Although the population of eligible voters has grown over the past decade, young voters still show little interest in the upcoming election. A recent poll from Harvard University’s Institute of Politics showed 22 percent of voters between ages 18 and 24 are politically active. That number was 43 percent when the same poll was conducted four years ago. While the 2008 poll also showed two-thirds of these voters were “definitely likely” to vote in the general election, this month’s poll showed less than half of the potential voters intended to vote.

Young voters between the ages of 18 and 29 make up slightly more than 21 percent of the eligible voter population this year, according to eCampus, a website mainly geared toward textbook retail. This number has slowly increased since 2000, when the youth vote made up around 14 percent of eligible voters. However, only a portion of these 46 million young voters are expected to vote, according to the website. David Yepsen, director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at SIU, said young adults may not be enthused about voting because they have been turned off by the whole political process.

The safety and comfort of our entire campus community is our top priority. It is our desire to address promptly any situation perceived unsafe and that causes concern.

— Rita Cheng
SIUC chancellor

SIU has established a task force to increase university students’ safety. Chancellor Rita Cheng sent an email Oct. 15 to the university community about the Campus Life and Safety Task Force, which reports to the chancellor ways to increase university security and how to implement them.

“The safety and comfort of our entire campus community is our top priority,” Cheng said in the email. “It is our desire to address promptly any situation perceived unsafe and that causes concern.”

Cheng also said in the email that the task force was created to review the Department of Public Safety’s practices in several categories including student mentoring, communication and life skill development.

Cheng said in an interview, she started the group in the spring to have a comprehensive view of safety areas that need work.

She said some recommendations such as improved lighting around campus, more safety information provided to students and stricter check-ins for students who live in residence halls have already been implemented.

“People need to feel responsible for themselves and everyone around them on campus. She said she thinks the safety programs and departments such as the DPS are great for the school but not quite enough to keep everyone safe. She said people need to feel responsible for themselves and everyone around them on campus.”
The Weather Channel® 5-day weather forecast for Carbondale

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About Us
The Daily Egyptian is published by the students 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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SAFETY
CONTINUATION
Simmons said she was also asked by the chancellor to co-chair a committee that will oversee the task force results for the next two years.

One result of the committee is a mandatory program for incoming freshmen about alcohol abuse and sexual assault.

Todd Sigler, director of DPS, said the task force is more of a contribution toward the community instead of a critique on DPS. He said the task force gave the department a chance to share its concerns with the university on a more personal level.

He said one of the group’s accomplishments has been to increase DPS night safety patrols in poorly lit areas.

Sigler said the task force also wants to get student and visitor input on safety.

While the task force presents and implements ideas to ensure campus safety, campus crimes have recently occurred.

DPS reported batteries on campus Sept. 29 near the Recreation Center, Oct. 9 near Anthony Hall and Oct. 14 in Lot 45. All of these cases involved battery and robbery or attempted robbery.

“It’s not fair to say the report has had an effect yet,” Sigler said.

He said only a few ideas have been implemented so far, and it will take time for others to have any impact.

Danny can be reached at mdancy@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 254.

After dramatic spike, Chicago homicides slow down

DON BABWIN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — When the city’s gang war intensified last spring, shootings became so frequent they sometimes seemed like a ghastly game of tennis, with each senseless attack followed by a vengeful response.

The furious rate of the killing drew national attention and even invited comparisons between Chicago and some of the world’s war zones.

But a closer look shows something else: The pace of homicides and shootings has slowed considerably as police step up their presence and residents challenge gang members for control of the streets. In at least one of the city’s most notoriously dangerous neighborhoods, homicides have actually fallen.

“People are taking a stand, that we’re not going to stand for it,” said Lisa Williams, a member of a South Side block-watch group where residents installed their own surveillance cameras.

Back in March, the violence killed 52 people — more than twice as many as the previous March. For the first three months of the year, the number of deaths shot up by 60 percent, raising fears that authorities were losing control of some gang-dominated areas.

Police quickly put more officers on patrol and began an intelligence-gathering “audit” that helped them identify rival gangs. Residents took action, too, forming neighborhood watches and starting down passing gang members from outside homes.

Chicago still has a major problem with gangs and gun violence — something President Barack Obama acknowledged about his adopted hometown as recently as last week’s presidential debate.

