Aviation plans still grounded

State rep, FAA administrator tour facilities, discuss expansion

Sean McGahan

As high-ranking officials in the world of flight complimented the SIUC aviation programs Thursday, the department’s room for improvement was over their shoulders.

U.S. Congressman Jerry Costello and FAA Administrator Marion Blakely addressed a crowd of more than 500 people at Southern Illinois Airport in front of about 95 percent of the university’s Boeing 737.

The hangar did not have room for the other seven feet of the aircraft.

The aviation program — regarded as one of the best in the nation — is looking for funding from a state capital bill that would pay for the proposed $42 million Transportation Education Center.

The center, which has been in the planning stages since the late 1990s, would house the aviation programs as well as the automation technology program, which is also regarded as one of the best in the nation.

Costello said the visit was his first day out in the field after being named chairman of an aviation subcommittee in the U.S. House of Representatives.

“When you look at comparable programs throughout the United States, the program here at Southern Illinois University is second to none,” Costello said. “I’m committed to doing everything that I possibly can to strengthen the program to meet the challenges of the future.”

The 270,000 square-foot center would be located at the Southern Illinois Airport on Route 13 in Murphysboro.

SIU President Glenn Poshard said it is one of his top priorities.

“It’s been at the top of our list for some time,” Poshard said. “We need that tech center to combine [the programs], and if we do we’ll double the number of students we can serve.”

The aviation program in particular attracts more students than the current facilities can accommodate, said College of Applied Sciences and Arts Dean Paul Sarvela.

Sarvela said the program has received more than 180 applications for next semester so far, but is only able to accept 70.

“I anticipate meetings will continue on a regular interval until we finish this,” said Kolb, who was president of the union in 1990.

Before the Department of Aviation, Faculty Association and BOT negotiators hadn’t met since the October meeting, which marked the second impasse in contract talks since they began in the summer.

Union spokeswoman and Vice President Lenore Langdorf said e-mail that she will join Tuesday’s discussion to focus on the Faculty Association’s Dec. 16 counterproposal, and she hoped board negotiators were prepared to reach an agreement.

“We’d like to get back to the table and get this settled, which we believe is in their interest also,” said Langdorf, a professor of speech communication.

See AVIATION, Page 9

Faculty, BOT set to resume talks today

Brandon Weisenberger

A counterproposal from both sides and a months-long standstill in negotiations for a new contract will be part of discussion today when the university’s faculty union and Board of Trustees meet for the first time of the new year, representatives for the two teams said Thursday.

Top in the minds of negotiators is salary, with the Faculty Association requesting more money for professors and SIU officials doing what they can in a period of slim finances.

Bargainers haven’t met since mid-December when the Faculty Association formally rejected an Oct. 18 offer that BOT spokesman Gary Kolb called his team’s “best and last.” The union also submitted a counterproposal, details of which are being withheld while negotiations continue.

Kolb, who is associate dean in the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, said Thursday the BOT has prepared a counterproposal of its own, and he expects meetings to happen consistently until the sides reach an agreement.

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See CONTRACTS, Page 9

City elections

Making her mark

Sheila Simon brings life of, love for politics to Carbondale mayoral race

Andrea Zimmermann

Editor’s note: This story is the second of a four-part series that will profile each of the candidates running for Carbondale mayor.

Sheila Simon’s watch stands out no matter what she wears.

The multi-colored fluorescent timepiece reflects one aspect of the college professor and mayoral candidate’s character.

“I just pretend that it matches everything I wear, and then I don’t think about it again,” Simon said of the waterproof watch. “If someone is looking for a candidate with a really elegant sense of style, I must say I won’t be on the top of their list.”

It’s the same feature that makes her more likely than other 45-year-olds to use the words wacky, cool or awesome in casual conversation.

Simon, one of four candidates hoping to become Carbondale’s next mayor, said her political upbringing, connections and dedication to open government would make her the best person to help the city move forward.

Simon’s pedigree has gotten her an unusual amount of attention for a small southern Illinois town.

Sheila Simon speaks to citizens who gathered Thursday afternoon at Joyce and Bob Killian’s home to hear her plans for Carbondale. Simon is one of four candidates running for city mayor in the Feb. 27 primary.
**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Illinois senators voice Katrina concern**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Illinois senators are voicing concern over how the victim-count in the United States has been shortchanged by the government.

Sen. Barack Obama, who is expected to announce his candidacy for president next month, declared that the American people “have made it pretty clear, I think, that it was an embarrassment to our country and that we betrayed our own citizens.”

The Chicago Democrat said as a member of a Senate subcommittee on Homeland Security, he will join Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., and Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, in visiting New Orleans on Monday as part of an investigation of what can be learned from the 2005 hurricane’s aftermath.

Sen. Dick Durbin’s, the Senate’s second-highest ranking Democrat and a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said Congress needs to appropriate more money to deal with New Orleans’ problems and an administration in Washington with “the will to do.”

“It is a shame a great city like New Orleans was brought to its knees in devastation and that promises were made to the American people that we would stand by them as we brought the city back to life Durbin said. “It is just a sad commentary.”

The senators spoke during a question-and-answer period at an Illinois constituent breakfast on Capitol Hill.

**Wife gets 40 years for burning husband to death**

EDWARDSVILLE, IL (AP) — A Metro East woman who admitted killing her husband two years ago by dousing him with gasoline and setting him alight while he slept was sentenced Thursday to 40 years in prison.

Tammy Englerth, 34, of Highland, pleaded guilty in November in Madison County Circuit Court to a count of first-degree murder. As part of a plea deal, prosecutors agreed not to seek more than the 40-year term.

Authorities say Englerth left her home Jan. 1, 2005, put her son in her car, went back inside and started the fire in the house.

Her husband, 30-year-old Christopher Englerth, died of his injuries six days later at a St. Louis hospital. Tammy Englerth also was seriously burned in the blaze.

Tammy Englerth had filed for divorce in the summer of 2004 but never followed up on the petition.

**POLICE REPORTS**

**University**

A suspect has been identified for harassment by telephone reported on Jan. 16 on St. Louis campus. The case has been referred to the state attorney’s office.

**Correction**

If you spot an error, please contact the **Daily Egyptian** accuracy desk at 536-3311, ext. 253.

**AccuWeather 5-Day Forecast for Carbondale**

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<td>8-10</td>
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**AccuWeather.com**

**Daily Egyptian Weather**

- Temperature: 40° F
- Humidity: 20%
- Wind: 10 mph
- Precipitation: 0%.

