Student provides space for technology

Seth Richardson - Daily Egyptian

Silicon Valley might soon come to southern Illinois, thanks to the efforts of one university student.

OpenSpace, a technology “do it yourself” center, officially opened March 22 in Murphysboro. The space provides anyone interested in technology with assistance, space and classes while providing a variety of hardware to work with.

William Blankenship, a senior from Springfield studying computer science and founder of OpenSpace, said he formed the space so people of all ages would have access to technology typically not found in the area.

“Basically what we’re trying to establish is a place where we have hard to acquire resources and a surplus of knowledge from our members,” he said. “We gather all of these people in one place and they make really cool stuff… It’s kind of like a community center.”

OpenSpace is what is commonly known as a makerspace or hackerspace, a community workspace with open use of technology. It has a variety of donated hardware, including Arduino, Raspberry Pi, Google Glass and a 3D printer.

OpenSpace is operating on Murphysboro School District property. OpenSpace uses the 80-megabit Internet of the school district. Murphysboro Superintendent Chris Grode said he is an ardent supporter of the project and hopes it will help the area evolve technologically.

“Education of technology is probably one of the most important things we can do right now,” the former president (Nicholas Simpson) of Iota Phi Theta said.

“There are more tech jobs than there are any other jobs right now,” he said. “I haven’t had the opportunity to do anything other than welcome him back,” Cheng said. “I sent an email welcoming him when he was appointed and he said he would be in touch when he starts.”

Dunn said he will not attend the SIU Board of Trustees meeting April 16 and 17 to discuss the presidential transitional plan.

“There is only one president at a time,” he said. “I don’t need to be there trying to steal the stage at this point. At what time that process is figured out and some dates are set, things of that nature, then it’ll be appropriate for me to be there at the meetings.”

Dunn and John Charles, SIU’s executive director for governmental and public affairs, met Wednesday in Springfield to discuss Gov. Pat Quinn’s new budget.

“Anything that we can do to build support for (the temporary tax increase) and show how critical it is for appropriate level of funding for higher education is going to be important as legislators look at it through the remainder of the season,” he said.

Dunn said campuses across Illinois may see an increase in student-to-faculty ratio, but it is still too early to predict any layoffs or tuition increases.

“The challenge is to be prepared for, but also continue to mitigate the severity of those cuts,” Dunn said.

Dunn said while he will not make any major changes to each university’s plans until settled if needed.

It is important to ensure strong enrollment in courses and off-campus facilities, and outreach programs will be vital, Dunn said.

Greek members reach out to local youth

Kia Smith - Daily Egyptian

Consistency, commitment and passion are a few qualities needed to make a positive impact on someone’s life, and three community groups are using those to make life better for at-risk youth.

Members of the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, the Iota Phi Theta Fraternity and Delta Phi Mu Sorority have teamed up to create a mentoring program for underprivileged adolescents ranging in ages 10 to 14 called Young Forver.

Tiarya Pye, the volunteer coordinator and supervisor of the Young Forever program, said it was created to bridge the gap between the community and local youth.

“The former president (Nicholas Simpson) of Iota Phi Theta reached out to our Big Brothers Big Sisters to give children who are less fortunate a chance to reach high potential, and to show them support throughout their life,” Pye said.

The members of IFT have met with the children they mentor – more commonly known as “little brothers” – every Wednesday and Saturday since October.

“Spending time with someone can change their life,” Woods said.

Jaye Haines - Daily Egyptian

Otis Woods, a senior from Chicago studying radiology, prepares to bowl as 'little' James Allison of Carbondale watches Saturday at the Big Brothers Big Sisters “Bowl for Kids' Sake” event held at SI Bowl in Carthervlle. Woods and his fraternity Iota Phi Theta volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Jackson and Perry counties. “Spending time with someone can change their life,” Woods said.

William Blankenship, leader of the OpenSpace project, shows off Google Glass Saturday in the new OpenSpace location on the Carruthers Elementary School grounds in Murphysboro. Google Glass is a pair of glasses, that can take photos, record video and display information such as time and directions. OpenSpace is a project allowing technology enthusiasts to build software and hardware and work with tools such as a 3D printer and programs such as Arduino and Raspberry Pi.

