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Guyon leaves giant legacy

JEFF ENGELHARDT
Daily Egyptian

While Benjamin Shepherd lost a friend Wednesday, he said he could find solace in the legacy John Guyon left behind.

Guyon, who served as chancellor at SIUC from 1987 to 1996, died Wednesday from complications of Parkinson's disease. Patricia Guyon, his wife, said a funeral service is scheduled for 11 a.m. March 27 in Shryock Auditorium.

Shepherd, who served as vice president for academic affairs and research for Guyon, said he would remember his friend for the way he progressed the university and represented it with integrity.

"The rise of minorities and women in significant decision-making positions reached an all-time high," Shepherd said. "It was especially impressive to me because he created an atmosphere on campus where everyone felt good about themselves and the institution."

During his tenure as chancellor, Shepherd said Guyon had the courage to make groundbreaking hires that made SIUC one of the nation's leaders in diversity. His administration included two black vice presidents and the highest-ranking female in university history — Barbara Hanson — as associate vice president of research and dean of the graduate school.

Shepherd also said Guyon took an unorthodox approach when he appointed scientists to administrative positions. He said Guyon, a chemist, broke the stereotype of hard scientists being quirky.

"He selected me to be his No. 1 on campus, and that took a little courage because I'm a zoologist," Shepherd said laughing. "But I think it's a fair assessment to say the (university) came to appreciate it."

But Guyon did more than just hire administrators to further diversity at SIUC.

Guyon established the Black Alumni Group, Women's Professional Advancement and progressed the Black American Studies program, according to university records. He also aided in the establishment of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and won the Image Award from the Carbondale NAACP.

Please see GUYON | 2

Students could save thousands with bill

Students struggling to complete the four-year plan for their degree received good news Wednesday.

A bill that could save thousands of dollars for students who take more than four years to graduate passed the Senate Wednesday. The bill would lock in year-after-enrollment tuition rates and will

now move to the House.

The bill states any student who has been enrolled in an Illinois university for four years can attend for two more years with substantial tuition savings. Students could not be charged a tuition rate that exceeds the amount the respective institution charged for the year fol-

lowing the student's initial enrollment.

For example, students enrolled in 2006-07 would be charged the 2007-08 tuition rate for their fifth and sixth year. The potential savings for students at SIUC who enrolled in 2006-07 needing a fifth year would be close to \$4,000 per year, according to the SIUC cost calculator.

Bumps, bruises form bonds



JESS VERMEULEN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Brittany Daugherty, a sophomore inside center, passes the ball to Emma Cherry, a sophomore wing, while Jo Rider, a junior wing, runs with them during a line drill Tuesday at rugby practice on the fields behind Abe

Martin Field. "We're a team and a family on and off the rugby field, and we welcome anyone who wants to join us and be a part of it," said Ashley Foster, the president of the rugby team.

DEREK ROBBINS
Daily Egyptian

Ashley Foster said the rugby team gives tough love a new meaning.

The SIU women's rugby team, a Registered Student Organization, is comprised of 25 students with a variety of experience in the sport, from those who just heard of it for the first time to those who have been in the sport for years. The goal of this Registered Student Organization is to bring students together

through tackling, roughhousing and understanding how to play rugby, said club president Ashley Foster.

"This team is like a family, we all love each other here," said Foster.

Rugby, while being a violent sport, creates a sense of unity among its members, she said.

"There are some scuffles on the field," Foster said. "We all know you leave everything that happens on the field though. It creates a sort of camaraderie, something we can all sort of bond over."

Foster, a second-year graduate student in communication disorders and sciences, said she first found an interest in rugby at the University of Illinois.

"It was hard for me to find a clique of friends," Foster said. "I got recruited and the rugby girls were just very independent, athletic and very hardworking. We just kind of clicked."

Please see R50 | 2

Faculty to decide books included in rental program

RYAN VOYLES
Daily Egyptian

SIUC's textbook rental program will start off with materials mostly needed for core curriculum classes,

said Lori Stettler, director of the Student Center.

"The program will focus particularly on core curriculum classes, more toward your general education classes," Stettler said. "Students will still have

the option to purchase the book, new or used, along with renting."

A form will be sent out to faculty members next week to determine what books they wish to be allowed for rental, Stettler said. She said until then, there could not be a way of determining how many books will be available. The rental terms will also be decided at a later time.

The University Bookstore, together with the Follett Higher Education Group, will begin offering textbook rentals beginning in the fall semester.

While rental periods are decided on campus, the actual price of rentals are determined by Follett, said Elio DiStasio, director of public and campus relations of Follett. He said students could save more than 50 percent off the price of new books through rental.

The textbook rental program will be part of Follett's Rent-A-Text plan. Follett, who is SIUC's textbook provider, launched the program in fall 2009 at seven universities and now runs the program at 16 different universities across the country.

Stettler said the university wanted to see how successful Follett's initial launch was before it decided to implement the program.

The University Bookstore will not be the only place in Carbondale for students to rent textbooks next fall.

Saluki Bookstore began offering textbook rentals this spring with more than 500 books available for semester rental, said Sue Lovrud, manager of the bookstore. She said her store is likely to have even more textbooks available to rent next fall.

710 Bookstore will also begin offering rentals in July, said Randy

Johnson, manager of 710 Bookstore.

Although his store will offer rentals, Johnson said students need to realize rentals are just another option of acquiring textbooks, with its own pros and cons. Among the disadvantages he sees with renting textbooks is that not all books will be available for rental, the inability to rent books with software or CDs built in and the lack of a textbook sellback.

"It takes a little more thought than what most students give it," Johnson said. "A student can look at one book to purchase for \$80, or rent it for \$60. It would look cheaper, but you're not thinking about the sell-back option."

He said students need to consider different scenarios before deciding on whether to purchase or rent a book.

Please see RENTALS | 2



Sources: Lori Stettler, director of Student Center
Sue Lovrud, manager at Saluki Bookstore
Randy Johnson, manager of 710 Bookstore

KERASOTES
WATILY PAGES INFO
STUDENT PAGES STARTS
FRIDAY 11:00 AM
TRIE RITZ!
SHOWS 1:00 PM FOR \$15 2:15 THRU 3:15 PM

CARBONDALE SHOWPLACE
WATILY PAGES INFO
STUDENT PAGES STARTS
FRIDAY 11:00 AM
TRIE RITZ!
SHOWS 1:00 PM FOR \$15 2:15 THRU 3:15 PM

AVATAR PG13
5:15 8:45
GREEN ZONE R
4:40 7:30 10:10
3D ALICE IN WONDERLAND PG
3:45 6:30 9:20
BROOKLYN'S FINEST R
3:30 6:40 9:40
SHUTTER ISLAND R
4:00 7:20 10:20
ALICE IN WONDERLAND PG
4:20 5:00 7:10 7:50 10:00 10:30
OUR FAMILY WEDDING PG13
4:10 6:50 9:30

HURT LOCKER R
3:40 6:50 10:00
REMEMBER ME PG13
3:50 6:40 9:30
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4:50 7:30 10:15
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RSO
CONTINUED FROM 1

Foster said her relationship with the team at the University of Illinois has kept her with the sport and helped her develop a fondness for it.

