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, anxious to re-enter their rooms, which were still smoky from smoke from Monday night's fire.

The fire, which was slow to start, began in the lower levels of the elevator shaft 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 noted that the fire was put out quickly.

The students did not return to their dorm rooms until 3:34 a.m. when the smoke had dissipated.

Dana Howell, a junior in health care management, was the resident advisor who pulled the fire alarm.

"I didn't wake up until the fire alarm went off," she said.

Woolf said the chute was full at the time the fire was called, and the residents' hall cross, which empties trash from the chutes, was blocked.

Woolf said the chute was full at the time the fire was called, and the residents' hall cross, which empties trash from the time the chutes are locked at 11 p.m. until 4 a.m., had not yet gotten to the dumpster that caught on fire.

The students had to evacuate and pull the alarm. However, due to the smoke, the students were unable to follow the correct procedure for resident advisors, 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.

Police quickly responded to Schneider Hall after the fire, which left resident advisor Dana Smith out of her room.

E. J. Jones, director of University Housing, said the fire was contained to the 17th floor and less than 15 minutes later, the firefighters extinguished with a water hose.

"It was the first floor that had the most damage," Jones said.

The students were unable to re-enter their dorms for two hours.

New bill threatens to prosecute alcohol providers

Suppliers may be held accountable for damage, injury

Mustafa Ayad
Daily Egyptian

The new bill threatens to prosecute alcohol providers.

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

In response to multiple cases of parties, as well as patrons and minors present and smoking 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 to be legally liable.

Mayor Brad Cole said the bill is necessary to prevent underage drinking.

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

"It is important to hold accountable the adults who 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 better that kind of activity.

Cole suggested businesses that sell liquor or individuals who sell illegal drugs to minors will always be held accountable.

"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 Tuesday, among the votes of minors 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 intoxicated minor.

"Go ahead, have a party for your teenage sons," he said.

You say, 'OK, I'm going to have a party at my house,' and you're going to allow more underage kids to come there, and when those teen-aged sons consume alcohol, with your knowledge, your pocketbook will be held accountable.

Justain Karayanian, general manager at Finch Brothers and Copper Pub, said he agrees with the new bill.

"It puts the back of the bar, and that's the reality," he said.

"I say, 'OK, I'm going to have a party at my house,' and you're going to allow more underage kids to come there, and when those teen-aged sons consume alcohol, with your knowledge, your pocketbook will be held accountable."
U.S. deaths in Iraq surpass 'end of major combat' total

BAGHDAD, Iraq - More American service members have been killed in the past six weeks since the end of major combat than during the height of the war.

On Thursday, a soldier was killed in an attack on a military convoy near Baghdad, bringing the death toll since May 1 to a total of 139, according to U.S. officials. So far this year, about 130 deaths have been reported.

The latest U.S. victim was a 3rd Corps Support Command soldier who died in an explosive device attack on a military convoy near Baghdad on Tuesday. The convoy was attacked about 20 kilometers (13 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 soldier whose name was withheld pending notification of relatives. The U.S. president told 138 on Monday with the death of a U.S. soldier from a "non-hostile" gun-shot wound, the U.S. military said.

"The soldier ... was shot in the leg," a military official said. The official confirmed that the soldier was killed in an attack on a military convoy near Baghdad.

The number of reported heat deaths in the U.S. has risen to more than 160, according to the National Weather Service.

What many people do not realize is just how quickly kids die in hot cars this year. What many people do not realize is just how quickly kids die in hot cars this year.

Whenever workers come to remove the monument, attorneys prepared to ask a federal court in Mobile to block the removal of the Christian monument.

Attorneys said the court should not allow the monument to be removed until a federal judge rules on a lawsuit on behalf of a Christian talk show host and former judge in Tuscaloosa County, Moore, who contends it is his duty to acknowledge religious doctrine.

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

"If I'm going anywhere, the Constitution is going with me," Moore said.

Thompson to move the monument.

