

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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SIU rallies to beat Georgia in second-half stunner, lands spot in Sweet 16

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TOURNAMENT, PAGE 24TUESDAY
DAILY EGYPTIAN

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Southern Illinois University Carbondale

MARCH 19, 2002

Sweet emotion

Jay Schwab
Daily Egyptian

CHICAGO - People are pretty clear about what a Saluki is these days — they just don't know how to stop one.

SIU completed its emergence from national obscurity by nullifying a 19-point first half deficit to oust Georgia 77-75 Sunday at the United Center, earning an improbable spot in the Sweet 16.

Next stop for SIU is Syracuse, N.Y., where SIU will meet No. 2 seed Connecticut in the Eastern Regional at 6:38 p.m. on Friday.

"I couldn't be more thrilled," SIU coach Bruce Weber said. "We set a goal, I probably sounded crazy back in the spring, to make the Sweet 16. Right now, the Southern Illinois Salukis are going to be there."

To do it, 11th seeded SIU (28-7) had to overcome a disastrous start. Georgia owned the boards and was smoking from the perimeter early, and the Salukis weren't able to counter. Much to the agony of the plentiful Saluki fans in attendance, the Bulldogs soared to a 12-2 lead and stretched it out all the way to 30-11 when forward Jarvis Hayes banked in a 3-pointer.

SIU's bid for the Sweet Sixteen seemed bound for a rotten conclusion, and the Salukis were stunned.

"Things weren't going our way, and they were just kind of starting out into space," Weber said. "I just said 'Hey, we've worked so hard, why would you quit now? We've got to just compete.'"

They competed, alright. SIU hit Georgia with a 9-0 run to climb back into contention, and steadily chipped away at Georgia's lead from there, coming within 38-35 at halftime thanks to a Jermaine Dearman dunk just before the break.



Tyrese Buie (left) and Brad Korn (right) start to celebrate as time winds down in the Salukis' game against Texas Tech University in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Despite being the underdogs this past weekend, the Salukis defeated the Texas Tech Raiders and the Georgia Bulldogs to advance to the Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 1977.

"They probably relaxed a little bit, and all the sudden, boom, we're back in the game," Weber said. "It was so quick — they broke down on defense a little bit, we got some easy lay-ups, we got some put-backs and we started making shots."

Much of the focus on SIU revolves around Kent Williams and Rolan Roberts, but it was Dearman who lifted the Salukis to their second ever Sweet Sixteen appearance. He scored

a career-high 25 points, had eight rebounds and at times dominated an athletic and rugged Bulldogs front-line.

"I knew they were going to give us a chance to get back in the game, and I just wanted to play hard and get scrappy," Dearman said.

The Saluki locker room was high on adrenaline at halftime, and SIU's attack intensified after the break. A pair of Darren Brooks free throws

finally put SIU ahead 43-41, and Brooks struck again with a jumper to pad the Saluki lead to 60-52 with 11:12 remaining.

Georgia stayed within striking distance, and cut SIU's lead to two when a Jonas Hayes tip-in made it 73-71 with a minute left. But SIU was able to run some clock when Dearman snared an offensive rebound on the next possession, and Jonas Hayes was assessed an intentional foul

"I couldn't be more thrilled. We set a goal, I probably sounded crazy back in the spring, to make the sweet 16. Right now, the Southern Illinois Salukis are going to be there."

Bruce Weber
SIU men's basketball coach

SIU 77
Georgia 75

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Education will stumble when money is fumbled

Molly Parker
Daily Egyptian

The gym where legendary Pinckneyville High School coach Merrill "Duster" Thomas led the 1948 men's basketball team to the school's first state championship is now the "girls gym." The women's basketball team practices in the dimly lit building, which is not handicap-accessible and is laden with structural damage.

School administrators in Pinckneyville are leading the charge to pass a referendum on today's ballot that would allow them the funds to build a new high school with equal facilities for men and women. But it's not just a referendum — it's also a demonstration of how Illinois' school funding system can be as much a political battle as the local mayor's race.

If the referendum passes it will

mean an increase in property taxes, and giving more to Uncle Sam is difficult for some people to stomach. That mindset is what causes most referendums to fail, and it's what frustrates administrators as they attempt to navigate the Illinois school funding formula.

If the referendum passes in Pinckneyville, the townspeople will pay for one-fourth of the cost with an increase in property taxes, and the state will foot the other three-fourths with an Illinois FIRST grant, Ryan's four-year initiative to bring the state's brick-and-mortar to standards.

That's the way funds are typically raised for Illinois' schools when the old ones crack and fall below state and fed-

For full election coverage
including candidate profiles and
political views,

See election guide, page 8,9

eral standards. Schools are funded primarily through the state income tax and the local property tax base. If a school wants more money for operations or buildings, it has to put a referendum on the ballot and convince the townspeople that it's worth a bloated property tax bill.

Most administrators will tell you the system is not fair, but major changes in the funding formula have proved to be a difficult political maneuver. Six different candidates are running for the governor's office on today's ballot —

See EDUCATION, page 4



DAILY EGYPTIAN PHOTO - DAVID HEBERHAA

The boiler room at Pinckneyville Community High School is in need of major repair, says PCHS principal Brad Morris. The equipment is the school's original, dating back to 1930, and is used to heat both the high school and the grade school.

National Briefs - National Briefs - National Briefs - National Briefs - National Briefs

U.S. warns of new Middle East attacks

The U.S. was last night preparing strikes against newly discovered pockets of al-Qa'ida and Taliban fighters in Afghanistan as increased financial activity by Osama bin Laden's network fueled fears his agents were regrouping and plotting fresh terrorist attacks. The U.S. Treasury said last week more than 150 countries had helped to freeze accounts and block transactions between suspected terrorists. Washington has frozen more than \$35 million, while the combined effort of other countries has halted about \$70 million.

Surveillance flights over south and east Afghanistan have located rebel forces attempting to hide and regroup. Separately, in areas of northwest Pakistan close to the Afghan border, intelligence officials have traced a flurry of financial transactions linked to the al-Qa'ida group. Major Bryan Hiltrey, a spokesman for the U.S. military in Afghanistan, said Operation Anaconda, the battle against rebels in the Shah-I-Kot valley, was winding down, but more than 500 soldiers continued to search the area. The Afghanistan Foreign Ministry warned that while the battle of Shah-I-Kot had eliminated the "largest and most threatening" group of rebels, others were trying to reorganize.

The U.S. and its allies were concentrating on several pockets of resistance in south and east Afghanistan in the next phase of its search. U.S. officials said Sunday they had detected an increase in financial activity by the al-Qa'ida network, suggesting some terrorist leaders are reasserting



control and may be plotting fresh attacks. The increased flow of money corresponds with a recent increase in communications between surviving al-Qa'ida members, an official said.

Tipper Gore drops out of Senate race

WASHINGTON — Tipper Gore, the wife of former U.S. vice president and failed presidential candidate Al Gore, has dropped plans to make a bid for the US Senate representing the southern state of Tennessee.

Gore, 52, had been considering running as the Democratic Party candidate for the seat being vacated by Republican Senator Fred Thompson, who announced his retirement last week. Had Gore decided to run, she would have competed with Democratic Tennessee Representative Bob Clement as well as testing the family brand name ahead of a possible re-run for the White House by her husband. The state of Tennessee has elected Republican senators since 1995.

Although Al Gore himself once represented Tennessee in the senate, he lost his home state to now-president George W Bush in the 2000 presidential election. Tipper Gore had never run for office, but has participated in social campaigns including an attempt to clean up pop music lyrics, and has championed mental health issues, even admitting having been treated for depression.

from worldnews.com



Rain
high of 54
low of 42



Partly Cloudy
high of 55
low of 34



Partly Cloudy
high of 49
low of 24

International Briefs - International Briefs - International Briefs - International Briefs - International Briefs

Seven killed in French coach crash

METZ, France — An Italian truck and a coach carrying Dutch tourists has collided in eastern France, killing seven people and injuring 27 in a crash which fuelled controversy over the working hours of Europe's truckers. Four tourists and the Dutch driver of the coach, as well as the truck driver and his passenger, both Italians, were killed in the crash, at around 3:30 a.m. on a motorway just outside Metz.

The local prefect's office revised down an earlier death toll it gave of eight, which it said was due to an incorrect body count. Three of the injured were in critical condition, the prefect's office said. Psychological counselors working with translators had been drafted in to help survivors of the crash. The coachload of about 60 Dutch tourists were returning from a weekend in the French Alpine resort of Valmorel.

French Transport Minister Jean-Claude Goyssot set commiserations to his Dutch counterpart Tineke Netelenbos and issued a statement suggesting the accident highlighted the overdue facing many truck drivers on European roads. French truck drivers recently blockaded oil refineries as part of a protest over government measures which they argue will actually increase their working hours. Goyssot has insisted the dispute, which centers on complicated new rules surrounding the treatment and payment of hours spent off the road, is based on a misunderstanding. He said the regulations would in fact cap at a maximum 56 hours the amount of time that a driver can spend on the road each week, fewer than the 60 hours stated in a European Union directive.



Pakistan on high alert following terrorist attack

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan put its military and police on high alert today, tightening up security at Islamabad diplomatic missions and churches after a terrorist attack on a

Protestant congregation killed five people, including two Americans. In an assault clearly directed at foreigners, at least one man dressed in black hurled grenades into the Pakistan International Church on Sunday, sending shrapnel through the crowd and splattering the sanctuary's walls with blood and flesh. The dead included a U.S. Embassy worker and her teen-age daughter. More than 45 people — most of them foreigners — were injured.

The State Department warned Americans abroad of "the imminent threat of terrorist actions" and said terrorists "will seek softer targets" as security is increased at official U.S. facilities. Such targets may include restaurants, schools, clubs and other places where Americans congregate, said the department, which recommended people avoid those areas outside the United States or be more careful when visiting them.

The department cited credible reports of possible attacks, but said it had no information on targets, timing or how the attacks may be carried out. It warned that terrorist activities may include suicide attacks and kidnapping. No group claimed responsibility for Sunday's attack, but suspicion fell on Islamic extremists. President Bush condemned the attack in the guarded diplomatic quarter at the heart of Pakistan's capital, about 400 yards from the U.S. Embassy compound.

from worldnews.com

Calendar TODAY

Only public events affiliated with SIUC are printed in the Daily Egyptian Calendar. The editors reserve the right not to print any submitted item. RSO and departmental events will be printed in the Daily Egyptian Online Calendar at www.dailyegyptian.com.

Calendar item deadline is two publication days before the event. The item must include time, date, place, admission and sponsor of the event and the name and phone of the person submitting the item.

Items should be delivered to Communications Building, Room 1247, or faxed to 453-8244. No calendar information will be taken over the phone.

Police Blotter

- University**
• Michael A. Tygett, 20, was arrested at 2:02 a.m. on March 10 and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, possession of drug paraphernalia and speeding. Tygett posted his driver's license and a personal recognizance as bond.
- Kristin Clover, 21, was arrested at 2:54 a.m. on March 10 and charged with illegal transportation of alcohol. Clover posted driver's license as bond.
- Tanner James Meyer, 22, was arrested at 12:45 a.m. Saturday and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol. Meyer posted a driver's license and \$100 cash bond.
- Brandon Guy Smith, 19, was arrested at 1:22 a.m. Sunday and charged with possession of cannabis under 30 grams, uninsured motor vehicle and suspended driver's license. Smith was unable to post the required bond and transported to the Jackson County Jail.
- Jason Brown, 20, was arrested at 3:03 a.m. Sunday and charged with illegal transportation of alcohol. Brown was released on a personal recognizance bond.

Corrections

Readers who spot an error in a news article should contact the Daily Egyptian Accuracy Desk at 536-3311 ext. 252.

The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of SIUC, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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Same promises for downstate dilemmas

Governor candidates hope to rejuvenate Southern Ill. economy

Alexa Agullar
Daily Egyptian

Gov. George Ryan recently snagged national acclaim for Illinois' progressive economic development. Illinois outscored 49 states by securing the 2001 Site Selection Governor's Cup.

But that doesn't mean much to the residents of Southern Illinois counties such as Franklin, Perry and Union. Their economic picture isn't that rosy — unemployment rates have remained steadily higher than state averages for years.

Jobless rates soaring into the double digits, pathetically few new businesses, a rotting coal industry — that's the dismal picture Southern Illinois has painted to the rest of the state for years.

Added to that picture is a deep-seated frustration by Southern Illinois residents that their plight falls on the deaf ears of upstate officials, who focus too heavily on the region north of I-70.

It's a frustration that the gubernatorial

hopefuls are banking on will win them some votes in today's election. Both Democrats and Republicans have made pledges and promises to downstaters

about rejuvenating the region, acknowledging that this is a major issue for Southern Illinois.

All of the candidates have mentioned revamping the Illinois coal industry, recognizing the death of the industry devastated the region. But aside from coal, none of the candidates got specific about how to target Southern Illinois' problems.

"Location, location, location — that motto works for economic development too," said Pat Bauer, Benton's mayor. Franklin County currently has an 8 percent unemployment rate, as opposed to the state average of 5.9. Those rates are a residual effect of the shutdown of major coal mines after the Clean Air Act passed in late 1990.

For Bauer, the biggest challenge for a Southern Illinois community such as Benton is having a combination of the characteristics it needs to attract businesses.

"We're poor and we're rural," Bauer said.



"We're just different than an urban community. We don't have the same type of advantages."

Even worse, she said, is when elected officials forget about the residents of Southern Illinois.

"Yes, we're vastly different," she said. "But we are also equally important."

Benton was one of the many communities that was "severely impacted" by the closing of the mines, Bauer said.

"One of the saddest repercussions is that people who wanted to work have had to leave," Bauer said. "And that wrecks havoc on your schools, your tax base, everything."