The club accepts anyone interested in joining and does not make cuts, Foster said.

For people who pick up the sport for the first time, it can take a while to understand the rules, Foster said. She said it took her about two years before she became confident with what was happening on the field.

"It was hard to learn everything, but it was fun so I stuck with it," Foster said. "I am glad I did it. I love the sport."

Club coach Erin Dickson said the sport can take a bit of time to learn, but the team does not cut anyone. She said the only stipulation to joining is the player must be a female student at SIUC.

Dickson said players often don't realize how complicated the game

can be until the first time they step on the field.

"That first game is a real learning experience," Dickson said. "Once it is out of the way, it gets better. The game can be pretty intimidating though."

Jessica Schlenzer, a senior studying hospitality, has been on the team for four years and said players stick it out for different reasons, but those who do stay with the sport love it deeply.

"For some of the players, it is all they have," Schlenzer said. "We can be very passionate."

Dickson is one of those people. Dickson said she has been involved in the sport since the spring of 2000, but broke her shoulder in April 2009 and took up coaching as a way to stay in the sport.

"I just wanted to continue to be involved with rugby in some way," Dickson said. "Outside of school and work, this is all I think about. I love this game and I am happy that I can still be a part of it, even if I can't play."

Unlike typical collegiate sports, the players decide what away games they play. Foster said if the team is on good terms with a host team, it would contact the SIU rugby club and ask if it wished to participate.

For other larger tournaments, the rugby club has to sign up months in advance to be a part of it.

"If we go to a place we're not as familiar with, we'll stay in a hotel or something," Foster said. "If we go somewhere where we are friends with the team, we might just crash with them. Like if we're in Memphis for instance, we just stay with them."

The majority of the team's funds for travel come from Ruggapalooza, a yearly tournament in September hosted in Carbondale, Dickson said.

The rugby team's next tournament is Nash Bash, a tournament that takes place March 27 in Nashville.

For more information, contact Foster at ashleyfoster9@gmail.com.

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GUYON
CONTINUED FROM 1

Guyon's contributions did not end with SIUC, as Carbondale Mayor Brad Cole said Guyon was a great influence in his life and in the city.

"The mark of someone like him cannot be put into a few words," Cole said. "He was a driving force in creating a sense of stability, which we have not seen since then."

Even when Guyon retired, his wife said he never lost his passion for the university. Guyon attended

a dedication ceremony in the fall where the auditorium in Morris Library was named after him. He also has a scholarship in his name given out to freshman science majors every year.

Patricia Guyon said her husband got everything and more than he expected from his time at SIUC.

"He was a man of honor and integrity and had steady leadership and guidance," she said. "Most of all he had a strong love of the university and was highly committed."

For as great a leader Guyon was, Shepherd said he was an even better friend who made everyone feel welcome and comfortable.

"Nobody was ever above or below him. He gave everyone a sense of appreciation and confidence," Shepherd said. "I was just simply pleased to have known him and I value him as a dear friend."

Ryan Voyles contributed to this report.
Jeff Engstrand can be reached at jeffengstrand@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 254.

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Director: David G. Gilbert, PhD

RENTALS
CONTINUED FROM 1

The multiple opportunities for students to acquire books can only be beneficial, Stettler said. She said, however, that renting straight from a bookstore could prevent the unknown compared to renting online.

"The program allows students

to come to the bookstore and know they will be getting their books," she said. "You go online to rent or purchase, and you have nobody there to back you up if something goes wrong. You rent your book and have some kind of issue here you can go to us, student services; someone will help you."

Loverude said although there may be some competition between the stores, all that matters in the end is saving students money.

"The one thing I can say is that we want to save the student money," she said.

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About Us

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 20,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Friday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intercession editions will run on Wednesdays. Spring break and Thanksgiving editions are distributed on Mondays of the pertaining weeks. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale, Murphysboro and Carterville communities. The DAILY EGYPTIAN online publication can be found at www.dailyegyptian.com.

Mission Statement

The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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Correction

In the Wednesday edition of the DAILY EGYPTIAN, the story "Layoffs, furloughs, budget perturb Campus Senate" should have stated questionnaires regarding the budget were due at the end of business hours Wednesday. The 10 percent budget cut proposals are due at the end of the year. The DAILY EGYPTIAN regrets this error.

Calendar

Intravarsity Christian Fellowship

- "Questioning Christianity: Part 1"
- Speaker: Dave Hohuln talks about Absolute Truth
- 7 p.m., March 18, Life Science 3 Auditorium
- Skeptics welcome

"Interview with the Vampire"

- Live Skype interview with author Anna Rice
- Followed by a free screening
- 6:15 p.m., March 24, Student Center Auditorium
- Admission is free
- Sponsored by Philm, GPSC and Philosophy club

Area conservatives: Vote 'no' on health care bill

NICK JOHNSON
Daily Egyptian

Carl Dasenborck has a message for U.S. Rep. Jerry Costello, D-Ill., regarding the health care bill: "Just say no."

Those were the words on Dasenborck's hand-drawn sign, which he held facing southbound traffic on U.S. Highway 51 outside of Costello's office in Carbondale Wednesday. Dasenborck and about a dozen other citizens in opposition to the federal health care reform bill gathered to express their annoyance, with what they called "deficit spending" and an unnecessary modification of the health care system.

Protesters said Costello has a key vote in the fate of the bill, which is expected to be decided on this weekend.

Costello voted in favor of the Health Insurance Industry Fair Competition Act Feb. 24, a bill that would no longer shield health insurance companies from legal accountability for price fixing and blocking the formation of new companies.

"I have long been a supporter of this and other policies that help increase competition in the health insurance industry," Costello stated in a press release.

Amid the noise of motorists honking both in support and opposition of the protesters — one man yelled from a dump truck "I need health insurance!" as he drove by — Dasenborck recounted his open-heart surgery experience at Carbondale's Memorial Hospital. He said he received the best treatment possible from the staff and Humana, his Medicare Advantage insurance provider.



GENNA ORD | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Jim Patrick, right, of Carterville, and Larry Morse, of Marion, participate with about a dozen other citizens in a protest against the health care bill Wednesday on West Cherry Street. Patrick, the

former mayor of Crainville, said he does not support government control. "I'm here today because I can see us losing our freedoms," he said.

