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Food for thought

Student Center to consult students about new options

Chris Klarer
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Students with qualms over the food choices on campus could soon be able to do more than flap their jaws.

The Student Center food service contract with Chartwells Educational Dining Services expires in June 2008, putting students in a unique position to turn their individual grievances into institutional considerations, said center director Lori Lynn Stettler.

Students will be surveyed later this semester so their input can be accounted for. A committee of students, faculty and staff will be formed in the fall to assess the many options that will be available to the center, she said.

"We want to provide a great experience in the Student Center. We just need students to speak up and tell us how," Stettler said.

Joe Yancey, a senator for the Undergraduate Student Government, said students certainly do have some constructive criticism.

Yancey, a sophomore from Alton in pre-law, said he is crafting a report based on about 150 letters from students concerning food issues. He said a common theme in the letters revolves around health concerns.

Ashley Jacobi, a junior from Chicago studying art history, said she would like to see healthier, more affordable options.

"It's a lot of cheap stuff that's really bad for you," she said. "I just got done eating Doritos and pizza for lunch."

The salad bar in the Main Street Marketplace is her favorite alternative to the "garbagey mall food" that makes up most of the options, she said.

"I love the salad bar. It's cheap," Jacobi said. "You can get that plate and it's like \$3.50 and you pile it up."

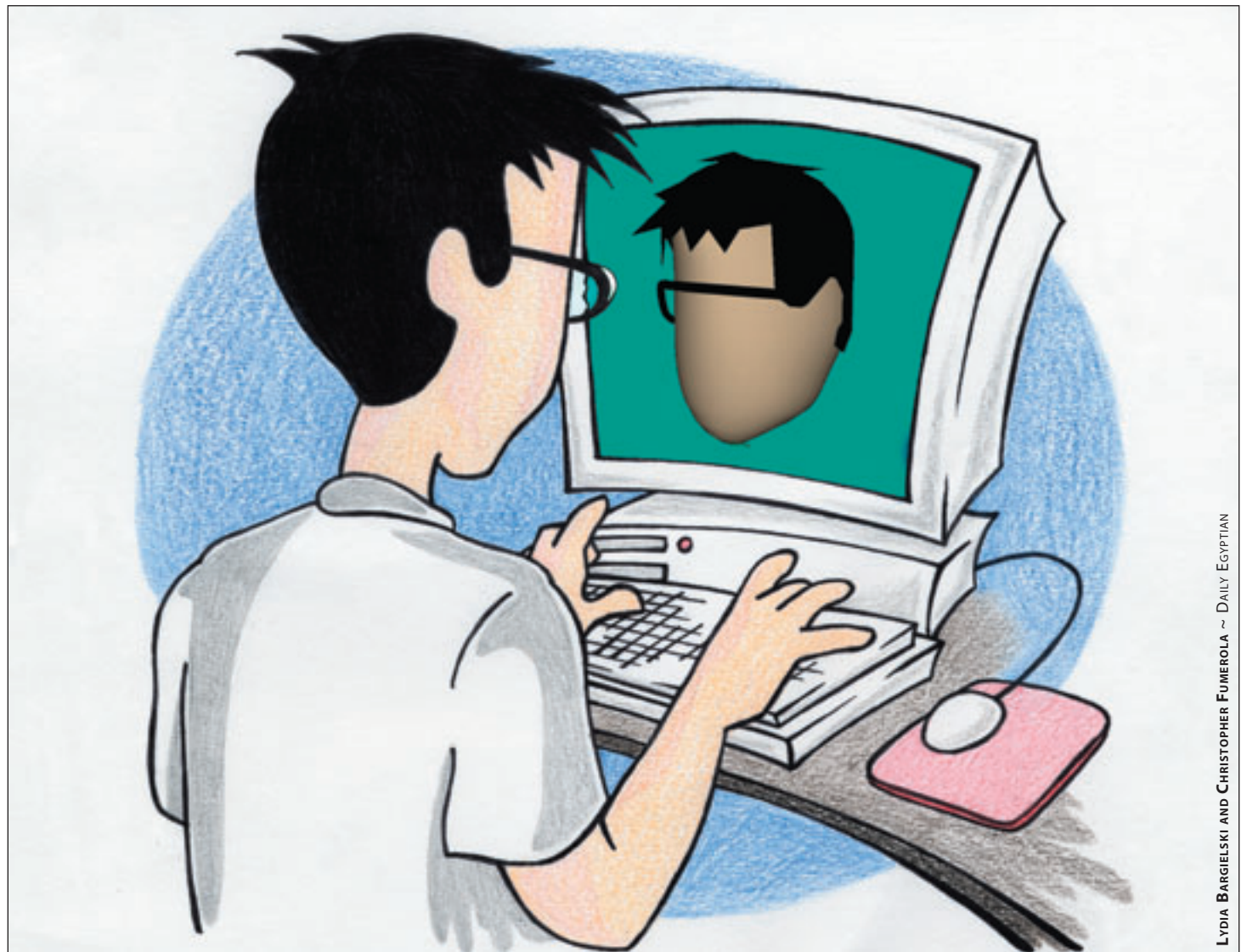
Brian Blumstein, a senior from Chicago studying art, said he would like to see more organic foods offered on campus. He said students often do not consider what is in their food.

"Put high fructose corn syrup in my food. Put pesticides all over it. I want to get cancer by the time I turn 50," he said sarcastically. "I mean, I'm smoking cigarettes and I'm more worried about the food I'm eating causing cancer than the cigarettes I'm smoking."

Stettler said the Student Center has attempted to remain receptive to student's needs and concerns. She said now more than ever, students could play a key role in shaping the future of food options in the center.

"We've heard from students that they want more vegan dining options, so we've changed some of our menu selection," she said. "There's absolutely a lot of potential for change."

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LYDIA BARGIELSKI AND CHRISTOPHER FUMEROLA ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIUC goes 3-D

New animation program paves way for modern imaging

Alejandro Gonzalez
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Students at SIUC can now learn how to make spaceships shoot lasers at each other or people avoid gunshots in slow motion through a new 3-D animation program.

The program, consisting of three courses including an introduction to 3-D imaging, uses MAYA software to craft 3-D graphics.

David Burns, assistant professor of 3-D

animation, presented the idea to the College of Mass Communications a year and a half ago.

It is the first time the class has been offered in SIUC's history.

The program is beneficial for people in many different majors including film, video production, architecture, journalism and advertising, Burns said.

"We use MAYA, which is an industry standard software," he said. "All the big guys in Hollywood use it. It's pretty popular. There's

plenty of digital, special effects and visual effects in film. I'm talking about the Matrix and movies of that type, Star Wars."

Burns said there are many uses for the technology, from entertainment to architecture.

"An architect might really work well with a Mass Comm. student when it comes to visualizing a program to develop space, perhaps in Carbondale," Burns said.

See 3-D, Page 5



JOSEPH MIDKIFF ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Tim Estes, SIUC undergraduate admissions coordinator, talks with Ashley Young, a John A. Logan College sophomore, on Thursday as she completes an application to attend SIUC this fall.

University to establish outposts

Administrators desire better connection with community colleges

Sarah Lohman
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Community colleges throughout Illinois are saving SIUC a seat.

In a joint effort, staff in the president's and chancellor's offices are setting up outreach centers at nine state community colleges to increase the university's presence as an option for students.

"I think it will encourage students to not be hesitant to continue their education," interim chancellor John Dunn said.

The main purpose is to make sure students have information about the university and how to transfer to Carbondale, he said.

John A. Logan Community College President Robert Mees said SIUC and his college in Carterville have always worked closely.

The campuses have agreements with housing, international students, transportation and work together in the 2+2 program — an effort allowing students to complete their first two years of school at John A. Logan and the rest at SIUC.

"It's very important that that whole program is planned out from day one," Mees said. "That way, they can probably complete their degree in a more timely basis and not take any unnecessary classes that won't help them finalize their degree."

He said the outreach centers would help students in the same way, and give SIUC a greater physical presence on the John A. Logan campus.

"It will allow us to have even better articulation and cooperation with SIUC Carbondale," Mees said.

See OUTPOSTS, Page 5

think it will encourage students to not be hesitant to continue their education.

— John Dunn
 interim chancellor

Chamber of Commerce takes youthful direction

New executive director looks to leave her mark

Brandon Augsburg
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The new executive director of the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce may be young, but it might just be that youthful energy that could make her the right fit for the city.

Meredith Rhoads was named executive director of the chamber in late February, replacing Joel Sambursky after his yearlong tenure. Rhoads, a 23-year-old West Frankfort native, graduated from SIUC with her MBA in December.

Rhoads said she wasn't exactly sure what she wanted to do after graduating, but she was very happy about landing the chamber position.

