University resolving loan dilemma

Students may not have to give back thousands in student loan money

Joe Crawford  
Daily Egyptian

Graduate students asked to give back thousands of dollars of student loan money may soon be able to toss the bill in the trash.

Victoria Valle, assistant vice chancellor for enrollment management, said Monday the university is close to settling on a resolution that would erase the unexpected bills sent last month to 19 graduate students with fellowships. The students were notified in early October their financial aid eligibility had changed and they were expected to pay back thousands of dollars in federal loans that had already been dispersed.

“It is the intention of the university not to have the students penalized for this term by that action,” Valle said.

The mid-semester change was the result of the university’s move to comply with a federal regulation that requires the fellows’ stipends be reported as available resources, making the students eligible for less federal student loan money. Since the students already had the loan money, the university asked them to pay it back.

“The Nov. 15 billing deadline for next semester’s classes was pushed back for the affected students. Valle said officials are working to find a solution to the problem within the university. SIUC could be held accountable for being out of compliance with the regulation, and the university is audited every year, she said. “If you find anything that you believe to be not in compliance with federal regulation, it is the institution’s obligation to correct that,” she said.

Financial Aid Director Billie Jo Reilly Hamilton said last month the university had been working on making the change for about a year, but her office did not know the names of the affected students until October. The university already counted the tuition waivers included in the fellowships as available resources, Hamilton said.

Will Reilly, a fellow in the Diversifying Higher Education Facility in Illinois program, said he was optimistic the situation would be resolved soon. Reilly has said he already spent much of the $7,000 the university requested he pay back.

See FELLOWSHIP, Page 5

A dying language

Lecture on endangered Navajo language shows cultural importance

Madeleine Leroux  
Daily Egyptian

The Navajo language is disappearing, as part of Native American Heritage Month, assistant anthropology professor Anthony Webster lectured on the endangered Navajo language, analyzing portions of a performance by Navajo poet Laura Tohe, who came to SIUC in October 2006.

Webster discussed the importance of Navajo language and its connection to the values and beliefs held by the Navajo people. “The Navajo language is deeply connected to the Navajo worldview,” Webster said. Tohe spoke of language as a way to become intimate with the Navajo philosophy, Webster said — but the language is in trouble.

“Navajo language has recently been described as an endangered language,” Webster said. During Tohe’s visit, she spoke of punishments received on her reservation for speaking Navajo in school. The assimilation era, she said, tried to beat the native language out.

Webster said suppression of Navajo language during the assimilation era is a link to the now endangered state of Navajo language. “It clearly taps into a wider discourse on fairness and equality,” Webster said.

See POETRY, Page 5

IRS: no more cell phones

University to provide credit in place of phones

Brandy Oxford  
Daily Egyptian

University employees will soon be trading in their cell phones for a little extra padding on their paychecks. University employees will no longer be provided with work cell phones starting Dec. 1. Employees apply for a $25 taxable monthly allowance to cover the cost of university-related wireless phone calls.

Kevin Barne, executive director of university finance, said the switch from cell phones to an allowance is necessary to bring the university into full compliance with IRS taxable fringe benefit regulations.

“The IRS has stepped up enforcement in this area recently,” Barne said. “Cell phones are considered listed property and unless the employee maintains a record of all calls made, broken down between business and personal, the IRS deems the related charges for the cell phone to be a taxable fringe benefit to the employee.”

Employees who wish to receive the allowance will be required to go through their appropriate department administrator. Approval will rest with the appropriate vice chancellor. Barne said. Employees may request a larger stipend if $25 does not cover the cost of university-related phone calls, however that amount would also be subject to department approval.

See IRS, Page 5

A quote that reads: "If you find anything that you believe to be not in compliance with federal regulation, it is the institution's obligation to correct that," said Victoria Valle, assistant vice chancellor for enrollment management.

Image of a person standing in front of a crowd of people.
CALENDAR
SIUC Weight Lifting Club Meeting
7 p.m. today at the Recreation Center Alumni Lounge
- Discussion of Ms. SIUC Bodybuilding/Ms. SIUC Figure Competition, S&K Power Lifting Competition, Weight Training Help, Diet and Nutrition help.
-Free
National Association of Black Journalists
7 p.m. today at the Wellness Center Lounge
- General assembly meeting
Submit calendar items to the Daily Egyptian newsroom, Communications 1247, at least two days before event, or call (618) 536-3311, ext. 266.

