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Daily Egyptian Staff

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82 employees laid off; 72 still waiting

Layoffs come on heels of $16.6 million budget cut

Amber Ellis
Daily Egyptian

While 82 SIUC employees received notices last week that they would be laid off, another 72 employees are left playing the waiting game to see if they will still hold the same positions in the fall.

The layoffs came just weeks after Gov. Rod Blagojevich imposed a budget cut of $16.6 million on SIUC's campus.

The other employees were also notified that they could be bumped from their positions if someone with seniority who was facing layoffs had no reason to keep their job.

The activists stand strong. "In order to change the old, you must destroy the very thing that we love," said a layoff victim.

The state condition, anything that is not directly associated with instruction to be considered an administration cost, according to Wendler.

Wendler said that these cuts were made while the University was facing an 8.2 percent budget reduction. He said the "percent figure is not perfect, but he felt that the University was very careful about the choices it made concerning layoffs.

Dannenhouser, however, was unsure about the layoffs' decisions that were made earlier in the year.

"We are not sure if they are trying to save money where they should have," Dannenhouser noted.

Amber Ellis
Daily Egyptian

Picnic, presentation celebrates long career of Glenn Posshard

Posshard's ties with SIUC lasted more than 35 years

Jessica Yorana
Daily Egyptian

A long line of people stood silently in line Friday, patiently waiting, about to see how far they were from their destination.

The line that eventually stretched the length of the sidewalk included the Sahlo maroon, which directly contrasted the white shirts of the event.

But the line filled mostly with SIU employees and students, was not a line for tickets. Nor was the topic of discussion: any one-person conversation.

The discussion, in fact, revolved around an ending, that of Glenn Posshard's 37-year affiliation with SIUC.

The socializing and remembrance occurred at a retirement picnic that was held outside off the Main Mall area on the SIU campus and was followed by a Saluki mascot, which briefly received the doctorate degree.

The salute was a one-hour picnic that started at 4 p.m. and ended at 5 p.m., which is the kind of anticipation typically seen in SIUC offices.

The conversation and the people here have made my stay here so wonderful," said Posshard, who will retire from his position as vice chancellor for Administration on July 31.

"My love for this University goes very deep," he said.

Although he spent only three years in his current position, Posshard has maintained strong ties with the University for more than 35 years, as an undergraduate, graduate student and member of the administration.

He has been associated with the University since 1966, when he first began his 35-year affiliation with the University.

"In this reason, it came as no surprise that at any given time during the last four years, I could be found in both lines of people walking to personally congratulate the honoree, as well as a line to speak with his wife, Jenna.

"He's one of the most honest, genuine people you will ever meet," said Jill Kerlinger, director of the Bursar office and one of the first employees hired by Posshard.

"If he says he's going to do a job, he does it. He's a very wonderful person and SIUC is going to miss him. But I know he'll continue to serve Southern Illinois.

By the time the picnic began at 4 p.m., the sky was a medium gray, a lie richer than the typical summery blues but light in comparison to the midday blues that encompassed the sky shortly before noon.

The wet ground and benches provided reminder of the norm that left the air with a wet smell, and made many less inclined to spend the day outdoors.

"I consider this great, and I think the turnout has really let Glenn know how much his friends and students are, because we certainly hadn't had the fair weather today," noted Posshard.

Judging from the scene at the picnic outside, Posshard's list of obligations could have made an entire essay in its own right.

See POSHARD, page 6

Weekly peace vigils continue as conflict presses on in Iraq

Undeterred group still trying to preach awareness

Nicole Sack
Daily Egyptian

They're still there.

Every Saturday afternoon, at the intersection of Main Street and South Illinois Avenue, they are still there.

Still holding their weekly vigils, still holding signs, the Southern Illinois Committe Against War is still trying to spread the message of peace.

The activists stand strong and still promote the idea of a world at peace.

Juliette Patrylo (left) cuts Polaroids of various paintings into pieces and Teresa Xiao prepares to glue the tiny pieces into a video presentation and brief.

"People need to look more critically at the information they are receiving," Schwarting said. "The mass media has its own influences.

"The biggest perpetuators of skewed information, according to Scharting, is Fox News.

