Emergency session to cut gas prices

Gov. Ryan seeks to place six-month moratorium on the gas tax in Illinois

JASON CORBA
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

The General Assembly's emergency session to cut the gas tax convenes Thursday, but not in the 223-year-old Springfield Building which is currently under construction. In 1973, it was in the Historic Building when, in 1973, it was in the Historic Building, where there is room for a highly-specialized session in response to Illinoisans' large expenses at the pump.

Gov. George Ryan called the legislators back to Springfield to make a decision on lifting the state tax on gasoline in Illinois.

Senate Bill 1310, if passed, will place a moratorium on the gas tax for six months, from July 1 until Jan. 1, 2001. Rep. Mike Bonn, R-Murphysboro, said the bill is a much-needed solution to the high costs of gas in Illinois.

"I believe it will pass," Bonn said. "Unless someone tries to play politics."

Illinois is one of only six states that has a sales tax on gasoline, and Bonn has been fighting for some time to have it permanently removed. Ryan said he believes the Illinois gas tax is unconstitutional.

The federal gas tax is included in the price of gasoline, whereas the Illinois sales tax is applied to both the original cost, the federal tax, and the state tax.

"They tax it," Bonn said. "The federal tax is included in the price, then the sales tax is based on that." Ryan said the state gas tax was awarded a $27,000 grant from the University of Illinois at Carbondale. See related story, page 3.

Suspect arrested after brief foot chase

Carbondale man recovering after machete attack

Diane Owsley
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

A Carbondale man was resting at home Monday afternoon after being stabbed in the leg with a machete.

Charles A. Ruffing was attacked near his home at Crab Orchard Lake Mobile Home Park in on County Line Road.

Ruffing, who is living with Ruffing's mother, according to Ruffing, told the suspect that he would have to leave. Ruffing said the suspect had been walking around the house when Olen stared with Ruffing's mother, and Ruffing told him he could not stay there anymore. It was then, Ruffing said, that Olsen picked up the machete from the ground and chopped at his leg.

"Ruffing said the machete was very sharp, and was chopped at the boot. The suspect swung the machete at Ruffing's eyes, he said, as he fought toward the manager's trailer to get help, the assailant threw the machete at him. Ruffing said he picked up the machete, and the suspect fled.

According to the press release issued by the Jackson County sheriff's office, Olsen is alleged to have several aliases, and may be wanted in other states. Olsen is alleged to have been arrested in a highly-anticipated chase.

Parade presented is more than merely for a gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

Law
Ryan signs bill to preserve defendants' evidence after conviction.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY AT CARBONDALE

DOE, PAGE 2

Interim dean begins with goals to help MCMA

Jyothi Ramaprasad has ideas to keep the reputation and the stability of the college intact

ANDREA PARKER
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

"The newly appointed interim dean of the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts has future plans and aspirations for her new position— one of those is to maintain the department's solid reputation.

Jyothi Ramaprasad, who has been associate dean of the college for four years, took the position of interim dean Monday.

Ramaprasad replaces Joe Foster, who is leaving the University to take a post as director of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Telecommunications at Arizona State University. He also will be a Walter Cronkite Endowment professor at Arizona State.

"This is a chance to grow even more," she said. While in her office, Ramaprasad has goals to advance the college in technology and digital communications. She plans to implement new programs and office positions to allow communications within the college to run more smoothly.

Our program plans on applying to the college curriculum is a digital communications specialization. This would be a new specialisation in the School of Journalism. Ramaprasad said it should go into effect within the next two years.

"There's such a high demand for this sort of thing," she said.

Ramaprasad said that enrollment for the college is growing, but she wants to be careful that it does not exceed. In advancing the enrollment rate and placement, she plans to have two individuals be in charge of both programs.

"This way, things can move more in order and efficiently," she said.

Ramaprasad's co-workers also agree with her decision to change the college. Clare Mitchell, academic advising for the college, has known Ramaprasad for two years and said she is a strong leader.