Matt Daray - Daily Egyptian

Dunn confirms little contact with both SIU chancellors

Luke Nozicka - Daily Egyptian

Incoming SIU President Randy Dunn has had little contact with the administration he will oversee, and will not make any critical changes to the university’s plans until settled.

Dunn said his discussion with the chancellors has been brief and “fairly perfunctory.”

He received a package from SIU-Edwardsville Chancellor Julie Furst-Bowe several days ago consisting of SIUE’s strategic plan, and has received documents from Chancellor Rita Cheng regarding events, activities and initiatives for the Carbondale campus.

Dunn said he did ask the chancellors about the campuses, but did not inquire for any specifics.

Cheng said it is premature to comment on her plans about working with Dunn as he has not started yet.

“I haven’t had the opportunity to do anything other than welcome him back,” Cheng said. “I sent an email welcoming him when he was appointed and he said he would be in touch when he starts.”

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“The challenge is to be prepared for, but also continue to mitigate the severity of those cuts,” Dunn said.

Dunn said while he will not make any major changes to each university’s plans until settled if needed.

It is important to ensure strong enrollment in courses and off-campus facilities, and outreach programs will be vital, Dunn said.
Grode said he is interested in making technology classes at the space part of the curriculum, but is more excited about giving the kids the chance to work with the hardware. He said it would be some time before any curriculum changes happen, as it’s hard to define what a technology-based class is under Illinois regulations.

“You get our kids in our electronics wing and our kids are tech-savvy over to OpenSpace to learn the skills without credits is great anywhere,” he said. “If we can figure out how to get a credit to the kids, that’s icing on the cake, but right now it’s a matter of letting them have the opportunity.”

OpenSpace costs the school next to nothing, as it had an empty building it was not using but was paying to heat anyway. Grode said.

While OpenSpace operates on MSD property, membership is open to the public. Members pay either $10 monthly or $50 yearly for 24-hour access to the building. It operates as a nonprofit in Illinois, and Blankenship said he hopes to have formal nonprofit status by summer.

Blankenship said he formed OpenSpace because he was interested in technology as a child, but did not have access to the hardware. He said he spent hours copying and writing code for video games, but never had a place to actually create something.

“When I was a kid I was in Springfield, you just didn’t have [makerspace] and I desperately wanted a place like this,” he said. “When I found out about one — it wasn’t too long ago — I thought it was an amazing idea and it sucked that there weren’t any around here.”

He said getting young children interested in technology is pivotal to the future and he wanted to help spur on curiosity.

“Anybody from the third-grader to the retiree who left the industry 20 years ago can work on this stuff,” he said. “To specialize it is required time and discipline and so on and so forth like just anything else. But there’s not that barrier of entry that the kids need to be there.

OpenSpace will also offer classes on a variety of tech-related subjects, he said.

The first class is on April 26 and covers website development, with others on subjects such as 3D printing coming in the future.

“Classes are open to the public for a $10 per class fee. We teach you how to use the software, teach you enough that you can go out and use this stuff yourself and then we give you access so that you can do that,” he said.

The space already has members in the double digits despite not advertising outside of a Facebook page. Ethan Richardson, a junior from Benton studying computer science, said he joined OpenSpace for a number of reasons.

“I just thought it would be a really good opportunity to sharpen my skills as a programmer, get involved with the community and try to get more people involved,” he said.

While OpenSpace is still in its infancy, Blankenship said he does hope to expand in the future once the Murphysboro space is stable.

For more information on OpenSpace, visit www.openospace.io.

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**OPENSPACE CONTINUED FROM 1**

IPT and the women of Delta Phi Mu took their little brothers and sisters to the 19th Annual Bowl For Kids’ Sake in Carterville at SI Bowl Saturday for their weekend activity.

Ramona Germán, program coordinator for the Carbondale chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters, said Bowl For Kids’ Sake is the program’s signature fundraiser.

“This fundraiser caught on to other BBBS chapters because of how easy and fun it is to do,” she said. “You don’t have to have a special skill, just come out and bowl.”