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Snow White Mushrooms 8 oz. whole or sliced...$2.95
Prairie Farms Orange Juice 12 oz. bottle...$2.85
BBQ Ham or Pepper Jack Cheese fresh from the deli...$5.99 lb
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SAFETY
CONTINUE FROM 1

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Chicago still has a major problem with gangs and gun violence — something President Barack Obama acknowledged about his adopted hometown as recently as last week’s presidential debate.
“Younger voters are disappointed,” he said. “They don’t think (voting) matters, so a lot of them are just tuned out.”

Yepsen said most of the young people who voted in the last election are disappointed by President Barack Obama’s first-term performance.

“Younger voters did turn out for Barack Obama, and I think they’re disappointed his change has not been as fast or as big as they had hoped,” he said.

Yepsen said he thinks the reason young Americans aren’t showing up to the polls is because most are preoccupied with finding jobs and paying bills.

However, Yepsen said the country’s young voter turnout has always been low.

“This is normal,” he said. “Younger Americans are historically some of the worst voters. As you get older, you see government playing a bigger role in your life and your participation rate goes up.”

Yepsen said older voters have increased turnouts in general, and individuals who are older than 65 have around a 95-percent voter turnout rate. He said this trend is strange because younger voters have more at stake.

“I think younger Americans have more at stake this election than any other generation,” he said. “We’re fighting wars. Which generation is doing the dying in those wars? Which generation is going to have to pay more in taxes and get fewer benefits for the rest of their lives because of this? It’s the younger generation.”

Even though a large portion of them don’t vote, Yepsen said many young voters are educated on the issues and can easily find information about them.

“Go online and start Googling,” he said. “We are a wash of information about politics today. Every news organization has a website. Every news organization has information.”

To counter the low turnout, students who are a part of campus political groups have made efforts to get younger voters involved in this year’s election.

Chance Tate, a senior from Mount Vernon studying political science and SIUC Democrats president, said his group and other organizations helped register 3,000 students and city residents for the Nov. 6 election. He said the goal was to highlight the presidential election, regardless of which political party the voters support.

“I think your vote is your voice . . . (though) I think oftentimes more goes into an election than just a vote,” he said.

Tate said the problem with getting students to vote is their approach toward the voting process.

Students said they had mixed views on voting and the upcoming election.

Jordan Hookin, a senior from Chicago studying communication disorders and science, said he plans to vote in this election. Hookin is president of the National Black Association for Speech, Language, and Hearing, and he said the group has been trying to get students around campus to vote in the election. He said the group has also gone around the residence halls to register student voters.

Hookin said he thinks it’s important for people to vote even though history shows Obama is likely to win Illinois because of the state’s Democratic presence.

“It doesn’t matter (what the odds are),” he said. “There’s still a 50/50 chance.”

Hookin said most people put high expectations on Obama during his first term and are now disappointed he didn’t meet them.

He said the association will continue to encourage young voters to pay attention to politics even after the election.

Karen Baumann, a graduate student in zoology from Chicago, said she is voting and thinks other young people should as well.

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The youth share (age 18-29) of total votes is on the rise

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SOURCE: ECAMPUS.COM

The 2008 General Election
* 22.4 Million of the 131 Million Total Votes
* 8.4 Million were Age 18-22 (traditional college age)
SAN JOSE, Calif. — Apple Inc.'s pencil-thin, smaller iPad will cost much more than its competitors, signaling the company isn’t going to get into a mini-tablet price war.

The company debuted the iPad Mini Tuesday, with a screen two-thirds smaller than the full model, and half the weight. Customers can begin ordering the new model Friday. In a surprise, Apple also revamped its flagship, full-sized iPad just six months after the launch of the latest model.

Apple’s late founder Steve Jobs once ridiculed a small tablet from a competitor as a “tweener” that was too big and too small to compete with either smartphones or tablets. Now Apple’s own Mini enters a growing small-tablet market dominated by Amazon.com Inc.’s Kindle Fire.

“Apple had an opportunity to step on the throat of Amazon and Google, yet decided to rely on its brand and focus on margin,” said Bill Kreher, an analyst with brokerage Edward Jones.

Apple starts taking orders for the new model Friday, said marketing chief Phil Schiller in San Jose. Wi-Fi-only models will ship Nov. 2. Later, the company will add models capable of accessing “LTE” wireless data networks.

The screen of the iPad Mini is 7.9 inches on the diagonal, making it larger than the 7-inch screens of the competitors. It also sports two cameras, on the front and on the back, which the competitors don’t.