"The blatant bias of Fox News is undeniable," Schwarting said. "They don't act like journalists, just pretty face on the TV.

"It is not alone when it comes to 'inquiring' deeper into information. We are supposed to find the evidence and our minds for beginning the conflict.

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See VIGILS, page 6

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See VIGILS, page 6
National News

Driver causes pileup to keep sofa dry

ATLANTA, Georgia (CNN) - A woman who didn't want to see a sofa dry outside in the back of her truck caused a 24-vehicle wreck to block traffic on Interstate 20 in Atlanta on Tuesday, according to a police spokesman.

Elenor Humphreys, a minor juvenile, "was upset," said Sgt. Pat White of the DeKalb County Police. She said the woman was driving her brown BMW F1-9 pickup truck southbound on I-20 when she became upset because her sofa was not dry.

She then stopped her car and walked across the interstate to block traffic with her sofa, White said.

"She then returned to her car and said she is not going to leave the sofa on the ground," White said.

The woman was not arrested and her car was towed away.

International News

Tape reported to be Saddam urges war against U.S., Britain

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Another Al Qaeda tape claiming to be the voice of deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein surfaced Thursday in Baghdad, urging Iraqis to wage holy war against the United States and British forces.

In Washington, Pentagon officials were looking into the tape, which did not specifically condemn the U.S.-led coalition and may be a daily occurrence.

On Monday, the U.S. soldiers with the 101st Airborne Division were killed in Baghdad, Iraq.

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Tuesday - $250 You Call It!
Wednesday - $2 Pitchers
Thursday - $18 Domestic Pints & Bottles
Pizza & a Pitcher - $16

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State budget cuts strike area nursing homes hard

Late, low payments take nursing homes to the brink

Katie Davis
Daily Egyptian

In March, Brenda Dunn opened her nursing home in Carbondale and immediately ran into trouble. Vendors were dragging the facility, forcing them to sacrifice care to patients, or to purchase credit. She didn't know whether the Parkview Center in West Frankfort would be able to give her an extension on her bills, which were due on March 10th, so she had to ask employees to hold their paychecks for a few days, breathing a sigh of relief when she got pay on March 10th.

"Sometimes, we had to run the checks through twice," Dunn said.

Though Parkview is now financially stable, it was a stroke of luck that saved it. The facility went under months of payments because vendors went "out the window." The new owners have more financial backing, which, coupled with a large back pay in May from the state of Illinois, allowed to bring the facility back to the surface.

"It’s a stroke of good fortune. We’re just now getting back on our feet with our vendors, with everything we need," Dunn said. "We were getting ready to be out of business, and we did not allow our patients to be hurt because the state was not paying them.

The younger people who enter a nursing home are there temporarily before moving to assisted living, like Brenda Dunn's nursing home, or after an acute hospital stay and need more short-term care. But once the payment got to the vendors, it usually took a few months to get it to the seniors in the home. As of now, Dunn said, "We’re not able to get anything past the state."

In the past few years, the state has tightened its regulations on nursing home care, making it harder for solvency. Medicaid, which primarily funds the state’s nursing homes, has lost some of its power as medical costs have risen.

"We used to provide a lot of services," Dunn said. "But it’s a struggle to provide them now."
COLUMNIST

Plattology

By Jack Piatt

plattology@yahoo.com

Show support for our people

I have heard that I have a couple of restless in Iraq serving with the 101st Airborne Division. Considering this will be out to the end of this week, I would like to say hello to you over there. I would like to personally thank you for your service and dedication. As a former segment in the 92nd Airborne Division, I hold the highest respect for all of you. Even though you are oceans away and far from friends and family ... you are not forgotten.

I haven’t really touched this subject in the past, but it is a sensitive one. There are those who I believe in, and there will always be people questioning and challenging this. It is really big OK, because that is what this country is built upon: the freedom to prove what you don’t believe in. I am not going to spend anymore time dealing with the issue of war and our government’s decision making. My opinion really doesn’t amount to anything when it is all said and done.

The truth is, war is a terrible situation, and peace should always be valued for, but as history consistently repeats itself, these inevitably will continue to be. Instead of arguing whether we should be involved in a war or whether people who pretend war are not patriotic, I would rather focus on the men and women who, despite who is right or wrong, are currently in a place devoid of the peaceful American blanket of peace.