"She only wants what's best for the students," Mitchell said.
TODAY
- Blood Drive, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Student Center and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., School of Mass Comm., donors and volunteers needed, Union 457-5255.
- Women's Service Summer Brown Bag Series, 12 to 1 p.m., Morris Library Room 103D, 453-5655.
- Women's Service Summer Brown Bag Series, 11 a.m., The Art of Tai Chi, 7 to 9 p.m., Woody Hall A 306, 453-5655.

UPCOMING
- Blood Drive, June 29, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Student Center, donors and volunteers needed, Union 457-5255.
- Art in the Garden, every Thurs. 12 to 3 p.m., University Museum, 453-5588.
- Women's Service Summer Brown Bag Series, Dream Interpretation, 12 to 1 p.m., June 29, Woody Hall A 310, 453-5655.
- Library Affairs, E-Mail using Eudora, 12 to 1 p.m., Morris Library Room 103D, 453-5618.
- Library Affairs, Introduction to Photoshop, 1 to 4 p.m., Morris Library, Room 103D, 453-2810.
- Southern Illinois Pagan Alliance, Library Discussion Group, meets the 1st Mon. of the month, 7 to 9 p.m.

GAS
Continued from page 1

Ironically, in the 1970s, said he had been trying to get gas eliminated for years.
Likewise, Sen. Dave Luechtefeld, 89th District, said he would vote for a bill that would remove the state tax on auto fuel for a period of three years. He said in the past, the bill failed in the Senate, but now they are "down to the House."
Due to the high cost of gasoline, Luechtefeld said easing the tax now makes sense. He said cheaper gasoline will encourage people to buy gas in Illinois.
"I make the sale of gas in Illinois comparable with other states," Luechtefeld said. "It's good economic policy for Illinois to do away with the tax." If this happens, consumers will buy more products while they are in the station, and Luechtefeld said these sales will more than make up for lost revenue. As such, Luechtefeld said Illinois may be losing money by not bringing down the cost of gasoline.
Dean continued from page 1

Ramayuddool also wants one person in charge of the publicity and promotion of the college. "I'm hoping to have someone who will be able to handle our newspapers and web pages, and keep a list of all the annual achievements by the college," Ramayuddool said. Because the college feels the college needs a more strategic process of operating and needs to provide more faculty development.
"It's hard to communicate..." Ramayuddool said, but he feels the college needs a more strategic process of operating and needs to provide more faculty development.
The best of revenue, Crocket said, "will be in the next year, which is a budget surplus."
Also, the state knows another tax on gas, the motor fuel tax, and also pays for the roads in Illinois. The state tax, he said, gets directly into the general fund and cannot be used for sports. Therefore, he said it's only logical that cheaper prices, which should bring more sales, will result in more money for Illinois roads.

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ALMANAC
THIS DAY IN 1975:
- Frank E. Horton was named vice president for Student Affairs at SIU.
- The University Committee on Pollution Censorship conducted an internal study of the pollution in Campus Lake.
- Carbondale police had stated they enforced their national government's order banning women from membership, but they encouraged women to participate.
- The Jackson County News, a 16-hour city's intervention service, announced a July 1 quitting.
- Former President Richard Nixon testified on Watergate this week after being under oath for 11 months.
- The University Board, located inside Carbondale's University Mall, was showing "Blazing Saddles" starring Bud Ekins for a $1.25 per night show.

CORRECTIONS
Readers who spot an error in a news article should contact the Daily Egyptian's accuracy at 536-2331 or e-mail at 228 or 229.
Bill to preserve evidence is signed by Ryan

A new law says that defendants' evidence will be held after conviction.

The Science Center will be offering programs derived from University Track, said Park. The Science Center has an annual budget as it was open. The park district fund has now received another year of funding from local sources. The park district fund has received another year of funding from local sources.

Science Center receives local funding from park district

Another year of educating and entertaining is secure.