“Being a part of Young Forever enlightens me on how spending time with someone can change his or her life,” he said. “For example, if you care about their academics, they will start to care more.”

Woods said dealing with different personalities is not always easy, but the challenge is what keeps him and his fraternity brothers grounded.

“These kids really look up to us, and it is eye-opening to be someone’s role model,” he said. “The kids enjoy being around us, and always call us to see what we’re doing with them each week.”

Although program is fairly new, Woods said he believes Young Forever will eventually expand across other campuses.

“A good mentor needs to be committed,” he said. “You also need consistency, you need to be engaged, and you need to have initiative. We will eventually connect Young Forever programs across the Midwest region. I see this going global one day.”

Terence Bolden, a junior from Clarksville, Tenn., studying radiological science and treasurer of IPT, said the program puts them at a higher standard compared to other mentoring programs.

“Most people don’t realize that outside of the college campus, Carbondale is in full of poverty,” he said. “With our program, we want to simply give back to our community. Our program is different because we not only have a relationship with the kids, but their families as well.”

Bolden said the members and the kids are very close, and the boys and girls are like everyone’s little brother or sister.

“I never had a mentor or a big brother growing up,” he said. “Having a mentor is great because it fulfills someone else and myself at the same time. The most important part about all of this is letting them know that you genuinely care about them.”

Ela Smith can be reached at loni@dailyEgyptian.com, on Twitter @ElasSmith_ or at 536-5511 ext. 268.

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**DUNN CONTINUED FROM 1**

“I don’t have rose-colored glasses on. We’ve got some tough challenges for the campuses — for the system — in the years to come,” he said.

“But we’ll be able to think through those, make good decisions, come together and provide leadership as a group.”

Dunn wants to improve programs that will increase enrollment and system-wide efficiencies while working “leaner and smarter.” He said the track the Carbondale campus is on is not sustainable.

Enrollment and regional growth must improve, and handling the budget efficiently is critical, he said.

President Glenn Poshard said the university had less enrollment issues when he was hired in 2005, and Dunn will face several issues coming in.

“Our university serves a lot of middle or low-income students, and increasing tuition and fees will offset the loss of the state funds, that’s going to be a challenge,” Poshard said.

While facing financial challenges, Dunn must build a strong community on the Carbondale campus, Poshard said.

“This is the first presidency where Dunn will oversee a university system, but said he is comfortable with the position as he managed four regional campuses while president of Murray State University.

Dunn said he and his wife Ronda will leave Youngstown by April 12, and plan to stay at Ronda’s parents’ home in Benton before they move into their Carbondale home April 21.

Poshard’s retirement date is June 30 with Dunn set to take office July 1.

Luke Niesczka can be reached at loni@dailyEgyptian.com, on Twitter @lukniesczka, or 536-5511 ext. 282.

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**SALUKIS OPINION POLL RESULTS**

New location, such as, closer to the stadium and alumni 32%

Longer tailgate hours, such as, all day rather than five hours prior 13%

More entertainment, such as, live music or TVs screening other games 26%

Re-establishment of the allowance of the ability to have key beer in the tailgate section. 30%

*Results recorded on 03/29/2014 at 4:00PM.*
At first glance, director Darren Aronofsky's retelling of "Noah" (Rated PG-13; 138 Min.) looks like a Ridley Scott epic, in the same vein as 2010's "Robin Hood." But when giant stone monsters begin talking to Noah, Aronofsky's mark is unmistakable.

There's quite a bit of controversy concerning this adaptation, mostly surrounding Aronofsky's status as an atheist. A report in The Telegraph quotes Aronofsky as saying he has created "the least biblical movie ever made." But if only the righteous are saved from a disaster the world will fall back to evil ways, as man can be corrupted. Beyond the subtexts and allegory, Aronofsky seems to be saying we're destroying the environment, then it's probably the least subtext to the deliver that message. "Noah" also has the tendency to drag in its first third, but quickly picks up the pace once God gives His orders. Perhaps the biggest difference between the story audiences heard in Sunday School and the one they heard Sunday morning on the big screen is the way Noah is given the modern superhero treatment. Like Bruce Wayne/Batman in Christopher Nolan's "Dark Knight" trilogy, Noah is burdened and believes in the Old Testament God as harsh and jealous — which the Bible said he was, until he sent His Son to take our place and save mankind — and instead uses a biblical story to look at biblical themes in a new light. Almost all important conflicts in films date back to the Bible; the classic good vs. evil ones in beginning to Eve eating the apple and, the ultimate struggle, Jesus surviving corruption from the devil in the desert. Whether one believes the Bible or not, that's filmmaking 101.

