Prepayment bill awaits approval

UPFRONT: Plan will allow parents to pay future tuition at current rates.

MISCELLANEOUS DE campus life editor

Parents will be able to prepay for their children’s future educations at any Illinois public university at current rates, pending approval of a bill by Gov. Jim Edgar. Garnet Deakin, SIU legislative liaison, said the prepayment program (Senate Bill 878) would allow a person to pay in advance the tuition and fees for up to four years of college.

“This will allow parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles or friends to pay in advance for a child’s education and fix today at today’s prices, even though that child is not going to college until 18 years later,” Deakin said. “It’s money invested to meet the price down the road.”

Deakin said the payments would be the same for all future students, regardless of the University the student attends, because the payments would be calculated from the average cost of tuition and fees for all Illinois universities. He said payments could be made for single semesters or for longer periods through a five- or 10-year monthly installment plan.

The payments would be made to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission and would be placed in low-risk investments. The payment and the interest from the investment would balance the cost of universities’ rising tuition and fees, and would be paid to universities when students enroll.

Some say prepayment could relieve burden

MINCAL J. HARRIS
DE campus life editor

Musing over a potential bill that could allow families to pay students’ college tuition years in advance, some SIUC students say the bill would be beneficial.

Necole Parnwell, a senior in health education from Chicago, said Senate Bill 878, the college prepayment program,pending approval by Gov. Jim Edgar, shows that Illinois is committed to education.

“Kids would be encouraged to attend universities, trade schools or community colleges,” she said. “It’s all for it because that’s promoting higher education.”

While Parnwell views government encourage as higher education as positive, Chris Myers, a senior in radio-television from Chicago, wants “to know if the plan will benefit families of all income brackets.”

The plan is good if you’re financially able to pay, Myers said, but what if I’m poor and go to SIUC?"

See PREPAY, page 5

Prepays few problems as entry-age drops

BANDING UP: Some bars to use wristbands to distinguish underage from of-age patrons.

KIRK MOTTREY
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Carbondale’s drinking establishments will not overhaul their policies when the bar-entry age lowers to 19 next month, but some will add features to keep the atmosphere fun and responsible. Rich Noren, manager of Stix Bar & Billiards, 517 S. Illinois Ave., said his bar will be adopting a wristband policy, too.

“Some say problems with the new bar-entry age. And, in preparation, the dock will be remodeled, and two or three more doormen and more waiters will be hired,” Jessica Betts, manager of Six Hombres Mexican Restaurant & Lounge, said. "We’re not concerned with the new entry age policy because most of their customers are over 21."

"I think it’s the (new ordinance) not going to affect us at all, but we’ll adapt to the situation," said Michael Nisiel, manager of Tre Hombres, 117 N. Washington St. "And if we think there’s a problem, then we’ll do something." Nisiel also said that he wants the under-21 crowd to have fun.

"We want our underage to enjoy themselves," he said. "They can watch a game or come check out the band. Maybe they’ll even be good enough to (be a designated driver)."

Dana Kostelni said she has tried to book more well-known bands for Friday nights this fall at the Copper Dragon.

“We do anticipate some inconvenience in business that will help us bring in some bars, such as Tre"
The outline to the picture accompanying Tuesday's story "who would risk his life to save the water" should have named Gene Timpe, a certified windsurfer, who gives instruction to new SIU windsurfing Club members.

If readers spot an error in a news article, they can contact the Daily Egyptian Accuracy Desk at 536-3311, extension 233 or 228.

The Daily Egyptian is published Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and four times a week during the summer semester and winter breaks by the students of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

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Calendar

- SCUK Library Affairs - Free Home Yoga Session. 7:30 to 9 p.m., June 20, Memorial Library Room 103-D. Contact the undergraduate desk for details, 453-2818.

- Student Recreation and Representation Student Affairs. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Contact Rice or Allen for details, 453-5371.

- SIUC-Carbondale Blood Drive - June 21, 1 to 6 p.m., Rec Center, sponsored by American Red Cross. Contact Vining for details, 457-3571.

- American Red Cross/SIUK Blood Drive - 1 to 6 p.m., June 22, SU Rec Center.

- Summer Week of Chair - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., June 23, Murdolo Baptist Church. Ages 6 to grade 6 begining Monday. Contact Don Bahn at Murdolo Baptist Church for registration, 459-7888.

- SCUK Library Affairs - Free Nineteen Novels, introduction to WAWW using Netcasts. 2 to 4 p.m., June 23, Memorial Library Room 103-D. Contact the undergraduate desk for details, 453-2818.

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Students looking for off-campus housing in the fall should know who is responsible for lawn maintenance before they sign leases, some city officials say.