Moore, who now lives in Gadsden, Alabama, is challenging the removal of the monument.

Moore said he will continue his fight to keep the monument in place and will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary.

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Heat affects various members of community

100-degree heat burdens everyday life

Jessica Yerama
Daily Egyptian

The distance between classes on campus is not any longer than it usually is, but on a summer day, it sometimes makes it seem that way.

Samantha Coons was one of the many SIUC students who, in spite of fasting, food and water, was still forced to deal with the increased heat as she traveled from class to class in Tuesday’s 100-degree heat.

“You can look at my face and see how I’m dealing with the heat,” said Coons, a junior in radio, television and film.

Sources vary who has 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—above 90 and occasionally, occasionally above 100 degrees—have been unbearable.

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

But Bigler, executive 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, has been affected by the recent heat.

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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 Finnegans, 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 30 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," Finnegans 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," 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.

Finnegans 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 docs have to go through the forwarding system to get to that one trailer to the other:... Although some students found on returning to Carbondale, it is the sender of the mail who want to know if they still live there.

Credit 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, Finnegans said. But for students who live in dorms, the process is a little different. Finnegans 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.

"People who live in dorms, the process is different. Finnegans 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 live.

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

"I think they're just preoccupied with other things," Finnegans said. "I think students should take care of their mail as soon as they move.
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.

ANTHONY SHERIDAN: DAILY EGYPTIAN

The 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 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 we 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 focus more on 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.

ANTHONY SHERIDAN: DAILY EGYPTIAN

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

This is for new and returning students and faculty of the College of Education and Human Services. Registration/ Student Organizations of the College will have booths set up for students to meet and learn 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 in Carbondale.

Resurfacing of the Route 13-New Era Road intersection is scheduled to complete by Friday. 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 west 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.

SCHNUCKS

Browse your ad on-line! Click & connect to www.schnucks.com

All double coupons apply to manufacturer coupons valued at 50c or less. For more details, check in store. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Please good from September 1, 2003 at Schnucks, Inc. Store only. Located at 913 West Selmon. For All Buy One, Get One Free offers there is a limit of 5 free items with the purchase of 5.
Abuse law good but empty

The entire Illinois General Assembly and the Governor recently did something truly rare — 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 National Center on Poverty Law, said in addition to the stress and anxiety that come from abuse, many battered women are threatened with the loss of a job or actually lose 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 rich day. And these are simply the ones that are reported to the police. Many go unreported.

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

But leaving is easier said than done.

According to the National Center on Poverty Law, a woman may not leave battering immediately because she fears 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 circumstances, 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 "empowering" — because allowing time off and having the ability to take it are two different things.

Many abused women stay in troubled 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 knows she was not to be forced for her time off, she still has a difficult decision to make: get the bill 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.

Marc Torney
SNC 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 costs $9,920 but what really makes this desk so special is the circumstances in which it was purchased. You see, this desk occupies a special place in Wendler’s spacious office layout.

Showed in a corner, behind Wendler’s $8,170 computer, are memos on the downstairs of dozens of employees. In the warehouse, which may or may not be studded with precious gems, I am not a typing in a guest in the Chancellor’s office besides Wendler’s $950 table, it is a lot of funded 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. Yes, the fact remains that this sum of money went to refresh the chancellor’s office while employees are losing their jobs or being downsized to seasonal part-time employment.

While departments are understaffed and struggling 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 SIU 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 quipped Wendler’s despising SIU’s alumni: “Southern was the second pox in the crowns 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 as long as the administration remains well-funded.

Furniture that cost $9,900 is just the tip of the iceberg. According to the Faculty Association, in 2002 the cost of SIU’s administration is $92.2 million more than that of its peer institutions. The difference comes from the misused objectives of this administration.

While the university 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 employees, who are spread as if they were an expendable resource. If Wendler’s goal is to improve this University, then it’s that the number of faculty and students fall.

