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MEREDITH MERCIER - DAILY EGYPTIAN

(Above) Freshman Ashley Bennett, left, waits anxiously with his roommate, freshman Brandon Macier, right, to return to their room after a fire broke out in Schneider tower Monday evening. The students did not return to their dorm rooms until 2:34 a.m. The cause of the fire is still unknown.

ANTHONY SOUFFLE - DAILY EGYPTIAN

(Right) The Carbondale Fire Department responded to a fire around midnight at Schneider Hall Tuesday. The fire was put out quickly, but residents of Schneider Hall were unable to re-enter their dorm for two hours.

Fire strikes in Schneider

Students, faculty evacuated; smoke damage remains

Valerie N. Donnals
Daily Egyptian

The students on the 17th floor of Schneider Hall congregated in their student lounges and hallways Tuesday, reluctant to go into their rooms, which were still acid with the smell of smoke from Monday night's fire.

The fire, which was slow to start, began in the lower levels of the building's trash chute between 11 p.m. and 12 a.m., according to Tom Woolf, assistant director of public affairs.

He said the cause remains under investigation, but nothing has been found so far to indicate it was intentional. Firefighters were notified at 11:58 p.m. when the fire alarm was pulled.

Danna Howell, a junior in health care management, was the resident adviser who pulled the fire alarm that began the evacuation of more than 800 students and university employees.

"A little after 11 o'clock, one of my residents came by and told me she smelled smoke," Howell said. "I walked out, and C wing was just engulfed in smoke."

Woolf said the chute was full at the time the fire started, and the residence hall crews, which empty trash from the time the chutes are locked at 11 p.m. until 2 a.m., had not yet gotten to the

dumpster that caught on fire. Howell alerted her floor to evacuate and pulled the alarm. However, due to the smoke, she was unable to follow the entire procedure for resident advisers, which involves using a master key to enter each room and make sure everyone has evacuated.

"I couldn't see anything at all before I was even done," Howell said. Captain Todd Sigler of the Campus Police Department said the most smoke was on floors 12 through 17.

An 18-year-old male visiting Schneider Hall was transported to Carbondale Memorial Hospital for smoke inhalation. He was treated and released soon after.

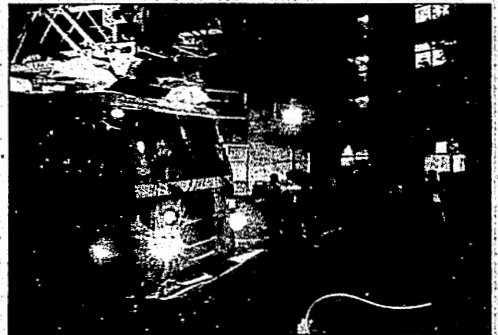
The students were evacuated to the Rinella playground outside the Brush Towers sometime after 2:30 a.m. Howell said resident advisers from Mae Smith Hall came out to help with crowd control and talked to residents who were upset.

Howell said the frequent false alarms during her two years living in Schneider Hall had caused her to become nearly immune to the panic that most freshmen feel the first time they go off.

"This was the first one that really scared me," Howell said. "I have never been in a fire before with all of that smoke."

Ed Jones, director of University Housing, said the fire was contained to the chute and took less than 15 minutes for the firefighters to extinguish with.

See FIRE, page 12



New bill threatens to prosecute alcohol providers

Suppliers may be held accountable for damage, injury

Moustafa Ayad
Daily Egyptian

Stop and think about the next time you hand someone a beer at a party.

If he or she is under the age of 18, effective Oct. 1, 2004, you will be accountable for their actions.

They kill; you kill.

If they burn a house down you burn a house down, all for that beer.

Organizers, as well as attendees of student keggers, will be held accountable for the actions of their underage participants.

In response to multiple cases of parents as well as students providing minors under the age of 18 alcohol, the House has passed a bill that was signed by Gov. Blagojevich on Monday to hold providers of liquor as legally liable.

Mayor Brad Cole said the bill is necessary to prevent underage drinking and to put an end to the practice of legal drinkers providing alcohol for underage students.

"It is important to hold accountable the people that sell or deliver alcohol and drugs to minors," Cole

said. "I would hope that would give our law enforcement just another avenue to try to deter that kind of activity."

Cole suggested businesses that sell liquor or individuals who sell illegal drugs to minors will always be held accountable since they are, in essence, already breaking the law.

"If they are serving anybody who is under the age of 18 they should be driven away regardless," he said.

Rep. Mike Bost, R-Murphysboro, said the bill was initiated after a party where a set of parents had provided liquor to minors under the age of 18.

The bill, named the Drug

or Alcohol Impaired Minor Responsibility Act, was passed by the House through a vote of its 117 members with only one dissenting vote.

"Not only will you be charged with providing alcohol to a minor or providing illegal drugs, but you will be responsible for any damages that occur by that minor," Bost said.

"If there is any damage that occurs, then you are going to be liable."

Damage refers to bodily harm as well as property damage that can occur at the hands of an inebriated minor.

"Go ahead, have a party for your

"It puts it on the backs of the keggers, and that's the reality."

— Rep. Mike Bost
R-Murphysboro

teen-ager," he said.

"You say, 'OK, I am going to have a party at my house,' and you're going to allow teen-age kids to come there, even when those teen-agers consume alcohol with your knowledge, you will be held accountable."

James Karayiannis, general manager at Pinch Penny Pub and Copper

See ALCOHOL, page 12

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Thursday
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\$1 Domestic & Flavors

Friday
Friday Afternoon Club
- Collector's Cups -
\$2.25 Bacardi Flavors
\$1.25 Coors Light Bottles
Killing Vegas

Saturday
Minimum Wage
Free Pig Roast @ 8:00 pm
\$3.50 Jumbo Hurricanes
\$2.25 Captain Morgan & Parrot Bay

NATIONAL NEWS

Commandments monument may be moved soon

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — About 100 demonstrators prayed Monday outside the Alabama Judicial Building, keeping up their opposition to a federal court order to remove a 2,300-pound stone representation of the Ten Commandments from the building's rotunda.

Attorneys prepared to ask a federal court in Mobile to block the removal of the Christian monument.

The lawsuit on behalf of a Christian talk show host and would name as defendants the eight associate justices who last week overruled Chief Justice Roy Moore and directed that the federal court order be followed, said attorney Jim Zeigler.

Many of the monument supporters spent the night in sleeping bags on a plaza outside the building and nearby steps, and one scaled lattice work on the side of the building and spent the night on a ledge. The unidentified man climbed down after daybreak.

Federal courts have held that the monument violates the Constitution's ban on government promotion of a religious doctrine.

Moore, who contends it is his duty to acknowledge God in the public rotunda of the state government building, was suspended last week by a state judicial ethics panel for disobeying the order by U.S. District Judge Myron

Thompson to move the monument.

Moore, who was at home in Gadsden on Monday, has pledged to argue his case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Whenever workers come to remove the monument, supporters of Moore intend to keep it from going anywhere by locking hands and dropping to their knees.

36 kids die in hot cars this year

DALLAS, Texas (AP) — So far this year at least 36 children have died from excessive exposure to the heat after being left in automobiles for long periods of time.

In one such case last week, it was about 100 degrees in Dallas when 8-month-old Jordan Thomas was forgotten inside a day-care center's sport-utility vehicle. Inside, the temperature soared to a blistering 130 to 140 degrees.

Experts and advocacy groups say such deaths usually result from forgetfulness rather than any deliberate disregard for the child's safety.

The number of reported heat deaths is higher than ever, increasing from 25 in 1998. There were 31 in 1999, 28 in 2000 and 34 in 2001.

What many people do not realize is just how quickly cars and trucks can become stifling death traps. Null said interior temperatures can soar to 105 in less than a half-hour on a 72-degree day. Cracking the windows only slows the heat buildup.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. deaths in Iraq surpass 'end of major combat' total

BAGHDAD, Iraq — More American service members have now died in Iraq since the end of major combat than during the height of the war.

On Tuesday, a soldier was killed in an attack on a military convoy near Baghdad, bringing the death toll since May 1 — when U.S. President George W. Bush declared major combat operations over — to 139.

Between March 20, when the war began, and May 1, 138 U.S. service members died, according to the U.S. military.

The latest U.S. victim is a 3rd Corps Support Command soldier who died in an explosive device attack on a military convoy near the town of Hamariyah, 25 kilometers (16 miles) northwest of Baghdad, U.S. Central Command said.

Two other soldiers were wounded in the attack and were taken to the 28th Combat Support Hospital for treatment. The names of all three soldiers were being withheld

pending notification of relatives.

The U.S. postwar death toll reached 138 on Monday with the death of a U.S. soldier from a "non-hostile" gunshot wound, the U.S. military said.

The soldier — whose name was withheld pending notification of relatives — was with the 130th Engineer Brigade, according to a spokesman.

Since May 1, 61 of the 139 U.S. service members killed have died in hostile action. Between March 20 and May 1, 116 of the 138 died in combat.

Meanwhile, UK-based charity and relief organization Oxfam said Tuesday it has pulled its 10-member international staff from Iraq because of security concerns.

Oxfam spokesman Brendan Cox said 50 Iraqi staff remain. The agency previously pulled staff from Nasarya for security reasons. International workers have been sent to Jordan.

The decision follows last week's bombing of U.N. headquarters in Baghdad that killed at least 20 people, including U.N. envoy Sergio Vieira de Mello.