"I love it," Rhoads said. "Honestly, it sounds kind of corny, but it's probably my dream first job."

She said she is passionate about the job because Carbondale is a small enough community that she should be able to leave her own mark on the town. She said the flexibility that the chamber offers would help her achieve her goals.

"It's not this huge corporation where you are kind of in a box and you have to stay in that and do the one task you were hired to do," Rhoads said.

Rhoads was hired because the chamber felt she would be able to build on Sambursky's successes and keep the membership momentum rolling. Continuing to increase chamber membership is one way Rhoads can leave her mark, she said.

"That's always the underlying force because it has to grow and increase membership," Rhoads said.

As the executive director, Rhoads also must manage the chamber budget, help businesses promote themselves, help increase business community awareness and increase enthusiasm for the city. It may seem like a tall task, but one of Rhoads' former professors said she showed her ability to multitask while working in the marketing department at the university.

"She was sort of a jack-of-all-trades in the marketing department," said Suzanne Nasco, assistant marketing professor. "Whenever we needed anything done, we asked for Meredith, and she usually did it."



MELISSA BARR ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Meredith Rhoads works out during her pilates class Tuesday afternoon at Balance Pilates & Fitness Studio.

Rhoads worked for Nasco as a research assistant for two years, and Nasco said Rhoads was intelligent and approachable while working on their study of the financial decision making habits of older consumers.

Nasco also put together a report on the issues the chamber would face over the next few years while Sambursky was the executive director. Nasco said the report indicated the chamber must capitalize on people traveling through the area and promoting the region as a whole. Rhoads reviewed the report intently before even applying for the chamber position, Nasco said.

"She also, obviously with her youth, is very enthusiastic about the area," Nasco said. "And she's so positive about her experiences both at SIU and in the southern Illinois region, and I think that it's infectious."

Lindsey Peter, one of Rhoads' former classmates and a good friend, said the chamber was lucky to land Rhoads because of her bright personality and her experience.

"She's always smiling, and brings light into the room no matter where she's at — working or for class — and I think that'll be really good for her career," Peter said.

Even though this is Rhoads' first professional job, Peter said she showed her ability to think outside the box when they worked on a project for Assistant Marketing Professor John Summey, and created the 'Easy Iron.' Peter said Summey was so impressed with the hand held, hair-straightener-like iron, that he encouraged them to pitch the product to a company.

Rhoads also loves the small town atmosphere of southern Illinois. Peter said they used to visit Mugsy McGuire's on karaoke night to

sing John Mellencamp's "Small Town." Peter said Rhoads' disarming personality would help her and the chamber make solid relationships.

"I think she'll do great at her job because she'll be able to network and build relationships," Peter said.

After about three and a half weeks on the job, Rhoads said she is still learning the ropes and the duties she must now take on. But if the past is any indication, Rhoads should get up to speed quickly.

"It's just learning the functions of everything and learning the functions of my job," Rhoads said. "Because I can read them on a job description, but you don't really understand [until you do it]."

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Nocturnal workers watch campus

Facilities Operations Center tracks campus fire alarms, security systems

Joe Crawford
DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIUC students burning the midnight oil in on-campus computer labs and residence halls are not alone in their late-night laboring.

Lance Crombar, a central systems control operator at the Facilities Operations Center, is one of two SIUC employees who monitor the inner workings of the campus from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. every day of the week. The center is open 24 hours a day year-round.

From the center's location on the first floor of the campus power plant by McAndrew Stadium, Crombar tracks networks of fire alarms, security systems, surveillance cameras, streetlights and other facilities that keep the campus running.

If a power outage occurs or a break-in is attempted in the middle of the night, Crombar said he is responsible for noticing the problem and calling the appropriate worker or administrator to fix it.

"If I do my job and nobody knows about it, then I've done my job," said Crombar, who has

worked the late shift for more than six years.

"Maybe over the middle of the night there was a water main break and no one ever knew about it," he said.

Crombar said fire alarms and power outages are two problems that cause him the most stress.

The entire campus once lost power in the middle of the night, he said, and an electrical engineer eventually found that a snake had slithered into an electrical substation.

"I actually got to see some pictures of this fried snake," he said.

When a fire alarm is triggered anywhere on campus, Crombar said his center is the first to find out about it.

"I think there is a misconception that fire alarm systems are connected with the fire department, but they're not," he said.

Lt. Harold Tucker, field operations division commander for the SIUC Department of Public Safety, said the center notifies his office when an alarm goes off and

a police officer is sent to assess the situation.

The fire department is usually notified immediately, he said.

In some of the residence halls, a prankster-proof system has been put in place to keep the fire alarms' flashing lights and horns from going off if only one smoke detector is activated, said Brad Dillard, associate director of facilities for the Physical Plant.

He said in those situations the center is notified and investigates to find out whether a system malfunction or a delinquent with a match caused the problem.

Crombar said he once noticed a security alarm was triggered in Life Science II and, using the building's security cameras, was able to give the police a description of the burglar.

Once the police apprehended a suspect, they brought him to a place where Crombar could see him with the security cameras, he said. Crombar identified the suspect while still in the center, he said.

"We're really behind the scenes," he said.

"If I do my job and nobody knows about it, then I've done my job."

— Lance Crombar
central systems control operator

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A woman reaches for toppings for her salad Wednesday afternoon during the lunch rush at the Student Center.

DUVALE RILEY
DAILY EGYPTIAN

FOOD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She said the center is looking into organic foods as they draft proposals for the coming year's contract negotiations. Hopefully, one of the vendors can fulfill that need, she said.

Yancey said there are other issues students are unanimously concerned about.

The Student Center is often the only accessible choice for many students with a tight schedule. But it's not always as convenient as it seems, Yancey said.

"The biggest advantage of going to the Student Center is the convenience, but whenever there's a half hour wait, it loses its convenience," he said.

Blumstein had a number of ideas he said would make the Student Center a more well-rounded experience. He said offering more culturally diverse foods would please both

international students and the large population of Chicagoans who are used to such options.

Another idea Blumstein put forth was to make it possible for locally operated businesses to move into the Student Center, rather than corporate franchises.

Stettler said surveys should be available in the Student Center later this semester so that students' issues and ideas can be more than just hot air.

She said the center would look to USG for recommendations for students to serve on the committee for reviewing contract bidders. She said the center should hear back from the bidders by next semester.

"We want students to be vocal and tell us what they'd like to see," she said. "We can work together to achieve this goal. That's what we're here for."

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WIRE REPORTS

TOKYO

Japan to investigate military brothels

TOKYO (AP) — Under intense pressure from Asia and the United States, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Thursday that ruling party lawmakers will conduct a fresh investigation into the Japanese military's forced sexual slavery of women during World War II.

Abe triggered outrage in China, North and South Korea and the Philippines last week by saying there was no proof the women were coerced.

He said Monday that Japan will not apologize again for the Japanese military's "comfort stations."

Abe also faces pressure from the United States, where the House of Representatives is considering a resolution urging Japan to formally apologize for its wartime brothels.

Japanese leaders apologized in 1993 for the government's role, but the apology was not approved by Parliament.

Abe said Thursday that he "basically stands by the 1993 apology."

The government is ready to cooperate with the investigation, Abe said Thursday, amid calls for a review from conservatives who question many of the claims by victims and others who say the government kidnapped the women and forced them into sex slavery.

WASHINGTON

Carter defends book about Palestine

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite the storm it ignited, former President Carter held fast on Thursday to his accusation that Israel oppresses the Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza and seeks to colonize the land.

Speaking at The George Washington University to a polite but mostly critical student audience, Carter offered no second thoughts on his book "Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid" that prompted 14 members of the Carter Center's advisory board to resign and drew fire from Jewish groups and some fellow Democrats.

He said he was not accusing Israel of racism nor referring to its treatment of Arabs within the country.

"I defined apartheid very carefully" as "the forced segregation by one people of another" on their own land, he said.

Outside the university auditorium, some two dozen protesters gathered, a few carrying signs. "Carter is a Liar" read one held by a smiling demonstrator while the others chanted the refrain.

BELGIUM

Europe warned to cut emissions

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — German Chancellor Angela Merkel warned EU leaders Thursday that Europe has everything to lose if it does not move faster to cut carbon dioxide emissions and invest in more environmental energy sources.

The leaders gathered to decide on a new green energy strategy to fight climate change and reduce Europe's dependence on oil imports. Merkel, who is leading the two-day summit, wants the 27-nation EU to adopt new rules to boost the use of less-polluting, renewable energy sources such as wind, solar and hydro power.

"We have got to go for a sensible solution, for the right policy mix, which will ultimately deliver results for our grandchildren," Merkel said before the summit began.

The EU leaders are set to agree to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent by the year 2020 from 1990 levels, a first step in Europe's ambitious strategy to fight global warming.