Despite what you believe, if you are for war or against it, it is irrelevant when it comes to the people who are sleeping in a lonely desert at night to do their job. The fact is these people are our people. They are our brothers and sisters, some are fallen and others. They work here just the same as the rest of us, and I guarantee they would love to be home right now enjoying the blanket of peace.

Men like Staff Sergeant Dan Kennings, whose little girl Kodee doesn’t understand why her dad has to be so far away from her. But the dark thing about it is that 8-year-old little girl is that even though she doesn’t understand war like the rest of us, she does understand love. She understands that whatever the reason her dad has to be away, she will do the only thing in her power to do: support, love, and pray for him.

We should take a lesson from her and realize no matter what the situation, and peace should always be valued for. Each other. We should understand war and care for them. Even if you are against the war, don’t turn your back on the people who are living to fight for it. They are individuals, who alone did not start or dream up the war. They are simply people who have to let these brave men and women know we support them.

Columnist

OUR WORD

Coal industry needs to be revitalized in Illinois

In the 1980s, Illinois was home to a booming coal industry. It brought in millions of dollars per year and employed more than 18,000 people. Once the Environmental Protection Agency changed its guidelines and the Clean Air Act was passed, coal plants and mines were shut down leaving only about 4,000 people employed in the few facilities still operating.

Thankfully, Gov. Rod Blagojevich has made an effort to return things to the way they once were.

When he signed House Bill 2866 to give more than $300 million of new funds to the coal industry throughout the state, he gave hope for new jobs, money and a way to take advantage of the money available and increase the coal industry in Illinois.

There is no question that coal plants could meet guidelines. There are currently three plants in Illinois that use clean coal technology, and there is no question that coal plants could not meet guidelines.

A great aspect of the bill is that it will reduce obstacles for energy companies from out-of-state to bring plants to Illinois. Blagojevich is allowing more than $500 million in grants for clean coal plants that are constructed in Illinois.

This is a great idea. It will help the industry in Illinois by helping the economic situation, and at the same time allow for more jobs.

Approximately 4,000 jobs will be made available for construction, plant operation and mining once a site is approved for a facility. This is much needed for the many people who are still eligible to work in the industry.

Those who were young when most of the plants were closed, and are now still at an age where they are able to work in the industry, will have the opportunity to be employed.

Just the signing of the bill is not enough, though.

Companies in the coal industry have to take advantage of the money available and build plants in Illinois. It takes about 18 months for paperwork to go through proper channels, and because of this fact, if the coal industry in Illinois wants to see any forward progress, companies would have to get moving soon to begin the process.

Hopefully, if enough companies decided to do business in Illinois, the process will not take as long so the ball can get rolling on hiring people, changing the economic status of Illinois and lowering gas prices.

Illinois is a great state for the coal industry with its abundance of resources.

It would be a shame for all of the material to sit, unused for years, when everyone could benefit from its mining.

READER COMMENTARY

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Letters should be typed, double-spaced and submitted with author’s ID. All letters are limited to 500 words. Any topics are accepted. All are subject to editing.

Letters taken by e-mail (editor@sunx.edu) and fax (532-8245)

Phone number needed (not for publication) to verify authorship. STUDENTS must include year and major. FACULTY must include rank and department. NON-ACADEMIC STAFF include position and department. OTHERS include author’s hometown.

Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.
Black alumni reunion promotes family, history and unity

story by Bertie Taylor

Participants remember the past as they look to future

This past weekend, the ninth bi-annual Black Alumni Reunion prompted a few tears, plenty of laughter and a new understanding of the words history, family and pride.

From July 17 through July 20, SIUC was revisited by people of its past and future. Hundreds of alumni from across the nation came back to an important piece of their history to reconnect with friends and, most importantly, to set an example for what can be accomplished through making the right choices in life.

The theme of the reunion was "Coming Home to Our Roots," and Greg Scott, assistant director of the SIU Alumni Association and reunion coordinator, explained the importance of the event and its guests.

"I believe that if you have a positive experience here at SIU being an active member of the Black Alumni is a way for you to maintain important ties and keep in touch with an important aspect of your success."