"My Advantage insurance provided the health care I needed above expectations," Dasenborck said. "Our president wants to get rid of the Advantage program."

Jim Patrick, a retired state employee, said President Barack Obama's policies would create a "banana republic" in which citizens would have no rights.

"We've got to do something about this crazy spending ... we'll be back in the dark ages," Patrick said.

Larry Morse, of the firearms instruction group Heartland Training, leaned on a sign that read "Social Security, and Medicare broke — Health care!"

"We need health care reform. But ... to tell me I'm going to get

finer or go to jail if I don't sign up for some government program ... isn't the way to do it," Morse said.

"Though he held up a sign that read "No to health care," Patrick also said the health care system needs to be reformed, but not in the way the bill would dictate.

"We ought to change the health care system. There's a lot of frivolous

lawsuits," Patrick said. "But what (members of congress) are trying to support is taking away your rights. We're moving toward a totalitarian-type government if we can't stop this nonsense now."

Nick Johnson can be reached at njohnson@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 263.

Tennis walk-on works hard, meshes with team

DEREK ROBBINS
Daily Egyptian

Radha Jayaratnam runs practice drills with the SIU women's tennis team, though something makes her different than the rest of the players.

Jayaratnam, a freshman studying business, is the only walk-on player for the tennis team. She practices with the team and does drills with coaches, but she does not play in matches.

In order to earn playing time, walk-on players have to work hard, head coach Audra Northwehr said.

The practice schedule for Jayaratnam includes training three times a week, working on agility twice a week, working with Northwehr individually twice a week and solo practicing the rest of the time, Jayaratnam said.

"I try to push myself pretty hard," Jayaratnam said. "I want to play and continue to get better. Until then, I want to support the team in any way I can. Whether it is true training or just cheering for them during matches."

Jayaratnam said the tennis team has accepted her and made the transition from high school to college tennis easier.

"I just love these people, we're all friends and we all want to help each other succeed," Jayaratnam said. "I am able to go up to anybody and ask them for help and they have no problem, it feels like we are on equal ground."

Senior Jessica Flannery said the reason Jayaratnam is treated so well is

because of the work effort she shows on the court.

"She is always out there busting her tail off, and I really respect that," Flannery said. "She knows she can come to me or anyone else at any time if she needs something. She is a member of this team."

Jayaratnam, a Carbondale native, said the reason she tried out for the team is because of her experience playing tennis in high school.

She started her junior year on the junior varsity team at Carbondale High School before moving up to varsity and finishing 9-4 on the season. Jayaratnam was named the most valuable player on her team that year.

Making it on to the team is not enough, Northwehr said. Players who make the team as walk-ons have to show a dedication to the sport and a willingness to improve little by little.

"I was once a walk-on player myself in volleyball," she said. "I received a scholarship in tennis to go to school and after a year as a walk-on for the volleyball team, I earned a scholarship in that sport."

Northwehr said she believes in the walk-on system and welcomes anybody to try for the team when tryouts are held at the beginning of each season.

"Generally, walk-on players are not as talented as scholarship players," Northwehr said. "In order to move forward, you need to improve little-by-little. You



DAH DWYER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Walk-on freshman Radha Jayaratnam listens to head coach Audra Northwehr as she gives instructions Wednesday at University Courts. Jayaratnam is the only women's tennis walk-on player.

can't set goals like I want to be the best on the team, but if you set a small one like I want to be the No. 6 player, it is possible to accomplish and improve."

Northwehr said she has been impressed by the work she has seen from Jayaratnam and thinks she could see playing time in matches in the future if

she continues to improve.

Flannery said she thinks if Jayaratnam continues to work hard and show improvements, she will earn some playing time in the coming years and be able to contribute to the team on the court.

Until then, Jayaratnam said she was just happy to be a part of the team.

"It is a complete honor to be a part of the team," Jayaratnam said. "It makes me feel like all of my hard work has been worth it."

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4 Thursday, March 18, 2010

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"I have doubts about the bill but I've decided to cast a vote in favor of the legislation."

Dennis Kucinich
Democratic Representative from Ohio, who previously opposed the House's health care bill, announcing his new support for it. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi needs 216 votes from her caucus to pass the bill.

"The political and policy environment has changed drastically."

Adam Gault
Director of the Pew Center's Public Safety Performance Project, saying the first decline since 1972 in the number of U.S. inmates is could be a harbinger of things to come as state policymakers look to cut costs.

Rise in rhino poaching hurts African populations

ROBYN DIXON
The Associated Press

LIMPOPO PROVINCE, South Africa — The baby rhino, an orphan, had barely been weaned. Her horn was only a few inches long. But that didn't stop the poachers from hacking it off.

David Uys, 33, had helped raise the rhino after her mother was killed by lightning. He called her Weerkind — orphan in Afrikaans. He won't forget the sight of the bodies of the baby and two other rhinos, shot dead, their horns removed.

"I'm not a one for talking about emotions," Uys said quietly. "But it was like seeing one of your family members die, the brutality of it."

The slain bull rhino, dubbed Longhorn, was about 35 and had a magnificent horn more than 21/2 feet long. The third rhino, Sister, had adopted Weerkind after her mother was killed. The three died together in November on this Limpopo province game ranch that is for tourists, not hunters, north of Pretoria.

"You're angry. You're furious. You're sad. You're crying," said Uys, the ranch manager. "Just a bundle of emotions, bursting inside."

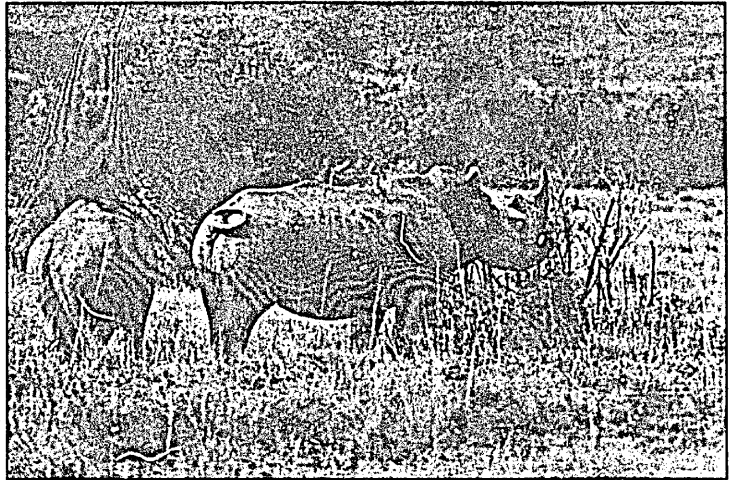
A sharp upsurge in rhino poaching in South Africa and Zimbabwe by organized crime gangs has dev-

astated Zimbabwe's rhino population and threatens to wipe out South Africa's critically endangered black rhinos within a decade. South African rancher Pelham Jones warns that the more common white rhino won't be far behind unless something is done.