Some of the unemployment drain was absorbed by a few boating companies that located in the Benton area. Others took jobs in the nearby correctional center.

The prison system is the other industry that provides many Southern Illinoisans their livelihoods. While some might consider prisons in the backyards of towns not the most ideal situation, most community leaders jump at the job opportunities the prisons provide.

That's why Vienna has protested so vehemently to Gov. Ryan's proposed closing of its correctional center. After all, the prison is the largest employer in town.

Vienna isn't as fortunate as Carbondale, which houses SIUC, the largest employer south of Springfield. The University provides a rare economic boost in a region that other-

wise depends heavily on blue-collar industry. Jackson County recently registered a 5 percent unemployment rate.

"The University is absolutely vital to the region," said Ray Lenzi, associate chancellor for economic development at SIUC and CEO of the Southern Illinois Research Park. "Even with the ups and downs with enrollment and questions about the research budget, we continue to grow. The University is the hub of the hi-tech community."

John Linehan, executive director of the Carbondale Business Development Corporation, agrees that a strong alliance between the University and Carbondale boosts the region's development.

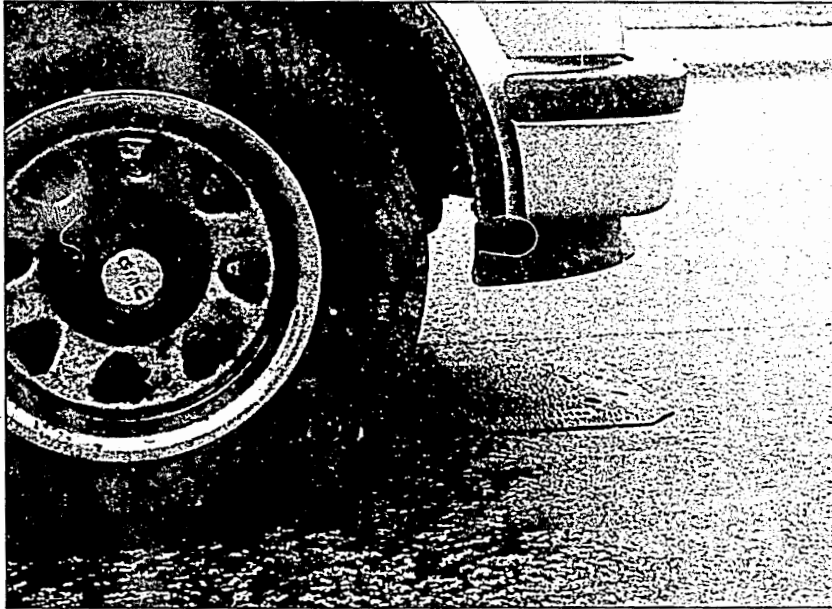
But Linehan said it's not enough. What he wants to see is banks and investors in the region who are willing to invest early in a new business' start-up process.

Lenzi agrees and said that a Southern Illinois-based fund that would be willing to dole out start-up capital and be exclusive to the region would help attract needed new businesses. But Southern Illinois also needs a more direct connection to the St. Louis area, an item on Southern Illinois' wish list for years.

See **ECONOMY**, page 12

Car Counters: The small black objects scattered along campus streets read traffic flow, speed and sizes of vehicles. This information is used to determine if roads need to be widened, turn lanes added, or speed limits increased or decreased. The devices work on computer chips and are safe to run over.

LIBA SONNENSCHEIN
DAILY EGYPTIAN



Winters replaced

Wendler names new interim provost and vice chancellor

Codell Rodriguez
Daily Egyptian

The vacant provost position left by Margaret Winters has been filled for a limited time.

Kyle Perkins, associate provost in charge of planning and budget, was named interim provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research last Thursday. Perkins was put in charge of the position after Winters took a position at Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich.

Perkins will resume his duties with planning and budgeting and will serve as interim provost until a permanent replacement is found. Bill Muhlach, associate professor of zoology, is chairing the committee to find the replacement and said they could find someone as soon as this summer.

"We're screening candidates right now," Muhlach said.

Perkins' added responsibility of overseeing all the different branches of Academic Affairs will not occur for very long.

"This is a short-term position," Chancellor Walter Wendler said.

Wendler said Perkins was chosen because of his current position with planning and budget. Because of the current budget problems, Wendler said it would be the easiest way to go.

"He is creative and will make for a very smooth transition," Wendler said.

Wendler said the qualities they found in Perkins is exactly what they want in the permanent provost. He said he wants someone who can take control of issues such as the budget woes. Wendler added that Perkins has taken charge so far in the position and hopes that he will provide an adequate replacement until Winters is permanently replaced.

"I miss Provost Winters but Kyle is picking up all the things that need to be done and is doing it," Wendler said.

Reporter Codell Rodriguez can be reached at
crodriguez@dailyegyptian.com

Knight's Inn robbed again

Armed robbery took place Sunday morning, second in last six months

Sara Hooker
Daily Egyptian

An early morning armed robbery Sunday at the Knights Inn marks the second time the establishment has been held up in the last six months.

Jacob Boateng, manager of the Knights Inn, 2400 W. Main St., reported he was robbed by a suspect wearing a brown ski mask and a blue hooded coat holding a small revolver.

Minutes later, Isaac Jackson, 22, of Murphysboro, was arrested by Carbondale Police and charged with armed robbery after officers stopped

his vehicle on West Main Street just west of Lake Road and allegedly discovered the stolen items from the hotel in his possession.

Jackson allegedly entered the Knights Inn demanding money from Boateng. Boateng said he was held captive in a back room of the office at gunpoint for about 10 minutes while the suspect demanded cash from elsewhere in the hotel before settling on the cash in the drawer. The suspect allegedly stuffed a total of \$250 and a gold rope chain in his pocket before fleeing on foot, Boateng said.

Carbondale Police Chief R.T. Finney said information was immediately put out to police after the robbery was reported that a former tenant, Jackson, was a possible suspect because Boateng recognized the suspect's voice.



Jackson

Police spotted a gold Dodge Aires leaving the area shortly afterwards. When they stopped the car, police discovered Jackson to be the driver.

Finney said police were on the scene by 5:27 a.m., and the suspect was stopped by police at 5:31 a.m.

"We were on the scene very quick," Finney said. "There aren't many vehicles out at that time of morning."

Jackson was identified later by Boateng.

"I basically couldn't see his face, but I could recognize him by his voice," Boateng said. "He has a very distinguishable voice."

This robbery is not the first for the Knights Inn. On Oct. 21, a desk clerk was robbed at gunpoint of an undisclosed amount of cash. Kenneth L. Chaney was recently

arrested on charges stemming from the incident.

In light of the latest robbery, Boateng is stepping up security.

Boateng did not have the opportunity to push a security button behind the counter during Sunday's robbery. He did so after the robbery but no alarm sounded. The alarm system will soon be revamped to make sure it is working properly.

Video cameras scheduled to be installed this summer will now be in place within the next few weeks.

Jackson previously served time in the Menard Correctional Center and has been paroled after receiving a 4-year sentence for a 1997 conviction of residential burglary and a 5-year sentence for a 1999 theft. He is currently being held for the Illinois Department of Corrections at Jackson County Jail on a \$5,000 bond.

Reporter Sara Hooker can be reached at
shooker@dailyegyptian.com

Governor hopefuls spout plans for education

Molly Parker
Daily Egyptian

Changing the school funding formula is politically dangerous and, not surprisingly, none of the six candidates in today's primary ballot have suggested any kind of major revamp in the system, such as lessening the burden on property taxes and increasing the income tax, as many education experts have suggested.

Such a swap was tried during former Gov. Jim Edgar's administration in the mid-90s. Known as the Ikenberry report, Edgar pushed for a revamp in the education funding system that substituted the heavy reliance on property tax with an increase in the income tax that could be distributed more evenly among school districts.

The plan failed, however, mainly because the legislature did not want the political ramifications of voting for an increase in taxes attached to their name, wary that it could be politically harmful in the upcoming election, said Mike Lawrence, Edgar's former press secretary.

Lawrence, now associate director of the Public Policy Institute at SIUC, said such a swap is politically difficult if not impossible by nature.

Attorney General Jim Ryan, the Republican front-runner in the governor's race, said he would keep an open mind to some type of swap in the main source of funding for education although he would not support any type of tax increase.

"I didn't say I would do it, I said I would consider it," Ryan said Monday during a last minute campaign rally around the state with the popular Edgar as his campaign sidekick.

Paul Vallas, former CEO of the Chicago Public Schools, has positioned himself as the education man throughout the campaign. In a 10-page detailed report he suggests raising the foundation level, the amount of money the state guarantees to each student in a school district by 5 percent or the rate of inflation every year depending on the budget situation.

On the other hand, State Sen. Patrick O'Malley, the ultraconservative Republican candidate for governor, supports the reliance on prop-

erty taxes to fund schools and in his education report said "study after study has shown there is no correlation between per-pupil spending and children learning."

O'Malley's education report says he supports the current funding system because it gives the schools more local control.

The state share of revenue for public education has been on a downslide from a high in 1976 of 48.4 percent to about 36 percent currently, according to a report from the National Center for Educational Statistics.

Former Attorney General Roland Burris, another Democrat contender for governor, believes that percentage should be higher and the state should be putting 51 percent of its revenue into public education. He also supports positioning the state board of education under his control and eliminating the current two-tiered system.

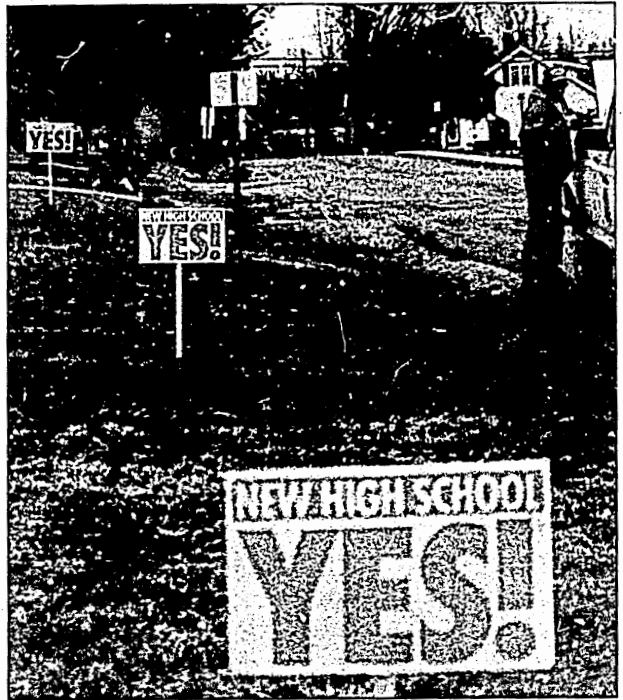
Lt. Gov. Corinne Wood, running for governor on the Republican ticket, said in her education report that she would continue to support Gov. George Ryan's commitment of putting 51 percent of all new state revenue into education, something she says has increased funding by nearly \$2 billion over the past three years.

Her report also states that she would continue to increase the foundation level as suggested by the Education Funding Advisory Board appointed by her current boss, although she did not say at what rate she would like to see it increase.

U.S. Rep. Rod Blagojevich, the Democratic front-runner in the governor's race, also said he would continue to commit 51 percent of all new revenue to education, but he wants to take that a step further and make that pledge a law. In his education report, he also said the state should be doing more to pursue federal education dollars by providing grant writing assistance for school administrators balancing this with the regular job duties.

One thing all the candidates do agree on is that government waste needs to be swept up and thrown into the trash can.

Reporter Molly Parker can be reached at mparker@dailyegyptian.com



DAILY EGYPTIAN PHOTO - DAVID MISENHAA

South East Street in Pinckneyville shows the support of residents near the high school for a referendum on today's primary ballot. If passed, Pinckneyville's high school students will have a new high school that meets American with Disabilities Act and Title IX standards. Principal Brad Morris is confident the measure will pass.

EDUCATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

three Democrats and three Republicans — and they all have their own ideas about how to revamp Illinois' public schools, the fifth largest public school system in the United States.

Not surprisingly, none of their education reports say anything about adopting a swap in the major funding for schools, such as lowering property taxes and increasing the income tax, which many educational experts have proposed so that funds could be spread around more evenly between districts.

Illinois' heavy reliance on property to fund schools means that districts with big industries get the fit from the pig and others are forced to eat lean. Or, such as in Pinckneyville and rural areas in Southern Illinois, it means asking the citizens to shoulder the cost of renovations or provide additional money for general operations.

A swap in funding sources is a move that could be politically damaging and has proved to be a failure in the General Assembly in the past.

Former Gov. Jim Edgar appointed a committee to look into education funding during his reign in the mid-90s and adopted its suggestion to lessen the burden on property taxes and raise income taxes. Even though the proposed swap of funding, known as the Ikenberry Report, was more of a switch in taxes, the media focused more on the increase of the income tax and it failed to gain momentum in the General Assembly, according to Mike Lawrence, Edgar's press secretary during the time.

Lawrence, now associate director of the Public Policy Institute at SIUC, said legislators were wary about voting for an increase in the income tax because it could be used against them in upcoming elections.

It is yet to be seen if such a swap will become reality. One gubernatorial can-

didate, conservative Republican Patrick O'Malley, supports the current system because he said it allows for more local control. Attorney General Jim Ryan, also a candidate for governor, said he would consider such a swap if it meant no increase in taxes. And Paul Vallas, former Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools and Democrat contender for governor, said there are easier ways to find more funds, such as pushing for more federal education money.

But Pinckneyville will not wait and wonder what will come of the education funding system under the next governor. The citizens of Pinckneyville will make that choice today with a referendum on the primary ballot.

Signs scattered along the road in Pinckneyville reveal the sentiment of the town. Split on what should happen to the high school, some people have planted signs in their yard that say vote yes for a new high school, but others' signs shout no.