They are also set to develop energy ties with central Asian countries to reduce their dependency on Russian oil and gas.

Democrats want Iraq pullout by fall 2008

David Espo
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — In a direct challenge to President Bush, House Democrats unveiled legislation Thursday requiring the withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from Iraq by the fall of next year. The White House said Bush would veto it.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the deadline would be added to legislation providing nearly \$100 billion the Bush administration has requested for fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

She told reporters the measure would mark the first time the new Democratic-controlled Congress has established a "date certain" for the end of U.S. combat in the four-year-old war that

has claimed the lives of more than 3,100 U.S. troops.

Senior White House adviser Dan Bartlett, accompanying Bush on a flight to Latin America, told reporters, "It's safe to say it's a non-starter for the president."

Within an hour of Pelosi's news conference, House Republican Leader John Boehner attacked the measure. He said Democrats were proposing legislation that amounted to "establishing and telegraphing to our enemy a timetable" that would result in failure of the U.S. military mission in Iraq.

"Gen. (David) Petraeus should be the one making the decisions on what happens on the ground in Iraq, not Nancy Pelosi or John Murtha," the Ohio Republican added. Murtha, a Pennsylvania Democrat, has been heavily involved in craft-

ing legislation designed to end U.S. participation in the war.

According to an explanation of the measure distributed by Democratic aides, the timetable for withdrawal would be accelerated if the government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki did not meet goals for providing for Iraq's security.

Democrats won control of Congress last fall in midterm elections shadowed by public opposition to the war, and have vowed since taking power to challenge Bush's policies.

Pelosi made her announcement as Senate Democrats reviewed a different approach — a measure that would set a goal of a troop withdrawal by March of 2008. Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada called a closed-door

meeting of the rank-and-file to consider the measure.

In the House, Pelosi and the leadership have struggled in recent days to come up with an approach on the war that would satisfy liberals reluctant to vote for continued funding without driving away more moderate Democrats unwilling to be seen as tying the hands of military commanders.

The decision to impose conditions on the war risks a major confrontation with the Bush administration and its Republican allies in Congress.

But without a unified party, the Democratic leadership faced the possibility of a highly embarrassing defeat when the spending legislation reaches a vote, likely later this month, establishing a deadline or troop withdrawals.



BRYAN PATRICK ~ MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

Michael Coleman, 42, gets his temperature taken by a nurse inside the medical facility at Avenal State Prison in Avenal, Calif., on Feb. 26. Three deaths in two months focused federal attention on Avenal's overcrowded facility.

New York fire kills mother, 8 children

Verena Dobnik
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Screams poured from the burning building along with smoke and flames: "Help me! Help me! Please! Please!" Bystanders looked up to see a woman toss her children out the window one at a time to those below.

The scene unfolded early Thursday during New York's deadliest fire in nearly two decades — a blaze that killed eight children and one adult, all African immigrants who shared a row house near Yankee Stadium.

The woman who tossed her children jumped from the building. Her fate and that of her children were not immediately known.

Investigators believe the fire started overnight with a faulty space heater or overloaded power strip, ignited a mattress in the basement and quickly raced up the stairs of the four-story structure. Most of the 22 residents — 17 of them children — were stranded on the upper floors as the blaze raged out of control.

Neighbor Edward Soto ran toward the fire, then stared in disbelief as an infant was tossed from the building.

"All I see is just a big cloud of white dust, and out of nowhere comes the first baby," said Soto, who caught the child with another neighbor. Moments later, he caught a second child. At least one of the children was not breathing.

Firefighters worked for two hours in freezing predawn temperatures to bring the flames under control. The home had two smoke alarms, but neither had batteries. Police said there was no evidence of a crime.

The dead were found throughout the house, mostly on the upper floors, with babies still in their cribs. The victims included five children from one family, along with a wife and three other children from a second family.

Word of the fire spread grief across two continents, from the Bronx to villages in Mali, a West African country about twice the size of Texas and one of the poorest nations in the world.

"I don't know what I'm going to do," said a devastated Mamadou Soumara, a livery cab driver whose wife, son and 7-month-old twins died in the blaze. "I love her. I love my wife."

Soumara was driving through Harlem when he received a frantic cell phone call from his wife, Fatoumata. "She said, 'We have

a fire,'" Soumara recalled. "She was screaming."

Soumara rushed home in his cab, only to stand on the street and watch helplessly as their home turned into a fiery tomb.

Moussa Magassa, an official of the New York chapter of the High Council for Malians Living Abroad, was headed back to the city from a business trip to Mali after receiving the grim news that nearly half of his 11 children were dead, said council representative Bourema Niambele.

Neighbors described a close-knit family, with the children often seen playing in the yard or in the street with water guns and scooters.

The death toll might have been higher if not for the efforts of Soto and another neighbor, David Todd.

Todd, 40, who lived in an adjoining apartment building, said one child was already on the ground in the yard when he arrived with Soto outside the burning home. "Please God, help my children!" the woman inside screamed while tossing her children out — and then jumping from the window.

Another neighbor, Elaine Martin, said flames were shooting from the building when she arrived, and a shoeless woman in a nightgown stood crying in the street.

"My kids is in there, my kids is in there," the woman wailed to Martin.

Protestors greet Bush in Latin America

Tom Raum
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAO PAULO, Brazil — President Bush sought to reverse an impression of U.S. neglect as he opened a weeklong tour of Latin America on Thursday. Street protests awaited him.

Bush's trip, intended to promote democracy, increased trade and cooperation on alternative fuels. The president and his advisers also hoped his visit would offset the growing influence of leftist leaders, such as Venezuela's Hugo Chavez.

As he flew here on Air Force One, Bush's national security adviser brushed aside Chavez's provocations. "The president is going to do what he's been doing for a long time: talk about a positive agenda," said Stephen Hadley.

Police clashed with students, environmentalists and left-leaning Brazilians, some waving communist flags, ahead of Bush's visit. Riot police fired tear gas after more than 6,000 people held a largely peaceful march through the financial district. And in the southern city of Porto Alegre, more than 500 people yelled "Get Out, Imperialist!" as they burned an effigy of Bush outside a Citigroup Inc. bank branch.

Meanwhile, the police commander of Colombia, which Bush will visit on Sunday, said authorities had thwarted leftist rebel plans to disrupt Bush's visit to Bogota. "We have taken measures to neutralize them," said Gen. Jorge Daniel Castro, Colombia's highest-ranking police officer.

Bush played down the protests in interviews ahead of his trip with Latin American news organizations.

"I am proud to be going to a part of the world where people can demonstrate, where people can express their minds," he said in an interview with Univision. And he told CNN En Espanol: "The trip is to remind people that we care."

Chavez, aligned with Cuba's Fidel Castro and a fierce critic of Bush, is marking Bush's trip with a rival tour of the region.

On Saturday, the Venezuelan leader will speak at an "anti-imperialist" rally in a soccer stadium in Buenos Aires, Argentina, about 40 miles across the Plate River from Montevideo, where Bush will be holding talks with Uruguay's president, Tabare Vazquez.

Scholar: Muslims move forward

Celebrated Moroccan professor discusses Islamic women's movement

Sean McGahan
DAILY EGYPTIAN

All women who adorn headdresses and study the Quran are not victims of oppressive, fundamentalist societies, a celebrated Moroccan scholar said Thursday.

Fatima Sadiqi, a senior professor of linguistics and gender studies at the University of Fes in Morocco who was recently appointed to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, spoke on the power of the women's movement in Islamic nations in the Student Center's Mississippi Room.

The presentation coincided with International Women's Day — a global celebration commemorating the achievements of women worldwide.

Sadiqi said common beliefs that women in Islamic nations passively accept oppression are unfounded. She said a prime example of this is in her home country of Morocco — a constitutional monarchy in North Africa largely populated by Sunni Muslims.

She cited drastic reform in the Moroccan family code, known as Mudawana, as evidence. In February 2004, King Mohammed VI revised the code to include restrictions for polygamy and punishment for sexual harassment, among other things, according to the BBC Web site.

The revision — which was considered extremely progressive for the region — also raised the legal age of marriage from 15 to 18 and gave women additional rights in divorce.

Naseem Ahmed, a coordinator for educational programs, said she

brought Sadiqi to campus in hopes of informing people about a culture that is constantly misunderstood in America.

"All we hear about here is more fundamentalist versions of Islam with the images of women as oppressed and not being able to navigate public space and all that kind of stuff," she said. "The majority of the Muslims in the world actually live in moderate Muslim societies, not fundamentalist Muslim societies."

Abeer Khurram, a 17-year-old high school senior from Carbondale, said she was inspired by Sadiqi's sentiments that women with Islamic beliefs can be powerful and make change happen.

