only talking about factory workers and farmers.

Roosevelt's work programs also put artists to work during the same era. The fruits of the Depression-era art project will be on display at the University Museum through December 1998 as the exhibit "Put to Work: Work Relief Programs of the Great Depression."

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People need to understand that the government took interest in the unemployed
Men in Black saves summer cinema

JASON ADRIAN
DE MOVIE REVIEWER

It finally can be said that the summer of 1997 will not be as overcrowded as it was last year, and if you mix in some smaller but interesting experiments, you'll be left with some interesting films to see. "Men in Black," the newest entry in the summer blockbusters category, is a well-worth checking out. Either way, it's a film that is worth your time.

The Men in Black is a well-funded yet unofficial government agency, the best-kept secret in the universe. Members of MIB regulate all things alien on Earth, allowing the peaceful coexistence of aliens with just a few modifications.

A portion of the film's action is set in San Francisco, where a group of MIB agents capture a rogue alien. The film's central figure is the alien-fighting ⁃agent J. Will Smith, who has a talent for outsmarting his alien counterparts. Smith is a natural-born leader and has a way of connecting with his fellow agents.

The film's plot revolves around a rogue alien who has escaped from custody and is now on the run. The agents must track him down and bring him in, but the alien is not easy to catch. He has a way of outwitting his captors and is always one step ahead.

Despite the film's fast-paced action and humorous elements, "Men in Black" also has its share of heartwarming moments. The relationship between the agents and their alien counterparts is a source of joy, and the film's themes of friendship and loyalty are universal.

Overall, "Men in Black" is a film that is sure to please both children and adults alike. With its mix of action, humor, and heartwarming moments, it is a film that will be enjoyed by audiences of all ages.

CD Capsules

Radiohead
OK COMPUTER
Capitol — 1997

Art rock has advanced since the dawn of the jazzy, and Radiohead's "OK Computer" seems to be headlining in the next direction. The English act's third album in four years sounds like a welcome or a warning, as the group's frontmen in guitar-driven art rock.

None of the songs on the album stands a chance of radio play, but they all interest them so interestingly. Instead of following the conventional verses-chorus-verse format, Radiohead experiments with songs that don't even have arrangements ("Airbag") or choruses ("Paranoid Android").

One of the finer things about "OK Computer" is its range, "Subterranean Homesick Alien" has a mid-70s Pink Floyd sound, while "Let Down" has a jangling guitar build-up similar to early Sonic Youth.

Computers seem to be the major theme of the album's lyrics as well as its music. On "Fitter Happier," a computerized voice similar to that of a See 'n Say rattles through sentence fragments constructing a chaotic one-way conversation ("no longer empty and fraticle/catch a kick into a stickfightDriven innumerable fanatic white").

Since the band's 1993 hit, "Creep," Radiohead frontman Adam Yorke has had one of the most recognizable and believable voices in rock 'n' roll. With lines like "This is what you get when you mess with us" ("Karma Police"), it takes someone with the right emotion to make the album work, and Yorke makes it so.

It's tough to decide whether Radiohead is welcoming computers through these songs because it's hard to tell if the band is being ironic or Federal. If the album is getting the future of rock 'n' roll, then it's a direction well worth checking out. Either way, it's a distinct new music.
**FILM**

**SYNOPSIS**

**Batman & Robin**

A Swedish criminal named Raoul Duke is hired to build a machine. Starring Jodie Foster and Matthew McConaughey.

**Contact**

A drama about a radio astronomer discovering a broadcast signal from aliens who come to warn us of their impending arrival. Starring Nicolas Cage and John Malkovich.

**Face/Off**

A underworld criminal transfers a physical appearance with an FBI agent. Starring John Travolta and Nicolas Cage.

**Hercules**

Disney's animated feature about the son of a Greek god who becomes a famous hero. Starring Tate Donovan, Danny Devito, James Woods, Raelee Hill and Charlton Heston.

**Lost World: Jurassic Park**

A group of friends spend the summer together, among the dinosaurs are two gray yuppies, a blind man and a cheerful man, in the original stages of AGS. Starring Jeff Goldblum and Ariana Richards.

**Men in Black**

A science fiction/fantasy comedy about a top-secret organization that must save the planet, starring Tommy Jones and Will Smith.