**National Cities**

- Chicago: 36°/22°F
- St. Louis: 35°/21°F
- Carbondale: 36°/21°F
- Danville: 33°/16°F
- East St. Louis: 34°/15°F
- Mascoutah: 35°/15°F
- Mattoon: 37°/15°F
- Mt. Vernon: 35°/15°F
- Peoria: 36°/15°F
- Quincy: 36°/15°F
- Rock Island: 35°/15°F
- Springfield: 37°/15°F

**Legend:** Windy, extreme cold, snow/ice, snow flurries, rain, snow, flurries, severe, extreme heat, thunderstorm, extreme cold, snow, sleet, very hot.

All forecasts are provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2007
SIUC is fighting the language barrier.

The Center for English as a Second Language is putting on the International Teacher Assistant Training Program — a workshop intended to help ITAs sharpen their English.

ITA Coordinator Cheryl Ernst said the program started in the 1980s in response to an increased amount of foreign students coming to American universities. She said SIUC was one of the first universities to have a complete program.

“We were one of the first to have a full-fledged program before other schools,” Ernst said.

The semester-long course originally focused on language skills, but has expanded to teach more about American culture, she said.

“Now we’ve become more of a culture, pedagogical language focus,” she said.

Marilyn Rivers, director of the Center for English as a Second Language, said ITAs applying for graduate school are required to take an oral interview test.

The three-hour-a-week training is designed for those who did not pass the test; it is recommended for those needing extra language help or just want to polish their speaking skills.

Rivers said the program is tough for many ITAs.

“It’s quite a time commitment for the ITA because they have very, very busy schedules,” Rivers said. “They’re taking their own classes, they’re teaching classes and then they have to put in these three hours.”

Arifin Angriawan, an ITA from Indonesia who took the class twice, said it greatly increased his ability to speak and pronounce English. He also said he learned about American culture and methods he could use to teach students.

“I learned that I have to speak slowly and loudly,” said Angriawan, a doctoral student in business administration. “I also learned the sequence of presenting.”

Ernst said graduates of the program are observed while they teach their classes and are given feedback.

Hardik Amin, an ITA from India, said the observation was beneficial to him because it was more realistic than the training program.

“In a class, I’m very spontaneous,” said Amin, a doctoral student in chemistry. “It was very good having that session.”

While the training program helps ITAs develop their speaking skills, there are also various strategies for students struggling with their teaching assistants.

For instance, Ernst suggested students ask their teaching assistant to write down a misunderstood word to clear up confusion. She also said students should avoid using slang because it would probably not be understood.

Rivers also said students can help an ITA pronounce words or even resolve a question the ITA doesn’t understand.

She said the whole process should be viewed as a cultural exchange between the teacher and student.

“In this day of globalization, we need to know more about the world,” Rivers said.

ryan_rendleman@dailyegyptian.com
536-3311 ext. 268

In this day of globalization, we need to know more about the world.
— Marilyn Rivers, director of Center for English as a Second Language

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In this day of globalization, we need to know more about the world.
” — Marilyn Rivers, director of Center for English as a Second Language
**WORLD & NATION**

**Uranium smuggling case throws Russia on defensive**

**Moscow** — Russia responded with silence Thursday after Georgia revealed a taped effort by a Russian man to sell weapons-grade uranium, an episode that appeared to cast doubt on the nation’s ability to keep black market trade in nuclear materials.

The origin of 3.5 ounces of highly enriched uranium seized early last year in the former Soviet republic remains unclear, and police and officials accused Georgia of trying to embarrass Russia at a time of strained relations between Moscow and Washington.

U.S. and Georgian officials told The Associated Press that Georgian authorities, aided by the CIA, set up a sting operation that led to the arrest last week of a Russian citizen who tried to sell a small amount of uranium enriched to about 90 percent U-235, suitable for use in atomic bombs.

**Michigan**

Ford posts record net loss of $12.7 billion in 2006

**Dearborn, Mich.** — Ford Motor Co. lost a staggering $12.7 billion in 2006 — an average of $1,005 for every car and truck it sold.

Ford’s loss, reported Thursday, was the worst in the company’s 90-year history and came amid slumping demand for sport utility vehicles and other gas guzzlers and huge government costs tied in part to the planned closure of 16 plants.


Ford, which has relied on trucks and sport utility vehicle sales for much of its profit, was hurt last year as $5 per gallon gas prices sent consumers fleeing to smaller, more fuel-efficient vehicles. At the same time, Toyota has seen its U.S. sales rise, beating Ford for the No. 2 sales spot in July and November.

**Kentucky**

Soldier pleads guilty to murder in Iraqi detainees’ deaths

**Fort Campbell, Ky.** (AP) — A 10th Armored Division soldier was sentenced Thursday to 18 years in prison for murdering a detainee and taking part in the killings of two others in Iraq last year.

Pfc. Corey R. Dugger, 21, was one of four U.S. soldiers accused of killing a detainee “Rakhkasans” who were accused in the detainees’ deaths during a July 9 raid on the al-Faw base, a U.S.-controlled facility in Laramie, about 60 miles north of Baghdad.

The soldiers first told investigators they shot the detainees because they were attempting to flee and that commanders had told them to shoot the detained Iraqis. But after investigators interviewed the soldiers, they changed their stories and pleaded guilty. The squad leader, Spc. Justin R. Graber, has not been charged. People close to him say Graber has been told to cooperate with authorities.

**Indiana**

Dad of abducted Indianapolis family pleads not guilty

**Goshen, Ind.** (AP) — A Chicago man accused of abducting his ex-girlfriend and their four children pleaded not guilty on Thursday to felony charges of attempted murder and kidnapping.

White, 30, is accused of bursting into the family’s Goshen home on Feb. 17 and seizing and beating the family before fleeing with them.

The attempted murder charge carries a sentence of 20 to 50 years. The confinement charge carries a sentence of two to 20 years.

During the three-day ordeal, White let Walker call her family to say she was all right. She used a previously planned code to signal that she was in danger, police said.

**Democrats seek GOP help on Iraq**

**Washington** — Members of a Senate committee that voted against President Bush’s Iraq plan said Thursday they also are wary of pouring more money into rebuilding, while the security situation is so dire.

“I want you to know that I am not inclined to support any additional funding in this area without strong assurances that this sort of mismanagement has been alleviated,” said Sen. Jim Webb, D-Va.