The hot air balloon will stay airborne at the Carbondale Science Center for another year thanks to funding from local sources.

The Science Center, 1227 E. Main St., will now have solar energy as part of its exhibits as some of the exhibits at the Science Center.

Science Center Executive Director Jim Mueller said without funding from the park district the center would struggle to offer its programs that it does to the community.

"What happens if we lose funding is it's going to eat into our resources," Mueller said. "Our most likely outcome would be a pruning exhibit, or one of our programs."
Common sense has become the latest casualty of the drug war

Federal legislators seem to have fallen under the influence of an over-hyped drug war. A new provision of the Higher Education Act of 1998 will take effect July 1 that will deny federal financial aid to students with convictions of the sale or possession of drugs. Confession may be good for the soul, but it will soon be a punishable offense, as it becomes embarrassingly clear that the U.S. Department of Education has no system in place to check whether students are coming clean on their drug-violation histories.

Even if every student's information could be verified, the provision is further weakened by a variety of flaws that could lead a person to question the recent state of mind at the speed.

Some legislators have publicly debated serious questions 28 by saying it would stop wayward students from spending federal money on drugs. But in truth, it would only stop students from lower-income backgrounds, who had some guilt and were then honest about it, from attending school. And just to make this perfectly clear, the provision would not even affect wealthy students with drug convictions and addicts who lie about their drug convictions.

Another group not affected by the restrictions is that of students who get expelled from school because they broke the Student Conduct Code, which addresses a form of almost all universities. Those students, along with students in jail, will not be applying for financial aid right away and thus, will not be affected by the legislation. So what's the point?

The Daily Egyptian editorial board devoted some time to answering that question, but the reasoning behind this provision is as elusive as the student will save.

Even with the controversy surrounding the issue, supporters have cited no studies or evidence of any kind that financial aid dollars were contributing to the drug trade. Financial aid often helps turn lives around, creating opportunities for people who want to start again. This provision appears to be the government targeting 21,000 students who have been caught and were then honest about it, from attending school.

And just to make this perfectly clear, the provision would not even affect wealthy students with drug convictions and addicts who lie about their drug convictions.

SUN-TIMES

**OUR WORD**

**The meditations and prime-time TV**

| AMY KILCHUS
| **what would Andy Kaufman do?**

In the past, I tried a number of methods to achieve the tan of the islands. During junior high school, I sprayed my hold with a suntan,Douglas' suntan, and lay in the sun. But I was always left with a nice sunburn, even after using these methods correctly.

I then tried tanning lotion, which is a more effective way to get a tan. However, I soon realized that it was important to use the correct sunscreen and to avoid sunburns. I also tried using a tanning bed, but it was too expensive and time-consuming. I eventually decided to use a suntan lotion, which is a more affordable option.

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Foreign teachers get lesson in American politics

**By ANGELA YOUNG, Daily Egyptian reporter**

Eighteen professors from foreign universities got an up-close look at the U.S. political system, as the SIUC Department of Political Science conducted its first all-day program seminar Tuesday.

The six-week Fulbright Summer Institute program, which ends Aug. 5, consists of daily lectures by teachers from the political science and law faculty. They will speak on specific subjects in their specialty, such as American interest groups, political parties, Congress and various other topics.

John Foster, associate professor for the Political Science and program director, believes the participants will get a well-rounded view of American politics, placing special emphasis on local and state governments.

"Foreign visitors usually know quite a bit about our national government, and less about our state and local government," Foster said. "To really understand how the United States works, you need to understand how much we do at the state and local level. Our education, for example, is run by state government."

The program, which is funded through a $172,000 grant from the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, will also include trips to Springfield, Chicago and Washington, D.C.

"In addition to the class work, they will tour some of the buildings where important decisions are made," Foster said. "It should be one of their more meaningful experiences."

Tasneem Siddiqui, an associate professor of political science at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, visits with another instructor at the close of a session detailing the electronic and print resources at Morris Library Tuesday afternoon. Siddiqui is one of 18 foreign scholars participating in the six-week Fulbright Summer Institute program.