Morris McDaniel, director of building and neighborhood services, said students sometimes overlook clauses on lawn maintenance in their leases.

"Anyone who rents should read the contract and find out who is responsible for what," McDaniel said. "Know your obligations."

Bill Dixon, the Carbondale weed inspector, measures lawns suspected to be in violation. If lawns are in violation, yellow placards are placed on the lawns notifying the occupants that their lawns should be mowed.

If the lawn still is in violation of the ordinance seven days later, when the weed inspector returns, the city puts in an order to have the lawn mowed. The city charges the owner at least $57.75.

In the last fiscal year, from May 1, 1996, to April 30, 1997, McDaniel said placards were posted in 1,487 lawns in violation of the ordinance. However, property owners were charged for lawn-mowing services 94 times.

Ron Evans, an undecided junior from Alton who lives on South Poplar Street, found out about the ordinance two years ago when placards were placed on his lawn. He then realized his lease stated tenants are responsible for lawn maintenance.

"(My landlord) doesn't even give us a lawn mower, which kind of sucks," he said. Jason Hamblin, who lives on South Hayes Street, said the city has placed placards on his lawn seven or eight times.

He and his roommates are responsible for lawn maintenance according to their lease, but Hamblin said his landlord is supposed to provide him with a lawn mower.

"He says that he'll drop it off and he never does, so we've been borrowing our neighbors'," said Hamblin, a SIUC graduate in marketing from Island Grove.

McDaniel said the city charges property owners, not tenants, of rented houses. However, he said owners can pass these charges on to their tenants, depending on who is responsible for lawn maintenance in the leases.

Tom Reuland, Carbondale director of development services, said the city tries to make the community aware of the ordinance.

"We have a number of different brochures we try to get into the community," Reuland said. "And the placard serves as a notice."

The Carbondale City Council voted unanimously to leave the number of package liquor licenses at eight rather than six at Tuesday's meeting.

The two licenses will become available July 1, because Times Square Liquors is closed, and Walgreen Drug Store, which is moving from University Mall to the corner of Walnut and Wall streets, is not expected to seek renewal.

The council also voted 4-1 to approve a permit allowing the Center for Comprehensive Spinal Cord Injury Center to establish a local center for persons with brain and spinal-cord injuries. The Alpha Chi Omega sorority house, 516 S. University Ave., and the Sigma Nu fraternity house, 516 S. University Ave., will relocate because of the sale of their houses to the center.

Vice chancellor named

Chancellor Donald Beggs has named Thomas C. Britton, an associate dean at the SIU School of Education, as acting vice chancellor for Institutional Advancement.

Beginning July 16, he will head University fund-raising operations and alumni activity.

Britton replaces Robert Quatroche, who will leave SIUC on July 15 to become the vice president for university advancement at State University.

Yopp reception planned

A reception for retiring Graduate School Dean John Yopp is scheduled from 2 to 4 p.m. Monday at the Student Center Gallery Lounge.

Yopp is leaving SIUC to become vice president for graduate and professional education at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago.

from Daily Egyptian news services
Athletic-fee increase robs students of an education

It’s budget time again at SIU, and let me tell you, the infinite wisdom of the administration at this fine institution just never ceases to amaze me. Most of you have heard about the “image problem” SIUC has. SIUC, we are told, is seen nationwide as a party school. The riots that occur every Halloween, or, for that matter, whenever the students decide to take to the streets and play with Carbondale’s finest (i.e., graduation weekend, 1996), only serve to perpetuate that perception. Furthermore, with the rare exception of a handful of academic departments, SIUC is not exactly among the highest-ranking universities in the nation, or even the state. And, we are told, that image is partially responsible for the declining enrollment here, which causes budgetary problems across the University. Luckily, the powers that be have come up with a budget plan that will solve this problem once and for all. The plan as I see it is as follows: 1.) Initiate a hiring freeze on all tenure-track positions in the College of Liberal Arts. This happened some time ago, and seems to have been the first step in the master plan that will someday allow SIUC to take its rightful place among the greatest universities of all time. Clearly, more students will be drawn to the University if it is unable to attract talented professors. It’s just common sense. 2.) Subject all academic departments to an evaluation of the quality of their degree programs, and as part of this evaluation, punish them if their enrollments drop below current levels. Obviously, the students in these programs are just unappreciative baggage the University can afford to lose, as are their professors. Besides, everyone knows that the fewer programs there are at a University, the higher its enrollment and retention rates get. 3.) Subject the students to stiff increases in the athletic fee every year.