A day earlier the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted 12-9 in favor of a resolution condemning Bush’s decision to send 21,500 more troops to Iraq. The vote largely was along party lines. Nebraska Sen. Chuck Hagel was the sole Republican who supported the measure. A full Senate vote could come as early as the week of Feb. 5, Democratic leaders said Thursday.

Bush says the troops are needed to provide security for rebuilding efforts. As part of his new strategy, Bush pledged an additional $11.2 billion and said the Iraqi government designated $10 billion.

The State Department is expanding the number of reconstruction teams for Baghdad and the western Anbar province, sending some 300 additional civilian personnel to Iraq.

On Wednesday Republicans and Democrats told a State Department official they were concerned the extra money could fuel corruption or the insurgency.

**Klan leader pleads not guilty in 1964 killings**

**Jackson, Miss.** — A reputed Ku Klux Klansman accused in the 1964 slayings of two black men pleaded not guilty Thursday, and in a measure of how things have changed across the South, the judge he stood before in 1964 said new evidence has come to light since he last saw the defendant.

Hezekiah Dee, both 19, were seized and beaten by Klansmen, then thrown into the Mississippi River to drown.

At the time of the slayings, a social courtesy whites typically denied to blacks in Mississippi 43 years ago. Hezekiah Dee, both 19, were seized and beaten by Klansmen, then thrown into the Mississippi River to drown.

A second white man long suspected in the attack, reputed KKK member Charles Marcus Edwards, 72, has not been charged. People close to the investigation who spoke on condition of anonymity said Edwards was cooperating with authorities.

Seale and Edwards were arrested in the case in 1964. But the FBI searched through the case for three civil rights workers who disappeared in 1964 and turned over to local authorities, who promptly threw out all charges.

The U.S. Justice Department reopened the case in 2006. But it was not until a few years ago that authorities even realized Seale was still alive.

**World & Nation**

**Women in the village of Eneiba, near the southern Egyptian city Aswan, listen to a lecture on ritual of female circumcision which is still widely practiced in Egypt and other African nations. They are taking part in a government-sponsored program to raise awareness of possible health problems from female circumcision and pushing for an end to the ritual.**

**Democratic Presidential Hopeful Brian Murphy The Associated Press**

**BEIRUT, Lebanon** — University student loyal to Hezbollah’s political wing was arrested Wednesday after he set fire to the residence of a próximo leader, officials said.

The clash on the outskirts of the southern city of Sidon highlighted growing tensions between the former rival political groups.

The clashes, sparked by a falling out over Hezbollah’s attacks on Israeli forces near the country’s border, also left five people injured.

**Kurds in the village of Eneiba, near the southern Egyptian city Aswan, listen to a lecture on ritual of female circumcision which is still widely practiced in Egypt and other African nations. They are taking part in a government-sponsored program to raise awareness of possible health problems from female circumcision and pushing for an end to the ritual.**

**Curfew imposed in Sunni Muslim students clash with Shiite Hezbollah supporters**

**MOSUL, Iraq** — A curfew was imposed Thursday in a Sunni Muslim district when sunni and Shiites fought in a street battle.

The clashes, sparked by a falling out over Hezbollah’s attacks on Israeli forces near the country’s border, also left five people injured.

The clashes, sparked by a falling out over Hezbollah’s attacks on Israeli forces near the country’s border, also left five people injured.

**White, 30, is accused of bursting into the family’s Goshen home on Feb. 17 and seizing and beating the family before fleeing with them.**
Veteran math teacher dies

Sarah Lohman
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Rita Polston lived with an open door policy.

Math Department Chair Andrew Earnest said the math teacher’s door was always open to students, whether it was during her office hours or not. “My enduring memory will always be of her sitting in her office surrounded by students,” Earnest said. “That’s where she loved to be and what she loved to do.”

Polston, who taught math and science for 24 years, died at the age of 61 Sunday at her home. Her family requested that the cause of death not be made public.

Visitation and memorial services will be held today from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Bailey Funeral Home in Vincennes.

Polston began working at SIUC in 1986 as an assistant professor of math, teaching courses from intermediate algebra to advanced calculus.

“She was very kind,” said SIUC student Joe Moore, who is running for Carbondale mayor. “She was a great teacher, and she was always willing to go out of her way to help students.”

“She was one of those teachers you go to for advice,” said SIUC student Stephanie Suggs. “She was always very accessible and willing to help.”

Polston also had a passion for helping students succeed outside of the classroom. She was a mentor to many students, providing support and guidance as they pursued their dreams.

“She was a mentor to me, and I learned a lot from her,” said SIUC student Ashley Johnson. “She was always willing to go above and beyond to help students.”

Polston is survived by her husband, John, and her two children, Nathan and Sarah. Services will be held at a later date.

Candidates to mingle with voters at Hangar 9

Danny Wenger
DAILY EGYPTIAN

City council and mayoral candidates will bring homemade dishes to Hangar 9 for a casual meeting with voters Monday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

“Hangin’ with the Candidates,” an event organized by Councilman Lance Jack, gives Carbondale residents the chance to meet the candidates in person.

“It’s basically a nice casual forum to be able to interact with those that are running for office,” Jack said. “It’s not the first time an event like this has happened. Jack said when he ran for office four years ago there were casual forums.

“They were always well received, but unfortunately not always well attended by the public,” he said.

SIUC student Joe Moore, who is running for city council, said he liked the idea of a casual event and hopes to see more after the primaries. “I had kind of a campaign kickoff at Hangar,” Moore said. “Maybe something at Longbranch or something like that, in a different part of town.”

It’s a great way for candidates to have an open house atmosphere to attract people that they might not normally make contact with,” Carter said. Although other organizations are planning debates, Jack said his purpose is to have a casual open house situation and attract people that they might not normally make contact with,” Carter said. Although other organizations are planning debates, Jack said his purpose is to have a casual open house situation and attract people that they might not normally make contact with.”

“It’s a great way for candidates to have an open house atmosphere to attract people that they might not normally make contact with.”

Through conversation, he said voters actually get to know the candidates, as opposed to just sound bites. “If you’ve only read their answers to questions in the newspapers, sometimes it’s hard to get a feel for who a person really is,” Jack said.

Jack hopes the event will help generate interest in local politics.

“Too often I hear people say, ‘I vote in the presidential election, but I vote in the congressional election,’ Jack said. “Yes, those races have a huge effect on your life, but local races affect your life every day, from potholes to bus routes.”

Although not all candidates will be attending, Jack said nine of the 11 contenders would be present.