NEWS BRIEFS
SIUE bans two students accused in cookie torture
EDWARDSVILLE (AP) — Two students accused of kidnapping and torturing a man with hot cookies are no longer welcome back on campus at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, at least for now.
The school’s police chief, Regina Hays, has notified sophomore Jordan Sallis and junior Rosario James to stay away as they face charges of kidnapping, robbery and battery.
Authorities say three men went to James’ house Nov. 2 to buy marijuana, but two of the men grabbed the drugs and fled, leaving the third behind. That’s when the suspects allegedly held that man and tortured him to press him into finding money for the stolen drugs.
The victim later managed to escape.

Lake Springfield to stay closed during cleanup
SPRINGFIELD (AP) — Lake Springfield is closed to boaters indefinitely while officials assess damage and clean up debris following an explosion and weekend fire at the city’s main power plant.

Woman wins run up Sears Tower for sixth time
The 38-year-old has won the women’s division of a race up the nation’s tallest building in each of the five previous years it’s been held. She won the sixth annual race up the Sears Tower stairs on Sunday as well.

POLICE REPORTS
A burglary from a motor vehicle occurred between 1 a.m. and 9:20 a.m. Sunday in Lot 45. A speaker box was stolen and later recovered. There are no suspects at this time.
Criminal damage to a vehicle occurred at 5:52 p.m. Sunday in the SIUC Police lot.

Whether you want something fancy... Or not... Find what you’re looking for with the DE Dining Guide.

AccuWeather 7-Day Forecast for Carbondale

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FCC brings competition to cable, tenants

Exclusive contracts between providers and landlords no longer allowed

David Lopez  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Jordan Carter said she enjoys her cable service, but wished there were more channels available to her. Thanks to a recent Federal Communications Commission ruling, she may get her wish.

The FCC recently passed an order striking down exclusivity contracts between landlords of multiple dwelling units and cable companies, which would allow tenants in apartment buildings and condominiums to choose their own cable provider.

"I like it, I just don't like that they don't have Oxygen," said Carter, a junior from Springfield studying social work.

Carter lives in Aspen Court apartments, where the owners have such a contract. Tenants there receive Mediacom's basic cable service as part of their utilities, but must pay more for expanded cable services.

According to the FCC's order, nearly 30 percent of Americans live in these MDUs, and the number is growing. The order claims exclusivity contracts are an unfair business practice, and it is aimed at increasing competition in the market and improving choices for consumers.

Though it is in its early stages, the order will not become a law until the FCC formally writes up the conditions, something that could take months. A spokeswoman for the FCC did not return multiple calls seeking comment.

Lesa Shelton, manager of Carbondale Towers, said her apartments are covered by such an exclusivity contract, but the contract allows for reduced prices for her tenants.

"The good thing about exclusive contracts was that we were able to negotiate reduced prices for our building," Shelton said.

According to Shelton, through the use of their contract, the Carbondale Towers were able to offer cable services for as much as 50 percent off the standard price.

Randi Hollis, senior manager of government relations for Mediacom, said there has been little information disseminated so far and it is still waiting for more concrete information to be released.

"All we've seen at this point is a few comments from the chairman and commissioner, so any comments we make right now would be premature," Hollis said. "Our corporate legal staff will look it over once the report is made available."

Not every MDU has such a contract with a cable provider, and anyone seeking more information about their cable choices is encouraged to speak with his or her landlord.

David Lopez can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 273 or at dave.lopez@siude.com.

Wisconsin officer accidentally Tases self

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — A police officer has been reprimanded for accidentally discharging a Taser, causing an injury — to the police officer.

Madison police released a report Monday on the July 31 incident, without revealing the officer’s name or gender. The department said the Taser accidentally discharged during a standard checkout procedure.

According to a summary of the investigation, officers are required to make sure no air cartridges are loaded before testing the Taser gun at the start of each shift. It’s the air cartridges that propel the Taser’s prongs, which deliver a jolt of electricity when they strike a target.

The officer’s hand was injured, police spokesman Joel DeSpain said.

A letter of reprimand was issued because failing to ensure the air cartridge wasn’t loaded was a violation of department policy, the report said.