Use the money to fund a football team that sucks, always has sucked and shows no hope of ceasing this sucking activity in the near future. After all, every University MUST have a football team, no matter how high the price and no matter how much it sucks. To attract enough players to this and other low-quality athletic programs, we should offer scholarships to as many athletes as possible rather than wasting the money on “A” students or more professors. It makes no difference that these fee increases are ALWAYS opposed by the student body. Any time people express this opposition, simply draw them out by singing the Saluki fight song. For those of you unfamiliar with sarcasm, let me be blunt. Every single SIUC student I know is sick and tired of this foolishness. If the attendance at the games is not high enough to fund the team, then I guess the students are trying to tell you that it isn’t worth the money. Forcing them to pay in spite of this is nothing more than highway robbery. If you must increase the fees or tuition, use the money to hire more professors and to offer full rides to “A” students who actually have a chance of elevating SIUC’s status in both the academic and “real” worlds. Oh, one last thing. The athletic-fee compromise between USG (a.k.a. Unorganized Sloppy Government) and University officials is unacceptable. As you will recall, that compromise dropped the request for an $80 fee increase during the next four years, and simply pushed through a $20 increase this year. Nothing stops the administration from introducing another increase next year, and the year after that, and the year after that. As Abe Lincoln once said, you can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but for crying out loud, get real.

The Board of Trustees earlier this month approved a four-year plan to limit the combined rate of those increases to the rate of inflation, or about 3 percent, beginning in 1999. The board’s decision and the General Assembly’s prepayment bill send the message that both higher education administrators and politicians are concerned about the skyrocketing costs of college educations. Their actions are reassuring reminders that education should be equally available to all.

THE BILL MIGHT HAVE BEEN CONCERNED too late to help current students, but today’s students still should appreciate it. Though some will struggle to pay off thousands of dollars in loans after graduation, they can, at least, envision paying for their children’s educations early. "Our Word" represents the consensus of the Daily Egyptian Editorial Board.

Overheard

"I want to teach a person that signing is part of the disability. People stare and wonder what is wrong with a person when their arms are flying and their hands are moving."

Joan Cummins, an American Sign Language instructor, explaining that she wants to erase an uneducated stereotype that deaf people like herself encounter when practicing sign language.

"I don’t know how to explain it. I just couldn’t believe myself. He was one of the nicest people I had met."

Takae Shimizu, a second-year graduate student in cinema and photography from Japan, describing her encounter with actor Gary Oldman, who starred in the movie "The Fifth Element." Shimizu met Oldman and other celebrities while interning at last month’s Festival de Cannes, France.

Our Word

Getting ahead

Proposed bill would help parents battle soaring tuition

COLLEGE COSTS, WHICH ARE RISING AT about three times the rate of inflation, risk squeezing children of low- or middle-income families out of the opportunity to receive higher education. That could change, however, because the state legislature has passed a bill allowing families to pay today’s rates for tomorrow’s college educations for their children.

IF SIGNED BY GOV. JIM EDGAR, THE BILL would join the ranks of legislation such as the GI Bill of Rights, which has assisted millions of veterans with college costs since 1944.

Under the prepayment bill, the state would invest families’ tuition payments, and the interest would cover rising tuition costs.

Current soaring costs threaten a return to the days before the GI Bill — before the great expansion of state universities, including SIUC, in the years following World War II — when higher education was a privilege for few, not the opportunity for many. To avoid regressing to those times, Illinois needs this legislation.

THE BILL ENCOURAGES PARENTS TO START saving early for their children’s educations — something that may not happen if money is tight. The state includes a monthly payment plan in the prepayment bill, essentially volunteering to act as a piggy bank, so parents may be less likely to procrastinate.

SIU already has taken measures to limit the increases in its tuition, housing and fee costs. The Board of Trustees earlier this month approved a four-year plan to limit the combined rate of those increases to the rate of inflation, or about 3 percent, beginning in 1999.

The board’s decision and the General Assembly’s prepayment bill send the message that both higher education administrators and politicians are concerned about the skyrocketing costs of college educations. Their actions are reassuring reminders that education should be equally available to all.

"Our Word" represents the consensus of the Daily Egyptian Editorial Board.
Tuition

continued from page 1

do that [save money for college], but some students and their families really need time off, he said.

But Ivy Gibson, an undecided sophomore from Wisconsin, said the plan "helps a lot of these families at the other end of the economic scale. It's a great idea because students wouldn't have to worry about financial aid," she said. "I know students who couldn't go to school because they didn't have the money, and their parents made too much for them to get any financial aid.

"Although Myers and Gibson have differing observations of the prospective bill, Dean Daubs, a senior specialist in career and business from Bartlett, is enthusiastic about the legislation.

"I think it would be a good idea," he said. "They should put the money up so it could accumulate interest."

"Dubs also said the program could curtail the number of loans students often need to finance their educations.

"I have a bunch of loans and although I work off-campus, the money I make now goes for living expenses down here," Dubs said.