“Hangin’ with the Candidates” is a great way for candidates to have an open house atmosphere to attract people that they might not normally make contact with.”

just sound bites.

“She was fantastic. It’s a big loss for us.”

Polston continued to tutor until her death.

Edgren, associate director of continuing education.

“Hangin’ with the Candidates” is a great way for candidates to have an open house atmosphere to attract people that they might not normally make contact with.”

Polston continued to tutor until her death.

Edgren said she taught the course herself every semester until she felt it was polished enough to pass on to another teacher.

“She was pivotal in university core curriculum teaching,” he said.

Polston also assessed the mathematics core curriculum courses and taught a seminar for secondary education math majors.

She was awarded the Outstanding Term Faculty Teaching Award at SIUC in 2004. That same year, Polston received an M.S. in education.

Carter said she will be providing staff at the event and food is being provided by local businesses.

“We are going to do a chili cheese dip, and I’m going to see if I can find enough good tomatoes in the middle of winter to make homemade salsa,” Moore said.

Christopher Toothaker
FOR ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARACAS, Venezuela -- President Hugo Chavez wanted Thursday that the U.S. ambassador could be asked to leave the country if he continues “meddling in Venezuelan affairs.”

The outspoken Venezuelan leader lashed out after William Brownfield said U.S. companies and investors must receive a fair price for their shares of Venezuela’s largest telephone company when Chavez’s government nationalizes it.

“If you continue meddling in Venezuelan affairs, first of all, you are violating the Geneva agreements and getting yourself involved in a serious violation and could … be declared a persona non grata and would have to leave the country,” Chavez. Chavez added that the Caracas Union Radio the planned takeover of CA Nacional de Telefonos, or CANTV, should proceed “in a transparent, legal manner” and that Venezuela’s government must offer “fair and quick compensation to the people who are affected or the owners.”

“These are the only obligations that a government has when it decides to nationalize an industry,” Brownfield added. Thursday’s exchange is the latest demonstration of tensions between Caracas and Washington.

U.S. officials have accused Chavez of becoming increasingly authoritarian and of human rights abuses. The Venezuelan leader has repeatedly accused Washington of scheming against his leftist government.

Virginia-based Verizon Communications Inc., holds the largest minority share of CANTV, which was privatized in 1991. The takeover jeopardizes an agreement by Verizon to sell a 28.5 percent stake in CANTV to a joint venture of America Movil and Telefonos de Mexico SA, controlled by Mexican billionaire Carlos Slim.

Venezuelan president threatens US. ambassador

Friday, January 26, 2007 News

DAILY EGYPTIAN

We Know It’s Big. We Measured.

We Know It’s Big. We Measured.
The system works

As the new semester began and students filed into the lecture hall, a professor discussed her policy — one that was highly progressive, but brought up concerns of privacy among students.

She wanted to incorporate Facebook into her class and required all students to join a group and add teaching assistants and the professor as "friends.

The students who objected to the rule voiced their objections in class did not receive a favorable response, so they took their problem to the dean. The dean, after hearing the concerns of students, recommended that the professor provide an alternative to the policy. And just like that, the policy changed the next day. We at the Daily Egyptian were impressed.

The system worked. So let's hear it for The System, for despite its bureaucracy, it was quick and efficient to deal with students' concerns.

Privacy worries were removed, and so was the potential of a professor or a teaching assistant — one who assigns grades — knowing too much about the personal lives of her students.

Academic issues are the last things students need to worry about in their hectic lives. Eliminating these worries allows students to focus on their studies and not to be concerned about what their professors and teaching assistants uncover on their Facebook pages.

The Daily Egyptian encourages all students who feel they are in uncomfortable positions in the classroom to bring the matter higher up the ladder. It worked in one class, and it can work in all the rest.

Bipartisan approach should extend to Iraq policy

Try as he might to deliver an upbeat message Tuesday night, President Bush could not hide the fragile state of his presidency and the troubled state of the union. The main reason for that is a four-letter word: Iraq.

As if to underscore the point, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Wednesday brushed aside his pleas for support and passed a nonbinding resolution registering dissent over the decision to increase U.S. troop levels.

Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.
Flying is no longer fun

Lewis Diuguid
McCallum Thiesen

My daughter Leslie noticed a woman crying at Kansas City International Airport because of what she was treated by security personnel.

It’s not fun to fly on commercial airlines anymore. Seizure security personnel at airports and cost-cutting by airlines have gut-punched what used to be customer service.

At KCI, we had to shod our shoes, belts, wallets, jackets, coins, keys and jewelry, and pull things out of our carry-on bags before entering the metal detectors.

We cleared the devices. But the security personnel stopped us because of our few containers of offending fluids. Medicinal skin creams, lotions, mouthwash and toothpaste were all confiscated.

“Not allowed!” a security guard barked.

“But they are in containers less than 3 ounces in size,” I pleaded.

“You don’t have them in quart-size plastic bags,” he replied.

I emptied a plastic bag that had some pizza in it, which Leslie had cooked for lunch.

“Not allowed!” the guard replied. “Too big.”

I had advised Leslie to travel light and not to check luggage.

Last fall when I’d flown, my baggage was searched and I was emptied out of my carry-on bag before entering the metal detectors.

I had advised Leslie to travel light and not to check luggage.

But they are in containers less than 3 ounces in size,” I pleaded.

“They’re not allowed!” the guard replied. “Too big.”

I had advised Leslie to travel light and not to check luggage.

Last fall when I’d flown, my baggage was searched and I was emptied out of my carry-on bag before entering the metal detectors.

A systematic safety check of peanuts or crackers that some airlines had offered have vanished.

They’ve gone the way of real food and drinks that used to be served on planes.

Leslie carried her things in an old TWA bag, a gift from her grandmother. People working for the airlines marvelled at the collector’s item. The skies aren’t friendly like that anymore.

And don’t expect comfort. Some flights get canceled. Delays sometimes last hours are common and planes routinely and overpaid to maximize profits.

Worn-out seat cushions are uncomfortable for the back and bottom, and super-sized passengers get shoehorned into spaces regardless of the distress that creates for others.

Where’s the kindness? Where’s the customer service for the nearly $30 we paid to park there? Where’s the joy?

Evan Hawkins
graduate student, English

A continuum

Akeem Mustapha

Seasons greetings and wel- come back to the last segment of the school year 2006/2007. First and foremost, I would like to thank the DE officials for granting USG this column. This is appreciated because it gives us the opportunity to continue to communicate with our constitu- ents and share our agenda with them.