**My Best Friend's Wedding**

A woman realizes she's been fallen in love with her best friend, who has commenced his engagement. Starring Julia Roberts, Dermot Mulroney and Cameron Diaz.

**Nothing to Lose**

A spurned man kidnaps a would-be rock-punker and forces him to get on stage in his comedy. Starring Martin Lawrence and Lili Taylor.

**Out to Sea**

Comedy about two elderly crooks who get on a cruise ship to defend rich widows, starring Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon.

**A Simple Wish**

A little girl wishes for a big godfather, but the godfather turns out to be an angel doctor who has his own troubles. Starring Mary Wilson, Kathleen Turner and Michael York.

**Wild America**

Adventure about three brothers who encounter wild animals during their unencumbered trip across the country, starring Jonathan Taylor Thomas.

**THEATER**

**RATING**

- University Plaza 8
- Fox Theatre
- Georgia Theatre

**THEATER RATING**

- PG
- PG-13

**GALAXY**

- Black Jokers with Too Cool Skimine, Tuesday, July 15, 9 p.m.
- 7:30-9:45 p.m. with Wayne Hancock, Wednesday, July 16, 9 p.m.
- The Obs, Thursday, July 17, 9 p.m.
- Propellin with Nightingale, Thursday, July 24, 9 p.m.
- Guided by Voices, with Super Conductors, Thursday, July 24, 9 p.m.
- The Fox, with Soul Bus, Saturday, July 26, 9 p.m.
- Radhead with Teenage Fanclub, Friday, Aug. 8, 9 p.m.

For more information about Galaxy call (314) 221-2404

**RIVERPORT AMPHITHEATRE**

- Lillith Fair featuring Sarah McLachlan, Paula Cole, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Fiona Apple, and Tracy Bonham, Thursday, July 15, 4:10 p.m.
- Reserved: $40.50, $32.50, Lawn: $14.
- The Who, Saturday, July 19, 8 p.m.
- Reserved: $42.50, Lawn: $15.

For more information about Riverport call (314) 221-2404
JAZZ QUARTET TO SWING AT SUNSET

STRAIGHT AHEAD:
Group's approach to music mimmicks Miles Davis, John Coltrane.

JASON ADRIAN
DAILY EDITION REPORTER

The acoustic jazz of the Tom Andes Quartet, which will come to Turley Park Thursday for the next installment of the Sunset Concert Series, differs from many people's assumptions about the genre.

"We're not mimmicking at all," Andes said. "We've got a great modern approach, similar to Miles Davis and John Coltrane."

Tour manager Jon Posey says that the band's style of jazz is unique when compared to jazz bands past or present.

"What they play is straight-ahead jazz," Posey said. "There's a little blues, too."

The Tom Andes Quartet has been the last 2 1/2 years at the house band at Murry's, a jazz club in Columbia, Mo. It was there that Andes saw Miles Davis when he was in high school, he heard Herbie Hancock for the first time and was turned on to jazz.

Andes graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a bachelor's degree in music. He put himself through college playing piano professionally.

While attending a Miles Davis concert, Andes fell in love with the sound of the quartet. From the concert program for a scholarship to the Berklee College of Music in Boston. He was awarded the scholarship and studied at Berklee for two years. Andes has been back in the St. Louis area performing for the last 10 years.

The band will be playing songs from its new album, "Murry's Time," as well as jazz standards with its own improvisational twist. Andes says the band's improvisations usually start with his lead.

"I start with the guys usually can pick up right away," he said.

The songs on the album are the type of songs to "sing or hum to," he wrote five of the 10 songs for the album and each song has its own style.

"There may be some, "he said, "try to be very lyrical."

BLAIR IS WITTY AND THE ONE CHARACTERS WHO IS SUPPOSED TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON. DURING THE SECOND ACT, CONSIDINE BEGAN LAUGHING AT HER OWN JOKES AND FALLING VICTIM HERSELF.

Fellows' Blair, a dingo and extremely sensitive man going through a divorce, Shamburger gives an accurate portrayal of Fellows.

Director Timothy Fink deserves credit. The play follows the script quite well, though it is simple, to read the script than try to follow all the characters onstage. The actors are all involved in chaotic scenar­ io at once, making the perfor­ mance difficult to interpret.

