County receives FEMA funds after 2011 flood

MITCH SCHAFER
Daily Egyptian

Although some students might accept unpaid summer work for school credit, university officials and students say such work could provide benefits money can’t buy.

A March 18 USA Today College opinion article said even though unpaid internships may provide sufficient experience for low-income students, they often cannot support themselves while completing one. Despite the negatives, several university staff members and students said unpaid internships can be valuable.

Matt Pandy, associate director of placement and services, said the disconnect between paid and unpaid internships often lies within the internship’s value. He said more desirable internships, such as sports and entertainment positions, tend to be unpaid. However, he said the university uses measures such as recruiter events and career fairs to obtain paid internships for students.

While the more desirable internships may be unpaid, Keri Burns, director of career services, does not agree there is an experience difference between paid and unpaid internships.

“The experience has the potential to be the same,” Burns said. “It’s just what the student makes of it.”

Burns said students must search early to obtain their desired internship. Students often wait until the spring semester or a month before summer begins to start searching for one, she said. This means the student is picking what’s left, she said, rather than choosing an internship that tailors students’ needs.

Even if a paid internship falls through, Burns said students can obtain alternative paid jobs. The Illinois Work Study Grant, which Burns said allows the university to reimburse local employers half the wages they would pay an intern, helps a student get hired and gives a company the opportunity to pay someone it might not have a full budget for.

Although paid internships can make the cost of living easier on students, unpaid internships can be more valuable, said Van Burnett, a graduate student in business administration from Peoria.

Burnett said he has worked an unpaid internship at a Peoria Caterpillar marketing agency as well as a paid internship at a Boy Scouts of America sales coordinator. Despite his heavier responsibilities with the Boy Scouts, he said his unpaid internship was more valuable than the one he got paid for.

“It was a little bit tougher rolling out of bed to go to an unpaid internship, and at the end of the week didn’t feel as nice when you got done,” he said. “But on the resume, I still put that one above my paid one.”

At his unpaid Caterpillar internship, Burnett started out performing odd jobs such as running errands and picking up print media, but toward the internship’s end he began attending high-level meetings with Manhattan Caterpillar representatives, he said.

Although Burnett said his unpaid internship was more valuable, Burns said cost of living can be an issue. She said some people depend on borrowing loans just as they would during the school year, while others have to find a part-time job to go with their part-time internship, she said.

Evan Noiffe, a senior from Strasburg majoring in elementary education, said it would be difficult for students to work a part-time job alongside the internship.

“It seems like students would be stretching themselves so much to the point where they probably wouldn’t be getting the full benefit of the internship,” he said.

Please see FEM | 3

SIU’s credit score dips

MATT DARAY
Daily Egyptian

After a review period, an investor relations company has lowered the university’s credit status slightly.

Moody’s Investor Services released a report March 18 that dropped the university’s credit rating from an A2 stable rating to A2 negative because of Illinois’ weak financial condition. The service’s credit scores are based on a system that uses A, B, and C ratings with several subset levels for each letter. The university’s A2 rating is an upper-middle grade, which reflects high ability to repay short-term debt and shows low credit risk, according to the report.

University officials said the state, which saw a downgraded credit rating in December, is the university’s primary source of financial woes because the university is semi-reliant on state appropriations.

University President Glenn Poshard said even though the rating has dropped, it has held an A2 credit rating since at least 2002.

While the university’s rating moved down a spot, so have other state universities. The University of Illinois, Western Illinois University and Illinois State University dropped from A2 stable grades to A2 negative.

Northern Illinois University and Eastern Illinois University dropped from A2 ratings down to A3 ratings.

Unpaid internships can pay off

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Please see FEM | 3

Please see CREDIT | 3

Art from the inside

Ashley Atteberry, a senior from Peoria studying ceramics, spray paints her artwork in preparation for the Rickert-Ziebold competition where she will present a 3D comic, ‘An Innard Journey,’ which deals with discovery and an investigation of self. The competition is judged by art and design faculty, and the exhibition will be open to the public at the Surplus Gallery April 22 to 27. The award will be presented at the 6:30 p.m. reception April 26.

NICOLE HESTER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

WEDNESDAY

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**Correction**

In Tuesday's edition of the Daily Egyptian, the story "Panthers' ace pitcher dominates Saluki offense" should have said the SIU softball team dropped two one-run games against Northern Iowa during a Saturday doubleheader that brought the team's conference record to 0-4. The Daily Egyptian regrets the error.