The problem any district faces as it goes about trying to pass a referendum for a new school is the ramifications of higher property taxes the citizens will be forced to pay. On average, 60 percent of the people paying property taxes in an area do not have children in school, and therefore it is extremely difficult to convince them to raise their taxes, according to Randy Dunn, an associate professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Higher Education.

Dunn said the idea is not that all schools should receive the same amount of money. That's really an unrealistic goal. The term "equity" is instead used when administrators talk about revamping the funding system.

"We're not talking about the same amount of money for every kid's education," Dunn said. "We're talking about every kid having an equal shot at getting an adequate education."

The funding system has taken several steps in recent years, including an increase in the state foundation level, the

“It's just going to take some political will to address this. Until we get it we are just going to keep limping along the way we have been.”

Randy Dunn
department of Educational
Administration and Higher Education

minimum amount of money spent per student at a school district.

Gov. George Ryan also appointed an Education Funding Advisory Board to look into the entire system, and it will release its report sometime in May, according to Marleis Trover, one of five voting members on the board.

Most administrators, however, will tell you these are only baby steps.

Trover, a superintendent at Vienna High School, said the board wants to release its recommendation for "the big revamp of the formula" sometime in May when the general election heats up so that the two major contenders can debate the issue. The board is looking into four categories: reorganization and providing incentives for schools that consolidate; the funding formula, such as lowering property taxes and raising income taxes; categorical money that is earmarked for certain programs; and the funding stream, meaning how will these suggested changes be paid for.

The current foundation level per pupil is currently \$4,560. The board is recommending an increase in that level to \$4,680 for the '03 fiscal year. That foundation level is about all that is spent on students at Anna Grade School while schools in the rich suburban-Chicago areas are spending two or three times that much on students, according to Anna superintendent Bob O'Dell.

Southern Illinois suffers from a lack of businesses, and the Shawnee National Forest takes up much of its backyard. In these rural areas, the state funds about 70 percent of the school, with local property taxes paying the rest. In areas where there are large industries that percentage is just the opposite, with property taxes footing the bill for the majority of the funding. This also translates to poorer areas with higher property taxes and lower property taxes in areas with a rich industrial base to tax.

This creates another problem. According to an interim report by Ryan's education funding board, it is estimated that it takes 1.2 times the amount of money to educate students in poverty; and most rural and inner-city Chicago districts have high concentrations of poverty students. Schools where the poverty rate is low are estimated to spend about 1.5 times more in property tax revenues than districts with high concentrations of poor students.

Another complaint about Illinois' funding system is that property is no longer a real measure of wealth, especially when considering that retired citizens live on a fixed income. In addition, Illinois has a lower income tax than most states and about 5 percent less than its neighboring state of Kentucky.

But until the political system is willing to take a major risk, a revamp in the state's education funding system will rest at a stalemate, according to Dunn.

"It's just going to take some political will to address this," Dunn said. "Until we get it we are just going to keep limping along the way we have been."

Pinckneyville Principal Brad Morris hopes his school can stop limping and he's optimistic that the referendum is gaining momentum and will likely pass today. Class pictures dating back to 1939, the year the school opened its doors to children, rest above rusty yellow lockers in the

hallway.

White mold caused by water and years of moisture damage frames the windows. The only way for a handicapped person to navigate through the multi-level school's steep stairs is a single stair climber that rests on the wall.

Morris knows the school is trailing a fine line with both the Americans with Disabilities Act and Title IX, which requires facilities to be equal for men and women.

In one cramped room, David Brunty, a teacher at Pinckneyville High School for 20 years, packs about 30 children into his cluttered room, where computer wiring hanging from the ceiling mixes with pieces of American history — the faces of all the presidents and an old Colonial flag from Williamson, Va. Brunty said there isn't enough room to also hang the new U.S. flag.

Life isn't all that bad at Pinckneyville, and Morris realizes that — it's just not ideal and if the referendum doesn't pass it means the school will be forced eventually to pay out of pocket for renovations that meet state and federal standards.

Morris is hoping that isn't the case. But until the election results come in tonight, school children in Pinckneyville will continue to be high schoolers in the tradition they always have.

"Hi, Mr. Morris. Are we representing PCHS well?" a student yelled from her physical education class where a heated game of women's volleyball was transpiring on the gym floor.

Morris, a principal at PCHS for only a year, just waves.

And today he's probably waving and anticipating what the results will be. He likes his Pinckneyville school, but how sweet it would be to plaster Columbia blue and white all along a brand new building.

Reporter Molly Parker can be reached at mparker@dailyegyptian.com

Something Wilder

Former Virginia Governor to offer free lecture

Mark Lambird
Daily Egyptian

In the former capital of the Confederate States of America, L. Douglas Wilder did something no other black had done — he became governor.

Wilder will be speaking at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Lesar Law Building. His lecture is part of the Hiram H. Lesar Distinguished Lecture Program. In the past, speakers have included Nadine Strossen, president of the American Civil Liberties Union, and Morris Dees, co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center and Klanwatch.

Wilder is no stranger to conflict; he served in the Korean War and received the Bronze Star, the medal awarded for valor in combat. After the war he attended Howard University Law School and received his law degree in 1959. He was not able to attend a law school in Virginia because blacks were barred from attending at the time.

Eleven years after completing law school, Wilder was elected to the Virginia State Senate. His election made him the first black to be elected to the state senate in the 20th century. He retained his post in the state legislature until 1985, when he became the first black to be elected to a state-wide office in Virginia.

Wilder continued his climb to the top of Virginia state politics and continued to make history when he became the first black governor in the history of the United States.

Alicia Ruiz, assistant dean of SIUC's law school, said the lecture is scheduled to last 45 minutes and be followed by a 15-minute question and answer session.

She said at the conclusion of the event, a reception will be hosted in the Lesar Law building's lobby.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Thomas Guernsey, dean of the law school, knew of Wilder while he was an associate dean in Virginia. Guernsey said that in the last few years, the lecture series has focused on civil and human rights issues, and he knew Wilder would be a perfect fit.

"Dean Lesar was active in civil rights," Guernsey said. "So we thought that lectures focusing on those issues would be an appropriate way of honoring his memory."

Guernsey said he wants all SIUC students to think about the issues pointed out in the lectures, which give students access to some of the most

prominent men and women in the field of civil and human rights.

Guernsey also said because of the unique roll SIUC plays, Douglas' story will be motivational.

"Many law students make it here against incredible odds," Guernsey said.

Reporter Mark Lambird can be reached at mlambird@dailyegyptian.com

Former Virginia Governor L. Douglas Wilder will be presenting a lecture on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Lesar Law School auditorium.

Basketball fans rally for 'Sweet 16' victory

Samantha Edmondson
Daily Egyptian

The Phantom Club, a bar in Syracuse, N.Y., ordered six large SIUC house flags from the University Bookstore to sport its Saluki pride.

National newspapers have splashed numerous headlines about the basketball team's success in the NCAA Tournament and their progression into the "Sweet Sixteen."

Even after hundreds of people greeted the returning Sahukis at the airport Sunday night, the team will have a chance to talk about their success, appreciation and their next game to the most important audience — their fans. SIUC is having a pep rally for the Saluki men's basketball team at 7 tonight in the SIUC Arena.

The University Bookstore will be ready to sell Saluki merchandise and items as the doors open at 6 p.m. After the rally, team members will be available to autograph previously purchased merchandise and some color photographs provided by the Athletic Department until 8:30 p.m.

While waiting for the rally to start, fans can enjoy a half hour video of the team's most rewarding plays, moments and history.

Several SIUC administrators, faculty and students will be speaking at the assembly including Chancellor Walter Wendler, Ed Buerger, director of the SIUC Alumni Association; Larry Dietz, the vice chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; head basketball coach Bruce Weber; Athletic Director Paul Kowalczyk and members of the team.

As the SIUC keynote speakers motivate the crowd, the Saluki cheer-

leading squad, Saluki Shakers and pep band will help elevate their Saluki spirits.

SIUC fans can wet their whistles at the concession stands sponsored by the Student Center Dining Services through the duration of the rally. Cake will also be available for fans by the Student Center in celebration of the team's successful season.

Kathy Dillard, marketing coordinator for the Student Center, said the basketball team's triumphant season illustrates to everyone nationwide what Southern Illinois has to offer.

"The team itself is diverse in its majors, culturally and Southern Illinois is diverse from its population to athletics," Dillard said.

Mike Trude, director of marketing for athletics, agrees the team can increase enrollment for the University. But he also said it shows the basketball players how many fans they have. Even though the rally has been moved from two previous venues to allow for more people, Trude hopes everyone will come to pack the Dawg Pound at the rally.

"It doesn't matter if 10 or 1,000 people come to the rally — I won't be disappointed," Trude said. "It will show the team how much they meant not only to SIUC but to the region of Southern Illinois."

Reporter Samantha Edmondson can be reached at sedmondson@dailyegyptian.com

SIUC Arena doors will open at 6 tonight with a commemorative video followed by keynote speakers, music and cheers starting the rally at 7 p.m.

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OUR WORD

Sweet 16, oh so sweet

Just when we think we've seen the best from our men's basketball team, it goes and does something else to surprise us. The team has advanced to the Sweet 16 in the NCAA Tournament. Sunday, the 11th seeded Salukis rallied from an early 19-point hole to beat the Georgia Bulldogs, 77-75. Next up for the 28-7 Salukis, the East region's No. 2 seed, 26-6 Connecticut.

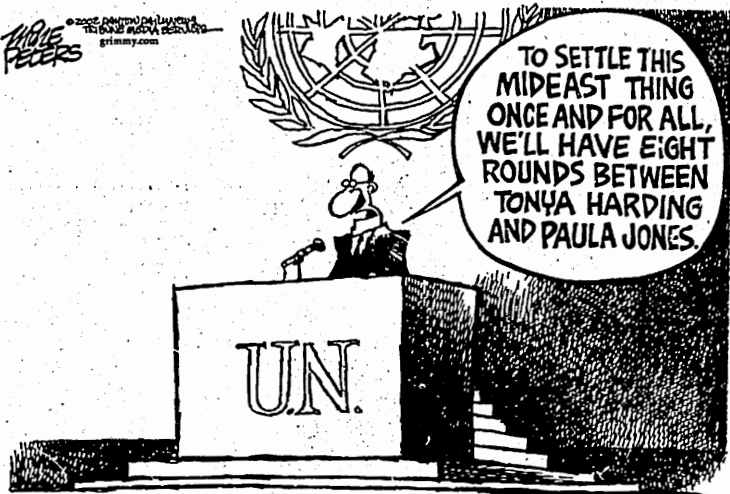
This past Friday, the Salukis were able to hold off Bob Knight's much-improved Texas Tech team. The upset of the No. 6 Red Raiders was the Salukis' first NCAA win since their lone victory in 1977. With two tournament victories under their belts, this year's team has certainly made the most of the first NCAA tournament appearance since 1995.

This Friday's game against Connecticut, taking place in Syracuse, N.Y., is the team's toughest challenge to date. Win or lose, the men's team has soared beyond expectations. The SIU community and alumni across the nation have caught Saluki fever. Not to exploit the team's success, but this is an excellent opportunity for alumni to assist your alma mater in much needed monetary support.

This is also a chance for the University to enjoy positive national attention. SIU's image problem, a lingering concern for our embattled school, is a little brighter at the moment. A Final Four appearance or even one more victory to advance to the Elite Eight would make Halloween's past a far distant memory. With the top seeds waiting in the wings, that appears to be an insurmountable task.

Regardless of what happens, the entire University is proud of our fighting Salukis and all they have accomplished this season.

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THEIR WORD

Taking the work off campus

Jane Eisner
Knight Ridder Newspapers
jeisner@phillynews.com

The nation's colleges and universities, the Bush administration and some U.S. senators soon will have to answer a question worthy of an advanced seminar in philosophy:

How much can we expect of a good thing? Every year the federal government spends more than \$1 billion on work-study programs for about 1 million college students. Since 1965, the funds enable students to cover ever-rising tuition bills, and in a happy coincidence, provide a steady stream of cheap labor in cafeterias and libraries on America's campuses.

Until last year, 5 percent of each college's work-study jobs had to be in that alternate universe off campus — where kids need tutoring after school and soup kitchens need an extra cook and the elderly need meals delivered to their homes. Then, in a grand and hard-fought gesture, Congress raised the minimum to 7 percent for this year.

The protests that followed were frequently from the nation's top-rated (and, ahem, wealthiest) schools, who said it was burdensome and unfair to enforce such a mandate. Many of those schools barely made the grade as it was.

So when Sens. John McCair, R-Ariz., and Evan Bayh, D-Ind., introduced a bill to raise the floor to 25 percent, they expected fierce resistance from the higher education lobby.

They didn't expect that the guy in the White House would see their marker and double it. But in fact, tucked inside President Bush's sweeping and ambitious call for a renewed commitment to national service is the requirement that every college and university devote 50 percent of its federal work-study funds to the community.

"Going from 5 to 7 percent was a blood-letting," Bayh said in a recent interview. "We thought 25 percent was a bold commitment. Fifty percent could be a war."

The administration's proposal is woefully spare of details. No explanation of when schools will have to reach the 50 percent mark, nor what the penalties will be

if they don't. There's vague talk of incentives, but no mention of monitoring such an audacious increase.

Nonetheless, you've got to give these folks credit. A few years ago, George W. Bush's Republican party loathed the idea that Washington should push and fund community service. Now the President is jumping atop the wheels of government and grabbing the lever himself.

"We wanted to set the bar high," says Leslie Lenkowsky, the new CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. "We're challenging them to take this very seriously."

They should. While on average, 14 percent of federal work-study funds go to community service, many of the most prestigious schools are at the bottom of the class. And while plenty of volunteer work happens on campuses, college students in general offer less of their time to community causes than the average adult.