On Monday, the International Committee of the Red Cross said it was reducing the number of non-Iraqi staffers working in Baghdad.

Today	Five-day Forecast	Almanac
High 92 Low 68 Chance of rain.	Thursday Chance of rain 90/69 Friday Chance of rain 86/64 Saturday Chance of rain 81/56 Sunday Chance of rain 83/56 Monday Chance of rain 83/57	Average high: 85 Average low: 61 Wednesday's hi/low: 110/46

CORRECTIONS

In the Aug. 25 issue of the DAILY EGYPTIAN page 7 columnist Tifair Gillespie should have been identified as her.

Readers who spot an error should contact the DAILY EGYPTIAN accuracy desk at 536-3311 ext. 253.

POLICE REPORTS

University
Criminal damage to a vehicle occurred between 6:30 p.m. Saturday and 7:53 a.m. Monday in Lot 23. There are no suspects at this time.

Criminal damage to state-superstayed property occurred between 3:30 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday at the Green House. Windows were discovered broken. There are no suspects at this time.

A license plate from an SIUC Police squad car was reportedly stolen between 12:01 a.m. and 12:44 a.m. Tuesday on East Park Street outside Schneider Hall. There are no suspects at this time.

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The DAILY EGYPTIAN has a fall and spring circulations of 20,000. Copies are distributed on campus and in the Carbondale, Murphysboro, and Carterville communities.

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Carbondale
Karen Nesby, 37, of Carbondale was arrested and charged with aggravated battery, and Jamell Eason, 18, of Carbondale was arrested and charged with assault at 9:40 a.m. Monday in the 200 block of Emerald Lane. Nesby and Eason were both taken to the Jackson County Jail in Murphysboro, where they remain incarcerated.

CALENDAR

Today

- National Association of Black Journalists
First meeting of the semester
6 p.m.
Room 1214 Communications Building.
- Undergraduate Student Anthropology Association
Bad Movie Night
6 p.m.
Room 3438 Faner
- Foreign Language and International Trade Club
General meeting
7 p.m.
Student Center, third floor, Activity Room B

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

Heat affects various members of community

100-degree heat burdens everyday life

Jessica Yorama
Daily Egyptian

The distance between classes on campuses is not any longer than it usually is, but an increase in temperatures certainly makes it seem that way.

Jamaal Garner was one of the many SIUC students who, in spite of finding rides to campus, was still forced to deal with the heat as he traveled from class to class in Tuesday's more-than 100-degree heat.

"You can look at my face and see how I'm dealing with the heat," said Garner, a junior in radio-television. There are a few who have been able to deal with the heat.

Tony Bigler, a carpenter at Bigler Construction, said his years working in humid conditions have allowed him to become used to the heat. But for those who have not built up a "tolerance" to the heat, recent temperatures, between 90 and, occasionally, more than 100 degrees, have been unbearable.

There is nothing unusual about a humid summer, but many are finding it particularly hot for a time of year when fall is supposed to be slowly and surely approaching.

Bret Dougherty, coordinator of marketing at Touch of Nature, said that although he does not see a decrease in attendance, Touch of Nature, an environmental research center that holds conferences and sponsors programs, has been affected by the weather.

"One of the things it does is slow down the rate of activities," said Dougherty, who said the current heat has caused a decrease in the amount of programs planned for each day and a concentration on programs geared toward water activities. "When you're not acclimated to the intensity of this heat, it

really zaps you."

He said the decision of coordinators as to whether to cancel programs is based on the age and physical ability of participants, but all programs are making certain they provide a great deal of water for the 100-degree heat a burden for everyday life of many people involved.

People are not the only ones dealing with the heat. Beth Degroof, a certified veterinary technician at Lakeside Veterinary Hospital, said that while heat-related incidences are lower than the previous year, there have been a few cases of over-heated animals.

She reminds pet owners to keep animals in the shade, provide an adequate amount of water for outside pets and basically use "common sense" when it comes to dealing with the heat.

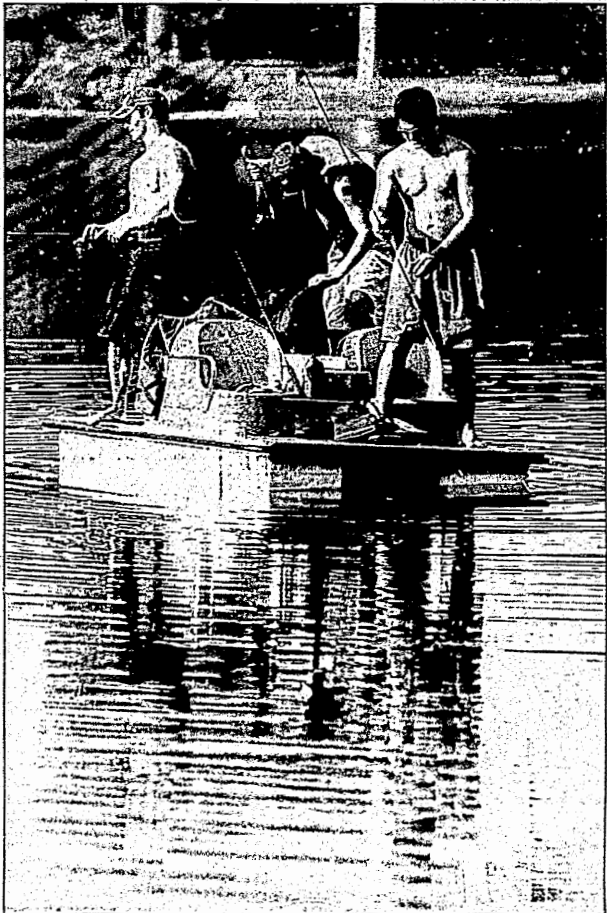
While the current heat provides a certain level of discomfort for pets as well as humans, particularly those who walk on a regular basis, similar temperatures from previous years show that such heat is nothing new.

Ed Varsa, a professor in plant and soil, suggested that complaints might come from being spoiled by cooler temperatures in previous months.

"We were rather blessed because it was cooler than normal in June and July," Varsa said. "It's only been about three or four degrees above average, but it feels like an oven. We got used to the cooler temperatures, but we're paying for it now."

Varsa said three days of temperatures topping out more than 90 degrees and three weeks without rain have taken their toll on plants and soil but said he is looking forward to this weekend, when temperatures are expected to be in the 80s.

Reporter Jessica Yorama
can be reached at
jyorama@dailyegyptian.com.



Left to right, sophomores Travis Smith, Chuck Matalonis and Ryan Maher take Tuesday afternoon off to go fishing at campus lake.

MEREDITH MERCIER
DAILY EGYPTIAN

A Thank You

Southern Illinois University Carbondale recognizes and celebrates its employees. Thank you for your many years of service. Recognizing the achievements of University employees is one of the aspirations of Southern at 150, a long-range plan that guides the future of SIUC.

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ANTHONY SOUFFLE - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Janie Lewis of Metropolis sorts mail at the Carbondale post office. Lewis works along with 175 other employees, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to make sure the mail gets delivered.

Return to Sender

Students forget to change addresses during summer

• story by LINDSEY J. MASTIS

SINCE THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGAN, HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS HAVE COME BACK TO CARBONDALE ASKING,



"WHERE'S MY MAIL?"

But contrary to their expectations, the U.S. Postal Service does not hold their mail. Dan Finnegan, supervisor of customer services for the post office, said students often forget to change their address over the summer and end up missing payments for credit cards or subscriptions.

He said the post office holds mail for up to 10 days, but unless a student changes his or her address or informs the office that he or she will be gone for an extended amount of time, the mail will be returned to the sender.

"We can extend that a couple of days, but we can't just hold mail all summer, wondering whether students will come back," Finnegan said.

Mary Owens, a window clerk from Marion, said the change-of-address forms make it harder for the mail to get through the post office.

She said some students get upset when they learn that their mail is not waiting for them.

They come back three months later and want to know where their mail is at," she said. "It's all been returned to the sender because we can't keep it for three months, and they don't understand that."

"The first week of the semester, we have hundreds of students who walk in and who have just left without a change of address, nothing, saying, 'where's my mail?' And unfortunately, we put in a change of address order for them that says moved, left no address, back in May."

On average, more than 50,000 change-of-address cards are filled out in Carbondale a year.

Finnegan said students should not assume that the mail carrier would know if they moved.

"Students can't rely on their friendly mailman to just remembering that they moved from trailer 32 to trailer 39," he said. "We need the cards to be on file; the mail does have to go through the forwarding system to get to that one trailer to the other."

Although some students intend on returning to Carbondale, it is the senders of the mail who want to know if they still live there.

Credit card and utility bills are just some of the reasons mail cannot be stored at the facility for a long period of time.

The companies want to know when a customer has moved and where they should send a product or a bill, Finnegan said.

But for students who live in dorms, the process is a little different. Finnegan said the post office delivers all the mail for SIUC, and then the University sorts it.

"We just send that mail to SIU; we don't keep track of forwards. SIU has to do all that," he said. "People who live off campus, though, get their mail from us."

They're the ones who have to give us a change of address and notify us where they're going to be."

Although changing an address when moving sounds like an easy task to complete, Finnegan said many students just don't do it.