A report last year by the World Wildlife Fund, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and wildlife-trade monitoring network TRAFFIC said poaching had reached a 15-year high, pushing the animals close to extinction. About 1,500 rhino horns were traded illegally in the past three years, despite a long-standing ban on international trade.

Last year, 122 rhinos were killed in South Africa. Jones predicted that at the current poaching rate, 180 to 200 will be killed this year. A provisional 2009 estimate shows only 800 rhinos remaining in Zimbabwe and 18,553 white and 1,570 black rhinos in South Africa, according to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, or CITES, which maintains the ban on the trade of rhino horn.

Rhino ranchers, some of whom keep the animals to attract tourists while others rely on limited trophy hunting, are so wary about the involvement of organized crime in



Rhinoceros sightings are common within Pilanesberg National Park, which is one of the largest parks in southern Africa. A sharp upsurge in rhino poaching in South Africa and Zimbabwe by organized crime gangs has devastated Zimbabwe's rhino population

RICK LOOMIS | MCLATCHY TRIBUNE

rhino killings that few are willing to talk publicly for fear of endangering animals on their properties. Interviews are given on condition that properties, even nearby towns, are not identified.

The ranch where Weerkind was born and killed is a lush green in the summer rainy season, with rocky hills looming into the sky. Birds with impossibly long tails seem weighed down in flight as

they flutter near a pond. A red track cuts uphill through the acacia trees. Rain clouds gather, thunder rumbles, and a sudden drenching rain pours down, stopping abruptly half an hour later.

Health bill gains ground but release delayed

DAVID ESPO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's sweeping health care legislation won precious support from a longtime liberal holdout in the House on Wednesday and from Catholic nuns representing dozens of religious orders, gaining fresh traction in the run-up to a climactic weekend vote.

"That's a good sign," said Obama, two weeks after taking personal command of a campaign to enact legislation in what has become a virtual vote of confidence on his still-young presidency.

But Democrats delayed the planned release of formal legislation at least until Thursday as they sought to make sure it would reduce federal deficits annually over the next decade.

At the White House, Obama met with Richard Trumka, the head of the AFL-CIO. Officials said the labor leader raised concerns over the details of a

planned excise tax on high-cost insurance plans as well as other elements of the as-yet-unreleased legislation.

The long-anticipated measure is actually the second of two bills that Obama hopes lawmakers will send him in coming days, more than a year after he urged Congress to remake the nation's health care system. The first cleared the Senate late last year but went no further because House Democrats demanded significant changes — the very types of revisions now being packaged into the second bill.

Together, the measures are designed to extend coverage to more than 30 million who now lack it and ban the insurance industry from denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions. Obama also has asked lawmakers to slow the growth of medical spending generally, a far more difficult goal to achieve.

Rep. Dennis Kucinich's announcement in the Capitol made him the first Democrat to declare he would vote

in favor of the legislation after voting against an earlier version, and he stressed he was still dissatisfied with key parts.

"I know I have to make a decision, not on the bill as I would like to see it but as it is," said the Ohio lawmaker, who twice ran for president advocating national health care. "If my vote is to be counted, let it now count for passage of the bill, hopefully in the direction of comprehensive health care reform."

Referring to the political struggle under way, Kucinich said, "You do have to be very careful that the potential of President Obama's presidency not be destroyed by this debate. Even though I have many differences with him on policy, there's something much bigger at stake here for America."

Obama lobbied Kucinich heavily for his vote, including aboard Air Force One earlier in the week on a trip to northeastern Ohio for a presidential speech.

Big push to pass health bill

Democratic leaders may use a complex parliamentary maneuver to get the Senate health care bill through the House. How it might play out:

The problem

Many House Democrats disagree with parts of the Senate bill and don't want to vote for it without fixes.

- Fixes would be in a separate reconciliation bill

The solution

The House would vote on Senate bill indirectly.

- Bill would be put in a "self-executing rule" which would spell out rules for House debate on the reconciliation bill
- House would "teem" the Senate bill passed by passing "the rule"
- House would then debate and vote on the reconciliation bill that would fix the problems in the Senate bill

Possible next steps

Senate would pass reconciliation bill with just 51-vote majority.

- President would sign Senate and reconciliation bills into law

Source: U.S. House of Representatives, Congressional Research Service, M.C. Brooking Institution, Congress Daily Brief

The math

216 votes needed to pass bill
House: 435 seats by party

Democrats	233
Republicans	178

4 vacant

Warning: Democrats 54 "Blue Dog" moderates, conservatives

- About 12 who want tougher anti-abortion language
- Some liberals who say bill needs single-payer provision

Not the first time for rule
When "self-executing rule" has been used in Congress

38 times	49 times
2005-08	2007-08
Under Republican Majority	Under Democratic Majority

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WASHINGTON D.C.
More than 100 complaints filed with government over fixed Toyotas

WASHINGTON — Complaints of sudden acceleration in Toyotas repaired under recalls have nearly doubled in the past two weeks, according to an Associated Press analysis of government data.

The complaints from 105 drivers, raise questions about whether Toyota's repairs will prevent the cars from speeding up on their own or if there is another reason for the problem.

WASHINGTON D.C.
Terror suspects living in communities show homegrown problem

WASHINGTON — The growing host in the war on terrorism may no farther than Main Street. The terror cases that have emerged in the past week have one common characteristic: The suspects are all Americans.

Altogether more than a dozen Americans have been captured or pursued for allegedly supporting jihad, or holy war, over the past two years. The cases demonstrate with increasing clarity what authorities have long known: The terrorist threat does not just come from the skies far away, but from hometown U.S.A.

ISRAEL
Israel lifts closure of West Bank as tensions ease in east Jerusalem

JERUSALEM — Israel on Wednesday lifted its tight restrictions on Palestinian access to Jerusalem's holiest shrine and called off an extended West Bank closure after days of clashes between Palestinians and Israeli security forces.

The recent violence has taken place against a backdrop of deep Palestinian frustration over a yearlong standoff in peace talks and dovetailed with the worst U.S.-Israeli diplomatic feud in decades.

IDAHO
Signed law would sue federal government over health care reform

BOISE — Gov. CL. Butch Otter on Wednesday became the first state chief executive to sign a measure requiring his attorney general to sue Congress if it passes health reform that force residents to buy insurance. Similar legislation is pending in 37 other states nationwide.