Worse, they arrive on campus with a dismayingly poor history of service. A poll of this year's freshmen at four-year colleges conducted by the University of California at Los Angeles found that more than half said they spent less than an hour a week doing volunteer work during their final year in high school.

How do you think that compares to time spent in front of the television?

Lenkowsky's argument, and it's a good one, is that the habits of citizenship start young. By the age of maturity, the moment a student is launched into adult life, good habits must be ingrained for a lifetime.

Still, it is fair to ask: How much can we expect of a good thing? Do nonprofit organizations have the capacity to absorb 300,000 more volunteers and give them productive work? Is it right to require this only of those students unable to afford college on their own?

These issues ought to be debated when the President's proposal goes to Capitol Hill within the next month. Meantime, college campuses should be adjusting to a new reality: There are strings attached to that public money, and the community is pulling them.

Jane R. Eisner is a columnist for Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa., 19101. Her views do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Egyptian.

Election 2002 offers interesting prospects

It is always important for citizens to vote. Though we are not expecting the same surprises as we saw during campaign 2000, this off-year election does offer several reasons for voters to go to the poll, particularly in the gubernatorial race.

With the exception of campaign stalwarts Roland Burris, a former Illinois Attorney General and three-time gubernatorial candidate, and current two-term Attorney General Jim Ryan, the governor's race has several fresh faces to choose from in both the Republican and Democratic fields.

Lt. Gov. Corinne Wood, elected in 1998, is a relatively fresh face. Before 1998, she served just one term in the Illinois House of Representatives. The pro-choice Wood offers a more moderate choice for Republican voters. For staunch conservatives, State Sen. Patrick O'Malley (R-Palos Park), an avid abortion foe, is making his first statewide bid.

Both Wood and O'Malley trail Jim Ryan in primary polls. As of March 13, Ryan is leading with 47 percent among Republican voters, according to a CBS/Sun-Times poll. O'Malley and Wood follow with 23 percent each. On the Democratic side, U.S. Rep. Rod Blagojevich is leading with 37 percent of the Democratic vote in the final CBS/Sun-Times poll. Burris is second with 29 percent, followed by former Chicago schools chief Paul Vallas with 27 percent.

Blagojevich, the son-in-law of powerful Chicago Ald. Richard Mell, was elected to the U.S. House in 1996. Before that, he served two terms in the Illinois legislature. This is Blagojevich's first statewide election. Vallas, known more for his work as Chicago Public Schools CEO, is also making his first statewide bid. Other noteworthy races include the Attorney General's race with Republican John Schmidt squaring off against State Sen. Lisa Madigan (D-Chicago), daughter of Illinois House of Representatives Speaker Michael Madigan.

This year's election offers some intriguing choices. Voters should jump on this opportunity to help shape Illinois for years to come during one of the most important election years to date.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“A citizen of America will cross the ocean to fight for democracy but won't cross the street to vote in a national election.”

Bill Vaughan

WORDS OVERHEARD

“We set a goal; I probably sounded crazy back in the spring, to make the Sweet 16. Right now, the Southern Illinois Salukis are going to be there.”

SIU head coach Bruce Weber

COLUMNISTS

Here's the Beef

I am going to try one last time to explain things to you. Who am I talking to? You, of course. See, when I read the responses to my columns here in the paper, or the ones I get via e-mail, I get a bit intrigued. What intrigues me? It's the fact that the first response of so many of you is to go on the defensive. You try to explain to me how wrong I am about the situation because you aren't racist. Somehow, people read my observations of society in this country and automatically assume I am talking to them.

Why does this happen? Why is that individuals feel the need to explain how many black friends they have, or how their grandfather didn't own any slaves? What is it that you are trying to justify? Are you attempting to justify it to me or yourself? Are you really of the opinion that since you harbor no racist thoughts, as far as you know or will admit, racism has disappeared? Do you really feel that your thoughts reflect the mentality of the power structure? I mean, you probably think this column is about you, don't you?

What exactly is it you want to hear from me when you write these things? Do you want an "I'm not a racist medal"? Sorry, I am fresh out. Wake up. You aren't doing anything special. I am not going to thank you. Don't get me wrong. I'm glad that you aren't racist. Hey, I've never

When you try to defend a system that is obviously, in my eyes, skewed against the minority, then I've got beef.

mugged an old lady, where's my cookie? Do you get it? I mean, congratulations on not being ignorant. You're my hero. Can I please move on now?

As much as I enjoy answering the same questions from your "non-racists" out there every week, I really do fear I must move on. Because, while you believe that everything I write must apply to you as a white person, it really doesn't. If you aren't racist then please allow me to speak to the ones who are. And if you really believe that you speak for the entire white race when you say racism is dead, then there is no talking to you.



Don't Get me Wrong

BY MARS BIGBY

thered_planet@hotmail.com

Truth is, most of your opinions don't matter to me. Don't take it the wrong way; what I mean to say is I've got no beef with you. When you try to defend a system that is obviously, in my eyes, skewed against the minority, then I've got beef.

It's the system I have a problem with. It's the system that acquiesces cops who shove broomsticks where they don't belong. It's the system that keeps a good education unattainable for the poor among us. It is the system that would rather see a minority in jail than in a classroom. I'm not a part of that system, and whether or not you choose to believe it, you aren't either; not yet anyway. When I talk about racism, I am talking about institutional racism.

Little men in sheets don't bother me. Men in black robes with small minds bother me. Big fish in small ponds don't bother me. Men in large government buildings with small minds bother me. In short, men with infinite powers and teeny-weenie thinking spaces bother me.

In closing, if you are a conscious person, then I would love to join hands with you to take on the system that perpetuates our division to suit their cause. If you are an aloof non-active non-racist who believes I somehow owe you my thanks, don't hold your breath. If you would ally yourself with this system, so in need of work, to become what it could and should be, then we got beef.

Don't Get Me Wrong appears on Tuesday. Mars is a senior in university studies. His views do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Egyptian.

LETTERS

Share the Pride

DEAR EDITOR:

As a 1989 graduate who covered the men's basketball team for the Daily Egyptian as former coach Rich Herrin began to restore credibility to the program after it was placed on probation, it was with great pride that I saw the Salukis play this past weekend at the United Center. I haven't had as much fun rooting for a team since Michael Jordan was winning titles for the Bulls. Congratulations to coach Bruce Weber and his players. Your defense, discipline and desire have been something special. Good luck in the Sweet 16. Enjoy it for all it's worth, Carbondale. Oh, to be watching the game this Friday on the Strip!

Dave Miller
Naperville

Open the primary election

DEAR EDITOR:

In the primary election, millions of Illinois voters will be forced to declare their party preference in front of the election judges, their neighbors and local party workers. This system — known as the "closed primary" — is outdated and should be abolished.

Under current state law, voters must declare their party to the primary judge, who then must announce it to everyone in the polling place. Your choice is then recorded and sent to the county chairmen of the Republican and Democratic Parties in each county.

The choice of party is highly personal and a matter of conscience. Citizens should not be required to reveal this to nosy election officials or anyone else. As citizens — and taxpayers who foot the bill of running elections — we're entitled to a zone of privacy. In this era of Big Government and Big Computers, closed primaries are yet another intimidating intrusion into our privacy.

Under an "open primary" system, you select your political party in the privacy of the voting booth, with no public records as to how you voted and no party workers snooping over your shoulder. The principle of secrecy of the ballot is a cherished tradition in our democracy. Many states, such as Wisconsin, have had open primaries for a century and refuted arguments by closed-primary advocates that changing the system will weaken parties.

Open primaries remove the chilling effect of declaring party preference. The result? Higher voter turnout, the core of participatory democracy. It's time to close the door on closed primaries.

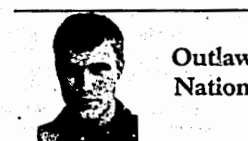
Pat Quinn,
former Illinois State Treasurer
and candidate for Illinois Lt. Governor

Republican candidates and a dirty campaign

I don't want to come off as cynical, but lately Illinois politics resembles a Tonya Harding-Paula Jones boxing fight. The latest round of "classy" (note sarcasm) television and mail attack ads in the various Illinois primary races reek of tactless discourse in a way that can only be compared to a horrid "Saturday Night Live" skit that is shoved at the end of the show due to excess time.

Leading the pack is Republican gubernatorial nominee (and bigot!) Patrick O'Malley, who attacked fellow anti-gay candidate Jim Ryan for not being anti-gay enough. Apparently, you have to have a black swastika tattooed on your left breast if you want to live up to O'Malley's premium standards of bigotry. Why he hasn't attacked Ryan for accepting campaign contributions from the unethical fallen energy giant Enron is baffling.

The Family, Taxpayer Network, a major beneficiary to the O'Malley campaign, claims responsibility for a recent rash of full-color campaign brochures mocking a gay-marriage invitation and alleging Ryan supports such "deviant proposals." Ryan, the consummate conservative, does not support gay marriages. However, he is an avid fan of NBC's "Will & Grace" and the work of Richard Simmons. The ad is a throwback to the "homosexual agenda" scare Religious Right wackos like Pat Robertson and Billy Graham created. Most discredit the ludicrous idea, but then again, it could just be the damn Liberal Jew Media and their Communist propaganda con-



Outlaw Nation

BY JOSEPH D. JOHNSON

joseph_d.johnson@hotmail.com

cealing the truth. (Once again, note sarcasm.)

The idea of such a "homosexual agenda" is laughably absurd. Are we really to believe a sect of sinister homosexuals sit around a table and plot the demise of hetero-Christian society as we know it? Hurry, let's drop the bomb on San Francisco and put a bullet in Barbra Streisand's head! The Gay Revolution must be stopped! Give me a break. I don't care if St. Patrick's Day was last weekend — Patrick O'Malley is a moron. And these so-called "family" organizations morally resemble the Manson Family more than the wholesome family nucleus of the Bush family (minus the DUI and congenital drug problem of course). I grow wary of a society where the rich, old white guys who run everything start telling us what we can and cannot do in our bedrooms. I mean, a good chunk of the members of Congress are crooked, and they want to give us a lesson on ethics? How two men or two women getting married results in their per-

fect existence is beyond me. The kind of bigotry they provide as examples to the youth far outweighs that of even the most repulsive musician or actor.

Where are they leading society on this matter? Matthew Shepard should be seen as this generation's Emmett Till, but instead he's just another movie of the week. Another way for NBC to make a few extra bucks.

But back to St. Paddy O'Malley's blatant prejudice and his surprising support paints the ugly truth that Illinois is far behind other states when it comes to open-mindedness. It's very unlikely Ryan will be defeated, by O'Malley or Corinne Wood on the Republican side, or by the weak pool of Democratic candidates. But even if he was, the fact remains that the viewpoint is similar with all the candidates on this — such an important issue in the new century.

This leaves the open-minded to only pray for a third-party candidate to emerge. Until then, beware of your mail. The attack ads are getting as nasty as Anthrax.

Outlaw Nation appears on Tuesday. Joseph is a sophomore in journalism. His views do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Egyptian. You can read more of his work at www.outlaw-nation.com.

I don't want to come off as cynical, but lately Illinois politics resembles a Tonya Harding-Paula Jones boxing fight.

READER COMMENTARY

• LETTERS AND COLUMNS must be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted with author's photo ID. All letters are limited to 300 words and guest columns to 500 words. Any topics are accepted. All are subject to editing.



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• Phone number needed (not for publication) to verify authorship. STUDENTS must include year and major. FACULTY must include rank and department. NON-ACADEMIC STAFF include position and department. OTHERS include author's hometown.



• Bring letters and guest columns to the DAILY EGYPTIAN newsroom, Communications Building Room 1247.

• The DAILY EGYPTIAN welcomes all content suggestions.

• Letters and columns do not necessarily reflect the views of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

• We reserve the right to not publish any letter or column.

The Democrats

Gov. Candidate: Paul Vallas

Current Position: Recently retired Chief Executive Officer-Chicago public schools.



Gun Control: Vallas supports efforts to require criminal background checks on all sales at gun shows and opposes easing of limits on concealed weapons.

Abortion: Vallas is pro-choice and would promote legislation to provide state aid for economically disadvantaged women to receive an abortion.

Budget/Taxes: Vallas said he would balance the budget by cutting 5 percent in administrative and operating costs from agencies, implement a short-term tax amnesty program, reforms on casino taxes and eliminating money for member initiative spending.

Death Penalty: Vallas supports the death penalty for the most "heinous and atrocious murders" and would lift Gov. Ryan's moratorium only after a series of reforms in the justice system.

His Rep: Vallas touts himself as the education man who revamped the Chicago public schools as Chief Executive Officer and he's also taken criticism for spending more than \$800,000 in personal chauffeurs for himself and other administrators as CEO. Glenn Poshard, the Marion Democrat who narrowly lost the governor's race in 1998, is standing behind Vallas to help garner votes in southern Illinois.

Gov. Candidate: Roland Burris

Current Position: serves as Counsel to Peters Law Firm



Gun Control: Burris supports limiting handgun purchases to one per month and wants new procedures to confiscate invalid FOID registration cards.

Budget and taxes: Burris supports borrowing money rather than laying off employees to fix the state's budget problem and initiating "a true rainy day fund" so the state has money to operate in lean times.

Abortion: Burris is pro-choice.

Death Penalty: He wants to pass a law completely repealing the death penalty in Illinois.

His Rep: Burris is a repeat candidate, one with a strong base in the black community. He's banking on the old saying "the third time's a charm." Born in Centralia and a graduate of SIUC, he's had some trouble gaining support downstate.