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SAN FRANCISCO — A har-
ror pilot under investigation in San Francisco Bay said on Tuesday that two
decades initially believed the dam-
dam to his ship was minor, radiating that the vessel was just "the tip of the" Bay Bridge, his lawyer said Monday.

In fact, Wednesday’s collision
ripped a gash in the fuel tank of the Hong Kong-based Cosco Busan, unadorned by the usual hull of 
toxic fuel of that was still being cleaned.

Capt. John Cota has told me you could hardly feel anything on the ship and he must have assumed from it that there wasn’t much damage,” attorney John Meadows said. "The ship didn’t roll. There wasn’t a loud sound.”

Safaik Ahmed, aide, said Sen. Safdar Ahmed of Lahore city police, who won the seven-day detention order was not binding because another Blutto nor one of the seven most prominent had been served with the document.

"We will go ahead with the march." — Safdar Ahmed

The showdown intensified the political crisis engulfing Pakistan and further clouded the prospect of a pro-U.S. alliance against rising Islamic extremism forming between Blutto and President Pervez Musharraf.

Blutto said, "I came aware of the seven-day court order to prevent me from organizing operations relating to the case of the late President Bhutto in the state capital."

He added that the court had wanted to keep copies of all e-mail transmission and how it relates to the investigation. Scott Schools, the acting U.S. attorney for Northern California, confirmed that his office was asked to investigate.

The bridge was closed and the San Francisco police were called to the vessel beginning Sunday, said Coast Guard attorney Christopher Tribbett.

At least as members were found to have immigration or visa issues, authorities said. Foreign crew members on any ship in U.S. ports need the per-
mission of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol to disembark, Tribbett said.

"There was no structural damage to the bridge, no damage to vessels, no damage to infrastructure. It was just the way that everybody interacted on the bridge. We felt nothing on the bridge," Capt. William Uberi, the Coast Guard’s chief of operations, said.

Uberi said the seaman who guided the ship had “touched” the bridge.

"The judge decided that wasn’t necessary," said Anne Weissman, an attorney for CREW, which has gone to court over security issues involv-
ing the Bush administration and White House.

Any charges — civil or criminal — would likely fall under the negli-
gence provisions of the Clean Water Act and the U.S. transportation code, Tribbett said.

The U.S. attorney’s office declined to elaborate, except to say: “We are not commenting on any future destruction of e-mails, which is conducting its own probe that will include: an examination of the Coast Guard’s response.”

Cota has also met several times with Coast Guard investigators Meadows said. He declined to release a statement his client made to inves-
tigators.

WASHINGTON — A federal judge ordered the White House to preserve copies of all e-mail, a move that Bush adminis-
tration lawyers said would erode strengths against.

U.S. District Judge Henry Koren was in the White House Office of the President to safeguard the material in response to two laws-
suits that seek to determine whether the White House has destroyed e-
mails of criticism.

In response, the White House said it has been taking steps to pre-
serve copies of all e-mail and will continue to do so. The admini-
stration is seeking dismissal of the lawsuits brought by private groups, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington and the National Security Archive.

The organizations allege the dis-
appearance of e-mail could be mistaken because of the Bush administration’s denial of any such destruction.

Special counsel Patrick Fitzgerald revealed early in 2006 that relevant e-mail was stored on another server and that the e-mails may have been preserved on backup tapes.

The White House has provided little public information about the matter, saying that some e-mail may not have been automatically archived on a computer server for more than three years and that the e-mails may have been preserved on backup tapes.

Government, state and federal records acts detail strict standards prohibiting the destruction of government docu-
ments including electronic messages, unless first approved by the archivist of the National Archives.

Justice Department lawyers had urged the courts to accept a proposed White House declaration promising to preserve all backup tapes.

“The judge decided that wasn’t enough,” said Anne Weissman, an attorney for CREW, which has gone to court over security issues involv-
ing the Bush administration and White House.

The U.S. Department of Defense is conducting its own probe that will include an examination of the Coast Guard’s response.

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tigators.
If Navajo language is endangered, Webster said, then all other endangered indigenous languages are also endangered.

"Navajo has an essential place in the history of the United States," Webster said.

"If I didn’t have to have a cell phone for the job, I wouldn’t have one at all, but I talk to a lot of reporters at home at night," said Stevens. "I think I had about 450 minutes on the old plan and I never came close to going over."