**About Us**

The Daily Egyptian is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, with an average daily circulation of 15,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Thursday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intersession editions will run on Wednesdays. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale 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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**Publishing Information**

The Daily Egyptian is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale and functions as a laboratory for the department of journalism in exchange for the room and utilities in the Communications Building. The Daily Egyptian is a non-profit organization that survives solely off of its advertising revenue. The Daily Egyptian receives no student fees or university funding. Offices are in the Communications Building, Room 1259, at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, Ill., 62901. Bill Freivogel, fiscal officer.
With funds now available, a county official said it’s optimistic about reconstruction. Chalen Tatum, Alexander county commissioner, said it’s thrilled the county has finally received funding. “It’s good for the people that’s been having to fight the waters for several years,” he said. “Every ten years, it seems like they’re having to fight the water back.”

Tatum said he isn’t surprised it took FEMA and the state so long to provide the county money because the application to repair the town was extensive. The funding was delayed last year because of Hurricane Sandy hitting the Eastern United States, he said. Although the flood brought high waters and damage costs, Tatum said the aftermath has led to some positives. The funds give citizens the means to leave the flood plains and avoid future damage. However, Alexander County residents’ opinions vary on how much FEMA has actually helped the community.

Tony Walder, an Olive Branch resident, said he was amazed the funds were approved — he thought the money would never come because the state and government had broken. Walder said he thinks the funding took too long to become available for the county, which is partly why he does not trust either of them. “They helped a few people out in the very beginning, and if they hadn’t have done that there wouldn’t have been no help,” he said. “I didn’t get nothing from them.” Locals helped each other rebuild their communities after the flood, Walder said, and he is skeptical about how much money will actually go toward rebuilding the county.

Tina Bracken, a Tamms resident, said she thinks the state and FEMA need to provide the county quicker assistance. “I think they should speed things up,” she said. “Recovery is a long process, and we are in need of the money soon.” Bracken said she understands there is a lot of red tape that prevents immediate financial assistance to the county but thinks a portion of the money should have been sent for immediate aid. FEMA is a great department, but their policies cause them to react at a slow pace, she said. The money approval has also relieved those who have worked to help rebuild. Ellison said she is thrilled the project is now funded and can begin. “I feel relieved,” she said. “For so long I kept telling community members that the funds are coming, and I (began) to sound like a broken record. The best part now is the call of ‘thank you’ from so many people who are ready to finally move on once the flood.”

Ellison said members of different departments including anthropology, mass communications, biology, geology, political science, health care and marketing have assisted the project and will continue to do so. Students who wish to participate in reconstruction efforts can contact Ellison at Beth.ellison@siu.edu.

Matt Disney can be reached at
mattdisney@dailyEgyptians.com
or 536-3311 ext. 274
Fresh foods in season

Ida Imelda, of Carbondale, removes damaged grapes from each bunch Wednesday at Fresh Foods in the Murdale Shopping Center. Imelda said many types of lettuce and greens as well as strawberries will arrive as they approach their peak season after the first day of spring. “We have to keep the fruit and vegetables fresh everyday,” she said.

Tiffany Blanchette | Daily Egyptian

Illinois trooper helps raise car off student

RANTOUL — An Illinois state trooper helped lift a car off of a University of Illinois student on Interstate 57 during Monday’s heavy snow.

State Trooper Brian Scott was helping motorists whose vehicles were stopped north of Rantoul because of snow. He said he saw the car skid into 21-year-old Ethan Asofsky and come to rest on him.

The News-Gazette in Champaign reports that Scott is a 300-pound former lineman who played for the University of Illinois football team in the late 1990s. After failing to lift the car on his own he enlisted the help of two other people and finally raised the car high enough for Asofsky’s friend to pull him free.

Asofsky was listed in fair condition Tuesday at a Champaign hospital.

Associated Press
Associated Press

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Left-hander John Danks has been put on the 15-day disabled list by the Chicago White Sox as he recovers from surgery last August.

Danks was 3-4 with a 7.50 ERA in nine starts, all before mid-May, and had surgery Aug. 6 to repair a capsule tear and remove debris in his rotator cuff and biceps. He has allowed 20 earned runs and 27 hits in 11 innings over four spring training starts.

Danks is entering the second season of a $60 million, five-year contract.

The DL move was retroactive to Friday. Left-hander Leyson Septimo also was placed on the 15-day disabled list Tuesday. Septimo has a strained left shoulder and hasn’t pitched since March 7.

Danks is rejoining left-hander David Purcey to its minor league camp.

Shakers coach Tawni Conley said the dance competition, which is in its eighth year, is growing in size and popularity.