Lieutenant Governor

Pat Quinn

Current Position: Consumer Lawyer



His Rep: Many people recognize Quinn from his four-year term as Illinois State Treasurer in 1990. During his stint as state treasurer, Quinn lobbied for the Illinois Whistleblower law, which gave taxpayers the right to sue the state government over fraud and waste. He has been involved with politics for 25 years, during which he has organized petition drives for various causes including tax reform and founded the Coalition for Political Honesty.

Joyce Washington

Current Position: Vice President of Ambulatory Services at Advocate Healthcare in Oak Brook



Her Rep: Washington's background in healthcare explains why she is so dedicated to making changes in the healthcare system. Washington has also served as chair of the Ambulatory Business Conduct Committee, one of a handful of positions she has had in the health field. As a result, her main goal appears to be improving the state's healthcare system.

Mike Kelleher

Current position: Director of the Unit for Community and Economic Development at Illinois State University



His rep: Kelleher's bid for Lt. Governor comes after he narrowly lost a November 2000 run for Congress in Illinois' 15th District. Although Kelleher has yet to serve in public office, he spent three years as a Senate and House congressional aide in Washington, D.C., focusing on tax and trade policy.

John Schmidt: Partner at the law firm of Mayer, Brown & Platt

His Rep: John Schmidt is hoping to bring 35 years of experience, including some gained at the federal level, to the state of Illinois. In 1994, he was appointed as an associate attorney general for the U.S. Attorney General. He helped implement the 1994 Crime Bill, a large piece of legislation. Schmidt wants to combat the high prices of prescription drug companies and take steps to investigate corruption of state officials. He also hopes to fight for increased consumer privacy.

Gov. Candidate: Rod Blagojevich

Current Position: U.S. Representative, D-Chicago



Gun Control: Blagojevich has supported federal legislation to require background checks on firearms purchasers at gun shows and voted for legislation that would ban the most violent juvenile offenders from possessing firearms.

Abortion: Rod Blagojevich is pro-choice.

Budget and Taxes: Blagojevich is calling for an elimination of pork projects and endorses Gov. Ryan's freeze on hiring and equipment purchases. He also would work to match federal dollars for the state's share of Medicaid costs and believes there is a lot of government spending waste that could be streamlined.

Death Penalty: Blagojevich supports the death penalty and would lift Gov. Ryan's moratorium if substantial reforms could be adopted and implemented by the justice system.

His Rep: Blagojevich plays on his down-home roots as the son of a steel worker who grew up in a modest apartment on Chicago's northwest side. But his father-in-law is powerful Alderman Dick Mell, 33rd ward, and Blagojevich has the most lucrative war-chest and spent more money than all the Democrat contenders.

2002 Primaries

"Hey, I even understand most of this stuff."



Republicans U.S. Senate

John Cox: Businessman

National Defense:

Supports missile defense program and improving technology of the armed forces.

The Economy and Taxes: Would encourage job growth by cutting the capital gains tax, reducing marginal tax rates, simplifying the tax code and streamlining regulatory compliance.

Abortion: Cox opposes partial birth abortions.

Education: Wants parents to decide for themselves how taxpayers' money is distributed in the school system.

Jim Durkin: State Representative, 44th district

National Defense: Supports implementing a national missile defense system.

The Economy and Taxes: Would act to reduce the marginal tax rates across the board, as well as the capital gains tax. He also favors repealing the personal alternative minimum tax.

Abortion: Pro-Life
Education: Supports expanded funding for early childhood development programs. Favors school choice and supports increased college grant opportunities for low-income families.

Jim Oberweis: Businessman

National Defense:

Supports efforts to rebuild and reinvest in homeland security and our national defense.

The Economy and Taxes: Would work to expand the work force by 700,000 men and women who lost their jobs as a result of the terrorist attacks.

Abortion: Pro-Life
Education: Supports vouchers or tax credits so families can send their children to private schools.

Lisa Madigan: State Senator, 17th district

Her Rep: Lisa Madigan, who has been a Democratic state senator since 1998, is concerned about the rising rates of domestic abuse, and wants to see local prosecutors get more convictions in this area.

She also wants to lower the Medicaid drug prices for senior citizens and create a bureau of privacy that would help law enforcement agencies fight consumer fraud and identify theft problems. Madigan is 35 and has received some flak about her age and experience. Some have said that her father's (Speaker of the House Mike Madigan) support and influence is what will get her elected. Others say her experience and new ideas are just what the attorney general's office needs.

Attorney General



The Republicans

Gov. Candidate: Corinne Wood

Current Position: Lieutenant Governor



Gun Control: Wood is opposed to easing restrictions for concealed weapons.

Abortion: Wood is the lone pro-choice Republican candidate.

Budget/Taxes: Wood has pledged not to raise taxes or fees, wants to eliminate "member initiatives" from the state budget, refinance state debt and increase the state's rainy day fund.

Death Penalty: Wood supports the death penalty but supports Governor Ryan's moratorium on the death penalty in Illinois.

Her Rep: Wood has tried to distinguish herself as a moderate Republican, especially to Republican women. She's had tons of campaign money but has lagged behind front-runner Jim Ryan since early in the campaign. Recently, she's been reaching out to Democrats in an attempt to snag any votes she can.

Election Guide for DUMMIES

Here's the skinny on the way the primary election works. Basically, you're voting for which candidate from a party is going to go head-to-head with the candidate chosen from the other party. Consider it spring training for the real deal in November.

When you go to the polls, you pick which party's slate of candidates you want to vote for. It's different than the general election. Then, you can pick a Republican for one office and a Democrat for another. But in the primary, you pick a party and vote which party hopeful advances to the next round.

If you haven't paid any attention to the blabbing of the candidates, and are in a panic because today is the day to perform your civic duty, have no fear. Here's a quick rundown of the statewide seats that appear on the ballot. If the seat is not listed it means it is uncontested...don't worry about it until November. Now you don't have an excuse to not make a trip to the polls.

Lieutenant Governor

Jack J. McInerney

Current position: Political activist within the Republican party



His Rep: A Chicago resident, McInerney worked as a stock broker and traveled overseas in Europe, Russia and Taiwan,

which gave him a renewed appreciation for capitalism. He has chosen to work in organizational positions in the past, and managed Alan Keyes' presidential campaign in Illinois.

Charles Owens

Current position: Owens works with a pharmacy chain in Henry, Ill.



His Rep: Owens is newcomer to the Illinois Statehouse, but has nearly three decades of experience in owning and

operating a pharmacy. If elected, he hopes to address the areas of drug abuse, utility regulation and encouraging adoption.

Carl Hawkinson

Current Position: state senator



His rep: Harvard graduate and state Sen. Carl E. Hawkinson is bringing a conservative stance and legal experience

as Jim Ryan's running mate. Hawkinson has served as a state senator since 1987. His legal experience includes a private law practice and working as the Knox County State's Attorney.

William O'Connor

Current position: State representative, 43rd district



His Rep: O'Connor, a moderate Republican state representative, is running on Corinne Wood's ticket.

A state representative since 1998, O'Connor has pushed legislation geared towards reducing gun violence and helping at-risk youth.

Joseph Birkett: DuPage County State's Attorney

His Rep: Birkett has tried to emphasize his reputation as a tough, no-nonsense prosecutor during this campaign. He began serving in 1981 as an assistant state's attorney for DuPage County. He rose through the ranks and became the state's attorney in 1996. Birkett recently proposed legislation that would require DNA samples from all convicted felons for a database law enforcement officers could use.

Bob Coleman: Law partner at Chicago-based Freeman, Atkins & Coleman.

His Rep: Coleman wants to use his combined legal experiences as the next attorney general.

He began his legal career working in the anti-trust division of the Illinois Attorney General's office. He presently works in the private sector, where he specializes in commercial litigation.

If elected, Coleman plans to form a public corruption bureau, which would investigate allegations made against state agencies. He would also like to start a system that requires the attorney general to approve all executions.

Attorney General

Gov. Candidate: Patrick O'Malley

Current Position: State Senator, Illinois



Gun Control: A strong proponent of what he considers Illinoisans' fundamental 2nd Amendment rights.

Abortion: Hard-liner against abortion.

Budget/Taxes: O'Malley is a strong proponent of being fiscally responsible and doing what it takes to return Illinois' coal industry to its former glory.

Death Penalty: Strong proponent for the death penalty. Does not support Governor Ryan's moratorium.

His Rep: Ultra-conservative O'Malley has run a determined campaign but has also lagged behind Jim Ryan from the start. Some question whether his strong stances turn off most middle-of-the-road Republicans.

Gov. Candidate: Jim Ryan

Current Position: Attorney General



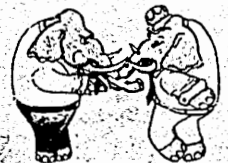
Gun Control: Ryan is opposed to easing the limits on concealed weapon restrictions.

Abortion: Ryan is pro-life, except in cases where the mother's life is at stake.

Budget/Taxes: A strong proponent of fiscal responsibility, Ryan wants to reduce the number of state employees, limit member initiatives, not borrow money and increase the state's rainy day fund.

Death Penalty: Ryan supports the death penalty but also supports the governor's moratorium on the death penalty.

His Rep: Ryan has been the Republican favorite since early in the campaign. He's secured most major endorsements, had enough money to keep him a steady front-runner in the polls. Ryan is known as a cautious, levelheaded candidate with an eye on fiscal responsibility.



America from the man who's seen it all

Pulitzer Prize winning journalist gives free lecture

Codell Rodriguez
Daily Egyptian

David Halberstam knows all about the changes the United States has gone through. He's worked in Tennessee, Mississippi and New York and witnessed the Vietnam War firsthand.

Halberstam has seen some of the major changes in U.S. history and wants to tell SIUC about it. Halberstam, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, was invited by the University Honors Program to give a free lecture tonight at 8.

The lecture, titled "America: Then and Now," is part of the Charles D. Tenney 2002 lecture series and will take place in the Student Center Auditorium.

"We think he's somebody who has some interesting insights into American culture," said Scott Furtwengler, associate director of University Honors. "He's seen a lot. He's basically an American historian."

Halberstam is a native of New York City and graduated from Harvard University. After college, he worked at a one-reporter paper in Mississippi and then covered civil rights for the Nashville Tennessee.

His experience with the civil rights movement led him to write a book called "The Children" about students who boycotted a lunch counter.

He was later picked up by the New York Times and served as a

"We think he's somebody who has some interesting insights into American culture. He's seen a lot. He's basically an American Historian."

Scott Furtwengler
associate director, University Honors

correspondent for the Vietnam War for which he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1964 at the age of 30.

But Halberstam's experience with the New York Times doesn't end with reporting. His past 11 books have made the New York Times best seller list.

In 1972, he released a book titled "The Best and the Brightest," which examined the origins of the Vietnam War. Frederick Williams, director of the University Honors Program, said he read the book and it made a profound impact on his political views.

"It changed the way I look at our involvement in the gulf, our involvement in Afghanistan and our involvement in the world," Williams said.

"He's one of the best writers alive and he has a scope that staggers the imagination. He's somebody who has something interesting to say and certainly says it better than most of us."

Williams said that sports fans may also want to attend because Halberstam has written several books on baseball and on Michael Jordan.

"He's a sports fan," Williams



Photo Provided

said. "He may also talk about those dawgs."

Williams said he understands that the men's basketball pep rally is supposed to last from 6 to 8:30 p.m., but he hopes students who are interested can sacrifice a little bit of school spirit to see the United States through the eyes of a "legend."

"People who want to hear his whole lecture can scream their brains out for an hour and come down to the Student Center," Williams said.

Reporter Codell Rodriguez can be reached at
crodriguez@dailyegyptian.com

NEWS BRIEFS

ON CAMPUS

Students can run for office

Prospective representatives for the Undergraduate Student Government can now launch their spring campaigns for student body president or a senate seat.

Petition forms are available at the USG office on the third floor of the Student Center. The forms must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on March 29.

Candidates running for senate seats are required to obtain at least 25 signatures from their undergraduate constituency. Presidential hopefuls must get at least 100 signatures.

All candidates must be undergraduates and meet USG's requirements, which include a 2.0 minimum GPA.

For more information, call the USG office at 536-3381.

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DAILY EGYPTIAN
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readers are
predicting for SIU's
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All About the Benjamins (R)
4:30 6:50 9:20
Ice Age (PG) Digital
4:10 5:30 6:30 7:45 8:45 9:45
John Q (PG-13)
4:00 7:00 9:50
Showtimes (PG-13) Digital
4:50 7:15 9:20
The Time Machine (PG-13) Digital
4:20 6:40 9:00
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Growing up with Alcoholism

Workshop deals with problems faced by children of alcoholics

William Alonso
Daily Egyptian

A lack of trust. Isolation from others. These are a few topics that will be addressed during a workshop focused on issues stemming from growing up with an alcoholic parent.

The workshop, "Issues of Adult Children of Alcoholics" is one of the Wellness Center workshops that aims to bring helpful and practical information to students.

The discussion will start at 3 p.m. Wednesday in the second floor conference room of Kesnar Hall.

The workshop will be facilitated by Ken Culton, coordinator of alcohol and other drug programs. Culton is a one-man army on campus helping students deal with issues that arise from abuse of alcohol and other addictive substances.

Culton said the idea for the workshop came about from his clinical practice at the University of Illinois Carle Clinic.

Many of his patients were dealing with substance abuse problems, but he noticed that many were also struggling with issues resulting from growing up in a home with an alcoholic parent. He said adult children of alcoholics often struggle with

psychological and emotional problems.

"Adult children of alcoholics typically have a hard time adjusting to relationships. They have trust issues. There is a higher propensity of alcohol and drug abuse," Culton said. "There is an interesting reverse effect. Some adult children of alcoholics abstain totally because they are afraid of what mom or dad had."

Culton said the workshop is being offered to help students at the University who may be struggling with issues from growing up in an alcoholic environment.