I also welcome all our honorable sena- tors back and look forward to working intensely with the senate for the remain- der of the year. We achieved sev- eral goals last fall, but this semester is different because we have much more on our plate.

We will continue to address the issues of safety on off- campus and review the Student Conduct Code with the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Dr. Larry Dietz. An enrollment Conduct Code with the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Dr. Larry Dietz. An enrollment

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It is also election season this semester. You will be prepared to vote for your new USG leaders and other respective organiza- tions. We would like to increase awareness with the hope of getting as many can- didates as possible and a heavy turnout of student votes during that time.

Lastly, I would like to con- gratulate the new senators elected during our first senate meeting. I wish you all the best and hopefully we can accom- plish a lot for students together. And to the many active students on this campus, there are still several senatorial positions available. Please get involved with us in decision making so that we can stand firm and be heard on this campus.

And working relationship with the administration to discuss other vital issues of importance.

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State of the Union a disappointment

Dear Editor:

I’m not interested in attacking the presi- dent or the war in Iraq. What really hoc- ked me about President Bush’s State of the Union address was his plan to increase the size of the armed forces by nearly 100,000 members. Before I’m labeled anti-military, I’m not interested in attacking the presi- dent.

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Surprisingly, despite the national budget that currently exceeds $4 trillion and that, despite an armed forces budget that surpasses the gross national product of some countries, the President could suggest and receive a standing ovation from both parties. Since increasing military spending to make up the difference. Rather, more government money will financing this increase. I seriously doubt the national budget that currently exceeds eight trillion dollars, we cannot hope to see real progress.

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Cultivating the warrior spirit

New class teaches art of Japanese swordsmanship

Chris Klarer
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Three nights a week an otherwise quiet dance studio in the Recreation Center transforms into a dojo where the contemporary Japanese style of swordsmanship, Shinkendo, is taught.

On Monday, members of Kaigetsu Dojo looked curious strolling the halls in traditional martial arts uniforms surrounded by students wearing more traditional exercise attire.

While many of the activities being performed at the Rec Center were hopeful attempts at shedding some winter weight, group treasurer Mike Bugajski, a junior from Calumet City studying aviation, management and philosophy said much of the emphasis of Shinkendo lies in “spirit forging.”

“Our can go through martial arts and learn the techniques, but to truly understand and realize your abilities you have to immerse yourself in the philosophy,” he said.

Group president and instructor Kevin Taylor said Shinkendo was created in 1990 and is an amalgamation of traditional Japanese styles.

Group members began the night with meditation to clear their minds, making sure the night’s teachings could be fully received. As their eyes began to open, instructor Taylor uttered a quiet Japanese command, causing the group to rise as he led it in a series of stretches.

Exerting the beginning, all remained relatively silent except for the sounds of bare feet on hardwood floors and the quiet call and response cadence in the air of order and discipline in the room.

Suddenly the empty room echoed to the sound of the group’s kiai, or spirit shout, which erupted each time the swords fell in unison.

Peacock, 29, a sophomore from Mattoum studying aviation, said the kiai helps with breathing, focus and timing while performing the exercises. In combat, he said, they are meant to strike fear into the heart of one’s enemy.

The other instructor, Christian Peacock, moved to the front of the group to lead it through the sword exercises.

The group took a break once the exercises were complete, allowing the air of order and discipline in the room to dissipate while members laughed and talked amongst themselves.

Next they picked up their bokken, wooden swords used for sparring, and began moving through repetitions of prearranged combat techniques.

“We’re up to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon. We do this because we love it,” Taylor said to the instructors, “One word—demise.”

Taylor said that no bodily contact is supposed to be made in the exercises performed by the group.

“I’m the one doing it,” said Peacock as he practiced with one member, offering a warm smile and nod at the improvement shown in the next round.

This period of practice was more lax than the exercises that came before. Members gave advice to each other and joked around showing lighthearted rivalry.

Eventually Taylor and Peacock squared off, circling each other with precise movements and fast-falling bokken. Their exchange was quick and fluid, looking more like an intricate dance than a sword battle. After witnessing their exercise, Bugajski said to the instructors, “One word—demo.”

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“If it’s called promise sparing, promise you won’t hit me, and I promise you won’t hit me,” he said.

Quiet fell upon the room at the end of the night was very useful.”

“We do this because we love it,” Taylor said. “Of course, no one here has any delusions of walking down the street carrying a bokken.”

Kevin Taylor, left, a second-year graduate student in philosophy, and John Flowers, a senior majoring in English, practice Shinkendo in the Recreation Center on Monday night. The Shinkendo club practices the traditional style, which uses Japanese samurai swords, every Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon.

The members then formed a circle and charted informally, exchanging advice and observations and discussing group responsibilities.

Taylor said they are scheduled to meet this semester every Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon. They will also have a table at the Registered Student Organization fair Thursday between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

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He encourages interested students to drop in on a practice or the RSO fair to see the group for themselves.

“We’ve got a double major and work two jobs, so I’m a busy person,” said Bugajski. “Coming here to work out some stress and calm myself at the end of the night is very useful.”

“We do this because we love it,” Taylor said. “Of course, no one here has any delusions of walking down the street carrying a bokken.”

chklar@siu.edu
536-3397 ext. 267

Find out “WHAT’S UP” in the news with...
Andrea Zimmermann — Daily Egyptian

Rachel Zaro, a John A. Logan College student, walks 'that co' on the SIUC campus Tuesday in hopes that someone would recognize the lost dog. She found the pit bull mix Sunday at Grand Avenue and U.S. 51.

SIMON
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Illinois mayoral race
Daughter of liberal U.S. Sen. Paul Simon, she often finds herself standing in the late father’s political shadow of good government and advocacy. Paul Simon began his political career in 1955 in the Illinois House and went on to serve as lieutenant governor. He also spent 12 years in the U.S. Congress and made an unsuccessful bid for president in 1988.

Simon said she developed many of her connections through her father’s political career.

Last week, she traveled to Chicago to attend a fundraiser hosted by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and former Comptroller David Blanchette.

In Illinois, the Institute of the Paul Simon Public Policy
Center built, even though she will never
feel pressured by her candidacy.

Simon also takes a keen interest in environmental issues, saying one day a “giganto solar panel” will be put on top of the Emma C. Hayes Child Care Center.

Lawrence, who is also a family friend, said he knows Simon’s parents would be proud to see their daughter moving up in the political world.

Yet regardless of name and legacy, he said Simon has made a mark for herself on City Council over the last four years.