The iPad mini is as thin as a pencil and weighs 0.68 pounds, half as much as the full-size iPad with its 9.7-inch screen, Schiller said.

The screen resolution is 1024 by 768 pixels, the same as the iPad 2 and a quarter of the resolution of the flagship iPad, which starts at $499.

The new model has better apps and is easier to use than competitors’ such as Google’s Nexus, said Avi Greengart, a consumer electronics analyst with Current Analysis.

Jobs attacked the whole idea of smaller tablets in his last appearance on a conference call with analysts in October 2010.

“The reason we wouldn’t make a 7-inch tablet isn’t because we don’t want to hit a price point. It’s because we don’t think you can make a great tablet with a 7-inch screen,” Jobs said. “The 7-inch tablets are tweeners, too big to compete with a smartphone and too small to compete with an iPad.”

Apple senior vice president Eddy Cue started working on changing Jobs’ mind. In an email sent to other Apple managers in January 2011, Cue said the CEO had started warming to the idea of a smaller tablet.

The fourth-generation iPad will have a better camera and work on more “LTE” wireless data networks around the world. Apple is also replacing the 30-pin dock connector with the new, smaller “Lightning” connector introduced with the iPhone 5 a month ago.

The price of the new full-size model stays the same as the previous version, starting at $499 for a Wi-Fi-only version with 16 gigabytes of memory. The new model follows a 13-inch MacBook Pro laptop with a “Retina” display sporting four times the resolution of the older model.

The new model dispenses with an optical drive and a traditional hard drive. Instead, it uses solid-state “flash” memory. This makes it 20 percent thinner and at 3.75 pounds, nearly a pound lighter than the previous model.

Apple also eliminated the optical drive from its new iMac desktop computer, helping slim the edges down to 5 millimeters, one-fifth the thickness of the old model. That makes the edges thinner than most stand-alone computer monitors. It helps in middle of the back, however.

An iMac model with a 21.5-inch screen will start shipping in November for $1,299 and up, Schiller said. A 27-inch version will start at $1,799.
An ordinance that authorizes the city manager to enter into an agreement with a packaging supply manufacturer was approved during Tuesday’s City Council meeting.

The ordinance will eventually allow the company Intertape Polymer Corporation to acquire land, immediately south of 2200 N. McRoy Dr., and a non-interest bearing loan from the city to expand its company, according to the meeting agenda. In return, this will create 37 more jobs with the company and promote a healthy relationship between the city and the company, city manager Kevin Baty said in an email.

Intertape already maintains a Carbondale facility and has 68 employees.

The $394,500 loan Intertape receives will be used for the facility’s expansion, plant operations, machinery relocation to the Carbondale facility and to increase the work force. However, Intertape must attain and maintain the employment standards over a five-year period, Baty said, and the company will receive 20 percent of the loan amount each year the requirements are met.

If at any time Intertape fails to meet the requirement for a year, the 20 percent must be paid back, he said. If the company ceases operations, Intertape will pay back the balance.

Councilman Lee Freasburger said he was pleased with the ordinance and congratulated the city on its ability to cooperate with the established company.

“I just want to commend the city staff,” Freasburger said. “I think the city’s ability to progress and promote the community is very happy with this.”

Councilman Chris Wisemann said while he supports the opportunity for Intertape to expand, he would like to explore the possibility for the original facility to remain in operation.

Despite this, he said he was happy to see more job opportunities open up in the city.

“I don’t care if they buy new equipment and leave the old stuff in the old factory,” Wisemann said. “I just want 37 jobs. This is a company with options, and they chose us.”

Curtis Clark, operations manager of the Carbondale factory, said the employee amount has grown since September, and all signs indicate the company will meet employment standard requirements.

Clark said some employees have already been hired out of the Carbondale area.

“We started with the original 68 employees, and on September 30th we were up to 85,” he said. “There are three or four more employees that are transferring to live here.”

Clark said he fully expects to have the full 105 employees with the company by Dec. 31.

The ordinance was passed unanimously.

For the rest of the story, please visit the dailyegyptian.com.

ATLANTA

AUSTIN FLYNN

Daily Egyptian

The Undergraduate Student Government approved the support of a $10 student activity fee increase at its Tuesday meeting.

The Board of Trustees will vote to approve the fee increase at its Nov. 9 meeting in Edwardsville.

The student activity fee has not increased since 2002, said Donald Castle, Student Center programs director.