"I think they're just preoccupied with other things," Finnegan said. "I think

Alli Dimmick, a junior majoring in photography at SIUC, re-wraps the package of T-shirts she is sending to her brother in Fox River Grove. She was asked to rewrap the package because it displayed a Corona label, which violates one of the rules of re-packaging at the post office. This is one of the most common mistakes made by college students when shipping packages.



ANTHONY SOUFFLE
DAILY EGYPTIAN

See POSTAL, page 5

POSTAL
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

That process can take more than a week, and often, a letter to a student needs to just get across town. Finnegan said many people are surprised to learn that their letter is in St. Louis instead of at the local post office.

"They don't want to wait for the days and days it takes for that mail to get back through the forwarding center," he said.

And with school starting up again, the post office has an increased amount of mail. Allen Rogers from Du Quoin often helps load the mail trucks.

"We have twice as much mail leaving this office Saturday as we usually do," he said. "You just have

to stay on top of the game. We try to move the mail the same every day."

In addition to students receiving and sending packages, a lot of companies are sending Labor Day sales specials through the mail. Although it may take longer for catalogues and packages to get through, Finnegan said the post office does empty the first class mail twice a day.

Packages are another difficulty for both the post office and students. Finnegan said mail carriers often take care of packages that are fragile, but the machines that sort the mail are not always as gentle.

"We ask everybody who mails a

package whether there is anything liquid, fragile, perishable or potentially hazardous, and that gives us a means of things that might not be mailable," he said.

Finnegan said care packages from home containing fragile items or food could be broken or spoiled because the mail is loaded in the heat onto trucks without air-conditioning. He suggests that for things like chocolate, people wait to send until the winter and urges people to carefully pack fragile items when sending them through the mail.

Reporter Lindsey J. Mastis
can be reached at
ljmastis@dailyegyptian.com

NEWS BRIEFS

UNIVERSITY

College of Education students, faculty prepare for picnic

The College of Education's Welcome Picnic will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27 in the Wham-Pulliam Breeze-way.

This is for new and returning students and faculty of the College of Education and Human Services. Registered Student Organizations of the College will have booths set up for the students about their activities. Free food and prizes will be given out.

CARBONDALE

Resurfacing Route 13 creates delays for motorists Thursday

The Illinois Department of Transportation is reminding motorists to expect traffic delays between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. Thursday on Illinois Route 13 west in Carbondale.

Resurfacing of the Route 13-New Era Road intersection is scheduled to take place throughout the day. IDOT wants to remind motorists to avoid delays by seeking alternate travel routes.

Women's Center accepting diaper donations at K-Mart

A "baby shower" will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27 at K-Mart on the east side of Carbondale on Route 13.

The diaper drive will help the Women's Center's Shelter Program, which is in need of baby wipes and diapers of all sizes. Donations are accepted.



ANTHONY SUFFLE - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Dan Finnegan, the supervisor of customer services at the Carbondale post office, handles many questions from the general public regarding the U.S. Postal Service.

Fire Up The Savings This Holiday Weekend!

98¢ LB.
Pride of the Farm
WHOLE PORK BUTT
Limit 3 per order
w/add'l. \$10 purchase-
Sliced into steaks.



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EARS FOR
Colorado Mountain Grown
SUPERSWEET YELLOW CORN
In-husk



59¢
Schnucks
SUPER SODA
6 pack-19 oz. cans or 2 liter bottle-
All varieties



BUY ONE GET ONE FREE
Schnucks Select
ICE CREAM
Reg. \$4.49-1/2 gallon carton-All varieties
including light



2 \$5
FOR
Schnucks
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OUR WORD

Abuse law good but empty

The entire Illinois General Assembly and the Governor recently did something they rarely do — they agreed.

House Bill 3486, which allows victims of physical and sexual abuse unpaid leave for up to 12 weeks in a 12-month period, was unanimously passed by the Illinois House and Senate. Gov. Rod Blagojevich signed the bill into law Tuesday.

According to the new law, the Illinois General Assembly found that women who experience domestic violence are more likely to be unemployed, report lower incomes and rely on welfare than women who are not abused.

Wendy Pollack, senior attorney for the National Center on Poverty Law, said in addition to the stress and anxiety that comes from abuse, many battered women are threatened with the loss of a job or actually lost their jobs because of workdays missed. As a last resort, many of these women tend to go on welfare.

We applaud the passing of this legislation and its effort to help victims — female or male — heal after domestic abuse.

But this law is a stepping-stone, not a solution. At the DAILY EGYPTIAN, we see an unacceptable amount of domestic violence cases come across the blotter each day. And these are simply the ones that are reported to the police. Many go unreported.

To bystanders, it is easy to blame a victim for not getting help. So many people believe the saying "If it happens once, it is his fault. If it happens twice, it's hers."

But this law is a stepping stone, not a solution.

For the batterer will become more violent and maybe even fatal if she attempts to leave; her family and friends may not support her leaving; she is worried about the difficulties of single parenting in reduced financial circumstance; there is a mix of good times, love and hope along with manipulation, intimidation and fear, and she may not know about or have access to safety and support.

As the NCADV points out there are many reasons why every victim of abuse doesn't walk out after its first occurrence.

For all these reasons and more, the legislation seems "empty," because being allowed time off and having the ability to take it are two different things.

Many abused women stay in troubling relationships because they do not feel they have the means to leave. The involvement of children only worsens the situation.

Thus, even if a woman knew she would not be fired for her time off, she still has a difficult decision to make: get the bills paid or take time off to begin the healing process. For so many women, the only choice is to try to do both simultaneously.

Still, this law is a step in the right direction. It shows Illinois lawmakers' acceptance that domestic violence is a huge problem and their efforts to lessen its scars.



GUEST COLUMNIST

The desk, the pauper and the king

Marc Torney
SIUC Student

When is a desk more than just a desk? There must be something special about Chancellor Walter Wendler's new office furniture; after all, it cost \$8,920.

But what really makes this desk so special is the circumstances in which it was purchased. You see, that desk occupies a special place in Wendler's spacious office layout.

Shoved in a corner, behind Wendler's \$6,170 computer table, are memos on the downsizing of dozens of employees. In the wastebasket, (which may or may not be studded with precious gems: I am not typically a guest in the Chancellor's office) beside Wendler's \$950 table, is a list of unfilled faculty positions. And in the drawer of Wendler's \$1,800 desk is an ignored request for repairs to buildings, classrooms and, yes, desks that actual students use.

Nine-thousand dollars is really not that much money in the grand scheme of things. Yet, the fact remains that this sum of money went to refurbish the chancellor's office while employees are losing their jobs or being downgraded to "seasonal part-time" employment.

While departments are understaffed and scrimping just to keep the functions that they offer students, and while the classrooms and furniture in buildings like Faner and Pulliam are outrageously old and shoddy, this is an insult to the SIUC community.

Wendler's desk is more than just a desk; it is symbolic of the egregious administrative waste at this University.

In April 2002, the DAILY EGYPTIAN quoted Wendler describing SIU's ailments: "Southern was the second jewel in the crown of the higher education constellation in the state of Illinois. We can't say that anymore.... And I don't like it."

However, it appears that Wendler has grown comfortable with being less than great so long as the administration remains well-funded.

Furniture that cost \$9,000 is just the tip of the iceberg. According to the Faculty Association, in 2002 the cost of SIU's administration is \$39.2 million more than that of its peer institutions. The difference comes from the misplaced objectives of this administration.

While SIU is spending more and more on its administration, it is spending less and less on the students and faculty — to say nothing of the other employes, who are treated as if they were an expendable resource. If Wendler's goal is to improve this University, then why is it that the number of faculty and tenured faculty are on the decline? Why are college departments and employees bearing the brunt of the cutbacks while the chancellor outfits his office in fancy?

Wendler would argue that he is entitled to the money for the furniture as it was promised to him when he signed on at SIU. But the

chancellor is, in part, a symbolic position at the University. While the chancellor works, and no doubt very hard, he is something of a figurehead for SIU. When employees lose their jobs to cutbacks, it is Wendler whom they look to.

Following news headlines about layoffs and budget cuts with a purchase of personal extravagance is not just bad leadership, it is an affront to those who have lost their jobs, and to a University community that is tightening its belt for the foreseeable future.

Wendler could have used this money to make a statement about his commitment to the SIU community by donating the money, despite his entitlement to it, to help keep an employee or two from being laid off. That is not the way of our administration, however.

The desk is just a minor issue, and it will soon be forgotten. Those employees who have lost their jobs will not likely forget that this administration wastes millions of dollars — money that could easily allow them to keep their jobs. The faculty will remember how much the administration spends on itself when they see their departments getting smaller and poorer. And the students will remember when they see how their quality of education declines every year.

At least it's a really nice desk.

These views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The fearless are merely fearless. People who act in spite of their fear are truly brave.”

James A LaFond-Lewis
author

WORDS OVERHEARD

“I was pissed when I found out. I didn't want to live here because there's no reason we should have to spend \$795 a month to support some [convicted sex offender's] lawyer bills.”

Joanna Koolstra
on her reaction to the continued ownership of Home Rentals by Henry Fisher

COLUMNISTS

It's an ambiguous day in the neighborhood

The other day, one of my superiors was asked to write a letter of recommendation for a man he doesn't know. In fact, he doesn't even know this guy's last name. But being the civic-minded Sweet Old Boss (SOB) he is, he agreed to this arduous task.