Khurram identified herself as a moderate Muslim, and said many of Sadiqi's beliefs coincided with her own.

"Even though I wear a hijab (a traditional Muslim head covering), I believe that Islam empowers women," she said. "In some countries, they culturally suppress women and use Islam to do that, and I don't think that's right. I think Islam actually gives women a lot of rights."

Khurram, who hails from Pakistan, said the speech gave her a new perspective on her heritage.

"Throughout my childhood I always wondered why people think that Islam suppresses women, and I really connected with the idea that she talked about that it was introduced into a patriarchal society, and that's why the patriarchal traditions and everything fit," she said. "They used it for their own purposes."



DAN CELVI ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Fatima Sadiqi, senior professor of linguistics and gender studies at the University of Fes in Morocco, spoke to a full crowd of people in the Mississippi room in the Student Center on Thursday afternoon.

The progress in Morocco is not only inspiring for Muslim women, said Stacia Creek, a first-year doctoral student from Johnson City studying sociology. She said she assigned the speech as extra credit for a gender class she teaches in hope that her students

would be informed and inspired.

"We have such a one-dimensional view of Islam and its culture offered to us by the media, and George Bush and FOX News, so I thought it was really nice to see that these are very active women," she said. "They're doing

something to make their lives better, and they're using the tools they have — which is Islam right now — to do so."

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3-D

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"With MAYA, you might be able to create a 3-D environment to really show the city."

With the aid of the \$100,000 Student Tech fee grant, the department is creating new lab space in the media center in the lower level of the Communications Building. It will be equipped with new Macintosh computers with industry software, Burns said.

Blake Senftner, CEO of Flixor, a Burbank, Calif.-based visual effects company, said his company uses MAYA for its work, which includes the movies "Scooby-Doo," "Garfield" and "Cat in the Hat."

Senftner said the 3-D technology is used for gaming, and he has written software in NCAA football video games.

While there are many job opportunities in 3-D animation, Senftner

said the industry is expanding internationally and people need to be more specialized.

"It's been very international for the 15 years that I've worked in it and it's getting even more so," he said. "Visual effects studios are opening up branches in other countries and if you work at one of these, either you need to be willing to work there for less pay or you need to be so specialized that they can't let you go."

Adam Hall, a senior from Atlanta studying cinema, has taken all of Burns' classes. He said such programs as 3-D animation are necessary if SIUC wants to a top research institution.

"It shouldn't be just sciences, it shouldn't just be the classes in Neckers," Hall said. "We should be cutting-edge across the board."

"Having that kind of knowledge makes you, especially a media artist, a more well-rounded person. There's definitely room to grow. And we should keep growing."

OUTPOSTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"A lot of our students go on to SIUC, but I think this will definitely increase that number," Mees said.

Southeastern Illinois College, Shawnee Community College, Kaskaskia College, Southwestern Illinois College and the four campuses of the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges system have also offered space for SIUC to set up outposts, said John Davis, SIUC's special assistant to the president.

Dunn said the university hopes to initiate the centers when the new fiscal year starts in July.

"I think that it conveys very nicely that we have a very positive and very strong relationship with our community colleges, and the students that we collectively serve, and that we

want to serve them the very best that we can," Dunn said.

Davis said a closer relationship with local community colleges could help connect SIUC to high schools that already work closely with the community colleges.

Ashley Young, a sophomore from Ava studying special education at John A. Logan, said she is part of the 2+2 program and will transfer to SIUC in the fall. She said she joined the program to ensure the transfer of her credits.

She said the SIUC representative she spoke to about the program answered her questions and made her comfortable with the decision to attend SIUC.

"It was very welcoming," Young said. "I'm glad they're bringing people from SIUC into John A. I think it's a great idea."

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STUDENT COLUMN

USG appreciates Dunn, Poshard transparency

AKEEM MUSTAPHA

toyenli2@siu.edu



I would like to seize the opportunity to thank SIU President Glenn Poshard and interim Chancellor John Dunn for being guest speakers at our last senate meeting. The administration felt encouraged to share their comments and beliefs about the progress and development of this institution. I particularly adore this sort of transparency and open dialogue between the administration and student body because this will go a long way into legitimizing the path that the institution should take to grow.

It also promotes unity and integrity. The student government also had the opportunity to make free comments and ask questions that relate to the student welfare and life on campus. A major part of the discussion was about the proposed fee increases and ideas on how to increase a solid interaction between faculty, student and staff, in the realm of

trying to adopt a valid community in an institution of higher learning.

I gave a speech at the last Board of Trustees meeting stating that the board should rethink some of the increases, with emphasis on the athletic fee. Saluki Way is a project that I support because, in the long run, it will help create an attractive and conducive atmosphere both for athletics and academics.

However, I'm skeptical with the direction it is taking. My idea is to allow Saluki Way to unite us and not to disintegrate the relationship between the student body and administration while we continue to communicate on the issue of financing the project. We hope we can reach a constructive compromise on this issue so that students are not burdened financially by the increase.

The Board of Trustees is set to vote on the proposed fee increases at 9 a.m. April 12 at SIU-Edwardsville. If students can travel to St. Louis to watch and cheer the Saluki basketball team, it would be quite impressive if they could participate in a meeting that may determine whether they get to save some

money to invest in their textbooks for the next school year.

Furthermore, the student government widely supported the creation of a Black American Studies program during Wednesday's senate meeting. Both an internal and external review have been made to gather more resources towards this program in the past. As I have attended some of the internal review sessions, it is to my knowledge that we have an array of students on this campus who would not only love to have it as a major so that they can learn more about black American history, but also use it as a stepping stone toward a professional major. This would definitely help enrollment and especially retention at SIUC, and after all, with proper scrutiny, a BAS major is actually prospective. If philosophy and history departments can have majors, then BAS should. We hope the administration would look critically into this request

from students.

Student government elections are coming up and Dustin Davis was elected as the election commissioner. This time, we intend to increase balloting polls in various areas on campus to get people involved. We also hope to see enough students campaigning to run for president, vice president or senate positions. Petition forms for these positions are now available at the USG office on the third floor in the Student Center. I encourage everyone to get involved and participate because it would be nice to see as many candidates as possible.

Lastly, I would like to wish students a safe trip as they travel to their various destinations for spring break. Have fun and take care.

I particularly adore this sort of transparency and open dialogue between the administration and student body.

Mustapha is a senior studying biological science.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editorial suggestion not practical

DEAR EDITOR:

The editors of the DAILY EGYPTIAN have a wonderful idea with regard to the designated driver program they suggested the school should organize.

I think we should expand it even more. Perhaps the person getting the ride home should be required to pay a nominal fee for the service to compensate the school for the costs of gas and upkeep of the vehicle. Perhaps even a little extra, because as we all know, there are athletic department buildings that need constructing. It may even be a good idea to paint the cars a particular color to as make them easily distinguishable from the other cars near the bar. Might I suggest yellow with black checks? Maybe go as far as to print a logo on the door?

Perhaps to save space on the side of the door, we can shorten the name through acronym.

Seriously, though, there is good potential for liability to the school if the idea was to be

implemented. First off, many insurance policies would not cover a stranger driving someone's car. Second, should the designated driver wreck, or (being mindful of statistics) when the designated driver wrecks, the school could be held liable for the damage to the vehicle and the injuries to its occupants. The school could probably defeat these claims, but the costs associated with the legal action could be quite high.

The volunteer may be held individually liable as well. This may dissuade many volunteers from offering their time and services; it certainly would dissuade me.

Additionally, who is to pay for these services? We are already experiencing a record setting amount of fee increases to fund Saluki Way. The school is considering discontinuing the women's transit program partially because it was cost prohibitive. People just were not using the program. Do you really think that people would use this one either? Sober people at night failed to utilize a safe ride. Is it reasonable to suggest that inebriated people will take the responsibility and make the call?

During my time working for the Jackson County State's Attorney, I saw first hand the problems associated with drunken driving in southern Illinois. I am not devaluing the efforts to make a change, but a program such as the one suggested by the editorial would not solve the problem. It would be under utilized, create liability and would add additional costs to the already drained financial resources of this university. Should the fraternities and sororities decide to expand their programs, perhaps the idea may be feasible, though they would have to be willing to accept the associated responsibility, costs and liability.

No program or idea should displace the importance of personal responsibility. The lack of personal responsibility among many of the local bar patrons lead me to believe that even if a safe ride home were provided, most people who are willing to drink and drive without the program will continue to do so after its inception.

Justin Raver
third year law student

MISSION STATEMENT

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

WORDS OVERHEARD

“The students for years have been requesting such a program to become a major, and year after year after year they've given us the run around.”