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**Group searches for deeper meaning through food**

**By ALICKA AUMILL, Daily Egyptian reporter**

For college students looking for a deeper meaning in life, they need not look any further than their dining plans.

Whether preparing a meal alone or sharing dinner with friends, food can impact a person’s physical, mental and spiritual health.

"This is the message of a group of journalists called ‘Food, Faith, and Sustainability’ by an organization called Earth Ministry from Seattle. As the group met over plates ofBehaving Syn Systeres and fruit bowl on Sunday, they talked about the different reasons they meet each week. Reasons range from seeking a way to simply enjoy food and conversation to ‘it’s dimensions’. A bright light on the wall stared the objective for the evening: ‘Your health, happiness, and the future of life on earth are rarely so much in your own hands as when you sit down to eat.’"

The group talked about the ill-effects of the fast-food industry on our culture. Too often, they said, people are content to eat a quick, unhealthy meal on the run instead of sitting down to enjoy a meal prepared at home.

Georgina Hartwig, a nurse at St. Joseph Hospital in Murphysboro, spent Sunday working in her garden and had been looking forward to discussing relationships with food.

"Having said that, often people think food just comes from the grocery store and they do not stop to think about the larger connections to food," Hartwig said.

Kim Magus, pastor at the Church of God Shepherd in Carbondale, said eating simply does not have to be a chore.

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**Contact us via email at news@dailyEgyptian.com**

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**Runners: 4:15, 6:45, 9:15**

**Erin Brockovich (R)**

**5:00, 8:00**

**U571 (PG-13)**

**4:30, 7:00, 9:30**

**VARSITY**

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Bill continued from page 3

been found wrongfully convicted. In most of the cases, DNA testing exonerated them.

"Any physical evidence should be nailed, especially in capital cases," McKinn said.

Gov. Ryan gained national attention in February when he played a meaningful role in the death penalty in Illinois citing the need to re-evaluate Illinois death penalty system before reinstating it.

Ryan said there had been no public opposition to the HB 4593, and many police and prosecutors fully support the attention policy.

However, Rep. Jim Durkin, R-Winchester, who also is a former prosecutor, voted against the bill. He said while he agrees with the concept of the bill, he feels it unfairly makes prosecutors and law enforcement responsible for evidence.

After a prosecutor was finished with a case, he would still be accountable for missing or tampered evidence because of the chain of custody provision, Durkin said. It's and it as someone who was specifically targeting state's attorneys and making them liable, instead of trying to change a procedure," Durkin said.

HB 4593 passed in the House with a vote of 102-13 and in the Senate 56-0.

Rep. Phil Breit, R-DeKalb, reported the bill text said the local municipalities adjacent to the provision, stating they were going to be for local law enforcement to keep it "in hand for long periods," instead.

Mike Woods, Jackson County state's attorney, said if the state government is going to mandate a retention policy, it would need to provide funding to local police departments and state's attorneys to pay for the retention needed to hold evidence for long periods.

Ryan spokesman Nick Palazzo said during signing the bill is an important first step in the evidence retention law. Ryan said some areas of the bill need to be improved.

"For example, Ryan said the arbitrary time limit of the bill could create the destruction of evidence when the opposition had already completed or retention of evidence after defendants had completed their sentence.

"He wanted to signal his support for theInstallation," Breit said, "but he has encouraged the General Assembly to take a further look at the bill during the fall veto session.

"I have full confidence that with House Bill 4593 at a starting point and with everyone working together, the General Assembly can produce a model evidence retention law for Illinois and the nation."
WATCH OUT, TIGER: Eighty-year-old Clara Ware celebrated a punt at hole 17 at the Carbondale Fun Park Tuesday. Ware and her family traveled from West Virginia to visit her grandmother in Herrin who took them miniature golfing and go-carts Tuesday afternoon.
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No big-time stars in this year’s NBA draft

How much did you know about the student athlete who shot a career-high 37 points in his final game last season? If nothing else, it’s safe to say he did more than you might have expected. In fact, there were some very good players. A few could even be considered stars of this season, but in the end, B. J. Armstrong had the most impact on his team’s success.