Castle addressed the USG Sept. 24 to propose the student activity fee increase from $37.40 to $47.40. He said the fee increase would ensure there is enough money for student programming events and larger-scale as well as inclusive events. It would also go toward efforts to increase student satisfaction in the events’ quality and quantity, as well as to allow more students to be successful in programs’ plans and execution, he said.

USG Senate President Aidan Miller said the proposal’s approval will benefit the students who come to the meetings.

“Increasing this fee will allow more large-scale events for students as well as more diversity within those events,” Miller said.

Miller also said the fee increase will benefit the campus because $120,000 could be put back into the USG budget so funding cuts will not have to be made.

Six Registered Student Organizations requested funding for various events, but each request had to be cut because of the low USG account balance, which totals $12,671.07.

New Undergraduate Recruitment and Student Education requested $193.92; African Student Council requested $554; Turkish Student Association requested $357; Speaking and Teaching requested 1,219.25; OOPS Entertainment requested $307; and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority requested $3,121.72.

USG made $1,581.08 in cuts and approved to allocate $4,179.09 among the six groups. USG also approved requests for the new RSOs: SIU Longjongs, College of Science and Arts Ambassadors and the Saluki Shawnee Association.

The cuts in funding requests caused dispute among the senate members because of different opinions and confusion in mathematical conclusions. Each funding request amount brought an array of questions from senate members.

A student, who said he was a former USG senate member, addressed USG in regard to its concerns over funding requests.

“When I was in USG, we did a lot of things differently that have caused me to have concerns about tonight’s meeting as the things you all approve funding for as well as everyone talking over each other,” the student said. “If the rules have changed, then I apologize, but this is not how we used to do things when I was a senator.”

USG President Brittany Gratehouse thanked the student for his constructive criticism and assured him the group is working to better meeting structure.

Tae Gin can be reached at tcox@dailyegyptian.com or at 536-3311 ext. 255.

Council approves real estate ordinance for corporation

USG supports fee proposal

TAE COX

Daily Egyptian

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2012 Election Section

This week’s issue: Student loans and funding

OBAMA

President Barack Obama has previously said he plans to end the federal government money by reducing the number of students who receive Pell Grants. He said he wants to end Obama’s tax credit program that benefits moderate-income families. However, the Massachusetts governor said he is considering a different view during the Oct. 16 debate.

“I want to make sure we keep our Pell Grant program growing,” he said. Romney also said he plans to end Obama’s tax credit program that benefits students’ families. He also mentioned his plans to send the Pell Grant money back into the federal student loan market so rates can be decreased.

ROMNEY

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Expert Weigh-In

Why should student voters be up to-date with each candidate’s policies on student loans?

“Politicians are having a hard time reaching student voters,” said David Yepsen, director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, said Obama needs to restructure the taxation of voters ages 24 and younger if he wants to win the election.

President Obama tried to do this during the Oct. 16 presidential debate by reminding voters what he has done in office. “We’ve expanded Pell Grants for millions of people by taking $60 billion that was going to banks and lenders and exiting it to the Commonwealth for the student loan program,” the president said. “As a consequence, we’ve seen millions of young people be able to afford college, and that’s going to make sure that young women are going to be able to compete in that marketplace.”

Obama has also pushed for a tax credit for college students and their families.

Student Insight

Do you think there should be a tax credit for students and their families?

Erin Brown, a freshman from Champaign studying linguistics, said she thinks the tax credit would be beneficial to college students and their families.

“College is expensive,” she said. “Any kind of money is always helpful.”

Colleen Grandrath, a senior from Woodstock studying zoology, said she thinks the tax credit would be beneficial to students as well.

“As a student, it is a nice incentive as I try to better myself,” she said.

Should private lenders be allowed to give student loans?

John McCormick, a freshman from Tuscola studying plant and soil sciences, said he thinks more lending options should be allowed.

“More lending options should hopefully increase competition, which would hopefully create better rates and decrease the likelihood of federal loans taking advantage of the market and students,” he said.

Brown said lenders should choose where to invest their money.

“It’s their money. They can do whatever they choose to do with it,” she said.

Student Poll:

Should Pell Grant funding be increased or decreased?

Increased 45%
Decreased 20
Do you think there should be a tax credit for college students and their families?

Yes: 50%
No: 15

Should private lenders be allowed to give student loans?