“Simon has a case of déjà vu on Saturday when her 16-year-old daughter Reilly and her friends had a contest to see who could stuff, stamp and seal the fastest.”

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113 S. Forest  
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711 S. Forest #3  
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609 N. Allyn  
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410 S. Ash  
504 S. Ash #2, 3  
505 S. Ash  
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514 S. Ash #1, 3  
405 S. Beveridge  
409 S. Beveridge #1  
502 S. Beveridge #1  
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506 S. Beveridge  
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529-1082 • 206 W. College Suite 11 • Carbondale
For The Accelerators, the words “haven’t you heard,” are more than a catch phrase created by the city of Carbondale — it’s actually the name of their latest full-length album. The Accelerators, a punk band originating from Carbondale, will be releasing the album, titled, “Haven’t You Heard…” on Saturday at 10 p.m. at Hangar 9 as a CD release show with bands The Hell and Dallas Alice. Jim Rotramel, a guitarist of The Accelerators, said the show would be a collection of old and new songs.

“Haven’t You Heard…” is the third full-length album The Accelerators have put out and it will be their last, said Bob Shaw, guitarist and vocalist in the band. He said the band feels it has a peak with their latest release and that a vocalist in the band. He said the band feels it has hit a peak with their latest release and that the band will perform through the summer but has hit a peak with their latest release and that the band will perform through the summer but will no longer be recording full albums. Shaw will move away while Dustin Mendenhall, lead singer for The Accelerators, will no longer perform with any bands.

Shaw said the new album is intended to be quick and to the point. The title is a play on the form with any bands.

It’s funny when I can leave my house and drive to Tuff Luck to work and the album is only recorded one day or so each month because of how difficult it was to get people together, Rotramel said.

“Everyone just got busy around the same time,” Shaw said.

Nate Hopman, the drummer for the band, is new to the group. When he joins the band on stage Saturday, it will be his first time playing live with The Accelerators, said he is a little nervous about it. He said he had to learn the catalogue of songs over the past few weeks, but wasn’t too worried about it.

“We kind of all learned as we went,” Hopman said.

The song “Pits as F——” was written by Shaw and details the band’s thoughts on Mendenhall’s arrest.

“Our singer is a sweaty bastard,” Shaw said.

Though two songs do recall Mendenhall reflecting on life, most songs carry minimal messages and rely more on the music surrounding the words.

“Mostly everything is good fun,” Shaw said. “Nothing is too deep at all.”

There is only one cover song on the album, “New Rose” by The Damned, where Shaw takes lead vocals.

The new album can be found in local music stores and will probably be available on iTunes and other download programs. They will also be repressing their second full-length with new covers and reissues and rely more on the music surrounding the words.

“What I found was that only the African-Americans have had words like that spoken to them. That really made me think about music and certain stereotypes that exist among people. Even Dave Chappelle got into the issue on one of his famous sketches.

At the end of an episode, John Mayer plays the guitar and a black cop knows the words and Dave asks him how he knows that song. The cop responds by saying, “I grew up in the suburbs. Man, I can’t help it.”

It’s like saying that he can’t listen to that type of music because he’s black. What’s up with that?

Sure, the fact of the matter is that many genres of music are predominantly dominated by members of the same race. But that shouldn’t mean that any particular race has “dibs” on the creation and expansion of any genre.

If you look back into the history of popular music, you’ll see that everyone from every genre of music has dabbled into all other genres. From Jimi Hendrix in rock to Blondie rapping on the first mainstream rap song “Rapture,” music was created for individuals to express themselves without any restrictions.

So what’s with the disconnect? We love to laugh at a white rapper and hate to love a black rock star (Hootie). That disconnect is really old and tiring. It goes to show lines are being created that don’t exist.

In addition to that, people think that just because you are of a certain race, that you just automatically know about certain kinds of music, I don’t know how many times I’ve been in a room full of people and that one person asks me questions about rap music like I’m just supposed to know the answers. And I know that I’ve done it too.

This isn’t written to be a sermon. But it’s written to let people know that we need to celebrate diversity in everything.

I guarantee that once you open your mind and expand your horizons, you’ll learn more than any schoolbook can teach you.

The bottom line is that the subject of race and color is everywhere. Just think about it. You are forced to label yourself anytime that you fill out surveys, questionnaires and even teacher evaluations.

Do we really need to label something as universal and eclectic as music? I don’t think so.
New police technology leads to arrest of eight men in 30-year-old case

**Kimm Curtis**
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A fingerprint on a cigarette lighter, shotgun shells and an infor- mation helped lead to the arrest of eight men accused of killing a police officer in the 1970s, according to court papers released Thursday.

Some of the evidence was recovered using forensic technology that didn't exist 30 years ago, according to the document, which was used to obtain an arrest war- rant in the case.

Prosecutors say members of the Black Liberation Army, a violent offshoot of the Black Panthers, stormed the lobby of a San Francisco police station the night of Aug. 29, 1971, killing Sgt. John V. Young with a shotgun and mortar fire from the lobby, saying "I think I'm just an average girl," Higginbotham, a 42-year-old astronaut, an alumnus of SIUC. She was considered herself a role model, impressed by the news, from Johnson Space Center in Houston.

"But once you're in the time in the world, I can't describe how incredible that journey was," she said. "You are among a very small group of people blessed to do this."

As a crew, they also were among the most diverse of any shuttle flight. "In my mind, if I can do this, anybody can do this."

Still, Higginbotham worried about her training. "It was just an incredible personal milestone to do this," she said. "We are all just a small group of people blessed to lead project engineer on the Space Center engineer for several years. Since tapped for NASA's shuttle program, she's been working ever since on a 13-day flight of the shuttle Discovery, rewiring the interna- tional space station and delivering a crewmate.

The die-hard Chicago Bears fan joined six other astronauts on a 13-day flight of the shuttle Discovery, reviewing the interna- tional space station and deliver- ing U.S. astronaut Sandy Magnus to the outpost for a six-month stay. Higginbotham spent part of her first mission in space being the chief operator of the space sta- tion's robotic arm.

"It seemed pretty much impos- sible," Higginbotham, a 42-year- old graduate of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, recalled Thursday. "I really didn't know if I would be selected. I was pretty sure I wouldn't actually.

She worried for naught and last month finally got a 3.5 mil- lion-mile experience truly out of this world.

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When the speed team prepared for the big drag race, they went — FULL "THROTTLE".
INDIANAPOLIS — This Super Bowl is all about family to Maureen and Dan Grossman.