Lejeune had the audience on the ground, fought forest fires, acquired No. 25., to add a second site through a divorce. Shamburger says the play follows the script quite well, though it is simple, to read the script than try to follow all the characters onstage. The actors are all involved in chaotic scenario at once, making the performance difficult to interpret. The ending of the play left a lot to be desired.

Jackson also noted that much of the art in public places, like a mural in an airport, was created by WPA artists.

"The WPA was the first and last time the government had an interest in art," Jackson said, "and it's too bad - that they didn't have a program that was more successful."
SMILE ADVERTISING RATES

$3.50 per inch
Space minimum details: 2 ins., 2 days prior to publication
Requirements: All classified ads will be subject to approval by the Editor. Individuals or organizations for personal advertising-letters, announcements, congratulations, & other not for commercial or real estate use must obtain approval from the Editor. Deadline for classified advertising is Thursday at 5:00 p.m. for Friday's issue. The advertising rate will be charged to the closings or open rates of $0.15 per inch.
STUDENT HOUSING

1 Bed House $475 (Balcony) 407 S. Sunset

2 BDRM HOUSES

319,405 W. Wolfe, 1st fl.
507 W. Oka, 511, 505 S. 3rd A

Newly Remodeled, 4 BDRM, 2Bath, 2 Car Garage, 2 miles from campus, $600/mo.

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT, 2nd fl

310 S. Ash, 406 S. University, 414 W. Sycamore, 710 N. Allyn

3 BDRM.

310 S. Ash, 406 S. University, 414 W. Sycamore

Must be 21 years old

Water, gas, heat, electric, cable TV included.

NO ZONING PROBLEM

403 W. Elm, 402 W. Walnut, 406 S. Dixon

Eastland Townhouses

380 E. College

2 BDRM

WASHER/DRYER DISHWASHER

$540 per month

12 month leases

phone: 351-0630 or 549-5205

or see mng in apt.

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PROPERTIES MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK ARE AVAILABLE NOW!

FIT 3.5 BY WATER TOWER

3 BEDROOMS, a/c, w/d, enclosed yard, quiet location. 475-4371.

NICE 2 BDRM, 2 bath, w/d, a/c on 1st fl, 16th Street, 3 miles from campus, $540/mo, 947-3391.

Nice 2 bed house, in back yard on every floor in every room, a/c, heat, w/d, lovely landscaping

307 W. College

CABANA HOUSE, 1 bdrm, 1 bath, heat, a/c, yard, garage, enclosed yard, quiet, no pets, 457-2906.

TWO BEDROOMS, 2 bath, heat, a/c, yard, garage, quiet, 3 BDRM, 3 Bath, lake. 110-9 pm)

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ENGLISH (IN AVA, 3 months, 622-3506, 777-3856)

For Sophomores to Grads

103 E. College, beam ceiling, 3 BDRM, 2 Bath, enclosed yard, SAOO/mo, 954-2970.

Reg. $450, 919 W. Sycamore

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Parking available. Possible 1st Av.

306 Cherry

SEASONAL RENTAL, 1 bdrm, a/c, heat, yard, garage.

308 W. College

Stevenson Arms

363100, 20-mil, The Best Isn't Always the Most Expensive

Stevenson Arms

$600 W. Miller

549-1827
**College Horoscope**

The sun moves from Gemini into Cancer this weekend, marking the beginning of summer. Interestingly, it also marks a shift between going to school (Gemini) and staying home (Cancer). This is the last full week the sun will be in Gemini. All your water signs need to launch your new projects now—Wednesday, Thursday, and Monday. They'll feel less authentic if launched on Tuesday. There is this one day between them that's throughly prostituted. There's a strong urge to play, but too much work to be done. Come Saturday, it will be time to share responsibilities and hammer out arrangements. These changes will get full swing this weekend.