Aronofsky understands that. He has sweeping visuals that tell the story of creation (notably insinuating that evolution occurred at God's behest) and how man's struggles against each other in history. He has a subplot involving berries that's quite bizarre and clashes with the rest of the movie. If his story is indeed what scholars suggest, that it's Aronofsky saying we're destroying the environment, then it's probably the least subtext to the deliver that message. "Noah" also has the tendency to drag in its first third, but quickly picks up the pace once God gives His orders. Perhaps the biggest difference between the story audiences heard in Sunday School and the one they heard Sunday morning on the big screen is the way Noah is given the modern superhero treatment. Like Bruce Wayne/Batman in Christopher Nolan's "Dark Knight" trilogy, Noah is burdened and believes in the Old Testament God as harsh and jealous — which the Bible said he was, until he sent His Son to take our place and save mankind — and instead uses a biblical story to look at biblical themes in a new light. Almost all important conflicts in films date back to the Bible; the classic good vs. evil ones in beginning to Eve eating the apple and, the ultimate struggle, Jesus surviving corruption from the devil in the desert. Whether one believes the Bible or not, that's filmmaking 101.

Sweet performance into anything revelatory, he might as well be playing Robin Hood again, but at least he gives it his all. Jennifer Connelly gives a wonderful performance as Noah's wife, Naameh, but is unfortunately relegated to role of dutiful wife and Winstone is perfectly cast as Tubal-cain.

Aronofsky's 'Noah' floats as art
CHICAGO — Survivors of a 1997 terrorist bombing blamed partly on Iran can’t seize thousands of relics from U.S. museums to pay a $412 million judgment against the Iranian government, a federal judge in Chicago ruled Friday.

The case targeting the Persian antiquities at the Field Museum of Natural History and the University of Chicago’s Oriental Institute was closely watched nationwide by other museum officials, who feared a ruling against the Chicago museums could set an alarming precedent that might put their own collections at risk.

“I am very pleased,” said Matt Stolper, who oversees Persian collections at the Oriental Institute. “I’m happy these (artifacts) don’t need to be surrendered to be turned into money.”

The decade-old case stems from a suicide bomb attack at a Jerusalem mall, where explosives packed with rusty nails, screws and glass killed five people and injured nearly 200 others, some seriously.

In his 23-page decision, Judge Robert Gettleman said he “recognizes the tragic circumstances” of the case but that the plaintiffs hadn’t proven that the Iranian government owned the Field Museum items. And he said the Oriental Institute artifacts were loaned for scholarship, not commercial purposes, and so couldn’t be seized.

Among the artifacts in question are thousands of Persian tablets, many of which are inscribed in an ancient alphabet, which are more than 2,000 years old. They have been kept in the Oriental Institute since the 1930s on the long-term loan agreement with Iranian authorities at the time. The Field Museum collection was far smaller.

Stolper also expressed sympathy for the plaintiffs, who included people badly burned in the bombing.

“They are victims of atrocious crimes and they are desperate for a remedy and for some control,” he said. “I don’t think this was a way to do it.”

A lawyer for the plaintiffs, David Strachman, didn’t immediately respond to a message left Friday. Museum attorneys said they expect the plaintiffs to appeal the ruling to the U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago.

Both the Field Museum and the University of Chicago fought the bid to seize the artifacts, as did Iran.

In the 1990s, Congress passed a law allowing American victims of terrorism to seek restitution in U.S. courts if a foreign government was seen to be complicit. But actually seizing assets after a judgment, as plaintiffs in the Chicago case have discovered, is often difficult.