Demetrous White
a senator of the USG, on making Black American Studies program a major



People need purpose

Student creates documentary on today's generation

Veronica Hilbring
DAILY EGYPTIAN

While most seniors are taking it easy during their final semester, Candace Griffin is on a mission that is one year in the making.

The documentary film "Got Purpose?" is the result of Griffin's overwhelming feeling of discontent with her generation. The project is fully produced out of Griffin's own pocket.

Griffin said that she is unhappy with the mindset of her peers on the SIUC campus and wants her film to reinforce the vital need of purpose.

"I don't believe that we are living without purpose but we are lacking meaningful purpose like morality, moral values and a connection with God," she said.

The documentary consults many influential people including rapper Common, author Sam Greenlee, SIUC alumna and filmmaker Tracy Taylor and the president of media sales for BET, Illinois state legislators Mattie Hunter and Marlow Colvin also appear.

The two-hour, feature-length documentary touches on subjects such as purpose, spirituality, social values, hip-hop and role models, among other issues.

Griffin said most people look to the media to determine how they should live.

"The top songs on the Billboard chart shouldn't dictate your lifestyle," she said.

Before Griffin started on her documentary in the fall, she served



Candace Griffin, pictured with Phil Bankester of University Communications, previews her documentary based on our generation. The documentary, 'Got Purpose,' may be used later for educational purposes.

as a managing intern at BET in summer 2006. That connection may lead to the opportunity to appear on one of BET's most popular shows, "106 & Park," next month to promote her documentary.

Unlike many documentaries, "Got Purpose?" has an accompanying soundtrack. Griffin said she wanted the entire project to be for students, by students. The soundtrack is created, composed and performed by Griffin and mostly students.

The music on the soundtrack ranges from spoken word to hip-hop.

Chris Mathien, of the band Mathien, contributed three songs to the documentary. Mathien said

he has done scores for many film students, but has never contributed a song for a soundtrack. Mathien said he created a song about safe sex called "Without My Hat."

Martasha Brown, a production assistant on the film, said the project's viewpoint is different than other documentaries.

"It's given by someone from our generation. It's not an older person looking down on our generation," she said.

After the viewing of the film, Griffin said she plans to have the soundtrack, the DVD and "Got Purpose?" T-shirts available for purchase.

Now that the project is complete, Griffin said her production

company, Making Noise Media, is looking for sponsors to help sell the merchandise.

As for the future, Griffin said she is sifting through job offers. Wherever she goes, Griffin said she hopes to inspire others to do something great.

"I feel like it's a responsibility of mine, since I have certain gifts to do certain things, to at least try to enlighten and inspire others to try to live with more purpose," she said.

'Got Purpose?' showing

- March 26
- 6:30 p.m.
- Student Center Auditorium

Veronicolumnn

VERONICA HILBRING



veronica_hilbring@dailyegyptian.com

Forever B.I.G.

I can remember exactly where I was and what I was doing on March 9, 1997. For once, I was actually doing what my mother asked me to do — washing the dishes.

But I was soon interrupted by my brother yelling my name. I ran into the hallway to see what the commotion was about.

"Biggie Smalls just got killed," he said.

I didn't believe him and I said he probably was talking about Tupac. It was a stupid thing to say when I think about it now.

But sure enough, scrolling on the bottom of MTV, was a news bulletin saying the rapper known as the Notorious B.I.G. had been killed in Los Angeles.

I was so hurt. Everyone one I knew loved Biggie! My mama and I used to ride in the '92 Chevy blasting "Big Poppa" the whole summer of 1995.

The next day at school, it was the hot topic among all the sixth graders. For the next week, I was glued to the TV and radio watching all of his videos and listening to all of his songs. I watched the emotional funeral procession through Brooklyn on MTV and saw how people began to cheer and celebrate his life after someone started playing "Hypnotize."

In the years after his death, I've seen many people in rap come and go. I've developed my own personal favorites, but I have yet to see someone with the same lyrical skills, attitude and swagger as Biggie. He was more than just a rapper; he was an urban journalist and storyteller.

It's hard to believe that it has been 10 years since the senseless death of Christopher Wallace. Rap music as a whole has changed drastically. Rap music wasn't the same before Biggie and Tupac and it certainly hasn't been the same without them.

Biggie's death left an opening for his old high school classmates, Jay-Z and Busta Rhymes, to become the newest superstars. His influence in rap is seen through artists such as Rick Ross and his protégé Lil Kim.

What's even more senseless is the fact that the police have yet to find the killers of Biggie and Tupac. Though there has been lawsuits and court trials, there has been no sense of closure for Violetta Wallace and Afeni Shakur.

Biggie and Tupac unfortunately became victims of the crimes they told us about in their songs.

During the winter break, I visited New York City. I stayed with a friend who lived in Biggie's old neighborhood, the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. Biggie was literally everywhere. Not only was he hanging in portraits on the walls of all the stores in Bed-Stuy, but he was also on all the radio stations and on the lips of local rappers.

B.I.G. was alive and well, proving that music can live forever.

I still play "Ready to Die" straight through. I never have to skip a song. He's what I listen to when I'm getting ready for a party or what I listen to when I'm feeling homesick. Today, I won't be feeling sad about his death, but will be playing his music and celebrating his life.

B.I.G. forever!

'Tekken' battles for top fighting game spot

Wayne Utterback
DAILY EGYPTIAN

'Tekken 5: Dark Resurrection'
System: Playstation 3
Release date: March 3, 2007



The world of fighting games is a cutthroat competition to see who can come out on top with the most solid battler.

"Tekken 5: Resurrection," the latest fighting game franchise from Bandai-Namco, comes to the table with more talk than walk.

The real problem stems from the fact that the game is a direct port of the arcade version of "Tekken 5" and not a better looking version of the Playstation Portable version. Many of the fun modes such as Command Attack, Tekken Bowl and even the necessary training mode are all missing.

Much like its competitor "Virtua Fighter 5," it also lacks any type of online mode. Online playability is the future of fighting games, and the sooner game developers realizes this, the better off they will be.

The only mode included is Ghost Mode, which is just a bare-bones rip off of the Quest Mode in "Virtua Fighter 5." The character customization is also lackluster and can barely reach the excellent variety that "Virtua Fighter" did. Not many people care much to fight countless battles just to have their fighter wear gloves on his or her belt and not on their hands. Most of the customizing options are ridiculous or pointless and tacky for the most part.

"Tekken 5" incorporates new fighters, each with their own unique styles. It's just too bad that there is no training mode to get accustomed to them. There is a Blade rip off which is hilarious to watch because the character's name is Blaze. Characters such as Lili and Sergei Dragunov need some practice to get down how to use them properly.

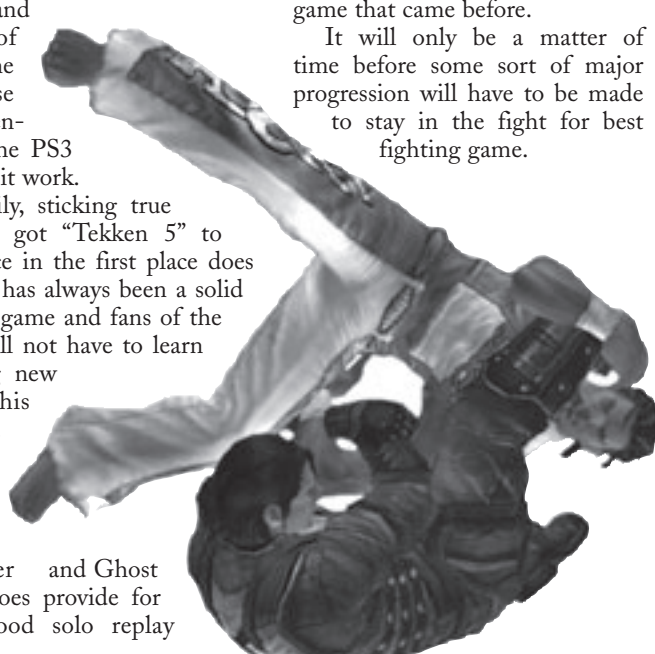
Here's a question for Bandai-Namco: When are you going to take out the fighting bear, panda and kangaroo? Nobody likes them, they are lame. Take them out and save those spots for characters that have some depth to them.

The graphics are another problem. While they do look very stylized and clean, there are still some

blocky characters. Add in animations that have been in the game since the beginning, and you get a dated game. The only real saving grace for the characters is that they each have their own distinct look and feel, so there aren't three characters that look and move alike.

"Tekken 5" does support high definition and looks great on the screen. It's just a shame that the visuals and flow of the game don't use the potential of the PS3 to make it work.

Luckily, sticking true to what got "Tekken 5" to the dance in the first place does work. It has always been a solid fighting game and fans of the series will not have to learn anything new with this release. The game play is as fun as ever and Ghost Mode does provide for some good solo replay value.