**Aries** (March 21-April 19)
You're feeling more creative this week, and the results may not be anything you'd look at first. Run out the run with the right attitude. Keep your eyes on the horizon, and keep a sharp eye on the quality of your work. Big money is on the horizon.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20)
Hold your ground against the tension being created this weekend. There is a lot of tension in the air, and you may feel overwhelmed. Do your best to avoid tense situations, and you'll find your own happiness.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21)
You can do anything you want right now, if you focus your energy. Use your savings to solve a financial dilemma on Thursday. Copy your partner on Wednesday for a big weekend. You're really good at making your voice heard.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22)
You're lucky in love Monday, but you could have a few problems with your family. Make a firm commitment, or you'll look like a fool on Tuesday. Accept a job Wednesday in an area that has recently been under consideration. Do some research on the job, and you'll find your own happiness.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22)
Don't schedule any dates for Monday and Tuesday. Finish something you started before everyone gets here. You need for entertainment and Wednesday and Thursday, respectively, if you're not careful. Ask for a raise on Friday, and you'll find your own happiness.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
You're smarter than usual Monday and Tuesday. Organize your friends to do something enjoyable. Clean up a mess Monday, and you'll find your own happiness.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Monday and Tuesday are perfect for working with friends, but Wednesday and Thursday aren't. Don't forget your objective and you'll get what you want.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
You're a dynamo Monday and Tuesday, but Wednesday and Thursday aren't. Find a creative adventure, and you'll find your own happiness.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Don't talk about your financial limits on Monday or Tuesday, unless you're sure they're really, really high. Get what you want Wednesday morning. You'll feel more confident with a new job on Friday.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Help a friend who's in trouble Monday and Tuesday, and then you need to be networking on Wednesday. Private events are perfect for you on Thursday. Get money for Thursday. You need a financial investment for Friday. Get a good book on Sunday. Bring yourself to the table on Saturday. Read a good book on Sunday.

**Aquarius** (Dec. 22-Feb. 18)
Put up with an older parent's behavior Monday and Tuesday, but don't let him control you. Do what you want Wednesday. Get your best performance this week Wednesday and Thursday. Friday is nice for networking and Saturday is a good time for social events.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20)
You're very lucky Monday and Tuesday. You'll need it, to balance yourself. It's important to be in the right position on one of those days. Wednesday and Thursday are important for your efforts to improve your grades and avoid unnecessary interference with romance on Sunday. Do check.

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**Crossword**

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**The Art of Irresponsible Behavior**

**Friday**

**Bottlestones**

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<td>Copper Dragon</td>
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**Saturday**

**Buffalo Bob and the Bedroom Blues**

**Sunday**

**Live with Mercy**

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WINNER: After 12 overall NBA titles, Jones still feels "passion for the game."  

THE WASHINGTON POST  

When K.C. Jones was fired as an assistant coach with the Boston Celtics a few months ago, he made room for Rick Pitino's staff, he could have retired with a career as rich as any in the history of basketball: two NCAA championships, an Olympic gold medal, eight NBA titles as a player, two NBA titles as a head coach and two more as an assistant. Jones was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1988. 

At 65, however, Jones still has what he calls "a passion for the game." So within days of leaving the Celtics he became head coach of the New England Blizzard of the American Basketball League. That's the year-old women's pro league competing against the one he bankrolled by the NBA. the league's里面有 year-old women's pro camp. 

"Campers also should remember that this plays in the fall and winter and inside it has the superior game," said Pam Batalis, the women who sell the game and play it for the Blizzard are flattened that Jones has joined them and eagerly to work at improving the league's second worst record last season. Extensive workouts begin in late August and training camp opens the second week in September. 

"We're honored to have him," Batalis said. "And the next thing is he's honored to be here.

Jones is familiar with teams and leagues struggling. When he turned 36, in 1956, the Celtics and the NBA hardly were thriving. The NBA had eight franchises that year and - St. Louis, Syracuse, Minneapolis and Cincinnati - were gone in the next 14 years. "I remember hotel bills in New York," Jones said, "that were put on the cuff, held and then paid with money the Celtics made in the play-offs. Per diem was $9. And you fought to be the last man in the cab going from the hotel to the arena because first had to pick up the tab."

Jones also coached at Brandeis University and with one of the teams that failed in the American Basketball Association, the San Diego Conquistadors. He played in Hartford, with the Capitals of the Eastern Basketball League in 1967-68, the season after his retirement as a player from the Celtics.

"In a coach, Jones intends to help sell the ABL the way he helped sell the NBA as a player," he said. "The emphasis will be on defense and teamwork. We might not be the fastest or the strongest, but we are the most athletic. But we are the smartest, I swear, and have the best work ethic."  

GEAR  

GEAR continued from page 12  

...campers also should be aware of their environments, said Craig Darland, who works at the resource center. 

"Campers should aim for low impact camping, or camping where the impacts of their activities are minimized," he said. 

Staying on trails and setting up camp at least 100 feet from natural water can make camping more low-impact.