The university’s administration is a symbol of the Chancellor’s wealth, and not that much money in the grand scheme of things. It is an affront to the Southern community.

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 words, no deeds very hard, is a something of a figurehead for SIU. When employees lose their jobs to outbacks, is it in Wendler they look to.

Following news headline 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 would 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 their administration wasted millions of dollars — money that could easily allow them to keep their jobs. The faculty will remember how much the administration spent on itself instead of 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 nice nice desk.

These views do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Egyptian.

Marc Torney
SNC Student

When is a desk more than just a desk?

The desk, the pauper and the king

Wendler’s new office furniture; after all, it cost $8,170.

It is not that much money in the grand scheme of things. It is an affront to the Southern community.

Wendler’s goal is to keep an employee or two from being laid off. That is not the way of our administration, however.

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It's an ambiguous day in the neighborhood

The other day, one of my neighbors 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 ambiguous task.

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

So I grabbed back to my desk, stared at the Post-it (which reads 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 arduously on this task, 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 a letter 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 handwriting. It was perfect right down to the last "thank you" reference. That website was great. It even explained how to securely copy that your recommended person is a drunk, or always asleep, without even realizing that's what their letter says. Of course, how hard would it be to slip one in? They're drunk, and somewhere that. It showed all sorts of tempting hints for that, but I just couldn't pull it off without a close friend. Yep, bummer.

So here's to you, Fred. Knock 'em dead, or at least flatter him. He needs something to fit this other man or at least flatter his bio would fit this other man or at least flatter his hometown. I'm sure old Fred has been hitting the sauce lately. He's just had a rough spot, that's all.

So there you have it. Knock 'em dead, buddy. I'm sure you're a super guy, even if you couldn't pick you out in a crowd. Sorry I can't come over and lug you out. I'm going to be busy writing thank-you notes.

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. If it amazes what you will see if you can 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 everything that you see? I must have had a dream that I don't really remember, all I know is that I once had a dream.

As we grow older, we find more important things to fill our minds: jobs, college, relationships, etc. It seems a watch is stopped, and like the Millennium Falcon in "Star Wars," we hit: speed-up 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 every now and then in your head at night as you stare wildly at the ceiling. So what is 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 fearless. No Entim, no boundaries, just live freely. Because you can only 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.

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 the world that we've always had to be running late, and we lose sight of everything around us. Taking time to smell the roses isn't 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, I hit it. Everything looked different. The leaves on the trees were a brighter green, the view in front of me expanded beyond my personal world of travel and I became aware of everything around me.

Then, as I stood up, everything shifted back, out of focus and the world became a tunnel again, and like everyone else, hurried down that tunnel rushing to somewhere. Where exactly really doesn't matter, it all melts together after awhile. There 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 greater leaves, and feel the dew on my skin. I want my time back. Some of us can't hear the ticking, but I can. So I sit here and write this letter to today and it really matters itself, or we can take a deep breath and take a long look around at all the unbelievable things that surround us. If it amazes what you will see if you can 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 everything that you see? I must have had a dream that I don't really remember, all I know is that I once had a dream.

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U.S. ambassador, senator to visit campus

Howard, Nancy Baker to begin Public Policy Institute lecture series

Andy Horony
Daily Egyptian

While Bill and Hillary Clinton may be the most instantly recognizable husband and wife political couple, they are far from the only one that can claim a presence on the state of the nation. Tonight, a less prominent but just-as-distinguishable team will also share their thoughts in the inaugural presentation of the Jeanne Huston Simon Fellowship Lecture.

Former Illinois 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 Baker's 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 a unique insight to Baker's wife as ambassador to Japan.

"It would be interesting to see the point of view of the man that brought us into the United States as one of the most powerful countries in the world," Lawrence said.

Kassebaum said the inactivity of the Senate is due to the first Republican becoming the first female senator, and the success that she had in the Senate when she ran for re-election.