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- 403 W. Elm #1,4
- 718 S. Forest #1
- 408 1/2 E. Hester
- 410 E. Hester
- 410 1/2 E. Hester
- 208 W. Hospital #1
- 703 S. Illinois #101
- 703 S. Illinois #102
- 703 S. Illinois #201
- 703 S. Illinois #202
- 703 S. Illinois #203
- 612 1/2 S. Logan
- 507 W. Main #2
- 507 1/2 W. Main B
- 400 W. Oak #3
- 410 W. Oak 2,3,5
- 202 N. Poplar #2
- 202 N. Poplar #3
- 301 N. Springer #1-4
- 414 W. Sycamore #W
- 414 W. Sycamore #E
- 404 1/2 S. University
- 406 S. University #1, 2 & 4
- 504 E. Vermont
- 703 W. Walnut #1
- 703 W. Walnut #2

Two Bedroom

- 607 N. Allyn
- 616 N. Allyn
- 616 1/2 N. Allyn
- 408 S. Ash
- 504 S. Ash #1 & 2
- 514 S. Ash #5
- 502 S. Beveridge #2
- 512 S. Beveridge #2,3,5-7
- 514 S. Beveridge #1-7
- 508 N. Carico
- 602 N. Carico
- 908 N. Carico
- 306 W. Cherry
- 311 W. Cherry #2
- 404 W. Cherry Court
- 405 W. Cherry Court

- 406 W. Cherry Court
- 407 W. Cherry Court
- 408 W. Cherry Court
- 409 W. Cherry Court
- 410 W. Cherry Court
- 310 W. College #2-4
- 401 W. College #5, 7
- 507 W. College #5-6
- 509 W. College #4
- 305 E. Crestview
- 506 S. Dixon
- 115 S. Forest
- 303 S. Forest
- 718 S. Forest #3
- 500 W. Freeman #2,3,5,6
- 520 S. Gramh
- 109 Glenview
- 514 S. Hays
- 408 1/2 E. Hester
- 410 E. Hester
- 703 W. High #E,W
- 208 W. Hospital #1
- 703 S. Illinois #202
- 703 S. Illinois #203
- 611 W. Kennicott
- 507 1/2 W. Main #B
- 207 S. Maple
- 906 W. McDaniel
- 908 W. McDaniel
- 300 W. Mill #1,3,4
- 405 E. Mill
- 409 E. Mill
- 400 W. Oak #1,3
- 402 W. Oak #E,W
- 501 W. Oak
- 507 W. Oak
- 300 N. Oakland
- 505 N. Oakland
- 511 N. Oakland
- 602 N. Oakland
- 1305 E. Park
- 507 S. Poplar 1,3,5,7
- 301 N. Springer #1-4
- 913 W. Sycamore
- 919 W. Sycamore
- 1619 W. Sycamore
- 404 S. University #N
- 404 S. University #S
- 404 1/2 S. University
- 402 1/2 W. Walnut
- 820 W. Walnut #2
- 1004 W. Walkup
- 406 W. Willow

804 W. Willow

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- 503 N. Allyn
- 607 N. Allyn
- 609 N. Allyn
- 408 S. Ash
- 410 S. Ash
- 504 S. Ash #2, 3
- 514 S. Ash #1, 3
- 409 S. Beveridge
- 502 S. Beveridge #1
- 503 S. Beveridge
- 507 S. Beveridge #2,5
- 509 S. Beveridge #1
- 513 S. Beveridge# 3
- 209 W. Cherry
- 405 W. Cherry
- 501 W. Cherry
- 405 W. Cherry Court
- 406 W. Cherry Court
- 407 W. Cherry Court
- 408 W. Cherry Court
- 409 W. Cherry Court
- 303 W. College
- 309 W. College #1- 4
- 312 W. College #3
- 409 W. College #1
- 810 W. College
- 809 W. College
- 305 E. Crestview
- 506 S. Dixon
- 115 S. Forest
- 303 S. Forest
- 109 Glenview
- 507 S. Hays #1
- 509 S. Hays
- 511 S. Hays
- 208 W. Hospital #2
- 212 W. Hospital
- 611 W. Kennicott
- 610 S. Logan
- 409 E. Mill
- 413 W. Monroe
- 417 W. Monroe
- 400 W. Oak #1
- 402 W. Oak #E, W
- 501 W. Oak
- 505 N. Oakland
- 511 N. Oakland
- 602 N. Oakland
- 1305 E. Park Lane
- 506 S. Poplar #3,4,7

509 S. Rawlings #5

- 913 W. Sycamore
- 1619 W. Sycamore
- 820 W. Walnut #1, 2
- 168 Watertower Drive
- 504 S. Washington
- 506 S. Washington
- 406 W. Willow

Four Bedroom

- 609 N. Allyn
- 410 S. Ash
- 504 S. Ash #3
- 409 S. Beveridge
- 502 S. Beveridge #1
- 503 S. Beveridge
- 209 W. Cherry
- 405 W. Cherry
- 501 W. Cherry
- 312 W. College #3
- 401 W. College #1-4
- 809 W. College
- 305 Crestview
- 507 S. Hays #1
- 509 S. Hays #1
- 212 W. Hospital
- 610 S. Logan
- 413 W. Monroe
- 506 S. Poplar #3,4,7
- 509 S. Rawlings #1
- 820 W. Walnut #1
- 504 S. Washington
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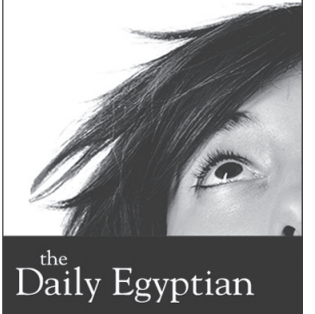
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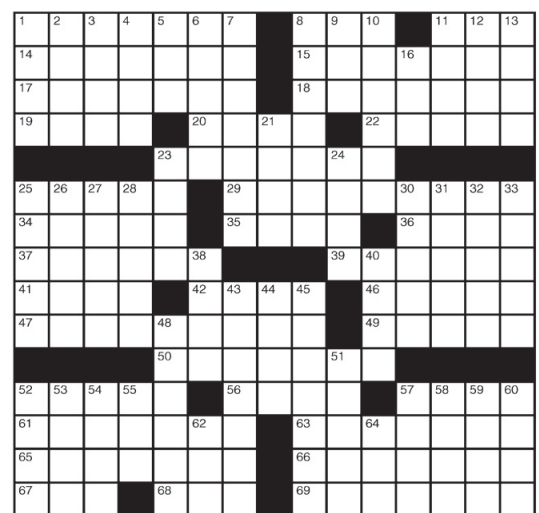
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Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Precinct photo
 - Big lug
 - Pig's digs
 - In the dark
 - Masquerade disguises
 - Citizen army
 - Quiver
 - Plant axis
 - Ms. Fitzgerald
 - Avid
 - Tidied
 - Former Turkish title
 - Lawbreaker abettor
 - Chevys and Caddies
 - Touch
 - Mayberry kid
 - Rote workers
 - Caesar and Waldorf
 - Surprise attack
 - Spasm
 - Blacksmith's workplace
 - Department store ride
 - Chips in chips
 - Pastime athlete
 - Up, baseball-wise
 - Some necklines
 - Not bona fide
 - "South Pacific" song
 - Puddinglike dessert
 - Water-heating tanks
 - Vanity voyage?
 - 6th sense
 - Lip
 - Counts (on)
- DOWN**
- Showy blooms, for short
 - Component piece
 - Outburst of laughter
 - Do the crawl
 - Sombrero, e.g.
 - Bay window
 - Page for a certain reader?
 - Money up front
 - Luau dish
 - Implants
 - Hang-up
 - Lug
 - French/Belgian river
 - Writer Levin
 - Lingerie trim
 - Set of circumstances
 - Slippery fish
 - San Diego pro
 - Emanations
 - Unemotional philosopher
 - Japanese car maker
 - Wise lawgiver
 - Dizzying designs
 - Narrow crest
 - Affirmatives
 - Junk email
 - Some distance
 - Genetic reappearance
 - High C, e.g.
 - Said "Hi" to
 - Soap froth
 - Language practice
 - French cleric
 - New Mexico art colony
 - Radar signal
 - Feel bad
 - Cyberspace space
 - Shofar, e.g.
 - Etcher's medium
 - Atlas contents
 - Jackie's second
 - Soda



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Solutions

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V	O	I	P	L	I	V	H	I	T	V	B			
W	A	H	S	S	E	E	L	A	V	A	L	V		
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L	A	T	S	E	P	A	V	T	O	H	S	O	N	W

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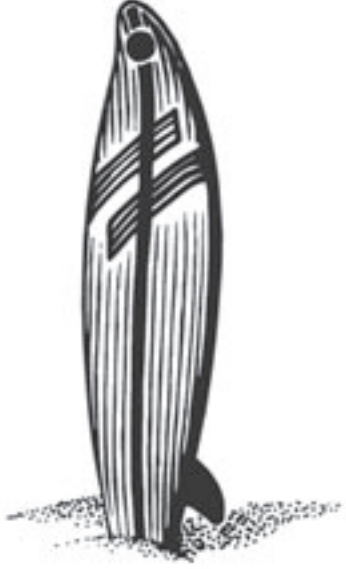
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Salukis send two to nationals

Josh Johnston
DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU is sending two of its own to compete with some of the best college athletes in the nation.