Reeve said to remember common sense when camping, "If you don't like the way it is going, you don't have to go through with it."

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Enjoying NATURE

SOME LIKE THE COMFORT OF A CAMPER, WHILE OTHERS PREFER ROUGHING IT IN A TENT.

TRAVIS AXIN
DE SOUTHS EDITION

To rough it in the wilderness without the stubbornness of a camper is a decision every camper trust make, but that decision is an easy one for Herrin resident Mike Wade.

"Three years ago, (my daughter) was 6 months old when we were out here in a tent and I could swear a tornado went right over us," he said. "We switched to a camper."

In addition to providing greater protection from the weather, campers offer electrical hookups for trailers.

"We go hiking and fishing or we sit and talk with friends.

Relaxing on the lake and camping with his family on a weekend getaway is Payne's idea of the perfect summer vacation for campers, they have different ways to survive in the wilderness.

"There are no doorknobs and no phones," Payne said. "It is like a hobby or kind of a vacation and a chance to get out and get away."

While escaping the bustle of city life is a common motivation for campers, they have different ways to survive in the wilderness.

Payne and his family take their camper to campsites in areas such as Crab Orchard Lake and Little Grassy Lake that offer electrical hookups for trailers.

But others enjoy roughing it in remote areas of the Shawnee National Forest, without the modern conveniences of electricity and running water.

Payne's family camped in a tent until they got a pop-up camper.

"Most of the time we are not in the camper," Payne said. "We go hiking and fishing or we sit and talk with friends."

But, he said, the camper is difficult to build, time-consuming to prepare for a trip and almost is like sleeping in a tent. "The mattresses are so hard, it feels like you are sleeping on the ground," he said.

At a campground's convenience of taking a camper on a trip is the reason Danie Dietzler, a junior in outdoor recreation from Collinsville, prefers primitive camping.

Correct gear important for any camping trip

OUTFITTERS: Rec Center Base Camp rents equipment such as tents, sleeping bags, canoes.

DAANNIE WEIET
DE SOUTH IRIAN REaRVICER

Former camper Jesse Lafayette says checking the weather is but one of many easily forgotten, yet important, camping tips.

"If you are camping with friends and we've gotten caught in the rain for days at a time because we didn't check the weather reports," Lafayette, a Carbon Hill resident, said.

Mary campers make mistakes when learning to camp, said Todd Foss, Adventure Resource Center Base Camp supervisor.

"I can remember several novice campers coming on an outing completely unprepared, with sandals instead of sneakers, or cotton clothes instead of synthetics during the cold months," he said.

Foss said many people think camping is easy, but inexperienced campers should get advice from experts before venturing out.

• Weekly $12
• Weekly $17
• Weekly $57

Payne and his family take their camper to campsites in areas such as Crab Orchard Lake and Little Grassy Lake that offer electrical hookups for trailers.

"The convenience is an easy one for Herrin resident Mike Wade.

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The resource center located in the lower level of the Recreation Center has publications and references that can help any camper become better prepared for a trip.

"Anyone can come down and see us about camping and hiking in the area, and we even have schedules of upcoming trips," Foss said.

John Burde, forestry professor and avid outdoorsman, said campers should know their needs before they plan trips.

"We're campers should plan where to camp based on how serious they plan to be about camping," Burde said. "If we are only trying it for the first time, they need to stick to more of the regularly used camping spaces."

Burde suggested the book "Do it Yourself Camping in Southern Illinois" by Helen Kay and Kevin McPherson for new and even experienced campers. He said the book gives good pointers for where to camp and hike.

"Burde has been camping all over the world since he was 4 years old. He says that Southern Illinois has many good camping areas, such as Rend Lake and the Shawnee National Forest.

"For the very serious campers, some of the primitive areas, that is, areas that are not equipped with electricity and such, would be more ideal," Burde said.

Steve Timak, Devil's Kitchen Boat Dock and Camp Grounds owner, said campers should know what utilities they want in their campsite.

"Devil's Kitchen, much like most of the other camping areas, has places where there are full hookups for water, electric and even cable TV, as well as areas that are more primitive," Timak said.

When campers choose a place to camp, they should know as much as possible about it, said Richard Reeve, owner of Shawnee Trails Wilderness Outfitter, 222 W. Front St.

"Make sure that you are not on someone's private property," he said.

In order to preserve nature,