Five minutes later, he turned the project over to me. Perhaps it was because my wisdom is only exceeded by my beauty, or it could have been because I was sitting there using my computer terminal to play Tetris.

So I trudged back to my desk, stared at the Post-It (which merely read: "FOR FRED—HAVE BY THURS.") and tried to visualize what this man was like. What qualities does he have? What does he stand for? Can he beat my score at Tetris?

After spending several minutes (and by several I mean almost two) focusing all of my energy on the clairvoyance it turns out I don't have, I decided on a more practical route: to think of every person I've ever met named Fred and write about them instead.

Let's see, there's this old dude named Fred who hangs out on the grocery store parking lot. He smells like Bigfoot with jungle rot, but according to local urban legend, he once won an Olympic medal in Calgary for Cat Juggling.

There might be something there, but it's probably too specific to apply to very many other Freds.

The only other Fred I could think of was Mister Rogers, but so far, he was the frontrunner. So I went to work, composing a letter of recommendation for Mister Rogers in hopes that his bio would fit this other man or at least flatter him. I mean, who wouldn't like Mister Rogers? He was a happening guy. Unfortunately, I had almost the entire thing finished before I realized two things:

- 1) My letter sounded like a eulogy, and
- 2) This guy probably does not play with a trolley.

So I was back to square one. Well, except that I now had "Be My Neighbor" stuck in my head and even less interest in doing my boss this



Not just another priddy face

BY GRACE PRIDDY
vulcanlogie81@hotmail.com

favor. I got on the Internet and typed the words "ambiguous+phrase" into my search engine. Ironically, one of the first things it pulled up was a template for writing — ta-dah! — letters of recommendation for people you don't know or don't like!

In a flash, my work was done. I stepped back and admired my handiwork. It was perfect, right down to the last "team player" reference. That website was great. It even explained how to secretly convey that your recommended person is a drunk, or always absent, without them realizing that's what their letter says. Of course, how hard would it be to slip one by them? They're drunk, and somewhere else! It showed all sorts of tempting hints for that, but I just couldn't pull that on such a close friend. Yep, better not let on that dear old Fred has been hitting the sauce lately. He's just hit a rough spot, that's all.

So here's to you, Fred. Knock 'em dead, buddy. I'm sure you're a super guy, even if I couldn't pick you out in a crowd. Sorry I can't come over and hang out more. I'm going to be busy writing thank-you notes to the sweet folks at Yahoo for getting me out of another mess. And besides, I'll be working late tonight. Some jerk with the initials "F.R." just beat my Tetris score.

By the way, Fred—what is your last name, anyway?

Not just another priddy face appears every Wednesday. Grace is a senior in architecture. Her views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

Carpe diem ... seize the day

How many times do we ever really take the time to stop, take a breath and take it all in?

We get so caught up in the hustle and bustle of this world that seems to always be running late, and we lose sight of everything around us. Taking time to smell the roses is an understatement. How about taking the time to actually taste our food?

I was walking on campus awhile back and had to stop and tie my shoe. As I bent over, it hit me. Everything looked different. The leaves on the trees were a brighter green, the view in front of me expanded beyond my personal window of travel and I became aware of everything around me. Time seemed to slow down, and it felt like a dream. It all seemed very clear for just a few seconds. I felt alive and connected with my surroundings.

Then, as I stood up, everything shifted back out of focus and the world became a tunnel again, and like everyone else, I hurried down that tunnel rushing to somewhere. Where exactly really doesn't matter, it all melts together after awhile. Time is a tyrant that keeps us all in line, and we march to the beat of a tick tock.

I want my time back. I want to see greener leaves and feel time slow down around me. The world is in such a hurry to go nowhere as we are all on course for the same inevitable destination. The only thing we can control is how we get there, what we do on the way there and how we choose to see it.

We can run through life like we're in a maze, scrambling for a piece of cheese that never really reveals itself, or we can take a deep breath and take a long look around at all the unbelievable things that surround us. It is amazing what you will see if you just look a little longer and really open your eyes and mind.

When was the last time you took a walk at night and just opened your mind to thought, nothing but you and the infinite sky above to share your inner most thoughts and curiosities? I used to take those walks all the time, and my mind was clear. It felt like



Piattology

BY JACK PIATT
piattology@yahoo.com

I had a grasp on everything. I knew what I wanted.

As we grow older, we find more important things to fill our minds: jobs, college, relationships, etc. It seems a switch is flipped, and like the Millennium Falcon in "Star Wars," we hit! yper-speed and there is no time to really see what is going on around us.

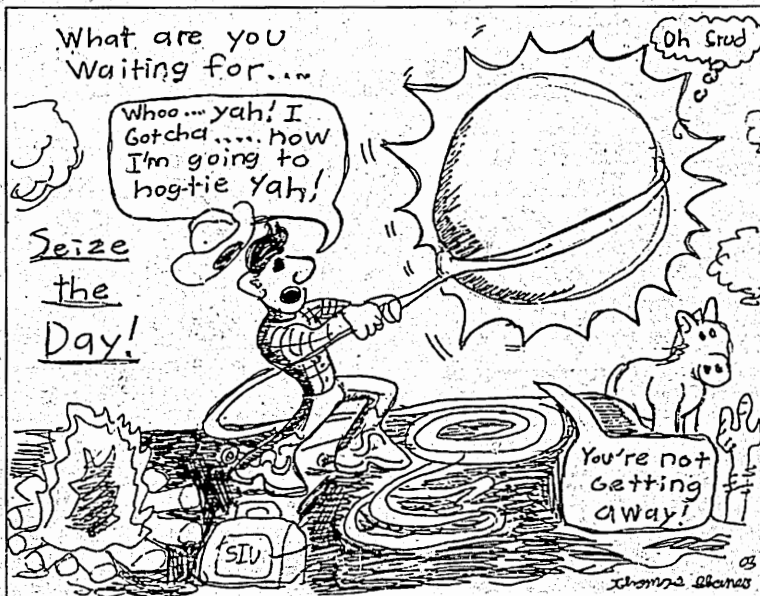
One day you wake up to find you're 26 years old and lonely, and you have nothing but a pocket full of memories to replay over and over in your head at night as you stare sullenly at the ceiling. So what is it that I am missing?

Everything! The answer is everything. I love the part in the movie "Dead Poets Society," where Robin Williams has his class stare at an old black and white picture of students from the past and with a ghostly voice says "Carpe diem ... seize the day, boys, make your lives extraordinary."

I can't stand to let life blow by me. One day holds so much. There is eternity in everything. Take a look around, and you will see it in the way the leaves fall, in a pair of eyes or an old man's smile. It is the feeling that envelops your heart with the slightest touch from someone that makes you willing to trade all you have for just one kiss.

In this lies the challenge: to live life fearlessly. No limits, no boundaries, just life without the worry of what we can't change and a greater understanding ... of what we can.

Piattology appears every Wednesday. Jack is a senior in advertising. His views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.



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U.S. ambassador, senator to visit campus

Howard, Nancy Baker to begin Public Policy Institute lecture series

Andy Horonzy
Daily Egyptian

While Bill and Hillary Clinton may be the most instantly recognizable husband and wife political combo, they are far from the only one that has an opinion on the state of the nation.

Tonight, a less prominent but just-as-distinguished wedded duo will share their thoughts in the inaugural presentation of the Jeanne Hurley Simon Fellowship Lecture.

Former Senator and current U.S. Ambassador to Japan Howard Baker and his wife, Nancy Kassebaum, a former senator from Kansas, will share their views and reflect on their years in office at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the Lesar Law Building Auditorium.

Associate Director of the Public Policy Institute Mike Lawrence said he believes this is the Bakers' first time lecturing together, and he expects them to present some interesting viewpoints.

"They are two very thoughtful people, and it is a real treat to have two former United States

senators come here to discuss their different perspectives," Lawrence said.

Lawrence also said he thinks the event may offer some new insight to Baker's role as ambassador to Japan.

"It should be interesting to see the point of view of an envoy of the United States to one of the most powerful countries in the world," Lawrence said.

In 1966, Baker became the first Republican ever popularly elected to the U.S. Senate from Tennessee, but he is perhaps best known for asking the question, "What did the president know and when did he know it?" as vice chairman of the Senate Watergate Committee.

Kassebaum, who spent three terms in the Senate, also served as chair of Labor and Human Resources and the Subcommittee on African Affairs, which she said would be one of the issues she would address in this evening's presentation.

"I think it's important for us to touch on foreign relations regarding both Africa and Japan because that is the bulk of what we do now," Kassebaum said.

Another focus of the lecture, named for former Senator and Public Policy Institute Director Paul Simon's first wife, who lost her battle to cancer three years ago, will be education. The issue was one of Jeanne's chief interests during her legislative career.

"We would like to include education as much as possible because it was so important to Jeanne," Kassebaum said of the former chairwoman of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

Kassebaum also said she is looking forward to reuniting with Simon, whom she first met several decades ago when he was stationed at Fort Levinworth, Kan. She said Simon was often a fixture at her home, stopping in to discuss political issues with her father, Alf London, who was a 1936 presidential candidate.

But her early memories of Simon are not all the she remembers about the Public Policy Institute founder.

"I can still remember listening to people joke about his bow tie when he left the Senate at the same time I did," Kassebaum said. "It was quite a hearty sendoff."

Lawrence said the Bakers' relationship with Simon was one of the key factors in bringing them to Carbondale.