Constitutional law experts say the move is mostly symbolic because federal law supersedes those of the states. But the movement reflects a growing national frustration with President Barack Obama's health care

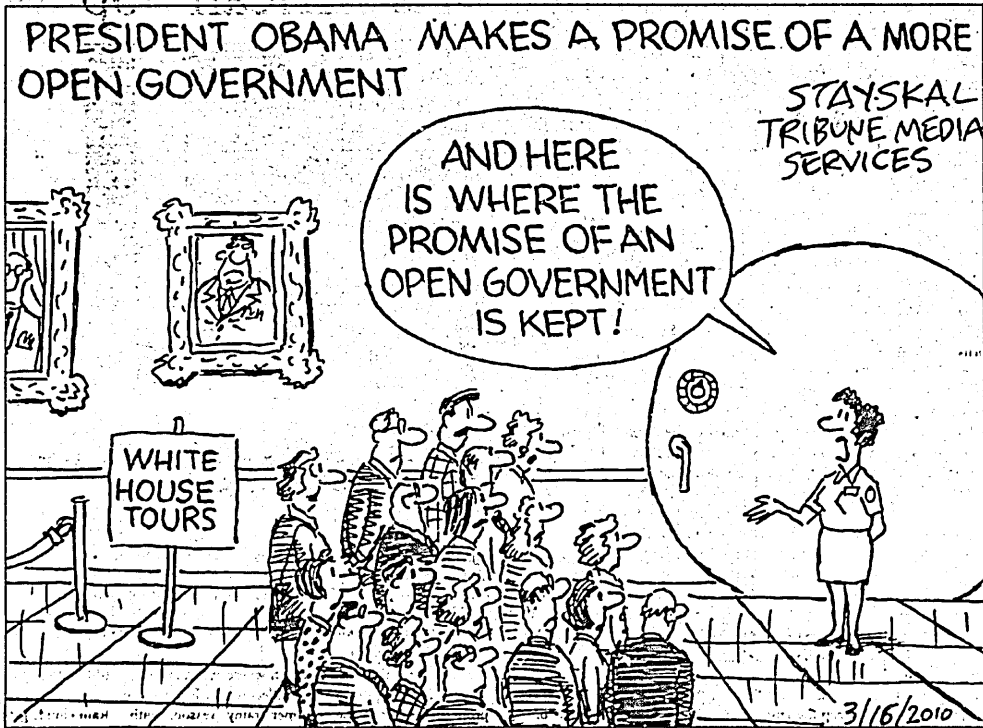
WIRE REPORTS

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EDITORIAL CARTOON



Free (and hateful) speech vs. the right to gather

MICHAEL SMERCONISH
McClatchy Tribune

Fred Phelps, founder and pastor of the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kan., claims to be a man of God. But when I interviewed him days after he initiated a vulgar protest at a dead Marine's funeral, he reminded me more of Lucifer.

America, he insisted, had "gone the way of the Brokeback Mountain," before adding: "God's wrath is upon this nation. And he's pouring out that wrath by killing these soldiers and maiming these soldiers in Iraq and sending them back in body bags. And it's only going to get worse."

Though we "met" by way of a cable television connection, I remember how disturbed his fiery eyes left me.

Phelps was belligerent to the point that I had to cut off the interview just moments after it started. Now I hope the Supreme Court will do likewise.

The case the high court has agreed to hear pertains to Marine Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder, who died in combat in Iraq on March 3, 2006. Joining his family, friends and loved ones at his funeral a week later were Phelps and sev-

eral protesters from Westboro Baptist. According to a lower court's recounting of the facts: "They traveled to Matthew Snyder's funeral in order to publicize their message of God's hatred of America for its tolerance of homosexuality."

Unfortunately, their signage reflected that perverse ideology: "God Hates the USA/Thank God for 9/11," "Pope in Hell," "America is Doomed," "Fag Troops," "You're Going to Hell," "God Hates You," "Semper Fi Fags," "Thank God for IEDs," and "Thank God for Dead Soldiers."

Following that debacle, Snyder's father Albert sued Phelps and some of his parishioners, initially winning a \$10-plus million award. That sum was reduced by a district judge and eventually, in September, thrown out all together by the Fourth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

As utterly distasteful as these signs are, they involve matters of public concern, including the issue of homosexuals in the military, the sex-abuse scandal within the Catholic Church and the political and moral conduct of the United States and its citizens," Judge Robert King wrote in the court's opinion. They are protected by the First

It's a crime to yell "Fire!" in the theater. It should be one to yell "fag" at a fallen soldier's funeral as well.

Amendment, the court concluded, because they didn't assert "objectively verifiable facts" that specifically apply to Matthew or Albert Snyder.

It remains to be seen whether those sentiments will carry when the Supreme Court hears the case during their next session, which begins in October.

The lawyer in me hopes the court restricts Westboro's free speech rights in the same way it has in the past with regards to defamation, obscenity and so-called fighting words. It's a crime to yell "Fire!" in the theater. It should be one to yell "fag" at a fallen soldier's funeral as well.

That said, the extent to which we afford freedom of speech to funeral crashers is hardly the most important element of the Snyder case.

The First Amendment reads in full: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble,

and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

But by picketing Lance Cpl. Snyder's funeral, didn't Westboro Baptist infringe upon the family's First Amendment right to freely exercise their religion? Which on March 10, 2006, took the form of a burial service at St. John's Catholic Church in Westminster, Md.

And because Westboro wasn't protesting on a street corner or in a public park, it could also follow that they infringed upon the Snyders' right to peaceably assemble for that private funeral service.

The point is that while Phelps and his flock may believe they have a constitutionally protected right to protest at a funeral, that right should not come at the expense of the Snyders' right to peaceably gather at a Catholic funeral. Especially when that practice involved mourning the death of an American hero.

"When the Fourth Circuit decided in favor of Phelps against Mr.

Snyder, implicitly they decided that Mr. Phelps rights were more important than Mr. Snyder's rights," Sean Summers, the attorney representing the Snyder family, said.

That should not stand.

If it does, perhaps the best we can ask for is the continued vigilance of the Patriot Guard Riders. They're a national coalition of motorcycle enthusiasts who formed specifically to provide a physical buffer between mourning military families and picketers from Westboro Baptist.

The Patriot Guard was there on March 10, 2006, when Snyder was buried, as they have been for hundreds of other funerals across the country.

"We have one thing in common besides motorcycles," their mission statement reads. "We have an unwavering respect for those who risk their very lives for America's freedom and security."

Snyder fought and died for that freedom. In this case, the Supreme Court should deny its fruits to Phelps and Westboro Baptist Church.