Junior thrower Brittany Riley and sophomore long jump competitor Bianca Stuart are set to represent the Salukis today and Saturday at the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Fayetteville, Ariz.

"We're really proud of them," senior long jump competitor Antwon Stapleton said. "That's what they've worked for all season."

Riley is ranked No. 1 in a world record weight throw of 24.57 meters, two meters ahead of the second ranked thrower.

Riley captured the MVC Indoor Championship Feb. 23 in the weight throw with a record toss of 23.12 meters and was named the Most Outstanding Field Athlete for the second straight year.

Stuart qualified for the NCAA championships with a jump of 6.31 meters. Stuart, who is ranked seventh, also nabbed her second straight long jump conference title at the MVC championships.

"They are both really strong athletes and are very dedicated to the sport," senior sprinter Maleah White said. "They are always working hard and doing their best."

With the men's and women's basketball teams gaining conference and national recognition, White said Riley and Stuart going to nationals could give some publicity to the track and field team as a whole, White said.

"Finally the track team is catching up with the football team and the men's and women's basketball teams," White said. "I think it is a great accomplishment for them."

Sophomore sprinter Stevie Warren credited the track and field coaches for the success of not only Riley and Stuart, but also for the entire team.

"The coach-athlete relationship goes hand in hand," Warren said. "They provide the workouts that helps



MELISSA BARR ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Brittany Riley throws during the MVC championships Saturday afternoon at the Student Recreation Center. Riley will compete in the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships this weekend.

us get better and better."

SIU is one of two Illinois colleges to send members of its track and field team to the NCAA championships. Seven Illinois athletes will compete in the championships — six for the women and one for the men.

Fighting Illini senior long jump competitor Yvonne Mensah is one spot below Stuart in the rankings with a jump of 6.30 meters.

jstone59@siu.edu
536-3311 ext. 282

Softball grabs highest ranking ever

Jeff Engelhardt
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The SIU softball team will head south this weekend, hoping to continue its climb in the rankings.

The No. 18 Salukis will compete at the Florida State Invitational in Tallahassee, Fla., this weekend. SIU will be the highest ranked team in the tournament and will begin play at 1:30 p.m. today against Florida A&M.

The Salukis (14-3) will play four games this weekend against Florida A&M, Buffalo, Western Carolina and No. 21 Georgia.

SIU has done well on the road this season, going 12-3 in away games.

But Saluki coach Kerri Blaylock said last weekend's homestand helped refresh the team.

"Staying at home helps you mentally because you can stay in a routine," Blaylock said. "We like it a lot. We like to play in front of our fans and we had really good crowds."

SIU looks to build on the two wins it had at home last weekend. Saluki pitcher Ashley Hamby tossed a no hitter in Sunday's 10-0 victory over Western Illinois, and SIU outscored its opponents 19-0 over the weekend.

The Salukis' first opponent is Florida A&M (4-15), who enters on a three-game winning streak. Florida A&M senior pitcher Danielle Brown has the most strikeouts in school history with 530, and leads the team offensively with a .345 batting average, including 10 homeruns and 30 RBI.

Saluki freshman second baseman Alicia Garza said the team has to focus on one team at a time.

"We usually play pretty well against good teams," Garza said. "One of our problems is that we play down to the other team's level, but I think we will play stronger and come out wanting to win."

Garza leads the Salukis in batting average at .380, with a team high eight doubles.

The toughest team in the field could be No. 25 Florida State, which SIU defeated 4-1 at the Feb. 25 NFCA Leadoff Classic.

Hamby said she credits her success to the offenses' ability to get her a lead.

"It's always very beneficial as a pitcher to go out there and have a couple runs on the board," Hamby said. "You're a lot more relaxed and can just go out there and throw."

SIU will compete in bracket play Sunday after they have finished pool play today and Saturday. The Salukis could play a total of seven games over the weekend if they make it to the championship.

Blaylock said the key to winning tournaments is the practice put in beforehand.

"I told them last week that we practiced well and we played well," she said. "I'm hoping that translates and that they come focused for practice so we can play well."

Eikenberg named Coach of the Year

Scott Mieszala
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Saluki coach Dana Eikenberg has turned around the SIU women's basketball program, and now she has a trophy to prove it.

Eikenberg was named the Missouri Valley Conference Coach

of the Year Thursday. SIU also won the MVC regular season championship this season with a 16-2 conference record.

The Salukis (20-9, 16-2) have seen their win totals jump year by year under Eikenberg.

Eikenberg, now in her third season as head coach at SIU, guided her

team to a 3-24 record in her first season. The Salukis improved to a 10-18 overall record in 2005-06, their best record since the 1997-98 season.

But SIU surpassed last season's 10 wins this year, doubling that total.

The Salukis are on an eight-game win streak and have won 14 of their last 15 games.

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Saluki Insider

Buffalo Bills running back Willis McGahee was traded to the Ravens on Thursday for a third- and seventh-round draft pick, as well as a third-rounder in the 2008 NFL Draft. Who got the better deal with this trade?



SCOTT MIESZALA

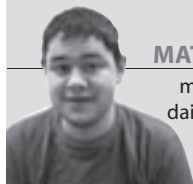
scott_mieszala@dailyegyptian.com

"The Ravens definitely won. McGahee is a good back that has not yet hit his prime. Finding a good running back in the draft is not as hard as the QB position but still pretty difficult. Let me throw out some names to make my point: Curtis Enis, Rashaan Salaam. Enough said."

"You know what? Looking at Willis McGahee's career numbers, he hasn't been all that impressive. But he has potential and scored 13 TDs in 2004, so the jury's out on him. But you can get some good players to develop in the third round, and there are still some running backs in free agency. Good deal all around. Take five guys."

JOSH JOHNSTON

jstone59@siu.edu



MATT HARTWIG

matt_hartwig@dailyegyptian.com

"I'd have to say the Ravens because a third- and seventh-round pick may never amount to anything, but McGahee's already established."

SALUKI TRACKER

TROY HUDSON



Troy Hudson, a guard for the Minnesota Timberwolves, has now appeared in four straight games, his latest coming Tuesday against the Los Angeles Lakers. Hudson, a former Saluki, played 23 minutes and scored four points with three rebounds and two assists in the Timberwolves' 117-107 win over the Lakers. This four-game stretch comes after eight straight games for Hudson without logging a minute.

Do you have questions for the Saluki Banter that you want answered?

E-mail de_editor@dailyegyptian.com

NCAA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

One loss in the NCAA Tournament spells the end of the season for the losing team, and for SIU seniors Tatum and Young, a loss means their final game in a Salukis uniform.

Falker said because of this, SIU is trying to win for the senior duo.

"Most likely be playing with an extra sense of desperation," Falker said. "Why not? It could be their last game."

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TITLE

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"We're the hunted now because everybody wants to beat us, but our focus is to stay poised and not let the emotion and excitement take over," Moore said. "It's a great push for us; it gives us momentum going in and allowing all ten players on the team to come in and have an input to our win, is a great component to winning the conference tourney."

If SIU wins Friday it will move to a semifinal game against either Evansville or Northern Iowa at 1:05

p.m., Saturday. The Salukis swept both teams in the regular season.

Junior guard Erin Pauk said the team has the same mindset regardless of the team they play.

"For the most part, we are preparing the same way we do every game, although, we've been focusing a lot on our offense because the defense has carried us in our last few victories," Pauk said. "People are going to step up no matter who they're playing because this is some people's last go around and everyone's going to give us their best shot."

SPORTS BRIEFS

NFL

Jamal Lewis to play for Cleveland Browns

NEW YORK (AP) — Jamal Lewis agreed to a one-year deal with the Cleveland Browns, a person within the NFL told The Associated Press.

Lewis was released last week in a salary-cap move by Baltimore, which elected not to pay its career rushing leader a \$5 million roster bonus. He'll now try to boost the Browns, who were last in the league in rushing in 2006.

PGA

Tiger Woods to host the PGA tour event

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tiger Woods joined elite company as one of only three players to host a PGA Tour event during their careers.