"I would say they definitely have a good relationship and it's certainly a big reason why they're coming here," Lawrence said.

In addition to working alongside Simon in the Senate, Kassebaum also met her future husband while serving her constituents. As Republican colleagues, the two first forged a friendship and their mutual respect for each other led to their

marriage in 1996, despite a lengthy separation.

"After he left the Senate we didn't see each other for several years but then later on we reconciled," Kassebaum said. "We were actually set up by some friends who suggested we have dinner together. And now years later, here we are."

Along with his many political accomplishments, Baker has also established himself as an accomplished author, publishing four books since 1980. He has also received a slew of honorary degrees from educational institutions including Yale, Dartmouth, Georgetown, Bradley, Pepperdine and Centre College.

Kassebaum has committed the bulk of her time outside the political arena to her pursuit to improve education, child care and health care. She has been involved with the Kansas Governmental Ethics Committee, the Kansas Committee for Humanities and has helped lead the charge to overhaul foreign aid programs.

But for now, the Bakers' biggest concern is doing their former associate Simon and SIUC proud.

"I'm sure we'll talk some Senate and some Congress, but hopefully we can share what we know and answer any questions the audience may have," Kassebaum said.

Reporter Andy Horonzy can be reached at ahoronzy@dailyegyptian.com

Gov. Blagojevich sends back death penalty reform bill

Amber Ellis
Daily Egyptian

Gov. Rod Blagojevich frustrated Illinois lawmakers when he vetoed a bill to reform Illinois' death penalty system and sent the bill back to the General Assembly.

Blagojevich announced his support of a majority of the reforms but did not sign the bill because of a provision that would decertify police officers who have been found guilty of perjury in homicide cases.

This provision would give defendants in a homicide cases up to two years to file a complaint against officers who perjured themselves during their case. The state's Law Enforcement Training & Standards Committee would then review any complaints. A majority of the 19-member board would have to come to agreement before any action toward decertification is taken.

State Sen. John Cullerton, D-Chicago, who sponsored the bill, said that at the very minimum, officers should lose their badge if they perjure themselves.

Cindy Davidsmeyer, spokeswoman for Sen. Emil Jones, D-Chicago,

said Blagojevich has essentially taken out what Jones calls the "heart of the issue."

Abby Ottenhoff, spokeswoman for Blagojevich, said the governor wanted to make sure he worked carefully to bring reform to the state's death penalty system.

"Perjury is a serious charge — and those accused of this crime should go before a court of law. This bill would create a separate process for police officers — and that is unfair," she said.

Capt. Todd Sigler of the SIUC Police Department said his department would take an aggressive approach toward perjury cases.

Currently, a police officer who is tried for perjury must appear before a criminal court of law. If convicted, the felony on the officer's record would lead to automatic decertification.

Chief R.T. Finney of the Carbondale Police Department said although he is against any criminal perjury acts, he does not support another mechanism that would undermine the decertification process that is already in place.

Cullerton said it is not common for a police officer's testimony to be

Provision in SB 472 Blagojevich approved

- make it illegal to execute the mentally retarded
- allow the court to throw out a death penalty case if the sole informant is an untruthful testimony from a jailhouse informer or accomplice
- improve police practices and pretrial investigative efforts
- require courts to consider a defendant's background as a victim of abuse when passing a sentence and determining the defendant's mental capacity
- allow the Supreme Court to overturn death penalty cases in instances where the sentenced is deemed unjust
- allow for DNA testing in any criminal matter
- require investigators to turn over all evidence to prosecutor
- require prosecutors to disclose promises made to witnesses in exchange for their testimonies

critical to a conviction, but this decertification provision would provide a safety net when needed.

"This is a model bill for the nation," Cullerton said. "It's important to remember that this is an issue of life or death — not just fudging the truth."

Jones, a chief co-sponsor of the bill, was the first elected official to call for a moratorium on the death penalty and establish a task force to study the criminal justice system. Members of the Senate have vowed to seek an override when the fall veto session

reconvenes in November. Cullerton said he hopes to sit down

and come to an agreement with police agencies.

It would take a three-fifths majority of the General Assembly to override the governor's veto: A simple majority would pass the bill without including the decertification provision.

Illinois' death penalty system has been under public scrutiny since 2000 when Ryan imposed a moratorium on the death penalty after 13 death row inmates were wrongly convicted.

Before leaving office in January, Ryan pardoned four men and commuted the death sentence of 167 others to life in prison.

Reporter Amber Ellis can be reached at aellis@dailyegyptian.com

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Budget task force recommends elimination of transit service

Service originally created to pool department resources

Katie Davis
Daily Egyptian

Since the early '70s, the transit service has made departmental deliveries across campus and town charging a flat rate to crate people and packages.

But the budget and planning task force, which completed its report of recommendations for cost-saving campus initiatives in June, sees the transit service as an unnecessary luxury that can be scrapped from the SIUC budget.

The budget task force, which began meeting in January, clocked 90 hours preparing the report, which was based on the 5-percent and 10-percent short-term and long-term budget cut recommendations submitted by department heads in November. The report focuses on ways to make the campus more efficient and cost effective.

Although the individual departments bear the costs of the transit service, which charges \$1.50 for

each delivery, budget task force member Kenneth Carr said eliminating the transit system would simply save the University money.

"It's very costly to have door-to-door service, even though I know the departments pay the way," Carr said. "The University has a perception of luxury, which is not a good idea to send to the public."

Brad Dillard, associate director of the Facilities Operation Center, said the transit service was created to pool resources between departments. He said the individual departments on campus used their own vehicles to deliver package and move people around campus.

"In order to reduce the fleet on campus," Dillard said, "a centralized transit service was created to perform all those tasks done by individual departments."

Dillard said the department currently operates six vehicles, which are used mainly for same-day campus delivery. He said about 20 percent of the time, the vehicles are used to transport people, often for student health services.

"We are also used by Student Health Programs to transport blood samples and specimens between here and the hospital," Dillard said. "Sometimes people think we're

a glorified taxi service, but that's not it."

Kathy Bathon, a triage nurse for Student Health Programs, said the transit service is utilized regularly to get patients back and forth to the clinic. She said each provider may utilize the transit service several times a day to aid students who cannot drive due to injury or who are too sick to ride the bus.

"There are people that cannot be on a bus," she said. "They're ill enough they can't get on the bus, nor would you want them on a bus. Nor can they sit and wait. They need more immediate attention than that can provide."

Bathon said nurses will sometimes provide transit tickets to students whose injuries have affected their ability walk so that they can easily get to class. She said though the clinic owns one van, it is used in emergency situations and would not be readily available to take students to and from the clinic.

Carr said personal transportation accounts for a small portion of

transit service usage, and many of the people who utilize the service could easily take the bus.

Dean Shirley Scott Clay of the College of Liberal Arts said she used the transit service to get across campus when parking was not easy to find. Other than that, she said her workers mainly use the transit service to deliver packages, or in the case of the Dewey Center, to get manuscripts in the mail. She said eliminating the transit service would cause inconveniences for departments, but they could be worked around.

"There would probably have to be some new means to put in place to get business done, but it seems to be something we can manage," she said.

Dillard said Travel Service,

which operates at a more than \$2 million budget, is still studying the pros and cons of operating the transit service.

"There is obviously a lot of positive because it performs a lot of valuable services, cuts down on the number of cars because we have centralized service in performing those tasks," Dillard said. "But there is a cost to pay people to run the vehicles, and the fee to operate has not been increased in a few years."

"We need to carefully weigh out the benefits versus the costs to see if this is something we want to continue."

Reporter Katie Davis
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SIUC receives \$1.73 million for research

Professor receives grant to study effects of nicotine on babies

Kelsey Marland
Daily Egyptian

College of Medicine associate professor Kimberly Espy has just received a \$1.73 million grant to study the effects of smoking during pregnancy. The studies, which will last for the next five years, mark the most considerable grant ever received by the professor.

Though not the largest grant ever received by the school, it is still seen by the SIUC researchers as an important gain to their community.

Espy, a neuropsychologist, whose most recent studies were involved with illegal drugs such as cocaine, has chosen to change her focus to nicotine due to its diversity in study.

"Nicotine and cocaine work on similar sections of the brain, but nicotine allows us to use different toxicology models," Espy said.

The trials, which will include non-smokers, will also test the specifics of the smokers while pregnant. Those who do smoke will be examined on when they smoke, how much they smoke and if or when they choose to stop at some point during their pregnancy. The study will also continue after the babies are born, researching the children's nervous systems as well as muscle control, mental concentration and emotion control.

The \$1.73 million, which includes a matching fund of \$40,000 from SIUC, is being given to the School of Medicine for research. The 400 mothers-to-be are all recruited by Carbondale obstetricians. The reason for such large groups and such a great amount of money is to better prove the finding of this research.

The paid mothers can only be smokers and can use no other substances, neither illegal nor legal. The mothers and children will be taken through four assessments at different stages of development for both mother and child. The mothers are being compensated \$50 for each level completed and a final \$200 bonus at the end of the trials.

Though the grant was approved about six months ago, it wasn't officially awarded until Aug. 1. The research will not begin until sometime in late September to early October. But this grant is not only for the School of Medicine but also the entire research community at SIUC, according to Dr. Prue Rice, acting associate dean of Research and Development Administration.

He believes this grant will not only help the School of Medicine.