The reunion weekend consisted of workshops, an open market, reception, spiritual youth programs, sports tournaments, a picnic, a play and informal afterhours parties. Special guests included activist, comedian and civil rights pioneer Dick Gregory and artistic director and playwright John O'Neal Jr.

Three of the nine black students who integrated Arkansas Central High School in 1957 were in attendance. Those honored Little Rock Nine members, who are also SIU alumni, were Mississippian Trickey, Thelma Wair and Terrance Roberts.

Dick Gregory, SIU alumnus, famous activist, comedian and civil rights pioneer Dick Gregory and artistic director and playwright John O'Neal Jr.

The three of the nine black students who integrated Arkansas Central High School in 1957 were in attendance. Those honored Little Rock Nine members, who are also SIU alumni, were Mississippian Trickey, Thelma Wair and Terrance Roberts. Scott said that his expectations of the reunion were high. "We anticipated over 500 guests and their families to come down, and we've worked hard to make sure everybody has a good time," Scott said.

During the weekend, the Hall of Fame area held a Student Center was transformed into a market that showcased a variety of books, jewelry and other gifts. Vendors proudly displayed literature by black authors, blankets in rich ethnic hues and dozens of oils, incense bundles and perfumes.

With many guests arriving on Thursday, a list White mixer was scheduled that weekend to give the card players a chance to display their skills.

Friday was a day of workshops that focused on fiscal aid topics to build an understanding of financial aid for the college student, investments, retirement planning and saving for college tuition.

At a press conference Friday, the three present members of the Little Rock Nine were introduced by Joseph Brown, director of Black American Studies, as "distinguished guests, role models and friends of the world who had performed an exemplary service to our country."

Trickey, Wair and Roberts then spoke about the difficulties that surrounded them when they attended a high school where they were not wanted, surrounded by hate and days filled with fear.

"I didn't have parents to be alive and feel that kind of fear," Roberts said.

"Folks reminded convinced that we didn't belong there, and we felt that every day. We had to actually sign an affidavit saying that we would not participate in any extracurricular activities."

"Imagine being a teenager and being excluded from things like the basketball team or the prom."

Trickey said in retrospect, the cruel attitudes of the community were never about them personally.

"Everything we went through was all part of a strategy. It wasn't about us. It was about making a group feel unworthy."

In the afternoon, the three members of the Little Rock Nine and alumna Doreen Price of the Wrigley Company spoke to a youth group about the importance of education and a positive attitude upon entering the workforce.

They also stressed the importance of making decisions that sometimes have students separating themselves from the popular crowd.

The small room in Morris Library eventually swelled to standing room only.

When Chancellor Walter Wadler presented the Little Rock Nine members with awards of recognition, the crowd responded with thunderous sound of applause.

Dick Gregory, SIU alumnus, famous activist, comedian and civil rights pioneer, gives his powerful speech to all the alumni who joined the reunion banquet Saturday night.

After a morning of golf and tennis on Saturday, alumni came together at the east end of the Student Center for a picnic.

Groups of men and women sought cover along the East Post for a picnic.

Near the balcony were a number of vendors, selling local goods and dominoes.

"My heart stands up in gratitude that our country; this is a union of laughter, food and family, and guests commented on why such an event was important."

Shawn Lockett, a Chicago native and 1984 graduate with a degree in administration of justice, said all of the reunion events are important.

"These events are an opportunity to connect with people you haven't seen and network," Lockett said.

"It's not as all this out, but it's all a lot of fun. I like seeing how the school has changed and the growth going on in Carbondale."

St. Louis native Jewell Reynolds, wife of Richard Reynolds, former alumni president, agreed.

"It's good to see old friends making connections again. It's really good to see the older generations here sharing experiences and advice to the younger generations," Reynolds said.

"Coming back to this University gives you another outlook on where you are now, and in a way, can strengthen your purpose in life."

"Those of us here who came down in the 1950s and 60s and stayed, are the ones who really stuck it out, and coming to the reunion and seeing all these young people here helps us see that our struggle with racism was not in vain."

The banquet that evening featured many guests, which included Mayor Brad Cole and Gregory as the keynote speaker.