The Palestinian militant group Hamas took responsibility for the terrorist attack, and a judge in Washington, D.C., later agreed the Iranian government was complicit by providing financial support and training for Hamas, entering the $412 million default judgment.

With limited Iranian assets in the U.S., plaintiffs lawyers took the novel step of going after the antiquities. The subsequent battle in the courts involved knotty issues of sovereign immunity and terrorism laws, as well as cultural and scholarly exchanges.

The U.S. and Iran haven’t had diplomatic relations since 1979 when militant students stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and held its occupants hostage. More recently, the nations have been embroiled in a dispute over Iran’s nuclear program.

As Gettleman noted, U.S. officials also weighed in, opposing the effort to use museum items to pay such judgments. The Field Museum argued that it legally purchased its pieces in the 1940s, including ceramics made by the world’s earliest farming communities 5,000 years ago. The plaintiffs argued those sales weren’t legal, making Iran the proper owner.

The plaintiffs argued that the some 20,000 items at the University of Chicago could also be viewed as Iranian commercial assets — an argument Judge Gettleman rejected. Over the decades, the university has already returned more than 30,000 to Iran.

“When we finish making records of them, the rest will also go back to Iran,” Stolper said.
Forgotten Japanese ‘master of light’ printmaker finally gets his due

TISH WELLS
McClatchy Tribune

WASHINGTON - In 1874, a young artist returned from exile to his Japanese hometown of Edo to find it had a new name, new gas lighting, non-traditional brick buildings, steamships and trains, and was headed full blast in modernization.


Kiyochika is a man who plays with light. He identifies sources of light whether they are man-made or reflections, Ulak said.

If you want to see Kiyochika’s work, visit the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery. The exhibition runs through Sep 24.

Soul Census members Tamar Wade, right, and Whitney Marie Townsend, left, rehearse at the band’s home studio Thursday in Carbondale. The band was selected to play at this year’s Summer Camp Music Festival, which takes place May 23-25 in Chillicothe. The music festival is part of the band’s national tour. The band will perform April 24 at PK’s and April 25 at Hangar 9.

So, Kabushirai Kiyochika set about showing the rapid change in his society in a set of 156 woodblock prints, many of which are now on display in a new exhibition, “Kiyochika: Master of the Night,” at the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery in Washington through July 27.

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B2 Apt For Rent

MORNING COFFEE

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS
1 Frequently, to a poet
4 Jugs
13 Cuisine
15 Mid-afternoon hour
16 Prayer closing
17 Give a pink slip to
18 Grouch's prop
19 Intl. military alliance
20 Halal!
22 Ms. Bannerman
23 Long journey
24 Scotsman's refusal
26 Greetings in Hawaii
29 Regular; basic
31 Beating utensil
34 Brother of
39 Earning, after
41 Similar
45 Dormant
46 Topaz or ruby
48 Shirt label info
49 Enthusiastic
50 Pointed tooth
51 Displaying
56 Consequently
58 Soup spoon
59 Space agency
60 Consequently
61 Ring-shaped element whose
62 Lendl of tennis
63 Miss over;
64 Slovenly
65 Israel's Strip
66 Engraves
67 Hebrew month;

DOWN
1 Call __; cancel
2 Waist
3 Spanish bull
4 Engravings
5 Beating utensil
6 Consistently
7 500 sheets of paper, usually
8 Love song
9 __ over;
10 Pest Khayyam
11 Singer Siagor
12 Winter weather
13 Having a nearby
14 Fatal
15 Loden of tennis
16 Close to
17 Element whose symbol is Zn
18 Ring-shaped island
19 Long look
20 Love;
21 Caterina
22 __ day now;
23 Very soon
24 Slowly
25 Look for
26 Spear
27 Pray for
28 Times; days of you
29 Unsteady
30 Accept
31 Cognizant
32 Varnish
33 Ingredient
34 Passed out
35 Thin cut
36 Deceptive nonsense
37 Consequence
38 Miss; 

SUDOKU

Castle Perilous Games and Books

Brought to you by:

Thursday's Answers:

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3 by 3 box (in bold borders) contain every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

DRAYT
GOEDD
KABEST
TACANIT

JUMBLE

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

Answer:

MORNING CROSSWORD

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

CREATED BY JACQUELINE E. MATHIES

Jumbled words:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Solved by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Thursday's Answers:

WEAVE DRUNK NOTION ISLAND
When they were up above Sydney, they were DOWN UNDER.