"This grant not only helps [the School of Medicine] but contributes overall [to the entire school]."

Reporter Kelsey Marland can be reached at kmarland@dailyegyptian.com

Fair fishing



After picking up a toy fish at carnival game, Kelsey Grob, 2, of Sesser points to the prize she wants at the Du Quoin State Fair Sunday evening. The Du Quoin State Fair began Aug. 22 and will run until Sept. 1.

DEREK ANDERSON - DAILY EGYPTIAN



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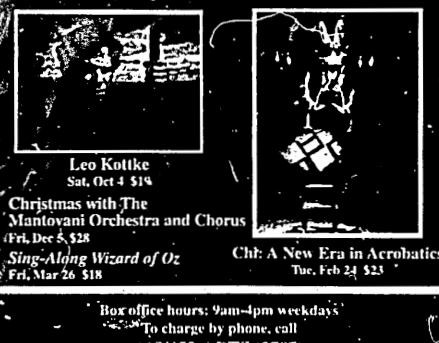
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NASA's attitude toward safety most in need of change, report finds

Seth Borenstein
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON (KRT) — NASA can fix the technical flaws that doomed the space shuttle Columbia and return its remaining three shuttles to orbit soon, outside experts investigating the accident said Tuesday. But the agency and its contractors must make dramatic changes in their attitudes toward safety or more astronauts will die, they warned.

Absent enhanced flight safety, "the scene is set for another accident," the independent Columbia Accident Investigation Board said in a blistering, final 248-page report.

In the future, the agency, the White House and Congress must

change the way NASA is managed, spend more money on the financially strapped space program, and eventually replace shuttles that are now 22 years old, the board concluded.

"Everything has to be rethought," board member Sheila Widnall, a former secretary of the Air Force, told Knight Ridder.

NASA's return to space requires improvements in three broad areas:

- Over the next several months, the space agency must fix the technical problems that caused the accident. It must keep foam from falling off external fuel tanks during launches. And it must find ways to monitor and fix tile and outer-shell damage while a shuttle is in orbit. NASA hopes to have that done by early next year, so it can launch the next shuttle

in March 2004, a date some outsiders say is overly ambitious.

Over the next several years, NASA has to change the way it thinks about safety and the way managers communicate about possible safety problems and appraise them. The process has already begun, NASA administrator Sean O'Keefe said in a press release issued Tuesday.

Eventually, NASA and political leaders must agree to stop flying the aging shuttles and agree on what should replace them. The new vehicles' cost could be in the range of \$20 billion, said Widnall.

The technical fixes, board members and outside experts agreed, are likely to be the easiest because that's the type of job — engineering — that NASA does best.

FIRE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the help of the sprinkler systems.

Most of the students took advantage of Grinnell Hall, which Jones said was opened to accommodate their wait until it was clear to return.

However, Janice Hoppe, a freshman in animal science from Itasca, and Serena Stalter, an undecided freshman from Paxton, were not thrilled with what they had to return to.

Their pillows and blankets, still strewn haphazardly on their bed from their hasty retreat the previous night, and several other items, previously shiny and new for the new school year, were dark with soot from the smoke.

"We can still smell the smoke in our room," Stalter said in the middle of a load of laundry. "It all came up through our vents and just covered everything. We have to wash everything we own."

Several of the 17th floor residents, including Hoppe and Stalter, slept the remainder of the night in the hall lounge or ran fans close to the doors to avoid the smoke and soot that had overtaken their room.

"I was panicked," Hoppe said. "I was like, I don't want any of my stuff to burn down. I was afraid it was going to burn everything we owned, but it just turned everything black."

Reporter Lindsey Mastis contributed to this story

Reporter Valerie N. Dennals can be reached at vdennals@dailyegyptian.com

ALCOHOL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dragon, said from the standpoint of the bars, the law really has no relevance, since the legal drinking age is 21 and a person must be 19 to enter.

But, as far as the liquor stores are concerned, the situation can become a serious problem.

"SIU is inhabited by a lot of 18-year-olds and 17-year-olds, and they get out of high school and come to college here," Karayiannis said.

"There are a lot of 21-year-olds here that remember how it was three years prior to try and get a drink and not be able to, so they're always willing to help people out."

I don't know how many times we've had to chase people off the sidewalk for the same thing."

Karayannis said the bill seems like a good idea and will enforce a law that makes people think about their actions.

"There is a time and a place for everything and people really shouldn't be drinking if they are under the age of 21," he said. "The law is the law, whether you

are opposed to it or not."

Pinch Penny Liquor Store and the adjoining Pinch Penny Pub take the responsibility upon themselves to police their parking lots and insure the ages of their bar-goers strictly.

Karayannis himself has been solicited by underage liquor seekers and has turned them away.

Bost said that liquor stores are under these laws already and that the bill was meant to focus on parents and older peers who were providing alcohol to minors and finding them accountable for their actions.

"It puts it on the backs of the keggers, and that's the reality. If a person has bought alcohol, group or organization, and all of sudden you have all those kids coming in, then you will be held responsible," Bost said.

Karayannis believes the law will effectively deal with the growing problem of underage drinking and driving.

"There are things about being young and making mistakes that people should be made accountable for," Karayiannis said.

Moustafa Ayad can be reached at mayad@dailyegyptian.com

Gus Bode



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BRIAN E. HOLLOWAY

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Daily Horoscope

By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday (Aug. 27). You may start your year wondering how you'll do everything on your lists, but you have no need to worry. You'll be so powerful, you'll surpass even your own expectations. Dream BIG!

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 5 - You like to be at the head of the pack. This time, concentration is required. Self-discipline is also helpful. But most of all, just be willing to serve.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 9 - After all you've been through, it may be difficult to believe that someone loves you completely. Believe it!

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 5 - Finish a household project before you start anything new. You won't have enough time or money to do everything at once.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is an 8 - Others may think you're being way too careful and critical. If you take time to get every answer right, you'll win their respect.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 5 - Great wealth can be yours, as you're always known. The challenge isn't getting it; it's keeping it in a safe place. Take good care of others and you'll take care of yourself.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 10 - You're calling the shots, setting the goals and listing the priorities. Try not to be overly critical with those who are lagging behind.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today's a 4 - You're in a contemplative phase, and that can be good. However, don't criticize yourself or your own work too much. That would be counterproductive.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 9 - You have a valuable connection with a powerful group. It's very important to you and to them, so treat that connection with respect. But don't flash it around.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 5 - If you have a problem following a goal, that problem will surface now. The most painless way to get through this phase is to simply do what you're told. If you want extra points, do it cheerfully and quickly.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 9 - A wonderful journey is possible. All it takes is a little planning. Well, a lot of planning, actually. But it's doable. Get started.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 5 - You may astonish your friends by how conservative you've become. When it comes to conserving your resources, you're developing expertise. This is good.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is an 8 - You've heard of soul mates, no doubt. You're about to have the experience. Whether this is the first time or one of many times with an old familiar friend, it's great.

JUMBLE

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

BAIDE

LYMAN

NATTYR

PULCEO

Answer: A

WHAT SHE HOPED TO MEET ON THE SINGLES CRUISE.

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

Answers tomorrow!

Yesterday's Jumbles: RABBI - NEEDEY - MODISH - VELLUM
Answer: WHA... a woman pilot got married, her friends said she - "LAI'DED" HIM

Examining the Big Ten conference - board-game style

Mike Huguenin

The Orlando Sentinel (KRT)

Illinois

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Illini have set the school's single-season total offense record in each of the past two seasons.

MYSTERY DATE: Sept. 27, vs. Wisconsin. The Badgers should be in the title hunt in the Big Ten, so the league opener will be a good gauge for the Illini.

AGGRAVATION: The Illini want to run the ball, but Who's the TB? There is no proven go-to WR; a lot of untested youngsters must step up. The defense was shaky last season and was mediocre against both the run and the pass. Special teams are a concern.

Indiana

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Hoosiers have finished over 500 in league play once in the past 11 seasons.

MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 11, vs. Northwestern. This is Indiana's best (only) chance to win a league game.

AGGRAVATION: The defense was bad last season and remains slow and undersized. The ground

game was bad last season and the best lineman was kicked off the team for poor conditioning. The projected starting line has four underclassmen. The kicking game is a mystery. The secondary will have three new starters. Depth is shaky everywhere. To cap it off, the Hoosiers are used to losing.

Iowa

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: Iowa, which won 11 games last season, never has had back-to-win 10-win seasons.

MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 4, vs. Michigan. If the Hawkeys are to make any noise in the Big Ten this season, an upset of the Wolverines will be necessary.

AGGRAVATION: The offensive line, one of the best in the nation last season, will have four new starters. That's not good news for new QB Nathan Chandler, who is 6-7/250 and immobile in the pocket. There also are questions at LB, WR and in the secondary.

Michigan

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Wolverines have lost at least three games six times in Coach Lloyd Carr's eight-season tenure.

MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 25, vs. Purdue. This looks to be the first rough conference game for the Wolverines.

AGGRAVATION: There's no breakout threat at TB. The secondary is a concern, especially at safety. The LBs aren't anything special. QB John Navarre remains a bit too inconsistent.

Michigan State

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Spartans haven't had back-to-back losing seasons since 1991-92.

MYSTERY DATE: Sept. 27, vs. Iowa. The conference opener will tell a lot about the Spartans: Will they be a bowl contender?