A prayer breakfast on Sunday was the final event and last opportunity for many alumni to bid friends a final farewell.

"My heart stands up in gratitude that our guests are here and sharing a part of their lives with us," Brown said.

"This is about family teaching family for the future."
Low interest rates look like attractive choice for many students in loan debt

Kathleen Lynn
The Record (Bergen County, N.J.)

HACKENSACK, N.J. (KRT) — Alex Agramonte recently graduated from William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J., with a degree in accounting and $10,000 in student debt.

"It was mostly helped, but without student loans, I wouldn't have gotten through," said Agramonte, 23, who works in the William Paterson University book store.

"It was pretty crucial. I needed my degree for what I wanted to do." 

Luckily for Agramonte, interest rates on federal student loans dropped to record lows on July 1 — as low as 2.63 percent for new graduates who are in the six-month period after graduation before they have to start repaying.

Other borrowers will pay 3.42 percent for loans taken out after 1998, down from 4.66 percent, and 4.22 percent for loans before 1998, down from 4.86 percent.

The lower rates mean that borrowers with a $10,000, 10-year federal Stafford loan can save about $302 in interest over the life of their loan, according to the federal Department of Education.

Those rates are in force until July 1, 2004, because the rates are adjustable and change every year.

But borrowers can lock in low rates by consolidating their loans now, according to SLM Corp., the giant student-loan provider known as Sallie Mae.

Consolidating is paying off all the old loans and creating a new, fixed-rate loan.

The lower, one consolidated loan is the weighted average interest rate of all previous loans, rounded up to the nearest eighth of a point.

"With interest rates being where they are, it's foolhardy not to take a good, hard look at a fixed-rate loan," said Rob Baillie, director of financial aid at William Paterson.

Recent graduates like Agramonte can get the best deals.

During the first six months after graduation, loans will carry a rate of only 2.82 percent, consolidating now locks in a rate of 2.875 percent, according to Sallie Mae.

"I'm definitely going to look into that," Agramonte said. 

"I can't stand paying money I don't have to.

But the byline they get their diploma, graduates of public colleges have records of more than $17,900; private colleges, $21,200.

While he looks forward to Sallie Mae, he hopes to repay their debt, adding to the total interest they pay.

"Borrowers can get approval by paying extra on their loans every month.

But Sallie Mae said borrowers might want to pay off credit card debt and car loans first, because they have much higher interest rates than college loans.

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But Sallie Mae said borrowers might want to pay off credit card debt and car loans first, because they have much higher interest rates than college loans.
Hallie Chametzky, 6, and Adrienne Chevalier, 5, walked slowly through the South Hall of the University Museum Thursday, inspecting every painting, sculpture and photograph they came across.

"That one?" Hallie asked, pointing to an oil painting of a bright orange flower. Adrienne considered it for a second before she scrunched her nose and shook her head no.

"It had to be just the right painting, one they could take a picture of in their project," Museum Director Bob Dehoet said. "They know the layout of the museum pretty well, and they knew the things they've enjoyed; it's so interesting, because every group approaches this differently.

Nearby, Jack Bales and Robbie Karayiannis, both 9, glued all of their pieces into shapes representing video game characters, using pictures of vases for arms and legs and various paintings for armor.

"Everything we make is about video games," Jack pronounced as Robbie silently concurred. "24/7, it's video games, video games, video games."

The children of Rainbow's End, as well as other local daycare facilities, make regular trips to the museum to view exhibits and learn about art.

"It's a great experience," said Billye Preston, a graduate assistant at the museum. "We always try to do something different with them every time."

This was the first time the children did an activity in printmaking, and Hallie and Adrienne had made their selections.

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C'ALE, 2 BDRM, HOUSE, large rooms, 1 bath, 2 parking, $250/mo. 3 bdm., $300/mo., 4 bdm., $350/mo., all available. 546-3996.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, large rooms, 1 bath, 2 parking, $250/mo. 3 bdm., $300/mo., 4 bdm., $350/mo., all available. 546-3996.