"I ran for re-election and she started with 65 percent of the vote," Kassebaum said. "And when did he know it?" as vice chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Kassebaum said, she has spent three terms in the Senate, also served as chair of Labor and Human Resources and the Subcommittee on Africa and International 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 know," Kassebaum said.

Another focus of the lecture, named for former Senator and Public Policy Institute Director, Paul Simon, the first woman to serve in the Senate, would be a focus on the state of the nation.

"I want, when he left the Senate at the end of January, Kassebaum said. "I was quite a heavy sender."

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

"We would say they definitely have a good relationship and it 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 formed a friendship and their mutual respect for each other led to their marriage in 1996, aside a lengthy separation.

"After he left the Senate we didn't see each other for several years but then later we reconnected," 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 her political accomplishments, Baker has also established herself as an accomplished author, publishing four books since 1980. She has also received a slew of honorary degrees from educational institutions including Yale, Dartmouth, Georgetown, Bradley, Pepperdine and Catholic University.

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

But for now, the Baker's 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 Horony can be reached at ahorony@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 homicide cases up to two years to file a complaint against officers who perjured themselves during their case. The law Enforcement Training & Standards Committee would then review any complaints. A majority of the committee members would have to come to agreement before any action toward decertification is taken.

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

Cindy Davidson, spokeswoman for Sen. Emil Jones, D-Chicago, said Blagojevich has essentially taken out what Jones calls “the heart of the issue.”

Larry O’Brien, spokesman for the Illinois State Police, said he knew Blagojevich 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 be given a fair trial," O’Brien 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.E. Finley of the Carbondale Police Department said although he is against any criminal perjury act, he does not support another mechanism that would undermine the decertification process that already exists.

Cullerton said it is common for a police officer’s testimony to be critical to a conviction, but this decertification greatly reduces a police officer’s liability during trial.

“Who would like to include education to the maximum possible because it was so important to Jeanne?” Kassebaum said of the former chairwoman of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science.

Kassebaum said she is looking forward to working with Simon, whom she first met several decades ago when she was stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Simon was then a political science professor at the University of Maryland and in 1980 ran for president as the labor party’s candidate.

"I can still remember people joking to him about the bill as he left the Senate at the end of January," Kassebaum said. "It was quite a heavy sender.

Lawrence said the Baker’s relationship with Simon was one of the key factors in bringing them to Carbondale.

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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 formed a friendship and their mutual respect for each other led to their marriage in 1996, aside a lengthy separation.

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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 compiled 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 cuts 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 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."

Revell Dillard, associate director for the Financial Operations 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 samples and specimens between the clinic and the hospital, Dillard said.

"In order to reduce the fleet on campus," Dillard said, "a centralized transit service was created to perform all these 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 glorified taxi service, but that's not it."

Kathy Buhon, a manager 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 can't 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."

Bathen said nurses will sometimes provide transit tickets to students whose injuries have affected their ability to walk so that they can easily get to class. She said though the transit service is utilized regularly College. of Liberal Arts said she didn't think 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 or 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 budgets, 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, even 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 year."

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

Reporter Katie Davis
kdavis@dailyEgyptian.com

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THURSDAY: SEPTEMBER 4TH:
Laugh Out Loud with Leon Rogers & C Dawg
Student Center, Ballroom D - 9:30 pm

SATURDAY: SEPTEMBER 6TH:
SiU vs. SEMO Football Trip - Pack the SAS and Head South!
SIUC receives $1.73 million for research

Professor receives grant to study effects of nicotine on babies

Kelsey Mastland
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 study, which will last for the next five years, marks the most considerable grant ever received by the professor.

Though not the largest grant ever secured 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 more 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 findings of this research.

The said mothers can only be smokers and can not use 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 $10 for each level completed and a final $200 bonus at the end of the trial.

Though the grant was approved about six months ago, it wasn't officially awarded until Aug. 1. The research, will begin 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. Paul 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," Espy said.