Stevens was able to keep his cell phone provider and phone number, but had to buy a new phone because his old phone was university property.

"Telephone service is a way of saving America," said Bame.

"If Navajo is endangered, Webster said, then all other indigenous languages are also endangered."

"Language is tied to culture," Kang said. "It’s a fight to keep indigenous languages."

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**FELLOWSHIP**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I haven't heard anything on the record yet, but all my sources say SIU is doing a pretty good job with this," he said.

Nicholas Zumbruncher, a Dorothy Deltye Morris Doctoral fellow, said he had not heard any official word on a resolution, but he hoped the situation would work out as well as some expected.

"We’re still kind of in limbo waiting for the administration to decide whether they’re going to do the right thing or not," he said.

Joe Cragford can be reached at 536-3312 ext. 254 or jcragford@siu.edu.

**POETRY**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Nun pleads no contest to sexually abusing boys in the ‘60s

**John Hartzell**
The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — A 79-year-old Roman Catholic man from Illinois pleaded no contest Monday to indecent behavior with a child for alleged sexual encounters with two male students at a church camp and school where she was principal during the 1960s.

The man, Norma Giannini, listed in online court records as living in Oak Lawn, and her attorney left the courthouse without comment after entering the plea in Milwaukee County Circuit Court on the day her trial was to begin.

Giannini faces a maximum 10 years on each of two counts when sentenced Feb. 1.

"She decided to do the right thing," said her attorney, Nikola Kostich. "She didn’t put the victims through a trial."

Kostich said she also changed her plea because of concerns about possible lawsuits. A trial could have provided a record that could have been used in such lawsuits, though none have been filed, he said.

"Now, I do think the university has done well to address concerns about the transition," she said.

University spokesman Rod Stevens said his transition from a university cell phone was not troublesome and he thinks $25 will cover the cost, although he has not received his first bill.

"If I didn’t have to have a cell phone for the job, I wouldn’t have one at all, but I talk to a lot of reporters at home at night," Stevens said. "I think I had about 450 minutes on the old plan and I never came close to going over."

Stevens was able to keep his cell phone provider and phone number, but had to buy a new phone because his old phone was university property.

Phones with data capabilities such as the Motorola Q, Verizon XV7600 and Tiro phones will be kept through the end of their equipment contract period as university owned phones because on campus they are often used instead of radios.

"They’re used by the crafts, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, and they need to have a phone," Bame said. "They’ll leave them at the physical plant at night."

Faculty who have these phones will also be allowed to keep them until their contracts run out, under the condition that the phones be used exclusively for business.

"Now, I do feel myself using it more for personal stuff," Stevens said. "It’s a little more free now."

Brandy Oxford can be reached at 536-3312 ext. 255 or brandy_oxford@siu.edu.
Farewell and good riddance to preeminence

TODD A. KULHANEK
todd@siu.edu

It is time to let it pass to someone else. The American people have had to shoulder the burden of leadership for too long, while many of our friends and allies either, at best, sit idle or tacitly support; or, at worst, condemn our efforts. There are far too many Western industrialized nations that are economically secure and socially much healthier than America to not seriously consider this option.

The irrational preoccupation with being top dog has produced little benefit for Americans (the notable exception of course being our victory in the Cold War). At the same time, it has been such an oppressive weight that American society is beginning to fray. Among other examples, our diminished credibility in being seen as both model and teacher ranges from our policies in Iraq to the abandonment of the Kyoto Protocol; the hypocrisy of sanctioning and threatening Iran while having sit-downs with North Korea; and our disengagement in South America, which ruined two decades of good will and good relations.

Meanwhile, our occupation of the “top slot” on the world stage has done nothing to alleviate hunger in America. Poverty and homelessness levels are at the stage of being obscene. More than 40 million citizens are without medical insurance. Violent crime, even after years of decline, continues to be a grotesque boil on the face of America.

Our infrastructure is beginning to crumble from age and wear, yet our position of leadership requires the annual distribution of enormous amounts of money — often to nations that stab us in the back the moment the check clears. America can do better. It must if it is going to overcome the numerous crises it faces.

Granted, it would be no easy task to affect America’s abdication of the international leadership “throne.” It would most likely involve a radical reinvention and reinvestment of the United Nations as the primary international leadership organization.