CARBONDALE, 400 B, house, near campus, w/d, $450/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 3 BDRM, 2 bath, near campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, close to 3 loc. wld, no pets, incl, heat, 2 bath, $250/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 3 BDRM, near campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, near campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 3 BDRM, near campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 4 BDRM, near campus, w/d, $600/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, near campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, close to campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 3 BDRM, close to campus, w/d, $600/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, house, close to campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, house, close to campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 4 BDRM, house, close to campus, w/d, $600/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 3 BDRM, house, close to campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, house, close to campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 3 BDRM, house, close to campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 4 BDRM, house, close to campus, w/d, $600/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, close to campus, w/d, $400/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 3 BDRM, close to campus, w/d, $500/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 4 BDRM, close to campus, w/d, $600/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.

C'ALE, 2 BDRM, close to campus, w/d, $400/mo., utilities included, all available. 525-9296.
Important Reminder for Students Graduating or Leaving SIU!

Students who are not planning to return to SIUC for the Fall 2003 Semester can opt to purchase an extension of their off-campus student insurance coverage for 60 days past their last date of university enrollment. The last date of coverage for students who complete the Summer 2003 session is August 17, 2003. In order to purchase the optional extension coverage, you must complete an application and make payment PRIOR to your last date of coverage under the regular student coverage. Students who withdraw prior to end of the semester must make application and payment PRIOR to their last date of official university enrollment.

For further information regarding this coverage, please refer to the "2002/2003 Extended Medical Care Benefit Plan Brochure" or visit the SHP web page at WWW.siu.edu/-shp. The Student Benefit Office (student insurance) can be reached via phone at 453-4413.
**FOREIGN BASKETBALL LEAGUES PROVIDE HOME FOR MANY FORMER SALUKIS**

**Ethan Erickson**  
**DAILY EGYPTIAN**

For most SIU men's basketball players, the NBA is just a dream. Most would make it, but Troy Hudson was the only Saluki to play in the NBA this past season. Unfortunately, he may not be able to play in the NBA this season. Troy Hudson, a guard for the Orlando Magic, has spent the last three seasons in the NBA. He has played in 121 games, averaging 10.5 points per game.

Rashad Tucker, a former Saluki, also has spent the last three seasons in the NBA. Tucker, a shooting guard, has averaged 8.5 points per game.

Marcus Timmons, another former Saluki, has spent the last three seasons in the NBA. Timmons, a power forward, has averaged 7.5 points per game.

Emeka Okafor, a former Saluki, has spent the last three seasons in the NBA. Okafor, a center, has averaged 12.5 points per game.

Kai Nunnberg, a Canadian Okafor, has spent the last three seasons in the NBA. Nunnberg, a small forward, has averaged 10.5 points per game.

Ashraf Amaya, a former Saluki, has spent the last three seasons in the NBA. Amaya, a shooting guard, has averaged 9.5 points per game.

Kai Nunnberg, a Canadian Okafor, has spent the last three seasons in the NBA. Nunnberg, a small forward, has averaged 10.5 points per game.

**SCHEDULE**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12**

**COACHES**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12**

**Monday**

Houston at St. Louis: 6:00 p.m., WAC League.

**Tuesday**

Texas at Rice: 6:00 p.m., Big 12 Conference.

**Wednesday**

Florida at Georgia: 6:00 p.m., SEC.

**Thursday**

Texas at Florida: 6:00 p.m., SEC.

**Friday**

Texas at Rice: 6:00 p.m., Big 12 Conference.

**Saturday**

Texas at Texas: 6:00 p.m., Big 12 Conference.

**Sunday**

Texas at Rice: 6:00 p.m., Big 12 Conference.

**National League**

**American League**

**TRIVIA ANSWER:** Cecil Fielder, who was known more for his power than his speed, had both his stolen bases in 1966 with the Detroit Tigers.
Saluki spirit groups continue to work through offseason

Salukis cheerleaders, shakers staying in shape during the summer to be ready for football, basketball seasons

story by JENS DUJU

Early Sunday morning, members of the SIU cheerleading squad practiced in rooms, showers and sidewalks. More than 40 people filled the side gym at Davies as newcomers and returnees alike took their turns on the various stages covering the floor. Some practiced cheers, others worked on stunts. And even others were busy working on their toe-touch handshakes.