“After the last few years we’ve seen more and more people come out and support the program and the competition,” she said. “The young girls who danced today love to dance and I hope they learn that it’s OK to keep dancing.”

The judging panel consisted of both past and present Shakers and handed out special awards such as the “tastier” and “I know your name” awards.

St. Louis Rams cheerleader Chelsea Labrie, a former Shaker, said judging the competition allowed her to reminisce on her time as a young dancer.

“THIS competition was pretty intense,” she said. “I’m also impressed with the girls. Not everyone was the greatest dancer out there, but I liked seeing how much fun they were having.”

In her third year with the Rams, Labrie said young girls who are passionate about dancing should maintain their dedication.

“If you want to dance, you should stick with it,” she said. “Take a lot of technique classes, and remember to be yourself.”

— Chelsea Labrie
St. Louis Rams cheerleader

“Being a Saluki Shaker was a great bonding experience and helped groom me as a performer,” she said. “I’ve made lifelong friends as a Shaker, and it was a great way to get involved in school.”

The annual dance competition is one fund raiser avenue the Shakers use to prepare for the Universal Dance Association national competition — an event teams train tirelessly for.

Conley said the women may not be seen as the typical athlete, but they are as committed as any other student athlete.

“Most people will never notice, but my young ladies are always working and giving full force all year long,” she said. “They have practices over breaks, they do plenty of community service along with their responsibilities as students.

Senior Megan Campbell, the Shakers’ captain, said a member’s typical week may involve some of the more rigorous athletic schedules.

“We’re all full-time students, and almost all of us have jobs,” she said. “We practice 20 hours a week, five days a week, and we try to maintain our 3.0 GPAs.”

Campbell said her time with the team has been invaluable in her personal and dancing-development.

“Being on the team has taught me excellent communications skills,” she said. I have to communicate with my teammates, alumni and faculty. Now it’s easy for me to talk to people.”

The Shakers are holding spring tryouts April 12-13, and applications are available for download on the team’s website.

Conley said the national competition is increasing the number of performers on each team, and she would like to expand the Shakers’ membership.

“We are losing five seniors, so we would really like to replenish the team,” she said. “We currently have girls from the Chicago, St. Louis and southern Illinois area, so we are a pretty diverse group,” Conley said.

She said interested dancers should contact her at mubassas@siu.edu

Lowery echoed the same comments in a March 18 article by the Evansville Courier and Press.

“SIU is my alma mater,” Lowery said. “There is never going to be any bad blood. They gave me the opportunity to be a player and a coach.”

Nevertheless, the two-time Missouri Valley Conference Coach of the Year has led a lawsuit against SIU, seeking between $1.5 and $5 million for the seven-year contract. He seeks attorney fees, arbitration and court this season.

Lowery said in an interview with the Evansville Courier and Press.

“I’ll let the higher-ups handle it,” Lowery said. “My young ladies are always working and I’m going to do my best for them. They are as committed as any other student athlete.

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— Chris Lowery
Former men’s basketball coach

The 2013 MLB season starts Sunday, when the Houston Astros host the Rogers in the Astros’ first American League game. The rest of the opening games begin April 1.

With so many teams hopeful to reach the this season’s playoffs, it will be a tight race. Teams have bulked up on offense, and I wouldn’t be surprised to see another batter win this year’s triple crown.

For the playoffs, Toronto, the Detroit Tigers, the Atlanta Braves, the St. Louis Cardinals, the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Angels will win their divisions. The four wild card teams will include the Toronto Blue Jays, the Chicago White Sox, the Philadelphia Phillies and the Cincinnati Reds.

In a battle for Los Angeles, the Dodgers and Angels will meet in the 2013 World Series. The fall classic should see high-powered offense followed by pitching duels.

This could be one of the most exciting world series matchups in recent years with the Angels winning 6 games.

Needless to say, once Sunday is upon us, we are in for a slug-fest type of season.
Uncramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form two ordinary words.

A: RUTFOH
B: LEHTAH
C: RIUVS
D: TOSHE

Answer:

Find us on Facebook http://www.facebook.com/jumble

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**Dancers dazzle Saluki Shakers**

**DEMARIO PHIPPS-SMITH**  
Daily Egyptian

Young dancers from throughout the region competed in Davies Gymnasium on Sunday with routines that incorporated feathers, jump suits, tutus, changing boosts and even a gym bench.

The Saluki Shakers’ 2013 Dance Competition featured girls aged 5-16 who danced for supremacy in categories such as jazz and lyrical dance. The participants were placed into divisions based on age and genre. The competition also featured divisions between groups of doubles and trios.