Yes: 30%
No: 15
Total polled anonymously: 65
For scare-enthusiast Ray Elam, Halloween is more than just a holiday. “Scaring people is actually an art form,” Elam said. “It’s a science.”

Elam has been operating haunted houses for the past 20 years. An important aspect to the scaring process, he said, is a balancing act between not boring the guests but also not frightening them too much. To cater to this balance, the haunted house offers the Cellblock for those interested in a more intense experience as well as a chamber maze, where guests looking to avoid the in-your-face scares can try to find their way out.

Maria Herman, Elam’s business partner, said some of the volunteer actors are so passionate about their craft that some of their screams’ intensity shocked her, so she supplies them with cough drops.

“Scaring people is actually an art form,” Elam said. “It’s a science.”

A key feature of the Cellblock’s scare was exactly what Elam said he aimed for: the senses. “The darkness tricks your eyes, and the sounds subliminally heighten your heartbeat.”

With the scenes manipulated, each corner comes with some nerve-tingling surprise. At one point, a prop Elam said was featured in the film “From dusk till dawn” both takes your breath away — in the non-romantic sense — and makes you question whether it’s a real person. Claustrophobia was also used to attack the senses by trapping us into a small pitch-black hallway.

The group of preteen girls who entered just before us came out of the Cellblock in a screaming sprint. A couple who went in after our tour walked out at a slow pace with no facial reaction besides slightly blushed cheeks.

However, our end reaction was in between the two: definitely built up our anticipation. "That's why we call it Cellblock 666, not happy/Fi/till dawn," he said.

Elam said many guests come out absolutely blood-pressure but only scared enough to pace with no facial reaction besides slightly blushed cheeks.

"Scaring people is actually an art form," Elam said. "It’s a science.”

An important aspect to the scaring process, he said, is a balancing act between not boring the guests but also not frightening them too much. To cater to this balance, the haunted house offers the Cellblock for those interested in a more intense experience as well as a chamber maze, where guests looking to avoid the in-your-face scares can try to find their way out.

Maria Herman, Elam’s business partner, said some of the volunteer actors are so passionate about their craft that some of their screams’ intensity shocked her, so she supplies them with cough drops.

“We’ve got the most professional actors, and we’ve held them for many years,” he said.

Winkleman said his two haunts together are more than a mile long.

The scream park consists of two haunted attractions: Prison X, an indoor haunted house, and Haunted Hollows Trail, a trek set in the woods behind Prison X.

Although we went through Prison X with no actors present, the experience was more than enough for us. Animatronics inside the house were turned on, and we were subjected to monsters that popped out of oil drums as well as prison inmates that rattled cages as we walked by. Actors are positioned behind the walls during real shows, Winkleman said.

We were forced to perform a limbo-like movement when the ceiling slanted down in one section of the maze. It wouldn’t be the most pleasant experience for someone who is 6’4”, but it definitely beefs up the haunt.

One hallway forces patrons to walk through a rubber hand gauntlet sticking out from the wall. Whether any of the hands are real is left for the victim to determine.

The end of Prison X features a spinning vortex, which flashes a color spectrum on the walls as patrons navigate the walkway. We didn’t go through the vortex, but just looking at it from the outside was enough to disorient us.

We did not walk the Haunted Hollows Trail, but we spent more than an hour stationed with actors positioned at the trail’s end. Robbie Holman, of Granite City, and Jason Smothers, of West Frankfort, hid in a hut strewn with body parts. As attendees walked by, Holman attacked them from the left while Smothers ambushed them from the right.

Both Holman and Smothers said they get an adrenaline rush from scaring often tell which ones to target, and two had to deal with a rather tough crowd the night we visited the Hollows, but for everyone who went through girls to a very brave grandad teenage boy who refused to face was priceless.

Smails said the house is open to anyone who is welcome to participate.
Both Holman and Smothers said they get an adrenaline rush from scaring customers, and they can often tell which ones to target from a mile away. The two had to deal with a rather tough crowd the night we visited the Hollows, but they put on a good show for everyone who went through, ranging from teenage girls to a very brave grandma. Holman stared down a teenage boy who refused to scream, and the look on his face said it all.

Smothers said the house is a volunteer effort, and anyone is welcome to participate in the scaring. The old schoolhouse north of Herrin gives off the vibe of a truly haunted house. Statues of lions stand atop the old brick building that last catered to children in 1988 but is now owned by Mike and Sammie King.