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

Seth Borenstein

Washingto1 (KRT) — The space shuttle Columbia and its remaining three shuttles to orbit are in serious trouble, outside experts investigating the accident said Thursday. The agency and its contractors must make dramatic changes in their attitudes toward safety or more astronauts will die, they warned.

Abstained enhanced flight safety, the “acquiescence to 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 Thomas Ridgell, 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 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 the 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 it communicates about possible safety problems and appoint a new leadership.

The process has already begun, NASA administrator Sean O’Keefe said in a press release issued Thursday.

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

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

FIRe

Continued from Page 1

the help of the sprinkler system.

Most of the students took advan-
tage of Criminal Hall, which had a door opened to accommodate their wait until it was clear to return.

However, junior Hippie, a fresh-
man in animal science from Tuscaloosa, and Seren Schmidt, junior from Pensacola, were not thrilled with what they had to return to.

“Rats,” said a 21-year-old, black-mohawked, still-strewn haplessly on their bed from their hasty retreat the previous night, and several other seniors, previously shaggy and now for the new school year, were dark with soot from the smoke.

“We can still smell the smoke in our room,” Saltur said in the middle of a loaded bed.

Several of the 17th floor residents, including Hoppe and Saltur, slept the remainder of the night in the hall.

Alcohol

Continued from Page 1

continued from Page 1

Dragon, said from the standpoint of the law, 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.

“Stil 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,” said a bartender.

Several of the 17th floor residents, including Hoppe and Saltur, slept the remainder of the night in the hall.

“I was panicked,” Hoppe said. “I was like, I don’t want any of my stuff to be on fire. I was scared it was going to burn everything we owned, but it just turned everything black.”

Reporters Lindsey Mazir contributed to this story

Reporters Valerie N. Donders can be reached at vaudomen@dailyEgyptian.com

Alcohol

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Continued from Page 1

the law is the law, whether you

are opposed to it or not,” Pinch Penny Liquor Store and the adjoining Pinch Penny Pub took the opportunity upon themselves to police their parking lots and insure the ages of their customers.

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

Best said that liquor stores are no longer worried 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 teenagers, and that’s the reality. It’s a parents responsibility upon themselves to police their parking lots and insures the ages of their customers.”

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

“There are things about being young and making mistakes that people should understand and the law does not,” Best said.

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The Daily Egyptian cannot be responsible for more than ONE day's incorrect insertion (No exceptions). Advertisers are responsible for checking their ads on the FIRST day after publication. Advertisers stopping insertions are responsible for checking their ads on the FIRST day that they are to cease appearing. The Daily Egyptian will not be responsible for more than one day's insertion for a classified ad that was stopped. Errors not the fault of the advertiser which lessen the value of the advertisement will be adjusted.

Classified advertising running with the Daily Egyptian will not be automatically renewed. A callback will be given as the day of expiration. If customer is not at the phone number listed on the Daily Egyptian for the responsibility of the customer to contact the Daily Egyptian for ad renewal.

All classified advertising must be processed before 2 p.m. to appear in the next day's publication. Any advertising processed after 2 p.m. will go in the following day's publication.

Classified advertising must be paid in advance except for those accounts with established credit. A service charge of $25.00 will be added to the advertiser's account for every check returned to the Daily Egyptian unpaid by the advertiser's bank. Early cancellations of classified advertising will be charged a $25.00 service fee. Any refund under $25.00 will be forfeited due to the cost of processing.

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A sample of all mail-order items must be submitted and approved prior to deadline for publication.

No ads will be misclassified.

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LARGE CHEESE PIZZA
$4.99
$1 EACH ADDITIONAL TOPPING
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Valid only at Carbondale location. Other fees may apply. Additional toppings extra.
Expires Aug. 31 03

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
Answer: AT THE

THREE MEANINGFUL WORDS
A: ANIMALS
R: RAIN
A: ANIMALS

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 every one of your expectations.