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Saluki track and field hits ground running

JENNIFER GONZALEZ • DAILY EGYPTIAN

Freshman Kyle Landon competes in the long jump during day one of the Bill Cornell Spring Classic Friday at the Lew Hartzog Track and Field Complex. Landon earned third place in the event with a personal best of 6.95 meters, as well as first place in the high jump in which he set a record with a clearance of 2.09 meters. The men’s track and field team took first place overall at the meet.

AARON GRAFF
Daily Egyptian

First baseball conference series goes the distance for SIU

AARON GRAFF
Daily Egyptian

Missouri State University is the only Missouri Valley Conference school with more losses than wins.

SIU Baseball (14-12, 1-2) had its first conference series at Missouri State University (13-14, 3-3) during the weekend.

Junior Sam Coonrod (0-3) started his seventh game of the season. The Salukis committed five errors Friday, a season high. Those errors added up to give the Salukis an 8-3 loss.

Coach Ken Henderson said it was Coonrod’s best start this season. Coonrod gave up five runs in five innings, but only one of them was earned because of errors. Coonrod recorded 11 strikeouts, a career-high. “The errors were absolutely the difference in the ballgame,” Henderson said in a Saluki Athletics press release. “Who are you going to beat when you make five errors?” By my count, six of those runs were gifts. Without a doubt that’s the story of the game.”

Coonrod was taken out after five innings because he was at 108 pitches. It wasn’t in the cards for Hauge Sunday, because Welch was feeling under the weather. Because of the rain the day before, the area was wet and muddy.

For the rest of the story please visit: www.dailyegyptian.com

For live updates of all Saluki sports follow @DEsalukis on twitter

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AARON GRAFF
Daily Egyptian

Outdoor track and field doesn’t always mean warm weather and ideal conditions to compete, but this didn’t stop one Saluki from having a record-breaking performance.

The Salukis hosted their first outdoor track and field meet of the season during the weekend. Friday’s temperatures were in the high 50s, but Saturday had temperatures in the low 60s, and felt like the high 50s.

However, the cold weather didn’t stop the Salukas from doing well, proven with SIU winning 11 events. The men’s team won its meet, while the women finished second out of seven schools.

Coach Connie Price-Smith said Saturday’s weather wasn’t ideal, but she was hoping the team would be close to the marks it set at the end of the indoor season.

“ ’It’s part of outdoor track and field,’ Price-Smith said. “You never know what you’re going to get.”

With a throw of 19.12 meters, sophomore thrower Josh Freeman broke the Missouri Valley Conference outdoor record and the school record, the latter of which was formerly held by thrower John Smith. Freeman also broke Smith’s indoor school shot put record earlier this season.

“ ’It’s about time,’ Smith said, noting that his records were set 30 years ago. “ ’It’s been there too long.’

Freeman said Smith told him to throw roughly 19 meters in order to break the school record. However, Freeman forgot about it by the time he was throwing.

“ ’To open like this is huge,’ Freeman said. “Normal I wouldn’t see these throws until mid-season. It’s all due to the heavy training we do at the beginning of the season.”

Freeman said Smith told him he broke both records right after his event. Freeman said then he asked Smith what he could do to throw farther.

Freeman said he expected to break the record later this season, but wasn’t expecting to do so with the cold weather.

Because of the rain the day before, the area was wet and muddy.

For the rest of the story please visit: www.dailyegyptian.com

AARON GRAFF
Daily Egyptian

Missouri State 7
SIU 2

Saturday

SIU 2
Missouri State 3

Sunday

SIU 9
Missouri State 5

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY CONFERENCE

Middle Tennessee State University Shootout

Friday

Saturday

SIU 0
DePaul 4

UTA 4

SIU 1
ISU 4

Saturday

SIU 2
Missouri State 3

Sunday

SIU 0
Missouri State 5