He stressed that there isn't necessarily overt physical abuse happening in these homes — mainly emotional neglect.

"Jane," a graduate student at the University whose name has been changed for anonymity, is an adult child of an alcoholic and has firsthand experience with the issues that will be discussed in the workshop. She said that the unpredictability of her parents' behavior, both the one suffering from alcoholism and the non-alcoholic, was one issue she struggled with.

Through groups such as the ones that Culton runs, "Jane" learned that she didn't have to have control over situations all the time or have all the answers. She said the workshop could help certain students recognize their experience wasn't singular.

"Learning that alcoholism may not have only been a problem in

your childhood, but could be a problem you take with you," she said. "Those experiences might become problems with you as an adult in terms of the relationships you form with other people and the kinds of friendships you have."

Culton facilitates a couple of groups that come together to share their experiences and draw power from each other.

He said the safety of the group and the commonality of experience and emotional pain carried by its members open up a forum for powerful and poignant beliefs. He did emphasize that not all individuals dealing with these issues need group work.

"The purpose of the lecture for me is not only to provide information for anyone who wants it, but really it is a back-door way for getting people help if they need it," Culton said. "To put a name to what they are feeling. Hopefully some of the students who go to the workshop and identify with the problems will find their way to this group or a group like it."

Reporter William Alonso can be reached at walonso@dailyegyptian.com

"Issues of Adult Children of Alcoholics" will begin at 3 p.m. Wednesday in the second-floor conference room at Kesnar Hall.

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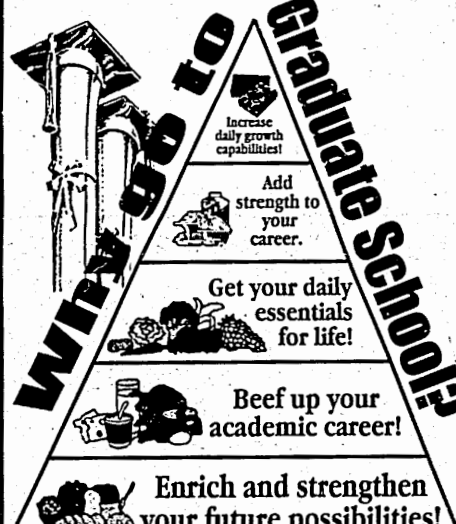
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Activist speaks out against Illini Chief

Christy Blandford & Evan McLaughlin
Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

CHAMPAIGN, (U-WIRE) - Following her brief discussion of the Chief Illiniwek controversy on Wednesday, American Indian activist Suzan Shown Harjo addressed the mascot as well as other American Indian concerns Thursday at the Levis Faculty Center.

"Yesterday, I was very surprised to hear the talk of compromise," Harjo said. "It seemed to me that the Native American voice was the only thing being compromised. The important thing to have done would be to increase the interest and value of this native voice."

During her lecture, titled "The Invisible Minority? Voices and Visions of American Indians Today," Harjo said she did not come to the University of Illinois specifically to speak about the Chief and was surprised by the response from some of the trustees during Wednesday's meeting.

"I had some trepidation coming here when I found out that I would be addressing the trustees. I expected more courtesy. Some of them rolled their eyes and looked away (at Wednesday's meeting)."

Harjo said she believes the Chief controversy will be resolved eventually — with the retirement of the Chief.

"Anyone who talks about 75 years of tradition without talking about its heinous origins is not speaking the truth," Harjo said.

"We're not talking about whether or not this Chief will be retired — we're talking about when."

According to Harjo, the University's sporting events focus too much on the halftime activities with the Chief and not enough on the sports themselves.

"It's just sort of mindless group activity. Let's put the sport back in it and leave the human beings out of the system," Harjo said.

The Chief misrepresents the American Indian people, Harjo said, using them as mascots and grouping them as a race with inanimate objects and animals.

But Harjo does not believe the mascot should be the focal point of American Indian relations.

"Mascots and associated logos disguise the fact that the University is doing nothing to help its American Indian students," Harjo said. "It's a diversion they're trying to hide behind."

Debbie Reese, former president of the University's American Indian Students' group, also addressed the crowd. She said there are many other issues that need to be resolved at the University, such as the lack of American Indian student programs, scholarships, cultural house, and graduation ceremonies.

Junior in LAS Mark Eghrari, who attended the event, though it was beneficial because of Harjo's personal connection to the topic.

"I thought it was something that everyone needed to hear," Eghrari said. "To get a real good perspective, you need to hear it from a real Native American."

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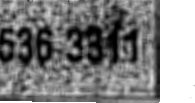
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by Shane Pangburn



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By Nick Day

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Let's Save Decatur by Seth Dewhirst

Daily Horoscopes



By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday (March 19). You've been known to sometimes build castles in the air without much foundation and... eat them. That won't be the case this year. You might spend so much time on the foundation, you almost don't have time to build the house. It'll come naturally soon enough.

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 a 6 - You're getting more powerful, but you're still a beginner.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - You're still rakin' in the bucks, although it's not quite as easy as it was yesterday. Luckily, you know what you're doing. A few little glitches won't slow you down much.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 5 - It's always darkest before the storm. Er, dawn. That means, yes, you still have some difficult issues to deal with, but things will get better soon. By Thursday, for sure.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - Schedule meetings and social gatherings for early, and quiet time for later. It's important to set aside time to let yourself mull things over.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 5 - Stand at attention a little while longer. Show you know how to be obedient and trustworthy, respectful and polite. Show you know how to take orders as well as give them: 'I won't kill you.'

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - You may soon be asked to explain recent activities. If you can, you'll advance in a higher position of authority. No more money yet, but more respect. Have your answers ready.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 6 - You may not be very good with numbers, but you're great at sorting things into categories. If you start by doing that, a budget will begin to take shape. Curtain travel for a couple of days.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - Your determination is awesome. Others encourage you, but you're the dynamic force. Listen to all of them, then do what's best. Write down your plan now, while you can see it clearly.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - There's the finish line up ahead. You have a coach who knew you could make it, and a fan who's been cheering you on. See? That wasn't so hard after all. Thank them.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is an 8 - You have a way of communicating that's quite effective. A person with a lot to talk about is very appreciative. All you have to do is listen.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - You'd rather spend the day napping up than doing anything else... That's probably not going to happen, but falling in love again could.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - finish up old business as quickly as possible. You'll soon have plenty of new things demanding your attention. Let everyone know how you want things done now, before they decide something different.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

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

TOIDT
 PEALL
 TEMIKS
 .LEGALY

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

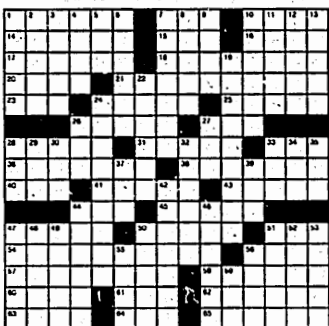
Answer here: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Yesterday's Jumble: LUCID UNCAP KERNEL PIRATE
 Answer: What he took when his phone rang as the play ended - A CURTAIN CALL.



Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Narrative song
 - 7 Nourished
 - 10 Gumbo ingredient
 - 14 Sir to action
 - 15 Mering product
 - 16 Having a specified color
 - 17 Platitude
 - 18 Actor as a chair
 - 20 "Bonanza" character
 - 21 U.S. Senate, for example
 - 23 Ram's mate
 - 24 Plat
 - 25 Alleviated
 - 26 Sincerely
 - 27 Sawdust
 - 28 Follow
 - 31 Distinct
 - 33 Health resort
 - 35 Common speech
 - 38 Roped
 - 40 Whistler
 - 41 Christmas song
 - 43 Course of television
 - 44 Greek letter
 - 45 Acid type
 - 47 Beach
 - 50 Frequently
 - 51 Farm stacks
 - 54 Audubon or fair
 - 56 Try amount
 - 57 Done with skill and taste
 - 58 Port
 - 60 March 15th
 - 61 Lower digit
 - 62 Pa's tan
 - 63 Ancient stringed instrument
 - 64 Naval vessel letters
 - 65 Rents



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03/18/02

Solutions

- 7 Excessively fastidious in manner
- 8 Went wrong
- 9 Doe or buck
- 10 Cleveland native
- 11 Large African antelope
- 12 Deba of song
- 13 Said further
- 14 March 15th
- 22 Quarterback at times
- 24 Cheap seats
- 26 Arroyo
- 27 Certain syllable
- 28 Gabor of Hollywood
- 29 Sister
- 30 Curving
- 32 Parrots out
- 33 Drunkard
- 34 Canadian prov.
- 35 Summer cooler
- 37 ... chi chuan
- 39 Pouch
- 42 White-collar workplaces
- 44 Missile type
- 46 Deadly
- 47 Casajol
- 48 Oliver or Thomas
- 49 Aquatic mammal
- 50 Medleys
- 51 Vagrants
- 52 Make amends
- 53 Linear measures
- 55 Island of the Aleutians
- 56 "My Friend"
- 59 Fub choice

No Apparent Reason

by Brian Elliot Holloway

Most unpopular jelly beans this week:



Black Licorice Cappuccino Green Onion Spam

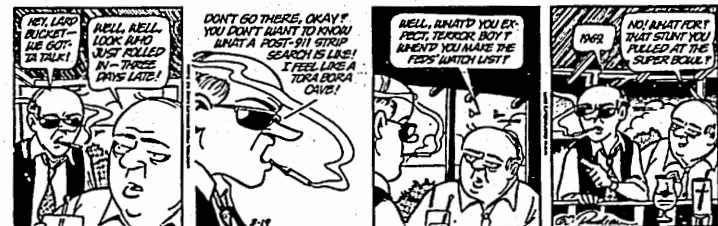
Girls and Sports

by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Doonesbury

by Garry Trudeau



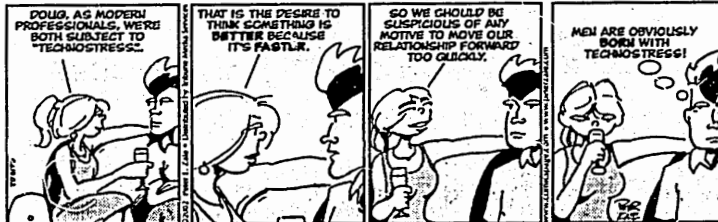
Mixed Media

by Jack Ohman



Helen, Sweetheart of the Internet

by Peter Zale



Jeff MacNelly's Shoe

by Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



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Salukis live it up in Florida

Hiller sets course record, Salukis finish fourth, sixth

Michael Brenner
 Daily Egyptian

The SIU women's golf team was relieved to see normal weather when it flew to Florida for two tournaments during spring break.

The team played in 80-degree clear weather, a stark contrast from the hurricane conditions it faced in San Diego a few weeks ago.

"We really felt like we deserved a break because San Diego was supposed to be the climate of the world, and the weather was crappy there," head coach Diane Daugherty said. "We had six beautiful days to play golf, and we really took advantage of it."

The Salukis finished in sixth in the Spalding/Peggy Kirk Bell Invite Tuesday in Orlando, Fla., and fourth in the Snowbird Invitational in Tampa, Fla., Friday.

SIU was led by senior Alison Hiller, who shot a career-high 68 in the final round of Friday's contest, finishing with a total of 142 for the tournament while placing second individually and setting a course

record. "I was just letting the shots happen," Hiller said. "I was really calm, so everything came together, and before I knew it, I was playing the round of my life."

Hiller shot the exceptional round despite playing with a cold. She credits part of her performance to her parents, who followed her around the whole tournament giving her medication.

Jennifer Shutt, whose parents also made the trip to Florida, shot a 76 in the first round followed by a respectable 79 in the second round. But despite those low numbers, she was not satisfied with her performance.

"I'm kind of disappointed with how I played," Shutt said. "The first day I was hitting all right but didn't putt very well, and the second day, I struggled with the whole game."

SIU was also helped by Andrea Turner (81,80), Megan Tarrally (81,81) and Amy Rankin (86,81).

The Salukis finished only two strokes out of second in team competition Friday behind tournament winner Arkansas State, Notre Dame and Southern Mississippi.

Tuesday's results were not as remarkable as Friday's, but impressive nonetheless.

"We really felt we deserved a break because San Diego was supposed to be the climate of the world and the weather was crappy there."

Diane Daugherty
 head coach, SIU women's golf

Hiller and Shutt each shot a 78 in the tournament, which was won by the University of Miami. Tarrally shot a 79, Turner an 85 and Rankin an 86.

Daugherty said the two tournaments will have a positive effect on the team going into this weekend's home tournament, given the difficulty of last week's opposition. She believes the team is prepared to face the Missouri Valley Conference, and her players mirror her confidence.

"We're really about to hit our peak," team captain Hiller said. "We're really about to burst out onto the scene."

Reporter Michael Brenner can be reached at mbrenner@dailyegyptian.com

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DEARMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

more heavily recruited coming out of Warren Central High School in Indianapolis.

Dearman said he tried to get noticed by some of the higher profile programs, but they just weren't listening.

"I tried to put myself out there to

be seen by a lot of big-time college scouts by playing AAU, but unfortunately they kind of overlooked me," Dearman said.

But Weber and the SIU coaching staff didn't, and after talking to his high school coaches, decided he was a talent worth recruiting.


"We just took a gamble on him," Weber said. "He has talent, he can run, he can jump. His skills are a little erratic, he takes fadeaway shots,

sometimes it drives me nuts, but when he gets determined like he did [Sunday] he's a big-time talent. I hope this kind of helps him mature because he's made major progress."

If he keeps making that progress, more and more people will know exactly who Jermaine Dearman is.


Reporter Jens Deju can be reached at jdeju@dailyegyptian.com

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SIU sweeps Northern Iowa

Michael Brenner
Daily Egyptian

SIU head softball coach Kerri Blaylock said it doesn't matter how many runs you score, as long as you score more than your opponent.