Smerconish writes a weekly column for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Submissions

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author's contact information. Phone numbers are required to verify authorship, but will not be published. Letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. Others include hometown. Submissions can be sent by clicking "Submit a Letter" at www.dailyegyptian.com or to voices@dailyegyptian.com.

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Amanda Kowalski, left, a senior from Des Plaines studying early childhood education, poses for a photo with Mike McGeady, a senior from Flossmoor majoring in university studies. Kowalski and McGeady were celebrating St. Patrick's Day Wednesday at Callahan's Irish Pub. Callahan's celebrated St. Patrick's Day twice, once for Unofficial St. Patrick's Day Feb. 26 and again today. The bar offered green Keystone Light, Guinness stew, corn beef and cabbage and bangers and mash.

SAMI BOWDEN
DAILY EGYPTIAN



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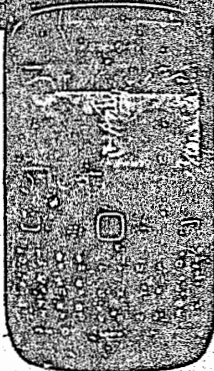
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2010 highlights returns for some amazing bands



TRAVIS BEAN
Daily Egyptian

Musicians may have been disappointed with 2009, which proved to be an unfruitful end to an amazing decade of music.

What did the 2000s offer? How about the arrival of Arcade Fire and Broken Social Scene? Not to mention some all-time great albums, including "Kid A" by Radiohead, "The Moon and Antarctica" by Modest Mouse and "Illinois" by Sufjan Stevens.

The best album of 2009 was Animal Collective's "Merriweather Post Pavilion," but nothing else stuck out. But do not worry, 2010 is shaping up to be one of the best years ever.

The year kicked off with a new Vampire Weekend album, followed by Beach House's "Teen Dream," which will undoubtedly launch the group to stardom. Spoon also made a return with "Transference" and Yeasayer's "Odd Blood" was excellent.

Even the past week has featured standout new music, such as albums from Gorillaz, Frightened Rabbit and Jason Collett.

While the year has been amazing so far, it is the future that could give one goose bumps.

The much-anticipated follow-up for She & Him will be released next week, which includes new albums from Goldfrapp and the underrated Love Is All.

MGMT is set to mark its return April 13 with "Congratulations." The band created a cult following with its debut "Oracular Spectacular," so the bar is set high for its latest effort.

May could be the best month for music this year. The biggest highlight is Broken Social Scene's return after five long years with its album "Forgiveness Rock Record" May 4. The New Pornographers and Josh Ritter will release their latest records that same day.

Later in the month, expect new music from The National's "High Violet," and Band of Horses' "Infinite Arms." Although there is not a title yet, LCD Soundsystem is also set to release a new album in May.

And just days ago, Stars, one of my personal favorite bands, announced its new record "The Five Ghosts," available June 22.

Not only will it be a great year for albums, but for music festivals as well. Here are a few that look promising and will not hurt the wallet too much:

Like slower music? From April

23 to May 2, check out the New Orleans Jazz Festival. Tickets are only \$60 per day and the festival features acts such as Aretha Franklin, Simon and Garfunkel, My Morning Jacket and B.B. King. It is well worth the money.

The Sasquatch Music Festival from May 29 to 31 will be epic. With tickets at \$70 per day, not only will there be acts such as Broken Social Scene, Vampire Weekend, Passion Pit and Tegan and Sara, but the audience will experience amazing scenery as the festival is located next to the beautiful Columbia River Gorge in Washington.

The most bang for your buck will come at the Pitchfork Music Festival July 16 to 18 in Chicago's Union Park. The show will feature Modest Mouse, LCD Soundsystem, Broken Social Scene and Pavement, and tickets are only \$40 per day.

This year may be the best ever, but it could be even better. With Modest Mouse appearing at Pitchfork and rumors of new Radiohead and Arcade Fire albums, I predict we will see new music from these bands soon.

Music lovers everywhere, rejoice.

Travis Bean can be reached at tbean@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 274.

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3 BDRM, CLOSE to Rec Center, w/d, c/a, central air and heat, glass-top stove, walk-in closet, big screen TV, reserved parking, no pets, \$600/mo, 549-5353.

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708 W. Freeman, all utl incl, cable, internet, 1, 2 & 3 bdrm, avail Jun & Aug 2010

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5 BDRM HOUSES Avail Aug

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NICE 1 & 2 BDRM, rental list at 200 Woodruff, a/c, near shopping, clothes & dept, no pets, 529-2535.

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CDLALE, 1 BDK from campus, \$630-\$950/mo, incl 1 or 2 bdrm apts, no pets, call 807-6202 or 687-4577.

STUDY BREAK

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Kurok

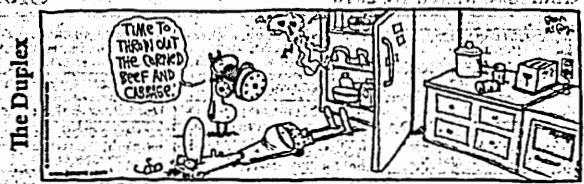
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PURUS

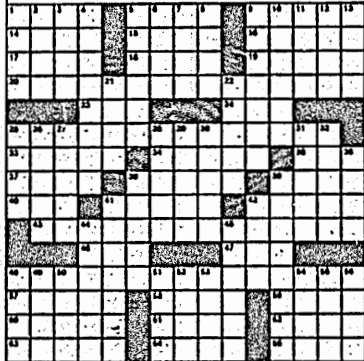
PAPYL

DEWROP

HELBED



Crossword



- Across**
- 1 Relatives of odds
 - 5 Presently
 - 9 Attacks verbally
 - 14 Marjorie Morningstar's creator
 - 15 Sam
 - 16 Fortuneteller's deck
 - 17 Old Dodge
 - 18 Davy's moment
 - 19 More than plump
 - 20 Park warning
 - 23 Flier that had a St. Louis hub
 - 24 Compete
 - 25 1971 hit for Ringo
 - 33 Sinking places
 - 34 Ford Field team
 - 35 Collar
 - 37 Firing chamber
 - 38 First professional musician to become Chairman of the Board of Lincoln Center
 - 39 Galileo's patron

- Down**
- 40 Sumac of song
 - 41 2009 'Survivor' setting
 - 42 Muslim mystic
 - 43 Bone injury in which the skin is intact
 - 46 Like
 - 47 Poed
 - 48 Regular letterman show segment
 - 57 Baker's invitation
 - 58 Pale tan
 - 59 Buffalo's lake
 - 60 Concerned with
 - 61 'the head'
 - 62 'resistance's end'
 - 63 Word that may appear above a silhouette of a man
 - 64 Not all
 - 65 1/2 fl. oz.
- Down**
- 1 Hirsute 'Star Wars' creature
 - 2 Seward Peninsula city
 - 3 Shore tring