AGGRAVATION: The WR corps looks like a mess, not a good thing when new Coach John L. Smith wants to air it out. Who's the TB? The secondary will have four new starters. The defense as a whole was mediocre at best last season. Will QB Jeff Smoker be ready to go?

Minnesota

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Golden Gophers have been to bowls three times in the past four seasons; they had been to five bowls total

before that.

MYSTERY DATE: Sept. 27, at Penn State. Minnesota should be 4-0 when it heads to Happy Valley. And this looks like the toughest road game.

Northwestern

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Wildcats won six Big Ten games in 2000. Throw out that season, though, and they've won a combined seven since the start of the 1997 season.

MYSTERY DATE: Nov. 8, vs. Penn State. The Nittany Lions will be coming off a home game against Ohio State.

Penn State

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: Coach Joe Paterno has 336 career wins, four ahead of FSU's Bobby Bowden for first in Division I-A history.

MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 4, vs. Wisconsin. Penn State opens the season with five of its first six games at home, and a win in this one stamps the Nittany Lions as legit Big Ten contenders.

Purdue

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Boilermakers have been to six con-

secutive bowls. Before this streak, the school had been to five bowls in its history.

MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 18, at Wisconsin. The two dark-horses for the Big Ten crown meet in Madison.

Ohio State

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The last time a national champion repeated? Try Nebraska in 1994 and 1995.

MYSTERY DATE: Nov. 1, at Penn State. Since the Nittany Lions joined the Big Ten, the Buckeyes are just 1-4 in Happy Valley.

AGGRAVATION: It's tough to repeat as national champs. The back seven on defense will have four new starters, including both safeties. The Maurice Clarett situation could linger. There are road games against Wisconsin, Penn State and Michigan.

TRIVIAL PURSUIT: TB Anthony Davis has rushed for 3,021 yards the past two seasons, the most of any Division I-A player.

MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 11, vs. Ohio State. This is the second of a three-game stretch that will determine if the Badgers win the Big Ten (they're at Penn State the week before, then host Purdue on Oct. 18).

SPECIAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

far as returning kicks and punts go. Robinson returned only three kicks for 73 yards last season.

Despite the risk of injury, Kill wants his most dynamic players with the ball in their hands.

"You only have so many plays on the offensive game and not all of them are going to get touches during that time," Kill said.

"I've always had the philosophy that we're going to play our best players on special teams."

While the Salukis may be inexperienced on special teams, it doesn't mean they aren't talented.

Anyone who has seen Koutsofs, Abdulqaadir or Robinson run knows they will do just fine, if not spectacular, in the return game.

And as far as the kicking game is concerned, Coffin, who hit three of four on field goals and seven of eight on extra points last season before breaking his foot three games in, is as talented as they come.

Coffin has a career long of 57 yards in high school and said he's kicked even longer in practice.

"Coach always tells us that one out of every six plays there is a kicking game of some sort," Coffin said. "So I've always got to be ready."

With Division II opponent Quincy set to come to

town Thursday night, Coffin is sure to get plenty of practice on kickoffs and extra points.

But he's not too worried about wearing out his leg. "Kicking a lot makes it fun," Coffin said.

Holding down the punter position and sure not to let go is Kettelkamp, an all-state punter and linebacker from Springfield.

SIU SPECIAL TEAMS DEPTH CHART	
P	45 Zach Kettelkamp
	19 Craig Coffin
K	19 Craig Coffin
	45 Zach Kettelkamp
KO	19 Craig Coffin
	45 Zach Kettelkamp
H	16 Courtney Abbott
LS	93 Kent DeVinney
	55 Anthony Rinella
PR	25 Brandon Robinson
	1 Justin George
KR	25 Brandon Robinson
	32 Muhammad Abdulqaadir
	24 Tom Koehn

A sturdy 6-foot-3, 230 pounds, Kettelkamp hopes to put an end to the stigma that punters are horrible tacklers.

"Everybody always gives me crap because I'm a kicker too, and not most of them know that I was an all-state linebacker," Kettelkamp said.

"It's hard just sitting on the sidelines and punting all the time, but it's the quickest way I can get out on the field."

"I love to punt too."

Kettelkamp, who chose the Salukis over Minnesota, among others, said he still needs to work on his consistency.

He has a tendency to shank one for every couple he gets ahead of.

"I'm going to be really nervous probably my first punt," Kettelkamp said.

"But I've just got to go out there and pretend like it's practice and just go through the motions, remember my fundamentals and just try to do the best I can."

Reporter Adam Soebbing can be reached at asoebbing@dailyegyptian.com

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Parking Lots Closed

Intercollegiate Athletics and the Parking Division announce that in preparation for the Saluki football team's first night game of the season, lots 13/ 13A, located across the street from the Student Center, will be closed at 2:00p.m. on Thursday August 28, 2003. The lots will reopen at 4:00p.m. for Priority 1 and 2 ticket holders only. Please make alternative parking arrangements if you normally park in this area. We apologize for any inconvenience that may occur.

GUEST COMMENTARY

My favorite Salukis

On the first day of football practice this fall, head coach Jerry Kill pulled out a tug-of-war rope.

On one side were Muhammad Abdulqadir and Tom Koutsos. On the other was the entire rest of the team.

As Coach Kill put it, "They got dragged around a little bit."

The message was clear and simple — SIU football is not just about Mo and Tommy, no matter their awards, total rushing yardage or points scored. No matter what the SIU media campaign is.

With that in mind, I want to tell you about the two players on the SIU squad I root for the most.

One is 6-foot-4, 340-pound guard Wesley Proctor. The other is 6-3, 280-pound tackle George Mooney.

Unless you're a rabid Saluki fan, follow the team for a living or know someone on the roster, you probably don't know these names.

You should.

Here are some stats on the two. Proctor started last season's opener against Kentucky Wesleyan but only saw action in six games. Combine that with the nine special teams games in 2001, and the lineman has taken the field as a Saluki in 15 career games.

Mooney switched from the defensive line to the offensive side of the football

midway through his SIU career. He had seven tackles as a sophomore in 2000, redshirted in 2001 and in 2002 played every game protecting SIU's quarterbacks.

He also contributed to the Saluki program by helping convince his younger brother, Paul Mooney, to come to Carbondale. The younger Mooney is a backup defensive end.

SIU has seven seniors on its roster. Running backs Koutsos, Abdulqadir and Brandon Robinson and wide receiver Courtney Abbott are the top weapons on offense. Linebacker Eric Egan is the team's defensive captain.

And then there are Proctor and Mooney. The two have been in Carbondale for a combined nine years. They have not seen a winning season. They have not seen much playing time. But they've stuck it out with none of the rewards given to some of their better-known teammates.

I'd like to tell you more about Proctor



Deep thoughts from ...

BY RICK GREGG
senior, radio personality

and Mooney, what they're like personally, what drives them to play football.

I'd like to tell you, but I've never really met them. This is my fourth year covering Saluki football, which means I've been here as long as they have. I'm pretty sure I hadn't interviewed either of them, at least until I talked to Mooney the other night.

If I didn't have a roster in front of me, I don't think I could walk down the sideline and pick out their jerseys — which, by the way, are Nos. 75 and 73, respectively. I should figure that out since Coach Kill said one of them will be starting the season opener. He's just not sure which and might not know until just before kickoff.

Come to think of it, why would I have interviewed them? They aren't the big playmakers, they don't have fan clubs and they aren't on the cover of the media guide. They aren't brought down to the media room after a game so members of the

media, like me, can ask them how they feel after a close loss or blowout win.

But to me, Wesley Proctor and George Mooney represent the heart of their team.

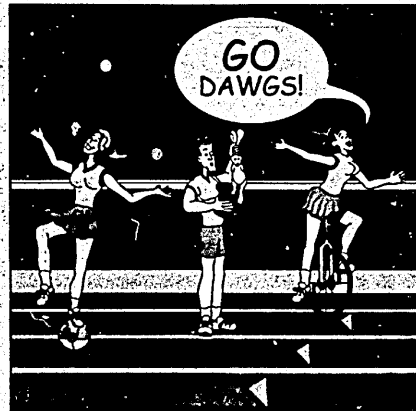
They're everything that is right about college athletics.

And I find it refreshing to remember Proctor and Mooney at a time when the biggest news in college athletics is whether Maurice Clarett committed academic fraud or whether Dave Bliss told his basketball players to lie to investigators looking into the murder of their Baylor teammate.

You know what would be next? Let's put the Clarett and Blisses of the world on one side of a rope. Then let's put the Proctors and Mooneys on the other side.

I bet Maurice, Dave and the rest of their side would get dragged around a little bit.

Rick is a senior in radio and television. His views do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Egyptian.



Without a certified coach, the SIU spirit squad had to learn some new tricks.

COMMENTARY

Smart money on SIU

Gambling is essentially what the United States was based upon.

Maybe not with money, but in the truest sense of the word. America was founded on this principle.

The pilgrims gambled by boarding a ship to get away from religious persecution. The patriots gambled by trying to defeat the most powerful nation in the world, at the time, with pitchforks and bad hygiene. George W. gambled by going to Iraq blind and stupid, the latter being a lifelong affliction.

Gambling, my friends, is the American Dream. The easy money.

I am willing to go out on a limb and make a bold prediction — the SIU football team will win.

To make things interesting and keep things in Carbondale and out of the hands of some greasy bookie in Vegas, here are the odds on certain events in the upcoming season.