The SIU softball team scored just enough to sweep Northern Iowa in this weekend's Missouri Valley Conference opener, beating the Panthers in three consecutive one-run games and improving their record to 14-8 overall and 3-0 in the MVC.

A tenth inning sacrifice fly by Jen Guenther secured a win for the Salukis in game one, which turned out to be a pitching marathon between SIU's Amy Harre and Northern Iowa's Malinda McClintock.

Harre and McClintock both pitched 10 innings in the Salukis' 1-0 win, and McClintock was unfortunate enough to come away with the loss.

"Somebody was going to screw up, I'm just glad it wasn't us," Harre said of the extra-inning game.

The Salukis offense showed up in game two, mostly in the form of Katie Jordan.

Jordan went 3-for-6 and scored three runs, including a game-winning home run just inside the left field foul pole in the eighth inning.

"I just tried to go up there and make contact, and I got all of it," Jordan said.

The offense was dormant once again in game three, but the Salukis didn't need much. Harre pitched another seven scoreless innings and gave up only one hit as the Salukis won another 1-0 game.

Tara Glasco recorded the game winner, smashing a single to center in the bottom of the fifth inning.

The sweep was huge for the Salukis. It not only gives them three conference wins, but three victories against a great team. Going into the series, Northern Iowa had the best overall record in the MVC.

"Northern Iowa had just bumped off No. 6 Arizona State the week before, so we felt very fortunate to take three from them," Blaylock said. "It was a big win, a very, very good sweep."

The Salukis were in Florida prior to the Northern Iowa series where they posted a 3-4 record, which Kerri

Blaylock feels was not a losing experience.

"Six of our eight losses have been to top-25 teams," Blaylock said.

Two of those losses were against No. 4 Nebraska and No. 22 Florida State last week.

The Salukis defeated Providence, Massachusetts and Iowa State. They lost to Massachusetts the second time around as well as Southeast Louisiana.

The Salukis scored only five runs all tournament and the offense was virtually absent aside from Jordan's hot hitting.

But Blaylock said offense is not important to SIU's success.

"We tell our kids we build our team on pitching and defense," Blaylock said. "The offense will come."

Reporter Michael Brenner can be reached at mbrenner@dailyegyptian.com

The softball team returns to action Wednesday in a doubleheader against the University of Tennessee-Martin in Martin, Tenn.

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SIU makes it past first round

Salukis defeat sixth seeded Red Raiders in NCAA tournament

Jay Schwab
Daily Egyptian

CHICAGO - Bob Knight came away quite impressed with the Salukis. He wasn't alone.

The SIU men's basketball team employed an outstanding defensive effort and played like a seasoned tournament veteran in

handily outplaying Texas Tech for a 76-68 first-round NCAA victory Friday at the United Center.

Afterward, Knight told SIU coach Bruce Weber the Salukis played one of the best defensive games he's encountered in his lengthy coaching career.

"We really stayed focused and didn't break down," Weber said. "I appreciate the compliment."

Knight, whose sixth-seeded Red Raiders finished the season 23-9, said the Salukis overmatched his team in countless ways.

"I really was impressed with Southern Illinois right from the very beginning," Knight said. "I thought they had a mental toughness that was really extraordinary. I think they were just tougher than we were all across the floor and maintained that throughout the entire ball-

game. "I think that they almost had us playing from behind, not just the score, but behind in terms of energy and emotion and competitiveness right from the very beginning."

The Salukis hung in early despite starting the game with its top big men - Rolan Roberts and Jermaine Dearman - both benched for being late to practice earlier this week. Neither team was able to assert itself offensively throughout the half, but a pair of Kent Williams free throws with 14 seconds left allowed the Salukis to head into halftime ahead 32-29.

SIU didn't take long after the break to pull away. The Salukis hit Texas Tech with a 7-0 run to start the second half - capped by a Marcus Belcher lay-up in transition - to move ahead 39-29.

The Red Raiders temporarily stopped the bleeding, but SIU didn't allow them to make major inroads. Any lingering doubt about whether the Salukis meant business in their upset bid vanished by the time Roberts threw down an alley-oop jam off a Belcher free to pad the lead to 53-38 with 8:09 remaining.

The Salukis' sparkling showing finally weakened in the final minutes and the Red Raiders cut it to six on an Andy Ellis lay-up with 1:03 left, but the Salukis hit enough free throws to seal what was only SIU's second ever NCAA victory and first since 1977.

Williams and Dearman each scored 17 to lead the Salukis, with 13 of Dearman's points coming in the second half. Roberts scored 12 and underscoring

SIU's triumph with five emphatic shot blocks. Freshmen Stetson Hairton and Darren Brooks combined for 16 points and were among the ringleaders in the Salukis' striking defensive performance.

Meanwhile, Ellis and Kasib Powell paced the Red Raiders with 19 points apiece. But the big story was that leading scorer Andre Emmett slumped to a nine-point outing, 10 below his season average.

SIU moved to 27-7 on the season, with the 27th victory establishing a new school record. The Salukis became the second Missouri Valley Conference team to win at the United Center Friday, after Creighton edged Florida in double overtime.

Not too shabby for a "mid-major" league.

"Creighton beat Florida and I really think Southern is a better team than Creighton. You have two teams coming out of the Missouri Valley that I think can beat a hell of a lot of basketball teams, and certainly Florida and us are two of them," Knight said.

After surviving the perils of being an NCAA bubble team, the Salukis set a benchmark of reaching the Sweet 16 as their postseason aim. Roberts wore a broad smile after the game, overjoyed that the Salukis were one win away from delivering.

"I just can't explain it right now," Roberts said. "I'll tell you when it's over."

If SIU keeps playing like it did this weekend, that may be a while.

Reporter Jay Schwab can be reached at jschwab@dailyegyptian.com



DAILY EGYPTIAN PHOTO - STEVE JANWKE

Texas Tech Coach Bob Knight paces in frustration beside his coach's bench during the first half of the game this past Friday at the United Center in Chicago.

Out with indoor, in with outdoor

Samantha Robinson
Daily Egyptian

When the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships ended March 9 at the University of Arkansas, Jeff Young had become the first American and 50th Saluki all-time to earn All-American honors.

Young finished sixth in the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 7.87, just shy of his personal best of 7.77.

"I am extremely excited for Jeff and the team," said SIU head coach Cameron Wright. "He went in, competed and it all paid off."

Young said it was a good experience and he accomplished what he had set out to do.

"No one thought I would qualify for finals and not finish last," Young said. "Once I made All-American Coach German told me to go out and have fun and that is what I did."

Janus Uudmae, competed in the triple jump and placed 12th with a leap of 50-4 1/2.

"We were disappointed," Wright said. "Uudmae could have done better, but since he is a freshman, we will be able to see great things in the future."

Currently, Uudmae is second all-time on the Saluki indoor triple jump list.

"I'm not happy with my results," Uudmae said. "I hoped to do better, but it did not work out that way. It was a great experience and gave me motivation to keep practicing and qualify for outdoors."

After the indoor season ended, Wright gave the team a few days off. Once the men were rested, it was back to work to get ready for the outdoor season.

"I stepped up the training regimen to get the men ready and I think we will see a great outdoor season," Wright said.

On Saturday, the team opened the

2002 outdoor season at the Louisiana State Alumni Gold Relays at the Bernie Moore Track Stadium in Baton Rouge, La.

The Salukis had several men end the weekend with top-five performances.

Young competed in the 110-meter hurdles where he placed first with a time of 14.03.

Junior Nyles Stuart completed the long jump with a distance of 24-3 1/2 for a third-place finish and Eli Baker came in second in the 3000-meter steeplechase with a time of 9:52.89.

Kellen Allen, a freshman in the high jump placed third with a height of 6-6 3/4. Uudmae finished fourth in the triple jump at 50-10.

Marvin Primo and Kevin Mills competed in the 100-meter dash and finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Primo clocked a time of 10.63 and Mills came close behind at 10.66.

In the 1500-meter run Doron Giat and Joe Zeibert finished in fourth and fifth place, respectively. Giat had a time of 3:57.3, followed by Zeibert at 3:57.5.

"It was a good meet where we saw some decent competition and had a lot of fun in the process," Wright said.

For the rest of the season the Salukis hope to continue moving forward and produce better times and distances. Wright said he sees improvements and knows that by the end of the season there will be more Salukis competing in the NCAA Championships.

"I'm hoping we can take about four or five to the outdoor nationals this year," Wright said. "That would be a nice squad and I know that I have that many, if not more, that are capable of competing at that level."

Reporter Samantha Robinson can be reached at srobinson@dailyegyptian.com

Dawgs place second at San Antonio

Todd Merchant
Daily Egyptian

Spring break was going rather well for the SIU baseball team until the St. Patrick's Day weekend, when the Salukis ran into some Fighting Irish.

SIU (11-4) fell to Notre Dame, 3-2, in the championship game of the Irish Classic this past weekend in San Antonio, Texas, capping off an otherwise successful break.

The Salukis opened the break with a three-game sweep at home against Eastern Michigan. SIU cranked out 31 hits and out-scored the Eagles 27-13 in the three games, which included a 17-8 drubbing in the series capper.

SIU saw two more commanding performances from starters Jake Alley and Jerl Deiting, who combined to strike out 13 batters in 14 innings of work, while Luke Nelson struggled in the third game, allowing eight earned runs in 4 2/3 innings.

The Salukis were riding a seven-game winning streak as they began play in the Irish Classic against Arkansas-Little Rock. The Trojans did not pose much of a threat to SIU, which won 2-0 behind another masterful pitching performance by Alley.

Alley (3-0) fell one strikeout short of his career high, striking out 11 UALR batters in only five innings of action. Eric Haberer allowed no hits in three innings to pick up his first save of

the season.

The Salukis' next opponent was the host Notre Dame Fighting Irish, which SIU had beaten earlier in the year, 6-2. That was against a Notre Dame squad that was missing its best player, freshman outfielder Matt Macri.

Making the first start of his career against Notre Dame was freshman Ryan Welch, who only had five innings of collegiate experience under his belt. This, however, did not bother head coach Dan Callahan.

"I was a little leery starting him," Callahan said, "but I felt he had proven in the preseason that he was up to it."

Welch (1-1) had a decent outing, allowing only two runs in five innings, but still collected the loss as the Salukis fell to the Irish 6-3.

Macri powered Notre Dame, going 2-for-5 with a double and a home run. The key to the Irish victory was the pitching of Grant Johnson, who struck out six batters and did not allow an earned run in eight innings.

"That's the kind of game where you can't say we should've won that game," Callahan said. "We just got beat by a great pitcher."

SIU came out strong in its next game, defeating Missouri Valley Conference foe Creighton, 10-3, behind another sterling outing from Deiting.

Deiting (4-0) batted the Bluejays

in the 90-plus degree weather, throwing only 95 pitches to continue the streak of strong Saluki starts.

"I just wanted to get those guys out of the sun," Deiting said. "I didn't want to be the first one to blow up on the mound."

The win against Creighton set up a rematch with Notre Dame in the championship game.

The Salukis had a 2-1 lead going into the bottom of the eighth inning, when the Irish scored two quick runs to go up 3-2. SIU was unable to pull off a rally in the ninth as Notre Dame captured the title.

Callahan said the loss was disappointing, especially since his team had beaten the Irish earlier in the year.

"The thing that's bothersome is that we knew we can beat these guys," Callahan said.

Deiting said he thought Notre Dame had a little more than just talent aiding it in its victory on Saturday.

"It was St. Patrick's weekend," Deiting said. "They just had a little luck of the Irish."

Reporter Todd Merchant can be reached at tmerchant@dailyegyptian.com

The SIU baseball team opens its MVC season on Friday when the Salukis battle Bradley at Abe Martin Field at 2 p.m.

SCHWAB

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Dawgs, many of which coming at huge junctures of the game. If it wasn't for Dearman's national coming out party, Brooks would deservedly be hailed as Sunday's savior.

Largely because of the efforts of those two, little ole SIU is now a national story. Everyone from Dick Vitale to the typically aloof Chicago media are warming up to the boys from Carbondale, and waiting with bated breath to see if the Salukis have any more tricks up their sleeve

this weekend in Syracuse.

The last time the Saluki basketball team made national headlines in New York, it was 1967, when Walt Frazier and company carried SIU to the NIT championship.

Frazier won't be suiting up Friday against UConn, but the Huskies better be ready for a talented pack of scrappers who no longer seem fazed by anyone or anything.

Not Bob Knight. Not a 19-point deficit to Georgia. And certainly not the hard work it takes to finally be noticed.

Jay Schwab can be reached at jschwab@dailyegyptian.com



Gus says:

Be an SIU
athletic
supporter!

Williams reveals maroon shoe diaries

Jay Schwab & Jens Deju
Daily Egyptian

CHICAGO — Besides having to worry about upcoming opponents this past weekend during the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament, SIU junior Kent Williams had something else on his mind — an online journal.

The star guard kept a tournament journal on the Salukis' website, sialukis.com, in which he gave SIU fans a daily insight into what he was doing in preparation for the games as well as his personal feeling about each game.

Williams said SIU media services director Tom Weber approached him with the idea and he thought it sounded like a good one.

"I've seen some other people do it before and it's just something that's fun and will let people know a little bit of what goes on behind the scenes," Williams said. "Maybe if I keep on doing it, I'll get more personal with it, I'm trying to throw things together real quick now. At the end of the day I just write as much as I can remember."

In the journals, Williams has talked about everything from going shopping and having dinner with his family to watching game film with teammates to dealing with endless media interview requests.

"It's just something hopefully to let people get to know me a little better and get to know what goes on behind the scenes and what's going through our heads while the game is playing and before the game and after," Williams said.

Williams will continue with the journal while the Salukis are still playing. He said Weber told him the journal has been a hit so far and Williams thinks he might keep it going next season.