- 4 Take a powder**
- 5 See 32-Down**
- 6 Big name in spongy toys**
- 7 Drop**
- 8 Genesis builder**
- 9 Cheesot relatives**
- 10 Literally, Spanish for 'the tar'**
- 11 Vicinity**
- 12 Some sports, all grown up**
- 13 Jeanne d'Arc et al. Abbe**
- 21 Possesses**
- 22 Alternative to odds**
- 23 Exciting an 'snowfall'**
- 26 Takes a little off**
- 27 Lama**
- 28 Weather, in poems**
- 29 Clay**
- 30 Back biter?**
- 31 Glitch**
- 32 With S-Down, former PLU chairman**
- 36 Low**
- 38 Word with bar or days**

Wednesday's answers

S	E	W	S	A	F	I	R	E	I	N	I	T
N	C	A	A	N	A	N	A	B	T	O	M	E
O	U	T	T	A	B	I	G	H	T	A	M	F
E	S	S	E	S	E	A	E	A	B	O	U	P
M	E	R	P	L	A	S	T	E	R	C	A	S
E	L	S	A	L	O	G	R	A	T	E	S	
T	A	K	E	I	N	L	I	P	O			
M	I	C	R	O	S	O	F	T	W	O	R	D
O	N	E	I	A	S	W	A	R	M			
A	L	C	A	N	E	B	L	E	M	I	T	
W	I	L	L	I	A	M	T	E	L	L	S	P
A	P	I	E	C	E	N	I	B	E	I		
R	O	C	A	R	O	A	D	R	U	N	N	E
D	U	H	S	O	R	T	E	A	U	T	A	H
S	T	E	T	S	E	E	R	S	F	O	R	E

- 39 Most crazy
- 41 Limb immobilizers
- 42 Earlie reminder
- 44 Chart
- 45 Screwed
- 48 Go after, as flies
- 49 Choice for Hamlet
- 50 Once a midnight dreary
- 51 Mass seating
- 52 Repeat
- 53 Manual unit
- 54 Grouch
- 55 Popular version of a design principle acronym scripped out by the stars of this puzzle's four longest answers
- 56 Ooze

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

Level: 1 2 3 4 Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudokus, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

		9		7				
	2		5		1			
5					9			8
3	1							8
				8		9		
	5						3	6
1								2
			2		3		7	
		3		1		6		

Wednesday's answers

2	7	9	4	1	6	3	8	5
6	1	4	8	5	3	2	7	9
3	5	8	9	7	2	4	6	1
5	9	2	3	8	7	1	4	6
4	8	7	1	6	5	9	2	3
1	6	3	2	4	9	8	5	7
8	4	6	7	9	1	5	3	2
7	2	1	5	3	8	6	9	4
9	3	5	6	2	4	7	1	8

Horoscopes

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clement

Today's birthday — Diversity is the key to your success this year. You learn how to harness your will to achieve financial gain, creative expression and successful dealings in romantic or other relationships. Emotions work on a less conscious level to inspire you.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 6 — Today's challenge is to work with, not against, your partner. Yes, your ideas are brilliant. But you need agreement to make them work.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 6 — By taking several different approaches, you and your associate arrive at the same place at the same time. Ignore the man behind the green curtain.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is an 8 — Possibilities open up in the work environment. The challenge is to make hay while the sun shines, then pile bats.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 7 — You have lots of ideas today. Your partner can make them become reality. Offer lavish praise when the job's done.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — Depend on your own instincts now. If co-workers become inflexible, employ skillful leadership techniques to change their minds.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — If practice makes perfect, then you just hit the big time. The careful application of force prevents breakage.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — Recognize diversity by using each person's unique talents, even if they don't seem to apply right now. You'll use them later.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 7 — You feel transformation just around the corner. Are you ready? Check with the powers that be. Then, let it run full steam ahead.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 5 — Each time you ask for creative input, you reframe your practical desires. Group logic provides greater opportunity to get your message out.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 6 — Spend most of your time listening today. You want to press your advantage, but you'll get better results by hanging back. Be patient.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Everything rests on your own need to be creative. Make time every day to stick your fingers into the clay. Process is more important than product.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 7 — Spend time refining your communication skills. You could start a bold new project. Get your ideas down on paper.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PURUS

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

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PAPYL

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

DEWROP

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

HELBED

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Kurok



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans: " ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ " ○ ○ IN IT

(Answers tomorrow)

Wednesday's answers | Jumbles: GOING LIGHT DURESS PAROLE
Answer: One way to solve a knotty problem — PULL STRINGS

SOFTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 12

SIU (16-9, 2-0 MVC) was able to precede its thrilling 2-1 victory with an 8-0 thrashing of the Aces (5-11, 0-2 MVC) in the first game.

The Salukis used a five-run second inning in game No. 11, highlighted by a three-run home run by freshman outfielder Morgan Barchan, the first of her career, to jump in front of the Aces

and never look back.

Blaylock said Barchan is one of the most versatile players on the team, with the ability to hit home runs or slap an RBI bunt for base hits.

"We feel like we need her at the top of the order to make us go," Blaylock said. "She can do three different things to you."

Glosson (8-6) was able to pick up the win in the first game as well, as she went a complete game, six innings, and allowed no runs on two hits and struck out 10 batters.

Glosson said she has felt confident on the mound, especially when the team was able to give her eight runs of support.

"Runs are my friend," Glosson said. "That's always awesome."

The Salukis will turn right around at 3 p.m. today for another home game, this time playing Iowa State.

Stile T. Smith can be reached at ssmith@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 256.

SWIM

CONTINUED FROM 12

Groome will race against the best swimmers in the country and the world, Walker said. He also said Groome would not be

the lone Saluki there.

"I hope Kirsten will know that there is a team full of men and women that will be going to this meet with her," Walker said. "I hope our men and women understand they should feel some satisfaction

In knowing that one of us made it, and hopefully this will fuel their fire to be here in years to come."

Ryan Simonin can be reached at rsimonin@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 282.

BASEBALL

Southern drops fourth straight

RAY MCGILLIS
Daily Egyptian

Freshman pitcher Cody Forsythe is the only player on the SIU baseball roster hailing from the state of Kentucky.

But the righty's homecoming got cut short after allowing five runs off seven hits in just one inning of work against the Racers of Murray State.

The Salukis (5-11) were defeated Wednesday in the first of two mid-week matchups with MSU (8-8), 8-3, extending Southern's losing streak to four games.

After a rough outing, Forsythe said, the only way to get back on track is to get back on the mound.