"Their son, Rex, is the Chicago Bears quarterback, but the family has strong ties to football in Indiana going back to the 1940s. They’re Colts fans and they root for anyone, and I sure wouldn’t be upset if they won a Super Bowl."

But to many others in Bloomington, a city of about 70,000 where the Grossmans still live, the game tug at their deepest loyalties.

"I’m like everybody else in the city: I’m a Colts fan," Moriarty said.

It’s also not the first time the Grossmans have had a relative playing in the Super Bowl. Rex’s uncle, the late Terry Cole, was a backup quarterback for the 1968 Colts and the 1971 Miami Dolphins.

But those who know Grossman best are hoping the 25-year-old has a better experience — Cole’s Colts lost to the New York Jets 16-7 in 1969 and his Dolphins lost to Dallas 24-3 in 1972.

"You couldn’t ask for a better situation than having the Colts and Bears in the Super Bowl," Moriarty said. "I’d say you have a ton of Colts fans there, too. I don’t know that there’s so many Bears fans there."

Chicago Bears quarterback Rex Grossman passes in the first quarter during the NFC Championship game against the New Orleans Saints at Soldier Field on Sunday, Jan. 21, 2007.

Maureen and Dan Grossman. The elder Rex Grossman was a backup running back for the 1967 Rose Bowl team.

R.B. Fallstrom
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS — Andy Murray walked into the St. Louis Blues’ interview room Thursday, surveyed the crowd of reporters with a smile, and said “Let’s do it every day.”

Coming out of the All-Star break, the Blues finally are deserving of attention. Under their new coach they are the hottest team in the NHL with 12 wins in their last 16 games. Once mired in last place overall, when they ended up last season, they’re lurking right points out of a playoff spot with plenty of time left.

"Guys like Manny Legace said if anyone had suggested such a turn of events as early December he’d have "laughed right in your face.”

"It’s been unbelievable,” Legace said. “It’s been a great run and we’ve just got to keep it going.”

The Blues roared into the break by taking seven of a possible eight points as a West Coast swing, including victories over Anaheim and San Jose — the 1-2 teams in the Pacific Division. They’re tied for 11th in the Western Conference with 46 points, eight points behind the eighth-place Minnesota Wild.

Players say Murray deserves all the credit he’s received for the turnaround, boosting the team psyche as well as improving its systems.

"When you have confidence, everybody knows you’ve got to run with it,” center Ryan Johnson said. "We’re winning games a lot of times before we even step on the ice because we’re so well-prepared.”

Earlier in the season, the Blues lost a franchise-record 11 straight games. That spurring start cost Murray’s predecessor, Mike Kitchen, his job.

"We were underachievers,” forward Doug Weight said. “There was a million things wrong with this team.

"I don’t think this is going to stop, but hopefully we didn’t waste too much time playing poorly.”

The Blues, 12-2-2 in their last 16, will be tested right from the start. They return from the break on Friday against the Red Wings, who are fourth in the Western Conference standings, and on Saturday they’ll play the Predators, who are first overall in the NHL with 71 points.

They’ve got three games left against both of those teams and four to go against the Wild, the first one is Tuesday.

The Blues figure they’ll have to top 90 points to have a shot at the playoffs, meaning they’ll have to amass at least 44 points in the final 34 games. Last year’s eighth-place team in the Western Conference, Edmonton, had 95.
Saluki sprinter Marquita Vines, runs the 400-meter dash during the Saluki Booster in the Student Recreation Center Saturday afternoon. Vines finished with a time of 59.30 and took fourth place.

DUVALLE RILEY
DAILY EGYP TIAN

Lowery said the rebounding battle is important every game, but will be even more so with how Illinois State has been hitting the boards.

“They crash the offensive boards and I think that’s what characterizes their team,” Lowery said. “You have to do things well against everybody if you’re going to have a chance to win a conference.”

Tip off is set for 2:05 p.m. at the SIU Arena.

mike_brudenell@dailyegyptian.com
536-3311 ext. 269

After being named the MVC freshman of the year in the 2005-2006 season, Gibson has become more confident in the team’s defensive efforts.

Gibson said the team has done a good job improving their post defense but will need a well-rounded defensive effort to beat Evansville.

“We’re concerned with their deep-bench,” Gibson said. “They aren’t just low block players—they attack on the perimeter too.”

matt_hartwig@dailyegyptian.com
536-3311 ext. 238

Monday night, he was pressured to respond to fellow Cup driver Kevin Harvick’s comments that Teresa was a “deadbeat owner” for not attending races. Then later he was called on to defuse the controversy surrounding DEI teammate Martin Truex Jr., who was charged last weekend with disorderly intoxication and urinating in a parking garage — on his own car.

Earnhardt has taken it all in stride, with a smile and a joke, and with just enough seriousness. “You’re killing me,” he said, when questioned about Harvick’s description of Teresa. But, despite his strained relationship with his late father’s wife during the years, he has defended her honor since the death of seven-time Cup champion Dale Earnhardt at Daytona in 2001.

“Like I said in the past, with everything that’s happened, not just to the company — but to the family — over the past five years, she [Teresa] has had a full plate,” Earnhardt said.

“The things that she’s responsible for, willingly and unwillingly, are very important. For a long time, the battle with autopsy photos, all those things, that’s just the tip of the iceberg that she’s been responsible for. That probably has been one reason why she hasn’t been as visible at the racetrack and whatnot. But she’s taking care of things that are much more important.”

Earnhardt could have unloaded on her but didn’t. He also showed loyalty and humor when responding to Truex’s embarrassing moment, when the young driver was asked to respond to his run-in with the law and the status of the situation.
The NFL union agreed that players suspended after testing positive will, for the first time, forfeit a portion of their signing bonuses in addition to the salary they will lose during their time away. Is that enough to sway players to stop using performance-enhancing drugs?

“I think the salary loss is a good start. Linking money might mean more to some of these players rather than suspensions, which is sad. People like Chargers LB Shawne Merriman are a disgrace. At least he admitted to it, but he had one of the best seasons defensively in the entire league.”