And for many, this path would seem as a betrayal of American manifest destiny. What many politicians and business people have forgotten is that home comes first — its people come first (our allies know this, and live this), it is time America did, too.

Canada, our neighbor to the north, while no doubt having its own share of problems, to be quite comfortable in peace and relative prosperity without the pain, loss and wasted effort that comes with our self-imposed penance of leadership.

And they are but one of many countries that seem to do just fine being outside the spotlight. Our economy is robust and essential to the world economy. For the United States to relinquish its leadership would not have anything close to a devastating effect upon it.

Also, America’s military strength is undeniable. A diminished leadership role would not prevent the legitimate and necessary use of force to protect Americans and our interests abroad.

It is time for Americans to look more closely at our friends, and ask if it would not be better to trade in the duty of “running” the world for the duty of helping our fellow Americans.

Either way, like it or not, American leadership in the world is on the decline. This decline can either be embraced as a chance to finally make our own country a better, safer and happier place to live, or we can fight tooth and nail to hang on to this “duty” of self-destruction.

Kulhanek is a senior studying jurisprudence and administration of justice.

Not-so-great ideas gone bad

DANNY WENGER
dwenger@siu.edu

Shotguns are terrible substitutes for tire irons. The biggest surprise in the story, is committed to being a trusted sour

The city of Carbondale has pledged to contribute, but that money is based solely on yearly approval of the city budget by the City Council. Translation: The agreement to pay $20 million is not at all binding. A new mayor or City Council could easily disapprove of the contribution every fiscal year.

Unfortunately the determination to follow through with the project outweighs the obvious evidence against it. Saluki Way is haled as an ideal way to lessen the last few hundred feet that is declining enrollment and national obscurity. What’s been set in motion won’t be reversed, especially not when it’s flying back toward the university’s legs.

Just don’t let the BOT try and change your tire.

Wenger is a junior studying journalism and Spanish.
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To get the advantage, check the day's rating. Today is the easiest day of the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 7. Just when you think you know everything, you get a really tough question. Don't be afraid, you have this answer. Think about it a minute. It's basic. 

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8. — An amazing discovery leads to new possibilities. You'll be able to actually do something you've been thinking about. Gather the courage and go.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 9. — To make a fortune, think of something other people need. Then, find a way to get it to them with a plan. Conscience. It's simple. The conscience part keeps you sane.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is an 8. — A breakthrough at work gives you more time for personal pleasures. Fix contact with somebody you had put off earlier, for a special treat.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 9. — Your next assignment is tough, but it'll be good for you. Don't whine about the poor wages. Do it for practice, not for the money.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8. — Soon you'll be able to put your feet up and put yourself on the back. Give yourself a juicy reward for being such a good manager.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 6. — A brilliant performance leaves you mentally exhausted. You need to rest and regroup your enthusiasm. Also, review your plans in the light of recent developments.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 7. — You're in the mood to practice new skills, so you might as well get a book or video from somebody you admire. Learn to do it right, from the beginning.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 7. — You don't have time to tell anyone how much you spent. So don't. Let them guess. They don't need to know you got all that great stuff for pennies.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8. — Let yourself be talked into what you would have done anyway. Let other person do what you he or her idea. Thank him or her for it.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 6. — Set your goals, make the commitment, and then get down to work. The first item on the agenda is fixing something else to make space.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8. — Speak up in front of the group. They'll be impressed by your insights. You'll be amazed by your ability to express what you wanted to say. All ends well.

To make a fortune, think of something other people need. Then, find a way to get it to them with a plan. Conscience. It's simple. The conscience part keeps you sane.

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Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 6. — Set your goals, make the commitment, and then get down to work. The first item on the agenda is fixing something else to make space.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8. — Speak up in front of the group. They'll be impressed by your insights. You'll be amazed by your ability to express what you wanted to say. All ends well.
As part of the bleary-eyed masses with remotes welded to their hand with the shapes of the buttons embedded in their fingertips, it is time to ask Hollywood to end the writers’ strike.

The impact of the strike became immediately clear when several sitcoms, as well as comedy news shows, such as the ever-hilarious Daily Show and Colbert Report, went on indefinite hiatus.

There’s no way to make this clearer, Hollywood — clever college students with nothing better to do at 10 p.m. central time than laugh at the state of politics in the United States need writers to come back. We need a distraction from finals. We need anything to keep us from studying for just one more hour.