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 1. Others may think you're being way too 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've always known. The challenge isn't getting it, but 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 priorities. Try not to be overly critical with those who are lagging behind.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 21). Today is 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. 22-Nov. 20). Today is a 9. You have a valuable connection with a powerful group. It's very important to you and it's very important to them, so treat that connection with respect. But don't get around.

Sagittarius (Nov. 21-Dec. 21). Today is a 5. If you have a problem following your heart, that problem will surface now. The next few weeks will get you through this phase to simply do what you'll tell 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, a lot of patience, and your doubled. Get around.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Today is a 5. You may excel in your field, but conserve your energy, you're not done yet. You have many years ahead of you.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20). Today is an 8. You've heard of soul mates; no doubt, you're about to have the experience. When this is the time of time or at many times in an old familiar form, it's great.
Examining the Big Ten conference - board-game style

Mike Huguenin
The Orlando Sentinel (FL)

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 town to run the ball, but Who's the Big Ten? There is no proven go-to WR, a lot of untapped young WRs 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 bowl game.
AGGRAVATION: The defense was bad last season and remains slow and underdressed. The ground game was bad last season and the best lineman was kicked-off the team for poor conditioning. The projected starting line has foot underdressed.

IOWA
TRIVIAL PURSUIT: Iowa, which won 11 games last season, has had back-to-win 10-wins.
MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 4, vs. Michigan. If the Hawkeyes 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 8-7250 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 in coach Lloyd Carr's eight-season tenure.
MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 25, vs. Purdue. This looks to be the first meaningful game for the Wolverines.
AGGRAVATION: There's no breakthrough threat at TB. The secondary is a concern, especially at safety. The LBs aren't anything special.

OHIO STATE
TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Spartans have had back-to-back losing seasons since 1991-92.
MYSTERY DATE: Sept. 27, vs. Iowa. The confident 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 bowl games 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 before that.

NORTHWESTERN
TRIVIAL PURSUIT: The Wildcats won six Big Ten games in 2000. That's as good as they've done 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 PSU'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 consecutive bowls. Before this streak, the school had been to five bowls in its history.
MYSTERY DATE: Oct. 18, at Wisconsin. The two dark-horses in the Big Ten crown meet in Madison.

OHIO STATE
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 pick a Big Ten champ after last year. The back two teams on defense will add four starters. 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 in the past six 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 whether the Buckeyes are Big Ten (they're at Penn State this week) before, then host Purdue on Oct. 18).

SPECIAL
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10
far as returning kicks and punts go. Robinson returned only three kicks for 73 yards last season.
Deep in the kick game, Kettl was 32nd in a special teams.
Kettl was 32nd in the return game. Others, said he still needs to do just fine, if not spectacular, Salukis over.
Kettl was 32nd in the return game. Others, said he still needs to do just fine, if not spectacular, Salukis over.
Kettl was 32nd in the return game. Others, said he still needs to do just fine, if not spectacular, Salukis over.

Real Estate Right Price.
My favorite Salukis

By Rick Gregg

Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. NON-ACADEMIC STAFF include position and department. OTHERS include author's hometown.

Bringing 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 shorts and T-shirts just for class this spring, has been happily wearing shorts and a T-shirt to class this year for the first time in her college career.

"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 classes and the school.

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

"I didn’t really have a pitching coach that first three years out at Liberty," Thompson said. "I just kind of threw a lot, but when I came home for 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 wanted Thompson to join a team that already had its usual complement of three pitchers.

"At that time you take a transfer, you hope that she’s a good person, and Alison is a wonderful person," Blaylock said.}

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 Seebbing

Daily Egyptian

With the graduation of all-time Saluki point leader Scott Everhart, who held the kicking and punting duties off and on in the last two seasons, the Salukis are left with two freshmen, redshirt kicker Craig Coffin and punter Zach Ketzelskky.

"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 — two three running backs Brandon Robinson, Tom Kuntz and Muhammad Abdulqadir — are inexperienced.

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