Mike King said the couple found remnants of a school, including children’s toys, when they renovated the building for the haunted house. Thus, an entire room within the haunt was dedicated to creepy ceramic dolls. Eerie lullabies played in the background as young actors followed, asking, “Will you play with me?”

Another classic haunting feature played on the 1990 Stephen King film, “It.” The circus tent full of clowns could cause anyone with a clown phobia to close his or her eyes and hold on for dear life.

However, other aspects of the haunt were more modern. Something that might compare to an acid trip was the vortex. Lights flash while guests walk across a bridge through the spinning cylinder, which could either make one nauseated or want to break out in dance.

Getting lost is a common fear in a haunted house, and Chittyville uses that to its advantage. Within a section of the school, called the mine, guests are trapped in and have to repeat their path as actors taunt and lead them astray.

But, as every attendee likely hopes, you’re released eventually. Every attendee’s experience might differ in his or her reaction. One area that may have garnered a greater scare for some featured a nurse, who claimed she wanted to perform surgery on visitors. At this point, we found ourselves running out of the room — once again — rather than soaking up the blood and cadaver display.

King said there will be more gore than just the surgery room next week. Called “R-rated,” guests may find guts and entrails throughout the school.

Not all of Chittyville features actors, though, and some of the haunt remains true to the original building.

After being led to a basement that smelled similar to the dress-up room of a haunted house, we found ourselves running out of the room — once again — rather than soaking up the blood and cadaver display.

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’Tis the season: the politics of election season

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It’s that time again! You may have been witnessing some argumentative conversations, closed-mindedness and completely one-sided Facebook posts.

It comes once every four years, folks. We’re talking about the election season. Have you looked down on Thanksgiving is all about getting at each other’s throats, taking on a radically relativistic opinion and going to war.

The characteristics of election season certainly have something to do with the leaders that are competing. If your coach starts cursing at the opposing team’s players and insults them, it’s likely his players will start doing the same.

Here’s the issue, though. In this analogy, our candidates have the impact of the coach and we the players. This is not how things should look. We should be the coach and the candidates the players. Our presidential candidates should be more impacted by us.

The players don’t serve the coach. The coach serves the players. The people don’t serve the president. The president serves the people. So if a candidate is not serving me, then I’m not a part of that team.

Every political advertisement on television shows politicians talking themselves up or bashing their opponents. Either they claim they are pro-everything-we-want, or refuting the claims of their opponents.

Let’s go back to the sports analogy for a moment. How many Olympic competitors did you see insult one another this year? How many did you see tear one another down in an interview? I saw none.

You know what that kind of environment encourages in competition? Positive growth from both competitors.

You know what we don’t see in this year’s election? Positive competition. I would love to hear that Obama and Romney share a beer and hang outside the presidential debates.

It has to be awkward going to the same town, avoiding one another, and having their only interaction take place in negative arguments.

If election season were a holiday, I would love it to be characterized by honoring our president’s previous term and the excitement and preparation for the new term to come, whatever it holds. I am neither for Obama or Romney.

As a citizen of the United States of America, I am entitled to my vote. The only problem is that they are not offering my vote as an option. We should not determine our vote by who is giving us what. It should be determined by the kind of man they are.

Neither of our candidates seem capable of being good enough men to properly handle a positive relationship with their opponents.

As a nation, is that how we want things to be handled with our enemies? Give me a box to check that will restart the election process. If majority check it, then it is probably best we go another round for different candidates.
Aries — Today is a 6 — There’s no time for gossip; it’s too much of a good thing. Your thinking will be for the best. Postpone a decision; Acknowledge successes, even of the tiniest kind.

Taurus — Today is a 9 — Don’t stop learning as you go along. Instead, consider all possibilities before giving up. If you’re still stuck, listen to friends for advice and comfort. Make fun a priority.

Gemini — Today is an 8 — Take on new responsibilities today and tomorrow. There’s room for misunderstandings. Don’t despair if you’re not getting a response just yet. Replies come in later.

Cancer — Today is an 8 — This week is good for travel, but there could be delays or errors. Difficulties with family members get resolved later. Make long-range plans, invest in your future.

Leo — Today is a 6 — Tackle detailed tasks and negotiations for the next few days. Define objectives. Stick to the budget without gambling. It may require digging into savings for a career investment.

Virgo — Today is an 8 — It’s never too late to learn a new trade or language, or how to play an instrument. Let others help you. Choose something fun and immerse yourself. Get wet.