 Darren Brooks is playing for the Perth Wildcats of Australia’s National Basketball League. In the Wildcats Jan. 25 win against the Wollongong Hawks, Brooks scored 17 points on 7-of-12 shooting and added six rebounds. The Saluki Banter that you want answered? E-mail de_editor@dailylegyptian.com

**MEN’S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE**

Jan. 27 Illinois State 2:05 p.m.
Jan. 31 Indiana State 7:05 p.m.
Feb. 3 Wichita State 1:05 p.m.
Feb. 7 Bradley 7:35 p.m.
Feb. 10 Creighton 5:05 p.m.
Feb. 13 Missouri State 7:05 p.m.
Feb. 17 ESPN Bracket Busters TBA
Feb. 21 Indiana State 7:05 p.m.
Feb. 24 Evansville TBA
Mar. 1-4 State Farm/MVC Tournament TBA

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE**

Jan. 27 Evansville 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 2 Indiana State 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 4 Illinois State 1:05 p.m.
Feb. 9 Bradley 7:05 p.m.
Feb. 11 UNI 2:05 p.m.
Feb. 16 Drake 7:05 p.m.
Feb. 18 Creighton 5:05 p.m.
Feb. 25 Evansville 2:05 p.m.
Mar. 1 Missouri State 7:05 p.m.
Mar. 3 Wichita State 2:05 p.m.
Mar. 8-11 State Farm/MVC Tournament TBA

**SALUKI TRACKER**

**Darren Brooks**

- Jan 31 vs. Indiana State: 11 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist
- Feb. 3 vs. Wichita State: 17 points, 6 rebounds
- Feb. 7 vs. Bradley: 15 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists
- Feb. 10 vs. Creighton: 16 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists
- Feb. 13 vs. Missouri State: 10 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists
- Feb. 17 vs. ESPN Bracket Busters: 20 points, 5 rebounds
- Feb. 21 vs. Indiana State: 11 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists
- Feb. 24 vs. Evansville: 15 points, 6 rebounds, 3 assists

“Darren is scoring 15.9 points, pulling down six rebounds and dishing out three assists per game.”

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

E-mail de_editor@dailylegyptian.com

**DAILY EGYPTIAN**

Sports

**Saluki Insider**

Matt Hartwig

dailylegyptian.com

“Basketball’s situated situation interests me more. They have more positive tests, which means they’re able to put together their anti-drug and together screen their butt and outfuld thus far are impressive. And my answer to the question is no.”

D.W. Norris
daworris77@hotmail.com

15 MINUTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

JB: He’s a lieutenant at the downtown jail (in Nashville) and he’s been there for like 15 years. He worked as a juvenile so I guess you can say it’s like being in a military family with him. He’s kind of strict.

DE: What’s more intimidating: Your dad or Coach Lowery?

JB: Oh, man. I don’t know. I can’t really say. Both kids don’t have no stuff so you’ve got to be on your “Ps and Qs” with both of them.

DE: What are some of the differences of coming from the Nashville, Tenn., prep scene and then playing in college?

JB: Coming from high school, it’s fast-paced. Coming to (SIU), defense is totally different. That’s a big aspect here and I wasn’t used to it at first. My high school (Brentwood Academy) played man-to-man all the time but it wasn’t as intense as here. I guess it’s just that everybody on the court is talented and you can’t take anything off you. You’re just constantly working.

DE: Have you reached a comfort level yet where you can giggle on the inside when Coach Lowery is going off on somebody?

JB: I’m still probably one of the ones he bobbies at, I guess, because I’m still a freshman. I’ve got a lot to learn but I just try to work hard every day in practice and show him I can gain his trust.

DE: It seems like there are usually some stories of good-natured hazing from upperclassmen to freshmen. Do the upperclassmen mess with you?

JB: There wasn’t any hazing, but I can’t really say. There was a lot of fun times but it wasn’t as intense as here. I guess it’s just that everybody on the court is talented and you can’t take anything off you. You’re just constantly working.

DE: Do you have any favorite professional sports teams?

JB: I’m a Kobe (Bryant) fan so I like the Lakers. I like the Titans in football — them and the Steelers.

DE: You’ve got the weeknight munchies. Who do you eat?

JB: Pizza Hut Meat Lover.

DE: What’s in your refrigerator?


DE: Do you have any questions for the Saluki Banter that you want answered? E-mail de_editor@dailylegyptian.com

**SCHEDULE**

Mar. 8-11 State Farm/MVC Tournament TBA

**MATT HARTWIG**

dailylegyptian.com

“Playing for the Perth Wildcats of Australia’s National Basketball League, Darren Brooks is scoring 15.9 points, pulling down six rebounds and dishing out three assists per game.”

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

E-mail de_editor@dailylegyptian.com

**SCOTT MIESZALA**

dailylegyptian.com

“Darren is scoring 15.9 points, pulling down six rebounds and dishing out three assists per game.”

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

E-mail de_editor@dailylegyptian.com

**D.W. Norris**
daworris77@hotmail.com

“Darren is scoring 15.9 points, pulling down six rebounds and dishing out three assists per game.”

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

E-mail de_editor@dailylegyptian.com
**Redbirds fly into town**

SIU hasn’t lost to ISU since 2001

**Women’s Basketball**

Evansville next target for Salukis

**Men’s Basketball**

After winning five straight games and eight of their last nine, the SIU women’s basketball team hasn’t changed much in practice.

During their two-game home stand, the Salukis used second half comebacks to nail down victories. In Saturday’s game at Evansville, SIU will have to start strong against the Missouri Valley Conference’s third highest scoring offense at 76.6 points per game.

The Purple Aces (12-7, 5-3) also feature the MVC’s fifth leading scorer in junior Rebekah Parker (15.7 ppg).

However, the focus all week hasn’t changed much from earlier in the season as the Salukis continue to work on defense.

Coach Dana Eckenberg said the team has worked on a variety of defensive sets and have added several zone coverages into their game plan.

“We’ve really been trying to coach defense because they are a very threatening offensive team,” Eckenberg said. “They are fast paced and we have to maintain a good discipline.”

The Salukis (11-8, 7-2) will try to exploit Evansville’s defense, which ranks near the bottom of the MVC, giving up 70.7 ppg. In addition to the MVC’s sixth leading scorer in senior forward Carli Moore (14.9 ppg), the Salukis have a handful of other players who have stepped up in recent weeks.

Junior Jayme Sweere (11.8 ppg) is among the top 15 in the MVC in scoring and sophomore Erica Smith. Smith was recently named MVC player of the week after averaging 11.5 points and nine rebounds per game against Creighton and Drake.

Moore said, compared to last year, the team has 10 solid players instead of one.

“I’m letting the game come to me and trying to get everyone involved,” Moore said. “We have a good inside-outside threat now.”

See TARGET, Page 18