We need those writers, Hollywood. Maybe you should think about giving them what they want, or at least restarting negotiations to give television viewers weary of reruns some hope.

The strike is all about paying residuals on work distributed on new media, which includes the Internet, mobile phones and iPods. According to the Wall Street Journal, the Writers’ Guild is asking for an increase in payments from revenues generated from these new media forms.

Come on, Hollywood. You are a billion dollar industry. Actors who repeat the lines these writers create get paid hundreds of thousands of dollars per episode.

According to AOL Television, the beauties of Wisteria Lane on “Desperate Housewives” make around $440,000 an episode. Funnyman Zach Braff of “Scrubs” reportedly pulls in $350,000 an episode.

Salaries this high indicate an abundance of funds for shows, especially when the actors aren’t the primary writers of the scripts and they’re just being paid to repeat what has already been written. That’s not to take away from their abundant talents as actors, but without the writers, television audiences have learned those actors and shows lose their worth.

So do it, Hollywood. Pay those writers a little bit more and give monetary credit where credit is due. They deserve it. They keep audiences laughing, college students distracted and give everyone a little break from the day. Not to mention those writers make your industry all kinds of money, and you shouldn’t shortchange them just because entertainment has hit the modern Internet era.

We know you can afford it, Hollywood. So do the right thing.
**Saluki Insider**

Former NBA star Dennis Rodman has expressed interest in a head coaching position in the WNBA. Do you think Rodman is qualified for the position?

> "With Rodman’s history, there could be some Janovna Mann potential here. Actually, that movie would have been a lot better and more realistic if it wouldn’t have been based on Rodman. Well, any change would have improved that movie. But what’s worse is that I’ve actually seen Janovna Mann.”

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**Saluki Tracker**

Brandon Jacobs

Former Saluki running back Brandon Jacobs rushed for 95 yards on 23 carries for the New York Giants in their 31-20 loss to the Dallas Cowboys Sunday. Jacobs finished with 17 points, five rebounds, five assists and three steals.

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**Basketball**

Continued from page 12

Both senior guard Jayme Swiere and junior guard Erica Smith found success in the up-tempo offense in the second half. Swiere finished with 17 points, five rebounds, five assists and three steals, while Smith notched 15 points, four rebounds and three steals.

Despite the victory, Eckenberg said the team has to learn to play at a higher level if it wants to succeed.

> “This team needs to understand how important practice is and the leaders need to be able to step up,” Eckenberg said. “It’s time to put up or shut up. This program is about hard work. It’s about discipline. It’s about fundamentals.”

Christian Brothers controlled the first half of play as it took a 36-28 lead into halftime. The Lady Bucs finished the game with a 6-0 run and didn’t relinquish the lead that half.

Christian Brothers’ Christian Brothers lived from the arc in the second half, as it shot 6-of-7.

**Football**

Continued from page 12

The runner-up to the Panthers is SIU, which won its first game against Illinois State since 2004. The Salukis (9-1, 5-0) handed the Redbirds their third loss in a row to end their season.

> “We’ve had lots of chances to quit this season,” he said. “We got off to a horrible start. We’ve had some real disappointments and we felt like we had a chance to have a really good team going into the year, but we also knew that we had to have some things go right for us.”

Northern Iowa and SIU are the only two Gateway teams with regular season games to play.

SIU Football Select 16oz Bottles

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**Guest Commentator:** Aaron Lockwood

> “If he gets interviewed and somebody thinks he’s not qualified, I think he should be given the opportunity, but I don’t really think anyone is going to think he’s not qualified if he can’t make a basketball team. I think he should be given the opportunity for an interview, but I don’t think anyone is going to pick him because of who he is. He’s not exactly a player’s coach.”

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**New Image**

Scott Mieszala

As the Salukis hung on to defeat the Carbondale Panthers 75-60, SIU Establishing Editor Scott Mieszala checks in with an update on the Salukis’ season.

> “Since his so-called comeback didn’t work out as well in the NBA, I think he’s trying to sneak his way into the WNBA any way he can.Rodman definitely isn’t qualified for a head coaching position. Maybe he could get his start as team stylist.”

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**Panthers Tracker**

Scott Mieszala

Former SIU star Katrina Smith notched 15 points, one block and was followed by two Gateway teams with 4-0 records. The Salukis were only able to get offensive momentum once when they went on a 7-0 run.