"Obviously it wasn't the greatest performance I've ever had," Forsythe said. "I wish I could have gone longer, but it didn't work out that way."

In each of his two starts at the collegiate level, Forsythe has failed to make it past the second inning.

Forsythe said he's not exactly sure what has kept him from pitching beyond the second, but if he plans to work on it.

A total of six pitchers contributed at least an inning of work for

Southern, but Forsythe (0-2) was credited with the loss.

Jake Donze, a junior left-handed starter for the Racers, surrendered two earned runs through seven innings pitched, and improved his record to 2-2 on the season.

Head coach Dan Callahan said the offense is put under too much pressure when the pitching struggles in the early frames.

"We just got beat; we were outplayed in every facet of the game today," Callahan said. "I wouldn't say we got beat in the defensive game, but in the other two phases, on offense and on the mound. We got it handed to us today."

As efficient as Murray State's starting pitcher was, the top half of its batting order was similarly effective.

MSU scored all but one of its runs by the third inning and had 11 of its 13 hits come within the first three frames.

The Racers' leadoff and No. 2 hitter scored six of their runs, while MSU's 1-5 hitters accounted for all eight runs batted in and 11 of its hits.

Senior Michael Stalter was one of only two Salukis to have more than one hit against MSU, ripping his first triple of the season in the eighth inning for his

second base knock on the day.

Stalter, who has started all 16 games at shortstop for SIU this year, said the team simply had bad luck at the plate.

"I'm going to be honest, we hit a lot of balls hard today," Stalter said. "They were just right at people ... we just need to keep swinging like we are and the hits will come."

With his impressive performance against the Racers, Callahan said Stalter looked like an MLB-caliber player on the field.

The Salukis could only muster seven hits throughout the affair, but freshman outfielder Nick Johnson extended his hit streak to 12 games with a single up the middle in the sixth.

SIU will have a chance to avenge the loss, as the teams meet up again at 3 p.m. April 21 in Carbondale.

Following six straight contests and more than two weeks on the road, the team returns to Abe Martin Field at 3 p.m. Friday for a three-game weekend series against the Huskies of Northern Illinois.

Ray McGillis can be reached at RMcGillis@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 269.

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BASEBALL
Salukis drop fourth straight game PAGE 11

SOFTBALL

Salukis sweep double-dip from Aces

STILET. SMITH
 Daily Egyptian

With the game tied at one in the bottom of the seventh inning, junior outfielder Chelsea Held stepped to the plate with the bases loaded and two outs against Evansville freshman pitcher Kendall Kautz.

Held sent a bunt down the third base line, sprinted down the line and watched as sophomore third baseman Ashleigh Rahming's throw pulled sophomore first baseman Allison Aguilera off the bag.

Aguilera was able to put the tag on Held, but not before Held's foot reached first base and senior outfielder Katie Wilson crossed home to give the Salukis a 2-1 victory.

Despite Evansville head coach Mark Redburn's pleas to the umpire that Held was out, the decision stood after a conference between the umpires.

Held said she knew she was safe, and with the Salukis taking both games of the doubleheader after beating Evansville 8-0 in the first contest, said it was a great start to the Missouri Valley Conference season.

"And it's good to get us rolling to tomorrow night (against Iowa State) and into this weekend," Held said.

Head coach Kerri Blaylock said she wanted to make Evansville show the ability to make a play in order to beat them.

"I just told her that we really felt like she just needed to put the ball



ISAAC SMITH | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Left to right, senior outfielder Katie Wilson, junior outfielder Chelsea Held, junior infielder Natalee Weissing and junior first baseman Corinna Gonzalez cheer for senior utility player, Allie Hanson Wednesday at Rochman Softball Field after her home

run during the Salukis' doubleheader against the Evansville Purple Aces. Hanson's home run gave the Salukis a 7-0 lead. The Salukis went on to defeat the Purple Aces 8-0 in the first game and 2-1 in the second.

run on first and no outs. She was able to retire the next three batters to pick up the win.

The only other run for the Salukis in the second game came on a

pitched six-plus innings and allowed just one run on three hits, three walks and three strikeouts, junior pitcher Danielle Glosson came into the game in the seventh with a

run during the Salukis' doubleheader against the Evansville Purple Aces. Hanson's home run gave the Salukis a 7-0 lead. The Salukis went on to defeat the Purple Aces 8-0 in the first game and 2-1 in the second.

run on first and no outs. She was able to retire the next three batters to pick up the win.

The only other run for the Salukis in the second game came on a

solo home run from Wilson in the second inning.

Please see **SOFTBALL** | 11

SWIMMING

Freshman ends two-decade drought at Nationals

RYAN SIMONIN
 Daily Egyptian

As freshman standout swimmer Kirsten Groome steps onto the starting block today and Saturday for the final time this season she has one thought on her mind: swimming fast.

"When I get up on the block I will be ready to go and totally focused," Groome said.

Groome found out March 4 her times were fast enough to qualify for NCAA Division I National Championships. She will be the first female Saluki swimmer since Tonia Mahaira of the 1989 season to compete at nationals.

Nerves will be a factor, but Groome said she has confidence in herself because she has been training for this moment all year.

"As soon as I get there I will be nervous, but I feel pretty good,"

Groome said. "I've raced a lot of these women before, so I know how they swim and it is going to be a tough competition, but I think I am ready for it and I'm excited."

Groome will compete in two events at the NCAA Championships at Purdue University: the 500 free preliminaries at 11 a.m. today and the 1650 free Saturday.

SIU head swimming and diving coach Rick Walker said Groome is as ready as she can be, but it is up to her to do what she can and do it better than most people.

"She has trained from the beginning for this to happen," Walker said. "She is in the right frame of mind and the right physical condition. Every indication we get in our training shows that she is in the right place at the right time."

Graduate assistant coach Brit-

tany Messengale, who has swum in the NCAA Championships and is a former member of the United States National Team, said swimming in a big competition is not new for Groome — who finished fourth in the SK Open Water World Championships in 2006.

"For a lot of the women out there, their biggest goal is to qualify for nationals. They work so hard to make the meet and when they get there they have a tendency to fall apart," Messengale said. "The big benefit for Kirsten is that she is used to competing on a pretty big stage and she has been on that top tier of competition for a while now."



JESS VERMEULEN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Freshman swimmer Kirsten Groome takes a break to talk to her coach, Rick Walker, during practice Monday at the Edward J. Shea Natatorium. Groome will compete in the 500 and 1650 freestyle events at the NCAA Division I Swimming and Diving National Championships today and Saturday at Purdue University. Groome is the first SIUC woman swimmer to qualify for nationals in 21 years.

Please see **SWIM** | 11