This marks the third time this summer the cheerleading squad has gathered for a two-day practice session led by SIU spirit coordinator Nancy Callahan. Following the completion of the two days of practice, the squad either returns home or stays in Carbondale to keep the momentum going.

Senior SIU cheerleader Britney Hall of Carbondale and sophomore Brandi Yagow, a rookie on the cheerleading squad, said due to the condensed practices, it is rare that everybody can make it to go.

"You have two days to put everything in, and you are expected to be in your best shape," Yagow said. "If you don't take that house and personally do it on your own, then you come here and you crack and there's no point in being here really.

"Shaking off is generally not something the squad does at SIU. Cheerleading and dance squads have been hard at work during their short offseason, training to stay in shape.

The football and basketball teams only have to be in top condition during their respective seasons. On the other hand, the SIU cheerleading and dance teams need to be ready to go from early August until April.

As a result, the spirit squads cannot afford to take too much time away from exercising.

Eating said the guve the teams a break for the lifeguards in the summer that is supposed to help prepare them for when the fall season arrives.

But the lifting and running are not the only exercises being done by the spirit groups.

"I think there's a lot of lifting and swimming going on, too, and whatever's going to keep their cardiovascular up is fine," Eating said. "We've got some students coming in to lift, but I know that some prefer to lift at the Recreation Center, which is fine during the summer just as long as they're staying fit, because it is very hard to get in shape.

"It's so easy to stay in shape. They have to find that out the hard way, but most of them do a pretty good job."

Kris Smith, a sophomore on the cheerleading squad, said not all of the team members do all of the work.

"We're supposed to lift and run every other day," Smith said. "I don't know if everybody does it, I don't really, but I try to run everyday.

You just have to lift, basically, because that's what everybody does."

Smith said generally the running is not as important as the weightlifting because if one of the men on the spirit squad can lift more than a girl, the weight will be done even easier.

Yagow said the actual workouts out everyday, agreed with Smith that the girls are up to par, and that most of the girls are in good shape.

"If one of our girls aren't in shape, then the whole team..." Smith said.

See SPIRIT, page 11

Salukis face Charlotte, Wyoming in non-conference season

After months of haggling with potential opponents, SIU basketball head coach Matt Painter released his team's non-conference schedule Monday. The Slate is highlighted by a game at Wyoming and a home game versus Charleston (Mo).

The Salukis open with two of their finest games on the road and play five of their non-conference games against teams they didn't play last year, not counting the Bracket Buster, against an opponent yet to be determined.

SIU begins in season against Mountain West Conference opponent Wyoming. The Salukis will travel to Laramie, Wyo., Nov. 22, first of a three-game deal that will bring the Cowboys to Carbondale in 2004 and send the Salukis westward the following season.

The remaining finished 21-11 last season and 12-3 at home in front of more than 10,000 fans per game at a court that sits an elevation of 2,200 feet. The Salukis, Wyoming also lost its top two scorers from last season.

"The apparent early difficulty for a young team and a fifth-year coach isn't much of a choice for Painter, though.

"I think we probably would rather have a team game starting, but it's tough," Painter said.

"The one thing that people have to realize is even you have a 28-game home winning streak, it is tough to get people to come to your place and play.

"A game with Jacksonville, as Thanksgiving eve will be SIU's home opener and it's a game-against the Deacons. The Salukis may play at NCAA tournament participant Wisconsin-Milwaukee in a return game following the Panthers' visit to Carbondale in February for the Bracket Buster game.

A home game with Missouri, the start of a home-and-away series, and a home game against Charleston Jan. 12, 2004 and Feb. 7-8, should be a good game.

The slate also includes three Ohio Valley Conference teams, traditional foe Southeast Missouri State and Murray State, in addition to upcoming conference member Jacksonville State, a team that won 20 games last season while competing in the Atlantic Sun Conference.

The Salukis have eight of their last nine contests against OVC teams.

Painter said he's experienced his players' excitement in numerous new games this season to make up for the departure of scoring seniors Krist Williams and Jermaine Deadman.

"I have three seniors that have been very good players for us, but they have not played in primary roles, so hopefully those guys can keep their games up to that level and I think..."