"A lot of people are reading it and wanting to know about it so I might be writing a journal for another year now, I don't know."

Back from the brink

When Georgia forward Jarvis Hayes banded in a 3-pointer to put the Bulldogs up by 19 with 8:29 left in the first half of Sunday's second round NCAA game, the Salukis said enough was enough.

"I didn't want to get embarrassed like that to tell you the truth, I didn't want to go out like that," said freshman Stetson Hairston. "We just stood together. We played and made some plays and made some shots and we pulled it out."

Hairston was by no means the only Saluki who was disappointed with SIU's play. Williams said SIU head coach Bruce Weber told the team to play with pride.

"Coach talked to us and said whatever you do, just don't let this get embarrassing. Right then, I think that loosened us up and at the same time we realized that we could get embarrassed," Williams said. "It kind of made us think a little harder and we stepped it up."

The Salukis closed the half on a 24-8 run to trail at halftime by just three points, 38-35.

Benched

The Salukis' best post players, center Rolan Roberts and forward Jermaine Dearman, were benched for the beginning of the first round game against Texas Tech Friday for being late to practice Tuesday.

"It was a very hard decision for me, especially being an NCAA game. I didn't sleep that whole night making that decision," Weber said. "It's over and done with. Hopefully they learned a hard lesson and we survived it and hopefully down the road it's going to help them be on time."

Both entered the game after a few minutes. Dearman finished the game with a team-high 17 points and 11 rebounds. Roberts ended with 12 points, four rebounds and five blocks.

Beasts of the East

Unlike this weekend, where SIU was the chic team to root for in Chicago, the Salukis are headed to hostile territory for the Sweet Sixteen. SIU will meet Connecticut Friday in Syracuse,

N.Y. — the heart of Big East country.

SIU is hopeful of selling all of its 600 allotted tickets to the game, but Salukis fans are likely to be far outnumbered by what's expected to be a massive amount of UConn fans at the expansive Carrier Dome.

"I'm sure they're going to have three-fourths of the fans there like we did in Chicago," sophomore forward Brad Korn said. "So it's going to be tough, it's going to be a war."

Williams hopes that the crowd disadvantage will be negated by support from neutral parties.

"Maybe the Maryland and Kentucky fans there watching the game will get on the bandwagon, just like the Illinois and Creighton fans did [Sunday]," Williams said. "Everybody wants to play the lower seed, not UConn, so maybe we'll get those people rooting for us ... I don't think it'll be like a road game where we won't have the fan support, because I think it'll be there."

28 is great

Regardless of what happens the rest of the way, this Saluki team has assured its spot in the record books. Now 28-7, SIU's win over Texas Tech allowed it to break the previous school record for wins, which was 26 by the 1989-90 team.

Legends fall

Another game, another date with a college basketball legend.

In UConn, SIU will be meeting its third consecutive opponent coached by a man who's won a national championship. After SIU subdued Texas Tech coach Bob Knight and Georgia coach Jim Harrick, who each won titles at their former schools, the Salukis will now meet UConn head coach Jim Calhoun.

Calhoun led the Huskies to the title in 1999.

Reporter Jay Schwab can be reached at jschwab@dailyegyptian.com

Reporter Jens Deju can be reached at jdeju@dailyegyptian.com

SPORTS BRIEFS

TENNIS

Women drop four matches

SIU women's tennis lost four matches over spring break, coming within one point of their first victory since.

Cal State-Fullerton defeated the Salukis 4-3 March 11 despite wins by Erika Ochoa, Alejandra Blanco and Sarah Krismanits, while the Salukis fell 4-3 to Cal State-Riverside Wednesday. Ochoa, Blanco and Kari Stark recorded wins in the defeat.

Cal State-Northridge defeated SIU 5-2 Thursday and the Salukis were swept 7-0 by Cal State-Long Beach March 12.

Men encounter a few problems

The SIU men's tennis team lost one, won one and had a match canceled during spring break.

On March 10, the men's team fell to Stetson University in a dual meet in Deland, Fla.

Due to darkness three of the matches were not completed, leaving the Salukis with zero points.

In Daytona Beach, Fla. on March 11, SIU won its first match of the year against Bethune Cookman College with a final score of 6-1.

In the singles matches, Peter Bong, Richard Booth, Julian Angel Botero and Gian Carlo Remigio all won. Bong/Botero and Lukasz Soswa/Remigio won the doubles matches.

The match that was supposed to take place on March 12 against Valparaiso was canceled.

THE GREAT SALUKI PEP RALLY


Tuesday, March 19
SIU Arena, 7:00 pm

Take
Basketball Players
Coaches
Cheerleaders

Sign up to win
a Saluki puppy sculpture

Sponsored by the SIUC Student Center & the Daily Egyptian

GO DAWGS! BEAT CONNECTICUT!



TUESDAY SALUKI SPORTS

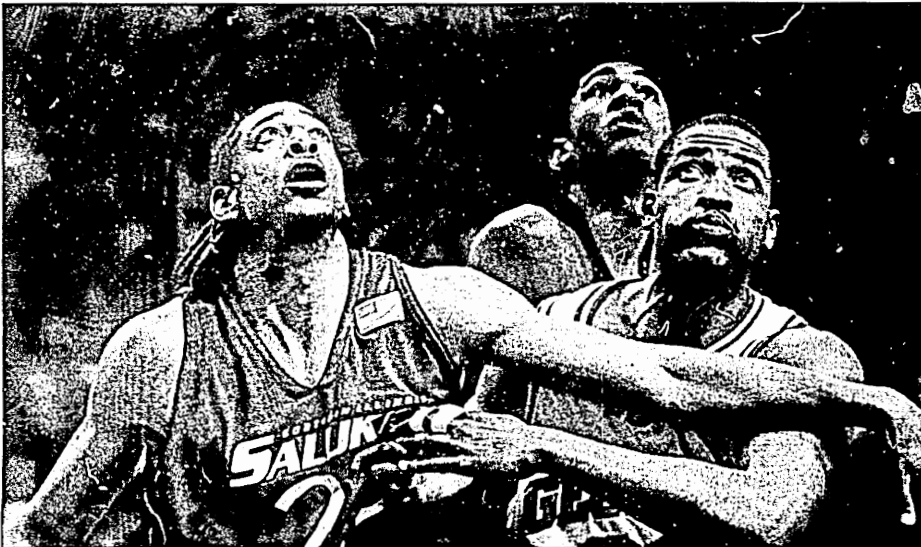
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SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

MARCH 19, 2002

“It’s just fitting that he goes out and he has a big game for us when we needed it.”

Marcus Belcher
senior guard, SIU basketball



DAILY EGYPTIAN PHOTO - ALEX HAGLUND

Saluki junior Jermaine Dearman grapples with an opponent under the hoop in Sunday night’s second-round victory against the University of Georgia. Dearman led the Salukis’ comeback from a 19-point deficit in the first half by tallying up a career-high 25 points.

Dearman endearing for SIU

Dearman scores combined 42 points in upset wins over Texas Tech and Georgia

Jens Deju
Daily Egyptian

CHICAGO – Entering the NCAA tournament, Jermaine Dearman was an unknown man outside of Carbondale.

Most of the Salukis’ attention was focused on All-Missouri Valley Conference team members Kent Williams and Rolan Roberts, but when all was said and done, it was Dearman who landed in the national spotlight.

Little known outside of the MVC as recently as last week, Dearman recently graced the covers of the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun-Times, and had his picture on the ESPN.com homepage.

The junior forward scored a combined 42 points in SIU’s upset wins over No. 6 seeded Texas Tech and No. 3 seed Georgia in the first two rounds of the Big Dance.

He almost single-handedly put the Salukis into a Sweet Sixteen matchup Friday against No. 2 Connecticut by scoring a career-high 25 points against a bigger Bulldogs frontcourt and

was the catalyst in SIU’s comeback from a 30-11 deficit with about eight minutes remaining in the opening half.

“This was the game of his career,” said senior guard Marcus Belcher. “That’s the type of player Jermaine is. He’s worked hard for three years and he didn’t get very much respect with the conference choices and getting on all-conference tournament team and things like that, so he kind of took it personal ... it’s just fitting that he goes out and he has a big game for us when we needed it.”

In the final eight minutes of the first half, Dearman underwent a change from seemingly playing scared to playing like a man who knew he couldn’t be stopped.

He scored 12 of his 14 first half points in the final eight minutes of the first half and was the Salukis’ biggest weapon in closing the gap to 38-35 at the half.

Following the game, Dearman said it wasn’t so much that he was feeling particularly confident in his shot, he just knew the team needed him in order to advance.

“I looked up at the score at one point and time and we were down like 18 or 19 so I just knew it was time to play hard,” Dearman said. “I knew they were going to give us a chance to come back in the game and I just wanted to play hard and just scrap, you know, go out and

get all the points that we could and try to get all the rebounds.”

Williams said the bulkier Georgia team was having its way with the Salukis, but the Salukis dug down on defense and saw Dearman was more than willing to carry the load offensively.

“I think they were just bullying us early in the game. They were throwing us around wherever they wanted to and they were getting the shots they wanted,” Williams said. “We just took that away from them and when we get shutouts it seems like our offense kind of carries off of that and Jermaine really got rolling. It was just one of the best offensive performances I’ve ever seen him have and we just kept going to him with the ball.”

Dearman is known as a free spirit who likes to speak his mind. SIU head coach Bruce Weber said that free spirit is one of the reasons Dearman wasn’t

What is your prediction for SIU’s game against UConn? The DAILY EGYPTIAN is interested in your take. Email us at editor@siu.edu with your final score prediction and a brief explanation of your reasoning. We will print a sampling in Friday’s paper. Be sure to include your name, year in school, hometown, and major if you’re a student, or just your name and hometown if you’re not.

See DEARMAN, page 20

Sweet Sixteen tickets going, but not gone

Tickets available for SIU-U Conn. game

Todd Merchant
Daily Egyptian

As the SIU men’s basketball team marches through the madness of the NCAA tournament, tickets to its games are becoming hotter and hotter.

The SIU Athletic Ticket Office, which secured 600 tickets for Friday and Sunday’s games in Syracuse, N.Y., had about 200

tickets remaining as of Monday afternoon, and they’re going fast.

Julie Beck, a ticket office official, said running out of tickets “is a great problem to have,” noting that alumni from all across the country have called to request tickets.

The ticket packages, which cost \$90 each, are good for all three games that will take place in the Carrier Dome.

The games will be the No. 11 seed Salukis taking on No. 2 seed Connecticut Friday at 6:38 p.m., followed by No. 1 seed Maryland taking on No. 4 seed Kentucky, as

well as Sunday’s Eastern Regional championship game.

B and A Travel Service has established a special air and land travel package for this weekend’s tournament games in New York.

The package includes a round-trip plane ticket and lodging at the Radisson Plaza, the same hotel the Salukis will be staying in. The airfare is \$262, and the hotel rooms are priced at \$149 per night, with a minimum three-night stay.

The plane is scheduled to depart from St. Louis at 3:40 p.m.

Thursday and will return on Monday.

Officials at B and A said there are few packages remaining. For more information on the special packages, contact B and A Travel Service at 549-7347.

Reporter Todd Merchant can be reached at tmerchant@dailyegyptian.com

For more ticket information, contact the SIU Athletic Ticket Office at 453-2000.



Jay Schwab

jschwab@dailyegyptian.com

Salukis an overnight sensation

Jermaine Dearman, a household name. Darren Brooks, showcasing himself to the nation as the next big thing.

And much of the sports-watching country left spellbound by an obstinate pack of Salukis, left for dead on the United Center floor after trailing SEC power Georgia by 19, but rising from the ashes to dismiss another one of the big boys from the Big Dance.

Sweet Sixteen, anyone?

The SIU men’s basketball team is enjoying every minute of its sudden rise to national fame, and with good reason. The Salukis had to put in lots of minutes that weren’t so fun to get there.

Sweaty early morning workout sessions over the summer and arduous, defense-oriented practices that sometimes lasted four hours were just part of the regimen that enabled this weekend’s Saluki conquests in Chicago.

“When you’re going through it, it’s just like ‘oh my goodness, I don’t want to be here,’” Saluki forward Brad Korn said. “It just seems terrible at times. You just want to leave. But now, we get rewarded for that, and I think that’s where I get the most satisfaction.

“I’m putting in all that time and effort and blood and sweat and tears and all that, and I’m finally getting paid for it.”

As much as the entire team — not to mention a coaching staff that has established itself as one of the best around — deserves accolades, Dearman and Brooks earned bonus points for their leading roles in SIU’s Sunday resurrection.

Dearman played with a special kind of hunger against Georgia, the kind of desperation that only arrives in March when a wonderful season is on the verge of extinction.

He sliced and diced a skillful Bulldogs frontline en route to a career-best 25 points. The charming Indianapolis native wowed the sold-out crowd, and by day’s end, had a hoard of national media entranced by his combination of on-court skills and ability to amuse them with his gleeful postgame banter.

Dearman has finally tapped into his vast skill set to churn out a solid junior season, but it wasn’t until this weekend that Saluki fans felt good about L.A.R. — Life After Rolan.

“I’ve said all along that he can play like that,” said Saluki guard Kent Williams, who happily played a supporting role in SIU’s triumphs. “Obviously, you’re not going to hit shots like that all the time, but he’s capable of playing that way a lot. I hope that he realizes how well he played and has that mindset all the time.”

Sunday was Dearman’s day to play hero, but Brooks was a worthy No. 2 in the Second City. “See the stars of tomorrow, today” makes a fine slogan for minor league baseball teams; but it also applies to the Salukis.

Brooks and fellow frosh Stetson Hairston have been superb for SIU all season, but Brooks took it a step further against Georgia. He pumped in 16 points for the

See SCHWAB, page 22