The Salukis had their transition offense squandered as the Lady Bucs’ defense forced SIU to take shots late in each possession.

> “We didn’t let up defensively and we played defense until the buzzer sounded.”

Jeff Engelhardt can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 238 or jengel@siu.edu.

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**Football**

The run began with Gibson’s jumper and was followed by two consecutive steals, which resulted in a layup and a free throw. Smith led all scorers at the half with nine points, one steal and one block.

Smith said the team was not happy with the game, but was saved by its persistent defense.

> “I don’t think we took them lightly but we didn’t come out and do what we had to do,” Smith said. “We didn’t let up defensively and we played defense until the buzzer sounded.”

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**Basketball**

Continued from page 12

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Salukis save best for last

SIU outscorses Christian Brothers 43-19 in second half

Jeff Engelhardt

The Salukis had a scare in the first half of Monday night’s game against Christian Brothers, but walked away with a 71-55 win.

SIU trailed by nine points at the half and was out-rebounded 20-10. SIU coach Dana Ekenberg said she called out the team for halftime after what she said was an abysmal 20 minutes of basketball.

Junior forward Jasmine Gibson responded to lead the Saluki’s second-half comeback, hitting short after short from the baseline and the top of the key. Gibson ended the game with 24 points, five rebounds and three steals.

The come-from-behind victory was spurred by two Saluki scoring streaks. The first came on a 12-2 run that gave SIU a lead of the game with 14 minutes, 30 seconds to play in the second half. Gibson had six points during the run, including a layup where she crashed headfirst into the padding of the hoop support. Gibson said the open looks in the second half were due to penetration by Saluki guards.

“We were trying to penetrate and space out the floor for kick outs,” Gibson said. “I felt like I did what I was supposed to do and just be aware of what was going on.”

A 13-1 run in the waning moments sealed the game. The Saluki aggressive full-court pressure wore down the Lady Bucs and opened up the transition offense for SIU, which was stifled in the first half.

See BASKETBALL, Page 11

Gateway teams vie for playoffs

Scott Mieszala

Most members of the Gateway Football Conference ended their season Saturday, with as many as four teams having a shot at the postseason.

For SIU, No. 1 Northern Iowa and No. 5 SIU are shoe-ins for the 16-team Football Championship Subdivision playoffs, while the No. 17 Youngstown State Penguins and the Western Illinois Leathernecks remain on the bubble.

The Leathernecks beat the Leatherbacks on Nov. 3, Western Illinois’ conference matchup against SIU, which ended in a 71-55 win.

Gibson ended the game with 24 points, five rebounds and three steals.

“Still, his 1,491 rushing yards this season leads the conference, with the Gateway’s second highest total since 2005, and only the third in the last 13 years. Mohamed said he was being looked toward national competition throughout his college career.

“I am feeling really confident right now and I know that I can race with the best and I am going to make things happen at nationals,” he said.

Kevin Doran also had a national caliber performance as he finished 23rd with a time of 30:47, but the senior was snubbed by the selection committee.

Doran said he was disappointed he wasn’t selected but was still proud of his final season as a Saluki.

“The game was a breakthrough year for me because I have been landing in the 30s and running for the past three months,” he said.

The entire men’s team competed well during the race, finishing seventh overall in the 23-team field. The Salukis were ranked sixth in the nation heading to the meet, but coach Matt Sparks said he felt the team could have finished in the top 5 if raced to its potential.

“Most people looked to be on pace for a top-5 finish with Mohamed, Doran and freshman Jeff Schirmer in the top 25 at the halfway point. However, Schirmer suffered from cramps midway through the race and fell roughly 15 spots behind before he was at the end to finish in 30th with a time of 30 minutes.

Sparks said Schirmer’s cramps were unfortunate, but he was proud of the way the team raced.

“Our guys came out easy to race and even our six and seven guys, who don’t count as many points, were near the top.”

The women had a tough outing, finishing 14th out of 28 teams.

All-Missouri Valley Conference sophomore Abigail Dokubo and sophomore Nefeteri Wi-kezizo were aiming for a top-30 finish, which would likely cost them to nationals. Dokubo finished in 95th with a time of 22:22 in the 6K, while Wi-kezizo came in at 170th with a time of 21:07.

For full coverage see siudEcom