SIU beating Quincy — 1:1

No money to be made here. Bad karma or not, SIU could line up oompa-loompas in place of its all-star backfield and the Salukis would still cover the spread.

Koutsos breaking the Gateway's all-time rushing record — 5:4

Touchdown Tommy Koutsos is less than 500 yards away from the Gateway record for career rushing yards. It's just a matter of carries. Given 30 on Thursday, he could bust it as soon as then. But where's the drama in breaking the record against a Division II school? Look at early October as a possible mark as to when Koutsos will rewrite Gateway conference history.

Abdulqadir winning the Payton Award — 7:4

If Muhammad Abdulqadir never broke his thumb, the question would be about him repeating as the winner. This season will be a bit more difficult than some may imagine. Every team SIU faces will be keying solely on No. 32. He will also have to share carries with Koutsos. Right now, though, one must believe given the half-season Abdulqadir put up last year, that he is the preseason favorite.

Morsland winning the Buchanan Award — 15:2

Safety Alexis Morsland is one of the greater talents on the watch list for the Buchanan Award, but the improvements on SIU's defensive unit may be the regression in his chances. The Salukis look to be vastly

Welcome to my world



BY ZACK CREGLOW
zcreglow@dailyegyptian.com

improved on defense and Moreland probably will not be forced to make two-fifths of the team's tackles.

SIU winning the Gateway — 6:1

After Western Illinois, most teams seem to be even keel. SIU did beat the Leathernecks last season and SIU lost its top playmaker on offense, Stacy Coleman. As the season unfolds, the determining factor to whether the Salukis take the Gateway crown will be injuries, which plagued SIU in 2002.

Being given a drinking ticket tailgating — 3:1

Busting underage drinkers at the tailgate is like Halloween for the 5-0. Keep an eye out if you plan to participate. They are sneaky, trained by the finest and can smell the alcohol on an underage's breath like a crazed canine. They know that if you are there, then you are drinking, so you have to be wily. It is like a chess game, but there's a disadvantage — they are sober and you are drunk.

Have 'Thunder and Lightning' made into a movie — 12:1

This site has definite movie potential but it won't be about the backfield of Koutsos and Abdulqadir. The coined nickname sounds like some cheap Jenna Jameson porno flick where the two male characters use their magical "thunder stick" and "lightning rod." That movie has definite potential.

A better nickname for the SIU backfield, going with the weather motif, would be "The Perfect Storm," figuring the backfield also has a versatile fallback in Brandon Robinson. Plus, it hasn't been taken by the New York Giants yet, and you know if New York got word we borrowed that phrase, our lives would be miserable.

New York is one of those cities that has to take credit for everything. Who was it that invented the telephone? Alexander Graham Bell? No, New York did.

But the odds they find out about it are low. But not as low as Quincy's chance to v

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.

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

• LETTERS taken by fax (453-8244) and e-mail (sports@dailyegyptian.com).

• 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.

Softball picks up seasoned pitcher

Vergennes native transfers to SIU from Liberty

Ethan Erickson
Daily Egyptian

Alison Thompson, a senior who recently transferred to SIU and will pitch for the Saluki softball team this spring, has been happily wearing shorts and a T-shirt to class this year for the first time in her college career.

Thompson spent her first three college years at Liberty University, a small Baptist institution in Virginia where skirts were required apparel. Since transferring, she is significantly more comfortable in her classes.

"The last year I was there, we got to wear pants, but we couldn't wear jeans," Thompson said, adding that she also had to get used to the things classmates say.

"I've been going to school in mesh shorts and T-shirts just because I can."

Raised in nearby Vergennes, Thompson was ready to give up on softball following last season. She was tired, and her sister Amy Dinga was having a baby.

After spending about two months at home this summer, Thompson's high school coach, Kim Wheeler, convinced her to return to the field.

Because Liberty granted her a release to transfer, Thompson will be eligible to play for the Salukis immediately.

Thompson, who pitched in an NCAA tournament in 2002 with Liberty, should bring experience to the team.

The Salukis lost two of their three pitchers from last season's Sweet 16 team. With her experience comes the ability to provide tutelage to SIU's two freshman pitchers.

"I've got experience in Division I," Thompson said. "I've played against the top team, UCLA, and everything. I think that I'll be able to help them a lot, like if they get in a tough situation in a game or get down on themselves to be able to be like, 'I've been there and you're going to be fine.'"

Thompson pitched against then-No. 1 UCLA in the 2002 NCAA tournament and led Liberty in ERA the past two seasons. Last season, she went 10-13 with a 2.63 ERA.

With head coach Kerri Blaylock's knack for producing top-notch pitchers, Thompson could improve on those numbers at SIU.

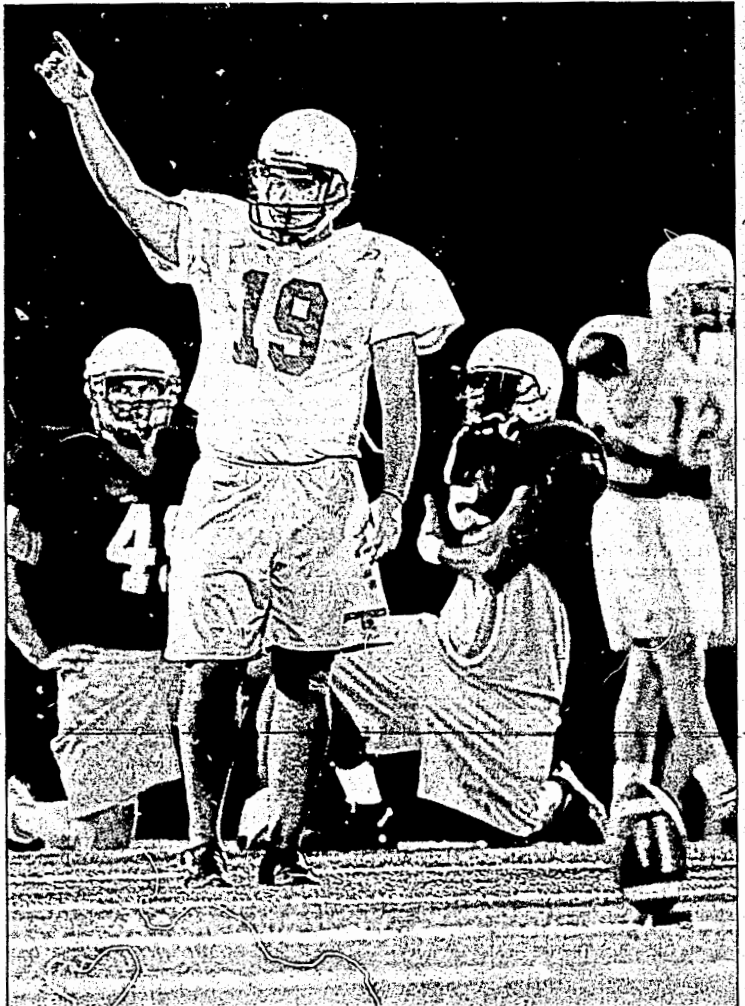
"I didn't really have a pitching coach the last three years out at Liberty," Thompson said. "I just was kind of on my own, and when I came home in the summer my high school coach, Kim Wheeler, always helped me out a lot."

"But as far as being in college, I've never had the pitching coach in college. So yeah, I think I'll see some improvement."

But her ability on the mound is only part of the reason Blaylock allowed Thompson to join a team that already had its usual complement of three pitchers.

"Anytime that you take a transfer, you hope that she's a good person, and Alison's a wonderful person," Blaylock said.

Reporter Ethan Erickson
can be reached at
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ROBERT LYONS - DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU redshirt freshman placekicker Craig Coffin prepares the kickoff team for the ensuing kick during practice Monday night under the lights at McAndrew Stadium.

Special teams a concern for SIU

Adam Soebbing
Daily Egyptian

With experience returning at each of the impact positions for the SIU football team, the Salukis are in pretty good hands entering the 2003 season.

But as far as special teams are concerned, it is a completely different story.

With the graduation of all-time Saluki point leader Scott Everhart, who held the kicking and punting duties off and on the last four seasons, the Saluki kicking game is left in the hands of two freshmen, redshirt kicker Craig Coffin and punter Zach Kettelkamp.

"Right now we're punting and kicking and snapping freshmen so I think that is always a concern,"

head coach Jerry Kill said. "Until we play a game we're not going to know what those gentlemen are going to do."

Even the group slated to hold down the return duties — top three running backs Brandon Robinson, Tom Koutsos and Muhammad Abdulquadir — are inexperienced

See SPECIAL, page 18



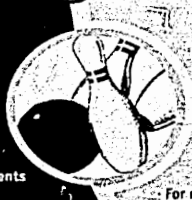
ANNIE DENTANARO - DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU pitcher Alison Thompson warms up during practice Tuesday afternoon at Charlotte West Stadium. The Vergennes native will walk-on with the Salukis after transferring from Liberty University, where she played for three years.

Bowling Leagues Begin

WANTED

Students
Faculty/Staff
Graduate Students
Non-Traditional Students
SIUC Alumni



MONDAY NIGHT - FACULTY/STAFF MIXED
Starts Monday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY NIGHT - STUDENT MIXED
Starts Tuesday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m.

For more information call 453-2803 or check our web site at www.siustudentcenter.org