"The plan would help students out."

But even though Senate Bill 878 would take some of the burden off of students attempting to get a high-quality education, Dubs said, "I am waiting at the Student Center's University Bookstore to help pay my books because I don't know if it would deter those students wanting to pay for their own educations.

"It's also satisfying to put yourself through school," she said. "I myself education more because I'm paying for it, but it can go either way."


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Father provides cager foundation for success

**MOTIVATION:**
Freshman hopes home atmosphere allows him to continue building basketball skills.

**SHANEEL RICHARDSON**
**DAILY EAGLE REPORTER**

Constant challenges from his father are what Carbondale's Joshua Cross credits for his basketball success.

At Cross prepares this summer to become a freshman guard for the SIUC men's basketball team, he is grateful for the encouragement of his dad, Dan Cross Sr.

"He would always say, 'Hit that jumper and I'll give you a dollar,'" Josh said. "I knew if I wanted that dollar, I was going to have to work for it."

Dan encouraged his children to play pickup basketball. "It's my favorite pastime, and when I went to play, they were right there with me," he said.

Dan's motivation has produced four collegiate athletes in the family.

Joshua will be playing basketball at the University of Florida, and Joe, who plays for Florida International University. Joshua's other brother, Leandis, plays Division I-AA football at Eastern Illinois University.

Dan Sr., a pastor at Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Colp, said he is blessed and thanks God for his successful sons.

"In our family, we depend on God for everything," he said.

Joshua spends most of his free time playing the organ at his father's church.

"It really gives me a chance to be involved with church and spend time with my dad," Joshua said.

Joshua turned down Northern Illinois University, but was encouraged by his older brother Dan Jr., who played basketball at the University of Florida and Illinois State University to attend SIUC.

Staying close to home influenced his decision.

"I can still be close to friends and family," Joshua said. "I really didn't want to move away too soon."

In his senior year at Carbondale Community High School, Joshua averaged 10 points and 12 rebounds per game.

He used his athleticism to get by defenders in high school, but does not expect the same results in college.

"I need to develop a jumper because at the college level, guys who are 6'9" or 6'10" will be waiting for me when I come to the basket," Joshua said. "I need to be less afraid taking the outside shot."

As Cross prepares this summer to become a freshman guard for the SIUC men's basketball team.

"I will be praying for them, too," Dan Sr. said. "I just want them to do their best in school and polish their athletic talents God gave them."

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**Conference committee grants running back 5th year**

**HARDSHIP WAIVER: All-Gateway first team player wants to improve on last year's performance.**

**TRAN S A KIN**
**DE SPORTS EDITOR**

Saluki running back Ceo Bonner will play another year at SIUC after the Gateway Conference gave him another year of eligibility Tuesday.

He is allowed a fifth year on a hardship waiver.

Bonner played in only six quarters in his freshman year at Illinois Valley Community College in 1993. Because he played fewer than 20 percent of the quarters, he is eligible for the hardship waiver.

"I don't have anything to lose because last season left me in a bad position with a shoulder injury," Bonner said. "But I want to invest time in someone with an injured shoulder."

Assistant coach Trenton Liggins said Bonner asked last season if he might be eligible for a waiver.

"We felt we owed it to him to do all the legwork and see if it was possible he could have another year," Bonner said. "I am going to have to start studying the new offense."

But it will not be easy repeating last year's performance. He has to learn the offensive strategy of a new coaching staff.

"I know the old offense like the back of my hand," Bonner said. "I am just happy to have him back," he said.

"With a new staff, we do not know the background of all our players," he said. "We felt we owed it to him to do all the legwork and see if it was possible he could have another year."

The coaching staff sent an appeal to Gateway Conference Commissioner Patty Viverito at the end of last season.

The appeal committee, consisting of three representatives from conference schools, approved the application.

"It seemed like everyone knew about it before I did," Bonner said. "But I slept good and breathed a sigh of relief."

Teammate Cornell Craig also is glad Bonner is playing another year.

"It will be the coming back of an All-Conference player," he said. "Hopefully, the team can reflect his work ethic and continue to improve."

Bonner scored 11 of the Salukis' 19 touchdowns last season. He rushed for 1,234 yards. Last year, he also ranked 21st in the nation in rushing with a 5.12 yards-per-game average.

Bonner's performance gave him a spot on the All-Gateway Conference first-team.

"I am really giving me a chance to do all the legwork and see if it was possible he could have another year," Bonner said. "But I am just happy to have him back," he said.

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**ALL IN THE FAMILY: Joshua Cross, a freshman from Carbondale, plays one-on-one basketball with his father Dan Cross.**

Joshua will be playing guard for the SIUC men's basketball team.