Caylin Fowlkes of the Salukis dancing program won the overall solo 10-and-younger category, and Addy Snow of Snow Power won the overall solo 11-and-older competition. The overall group awards went to ensembles Safe and Sound, Sloans, Pound the Alarm and The Upbeat. Awards were also given for each individual dance genre.

April Safric, of Benton, said she was proud to see her 6-year-old daughter, Laney, succeed among a pool of talented dancers.

"Lainey won first in solo hip-hop, she did very well today," Safric said. "Her teacher, Brittany, must be doing a good job with her because of how well she danced today."

Please see DANCE | 5

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**Former head coach wants university’s money**

**TERRANCE PEACOCK**  
Daily Egyptian

After being fired once the 2011-12 season ended, former SIU men’s basketball coach Chris Lowery seeks millions from the university, citing breach of contract and defamation.

Lowery, the Associate Head Coach at Kansas State, served as the Salukis’ head coach from 2004 to 2012 and compiled a 145-116 record in eight seasons.

Lowery, who was also a former Saluki basketball player in the early ’90s, led the Salukis to the NCAA Tournament in his first three seasons.

However, his record wasn’t as impressive following his third coaching season as the Salukis compiled a 67-90 record and failed to make the NCAA Tournament in his last five seasons.

The former head coach signed a seven-year $5.25 million contract extension following the 2006-07 season. The richest contract in school history, the contract included a base salary of $750,000 per year, plus annual university cost or cost of living increases.

Despite signing the lucrative contract, Lowery was let go after the 2011-12 season with two years left on his deal after the Salukis finished 8-23, a school record for season losses.

It was SIU’s fourth-straight losing season.

In a transcript retained from Saluki Athletics, Athletic Director Mario Moccia said despite Lowery’s firing that Lowery would always be a Saluki.

“I want to personally thank Chris for his service to our University as a player and coach for 14 years,” Moccia said. “He is a Saluki to his core.”

Please see LOWERY | 5

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**Championships are bought in the offseason**

**The Pinch Hit**

With spring training almost in the books, the Major League Baseball season is right around the corner and teams are preparing for a push toward October.

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim were in many offseason headlines. The Angels acquired only four players, but one of the signed free agents was 31-year-old left fielder Josh Hamilton. Hamilton signed with the Angels for a five-year contract worth $123 million.

This followed up the Angels’ 2011 offseason when they signed Albert Pujols, a 33-year-old first baseman for a 10-year, $250 million contract.

Although the Angels have an assortment of stars, outfielder Mike Trout holds the highest stock right now. Last year, he hit 30 home runs, brought in 85 RBIs, held a .328 batting average and was named the 2012 American League Rookie of the Year.

University students are excited to see if the Angels meet expectations.

“I’m most looking forward to seeing the Angels and if they live up to the hype of being the new Yankees,” said Logan Causey, a senior from Decatur studying economics. "There is no reason they shouldn’t lead in offense with all the players they have."

Although the Angels have quite the payroll, Stephanie Feeman, a senior from Belleville studying elementary education, said she doesn’t believe the team has what it takes to reach the championship.

“Money can buy you talent, but it can’t buy you sportsmanship or teamwork,” said — Stephanie Feeman  
Senior, Elementary Education

The team with the most significant offseason moves was the Toronto Blue Jays. Toronto hasn’t seen the playoffs since it won the World Series in 1993, but the Blue Jays appear to be attempting a playoff run by the looks of their free agent pick-ups. The Blue Jays acquired 10-year veteran R.A. Dickey in a trade from the New York Mets for catching prospect Travis d’Arnaud and pitching prospect Noah Syndergaard.

Dickey, who is known for his knuckle ball, struck out 230 batters, posted a 2.36 ERA and won 20 games en route to the 2012 National League Cy Young award.

He could be the type of pitcher to supplement a Toronto team that went 73-89 in 2012.

Outfielder Melky Cabrera also looks to make an impact with the Jays this season. Cabrera finished the 2012 season with 11 home runs, 60 RBIs, a .336 batting average and was named the 2012 all star game MVP. However, in August of last season, Cabrera was suspended for 50 games after he tested positive for a banned substance.

Michael Weld, a junior from Decatur studying agribusiness economics, said when a player is accused of using steroids, it’s hard to look past.

“I lost respect for players like Cabrera and Bonds because I felt like they violated the rules of America’s sacred pastime,” he said. “At the same time, I feel like everyone deserves a second chance, and that’s what Cabrera will get with his new team.”

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