But this wasn't about taking his place with Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer. Woods was more interested in the dozen children seated to the side of a packed lounge in the National Press Club, where Woods and PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem announced plans for the AT&T National that marks the return of golf to the nation's capital.

Still to be determined is where the tournament will be played and the size of the field.

Woods made clear, however, that the tournament would pay tribute to the military over the Fourth of July, and pay for a new Tiger Woods Learning Center in the Washington area as he expands his foundation's goal to help children.

NCAA

Heisman Trophy winners get their ballots for the College Football Hall of Fame

DALLAS (AP) — Heisman Trophy winners Tim Brown and Doug Flutie are among those making their first appearance on the ballot for the College Football Hall of Fame.

Other first timers include Northwestern linebacker Pat Fitzgerald, a two-time Bednarik Award winner as national defensive player of the year, UCLA offensive lineman Randy Cross and Penn State running back Curt Warner.

The ballot was mailed this week to the more than 12,000 members of The National Football Foundation. The votes will be tabulated and submitted to the NFF's Honors Court, which selects the class. Former NCAA president and Atlantic Coast Conference commissioner Gene Corrigan heads the 11-member NFF Honors Court.

NBA

Piston's guard Hunter suspended for 10 games

NEW YORK (AP) — Detroit Pistons guard Lindsey Hunter was suspended 10 games without pay by the NBA after testing positive for phentermine, a banned substance primarily used for weight loss.

Hunter said the pill was prescribed for his wife Ivy.

Phentermine is listed as a steroid or performance-enhancing drug under the league's anti-drug program and brings an automatic 10-game penalty for a first positive test.

Hunter began his suspension when the Pistons faced the Cleveland Cavaliers and will lose more than \$202,000.

MEN'S GOLF SCHEDULE

March 12	Samford Intercollegiate	All Day
March 13	Samford Intercollegiate	All Day
April 02	Pepsi Shocker Classic	All Day
April 03	Pepsi Shocker Classic	All Day
April 09	ASU Indian Classic	All Day
April 10	ASU Indian Classic	All Day
April 23	State Farm/MVC	All Day
April 24	Missouri	All Day

WOMEN'S GOLF SCHEDULE

March 10	Rio Verde Invitational	All Day
March 10	Rio Verde Invitational	All Day
March 11	Rio Verde Invitational	All Day
March 25	Saluki Invitational	All Day
March 13	Saluki Invitational	All Day
April 06	Illini Spring Classic	All Day
April 07	Illini Spring Classic	All Day
April 15	State Farm/MVC	All Day
April 16	State Farm/MVC	All Day
April 17	State Farm/MVC	All Day
May 10	NCAA Regionals	All Day
May 11	NCAA Regionals	All Day
May 12	NCAA Regionals	All Day
May 22	NCAA Championships	All Day
May 23	NCAA Championships	All Day
May 24	NCAA Championships	All Day
May 25	NCAA Championships	All Day

BASEBALL SCHEDULE

March 10	Youngstown State	2 p.m.
March 11	Youngstown State	1 p.m.
March 13	Middle Tenn. State	3 p.m.
March 14	Middle Tenn. State	3 p.m.
March 16	Western Michigan	2 p.m.
March 17	Western Michigan	1 p.m.
March 18	Western Michigan	1 p.m.
March 21	Murray State	2 p.m.
March 23	Illinois State	2 p.m.
March 24	Illinois State	1 p.m.
March 25	Illinois State	2 p.m.
March 28	Tennessee-Martin	2 p.m.
March 30	Evansville	6 p.m.

SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

March 9	Florida A&M	1:30 p.m.
March 9	Western Carolina	4 p.m.
March 10	Buffalo	11 a.m.
March 10	Georgia	4 p.m.
March 10	Bracket play	TBA
March 11	Bracket play	TBA
March 13	Alabama-Birmingham	2 p.m.
March 17	Bradley	12 p.m.
March 17	Bradley	2 p.m.
March 18	Bradley	12 p.m.
March 20	Evansville	2 p.m.
March 20	Evansville	4 p.m.
March 21	Missouri	3 p.m.
March 24	Indiana State	12 p.m.
March 24	Indiana State	2 p.m.
March 25	Indiana State	12 p.m.
March 31	Creighton	12 p.m.
March 31	Creighton	2 p.m.
April 1	Creighton	12 p.m.
April 3	SEMO	3 p.m.
April 3	SEMO	5 p.m.
April 6	Drake	6 p.m.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Next stop: The Big Dance

Salukis prepare for NCAA Tournament

Scott Mieszala
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The Salukis are hoping experience can lead to more success in the 2007 NCAA Tournament.

SIU has four seniors, including guards Jamaal Tatum and Tony Young, both starters. Saluki coach Chris Lowery said he hopes the extra experience helps SIU perform well in the NCAA Tournament, which kicks off March 15.

This season's NCAA Tournament will be the fourth for both Young and Tatum.

"I think the experience of having seniors will hopefully be more beneficial than it was last year," Lowery said.

The Salukis bowed out in the first round of last season's NCAA tournament, losing 64-46 to No. 6 seed West Virginia. The two SIU seniors in 2006 were Austin Brooks and Kyle Smithpeters, who combined to play seven minutes in the loss to West Virginia.

SIU (27-6, 15-3) was the No. 11 seed in the Atlanta Region in last season's tournament, playing the game in Auburn Hills, Mich.

The No. 14 ranked Salukis are expected to be favored in the first round of the NCAA Tournament this season, but Tatum said being favored isn't important.

"It doesn't really matter, for real. Being the underdogs or being the favorites, you still got to go out and play. Otherwise you lose, and that's the bottom line," Tatum said. "You got to go out and compete and forget about everything except what you have to do to win that game."

SIU played in the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament last week-

end, beating Drake in the first round and Bradley in the semifinal before falling to Creighton, 67-61. Tatum scored 21 points in the losing effort, and Saluki junior forward Randal Falker shot 1-for-5 from the floor with a season-low three points.

Falker, though, said he isn't feeling discouraged heading into the NCAA Tournament.

"You're going to have bad games, you're going to have games where you don't produce like you want to," Falker said.

SIU will not find out who, where or when it plays next until 5 p.m.

Sunday. The Salukis will be at Copper Dragon for Selection Sunday, and the event is open to the public.

When asked if it mattered where SIU will compete,

Lowery said that's unimportant.

"You just want to go and do well," he said. "It's about the draw, it's about your match-up. I think the anticipation of knowing who you're going to play is more important than knowing where you'll go."

The Salukis won this season's MVC regular season title, winning 13 games in a row between Jan. 20 and March 3. They also achieved the highest ranking in school history, coming in at No. 11 in both of last week's major polls.

However, Tatum said none of that matters once the NCAA Tournament begins.

"We got to forget about what we've done up until this point," Tatum said. "It's a new season right now, we're 0-0, we got to come out and win some games, just win a lot of games in a row."

See NCAA, Page 15



DuVALE RILEY ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Matt Shaw dunks during the MVC tournament in St. Louis. SIU lost in the championship game, but will play in the NCAA Tournament next week.



SIU guard Jayme Sweere makes a dash to the net while being guarded by Wichita State guard Frannie Vathauer during Saturday's basketball game.

DAN CELVI
DAILY EGYPTIAN

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Salukis have dual title in sight

Daws need to win tournament to grab NCAA berth

Matt Hartwig
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The SIU women's basketball team has a daunting task ahead of it.

After clinching the Missouri Valley Conference regular season championship weeks ago, the Salukis will still need to win their conference tournament at the Drake Knapp Center in Des Moines, Iowa, to garner a NCAA tournament berth.

SIU begins its quest for a dual championship at 12:05 p.m. Friday against either Wichita State or Drake.

Both the Bulldogs and the Shockers have losing records and the No. 1 seeded Salukis swept the season series

against both teams.

In the 2006 tournament, the Indiana State Sycamores went into the tournament as the No. 1 seed but lost in the championship game to No. 7 Missouri State.

While Missouri State snatched the NCAA automatic bid, the Sycamores were not invited to the NCAA tournament despite winning the regular season title.

"We're familiar with all these teams so it's about us being in good position and playing with hunger," Saluki coach Dana Eikenberg said. "With three games in three days, we know there's a strong test ahead of us and we need everyone to step up."

The Salukis crushed the Shockers 72-39 in their final game of the regular season at home. The SIU bench chipped in 39 points in the route and held a team under 40 points for the first time this season.

"We're familiar with all these teams so it's about us being in good position and playing with hunger." Saluki coach Dana Eikenberg.

—Dana Eikenberg
Saluki coach

Senior forward Carlai Moore, who scored six points in her final home game, was named to the MVC first team Wednesday and has led SIU in scoring this season at 14.4 points per game.

Moore said the way the bench stepped up in the last game should help the Salukis' play with a target on their back.

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