Armstrong, a 6-6 guard from the University of Notre Dame, combined size and shooting ability to lead his team to a 25-7 record last season. He averaged 22.7 points per game and shot 47.7% from the field, including 43.8% from three-point range.

Armstrong is considered by many to be the most complete player in the draft. He has the size and strength to get to the hoop, the shooting touch to make the open shot, and the court vision to set up his teammates. He also has the work ethic and determination to make the most of his talent.

Armstrong is expected to be selected in the first round of the NBA draft, where he will have the opportunity to start his career. The University of Notre Dame is proud to have such a talented athlete represent them in the professional ranks, and we wish him all the best in his new career.

Randy Burt, Sports Editor
Getting pumped with a HIT of power

Power HITS fitness class takes traditional cardio to the next level

Anu King leads the Power High Intensity Training System class through a routine Monday night at the Student Recreation Center. The hour-long class is designed for intermediate to advanced participants and is scheduled every Monday and Wednesday this summer.

The goal in the class is to get heart rate up and increase cardiovascular strength of those who take the class. Squats are done, as well as abdominal exercises to tone muscles. "We do a little bit of everything," King said. "We try to give them the whole package."

The power HITS fitness class is scheduled every Monday and Wednesday this summer at the Student Recreation Center.

On the verge of equality in SIU athletics

Athletic Department reaches for compliance in gender equity goals

The SIU Athletic Department appears to be in full compliance with their gender equity plan and made building a new softball complex a goal by 2002. The department can choose one of three ways to comply with regulations, and SIU chooses a method that tries to fully accommodate the interests and abilities of the underserved groups.

The last report filed from the 1999-2000 fiscal year showed the makeup of student-athletes is nearing the proportional mark of the student body. In that fiscal year, 57 percent of the full-time SIU students were male and 43 percent were female. The percentage of male student-athletes were 59 percent and female student-athletes were 41 percent.

"We still have a little bit of work to do, but we are getting close to those numbers," said Nancy Bandy, SIU assistant athletic director.

Even though participation rates disproportionate to enrollments are common in programs affecting football, institutions can comply by giving a sufficient interest and accommodating a reasonable expectation of competition. Some concern has centered sound upgrading the SIU softball facility. Originally, the construction of a new softball complex was tentatively scheduled for 2001. The construction will also include a clubhouse to include showers, rest rooms and will provide an quality facilities for male and female athletes.

New coach

Tuesday Byron Scott, who helped lead the Lakers to three NBA championships, was hired as the new coach in a possible $2.5 million contract. He expressed his desire to remain at SIU if the Cubs don’t have their demands, this deal "is not going to be the last one," Scott said.

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Helping hand

Co[it coach Rick Pizzano confirmed to the Boston Herald that he did speak with SDU officials to act as a sounding board and assist search. He said the athletic department has been "looking for a good coach that can help us out there."

Trade talks

A source told ESPN.com that the Chicago Cubs are interested in discussing a trade for Sammy Sosa. The trade talks were said to be "in the early stages," the source added.

Helping hand

On the verge of equality in SIU athletics

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New SIU Athletic Director Charlotte West is pleased that the University is looking into providing comparable facilities for softball. She also said that not having a timetable outlined could put the department in jeopardy with the federal government. "There are a lot of things that are looking into this," West said. "I'm glad they're picking up on that," he said.

Along the gender equity plan set a goal that will develop and implement travel policy for men's and women's basketball teams. The goal's intentions will help ensure equal modes of transportation. Bandy said the department is still in good compliance, but still has things to evaluate. "We are certainly not completely in compliance," Bandy said. "But I would say we are better than some schools, probably better than that."