Libra — Today is a 7 — A breakdown in communication could happen, but you can deal with that. The more intricate the work is, the more rewarding; especially for the next two days.

Scorpio — Today is a 9 — Things fall together, with expert help. Stir things up, even if it’s just in your imagination. Consider opening new channels of communication.

Sagittarius — Today is a 9 — You don’t need to worry; just get busy. It’s easy to overlook an important detail, so take notes and double-check your calendar. Discover your own truth.

Capricorn — Today is an 8 — Don’t waste words or money. And don’t deal in the past either. Your intelligence is easily accessible now, so use it to your advantage. Accept a sweet deal.

Aquarius — Today is 7 — You have no choice to go out of your way to dream, as fantasies abound. Improve your living conditions, but wait until later to close the deal. Toss the ball to a teammate.

Pisces — Today is a 7 — You have extra confidence today and tomorrow, which helps you get together the best team possible. You all do the seemingly impossible. Make magic.
The men's tennis team competed in its last fall season event at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Central Division Regionals during the weekend, where it found success in doubles and made progress in singles play.

The Salukis saw a mix of positives and negatives during the Minneapolis event, but the team will have plenty of time to fine-tune its skills with a nearly three-month break until the next scheduled competition.

Senior Brandon Florez started off the weekend by defeating Western Illinois' Patrick Hammers. He lost the first set 2-6, but he won the second 7-5 and overpowered Hammers 6-2 in the final set. Florez then lost in straight sets to Wichita State's Erick Reyes during the next round.

"Personally, I had a hard time," he said. "I had trouble playing big points and little things that I normally do well during the spring season."

Fordham junior Rigby lost in the first round to Hamish Weerasinghe of Bradley, a Missouri Valley Conference opponent. He took the match to the third set, where he lost 6-0.

Rigby said he was unable to serve well, which has been his strong suit all season. "I think I've concentrated so much on improving everything else that I've not done enough on my serve," he said. "In the spring, I need to practice more on getting it back.

Senior Badr Cherradi dominated Bradley's Justin Abrams in the first round 6-1, 6-2 in straight sets but fell 6-1, 6-1 to Tulsa's Cliff Marshland in the next round. Junior Rafael Cuadrillero was defeated 6-4, 6-0 by University of Missouri's Nino Hausendolc in the first round, which dropped his fall singles record to 1-4.

However, the Salukis fared better in doubles, as they have been throughout the fall season. Cherradi and Rigby advanced to the second round by virtue of a bye, where they dominated MVC conference Creighton opponents Ryan Norman and Billy Palach of Creighton 8-4.

The two lost a hard-fought 9-4 battle to Alvaro Gutierrez and Matheus Pereira of Wichita State in the next round. "We don't make many mistakes when we play doubles," Rigby said. "We're just consistent, so the other team has to play really well to beat us."

Florez and sophomore Martijn Admiraal also had a first-round bye in doubles competition. In the next round, they defeated SIUE's Marren Jonsson and Jacob Tiamanuland 8-6. They lost to Rok Bonin and Leandro Toledo of host University of Minnesota 8-4 in the third round. Sophomore Symon Opiecznek and senior Orhan Spahic were unable to match the opposing doubles pair's success as they lost 8-4 to Saint Louis University's Drew Feder and Joe Hanagan in the first round.

Coach Dann Nelson said he plans to emphasize tactical training while the Salukis are away from competition.

However, the team won't be able to practice together for six weeks during December and January because of finals week and winter break.

"This makes their training at home even more important," he said. "We give them the blueprint of what to do. It's up to them to do it."

The team expects a spring return from sophomore Jorge Cavero who, because of injuries, has not competed since last year's central regional. Cavero defeated 77th-ranked Manuel Bauts of Oklahoma State and made it to the round of 16 players in his last competition.

In his little time with the Salukis, Cavero has been one of the most successful players the team has seen in years. He was named to the MVC All-Select Team during the 2010-11 season after posting a 15-4 singles record.

Nelson said Cavero's rehabilitation has gone well, and he expects him to be ready to go in the spring.

"Having him back will definitely add depth to our team," Nelson said. "We're a pretty strong team without him and will be even stronger with him.

Florez said he expects the team to be better in the spring both because of the team's schedule, which has the Salukis in competition nearly every weekend, and Cavero's return to the court.

"We were set to peak at this time, but I don't think we have because we haven't played enough matches," he said. "(Jorge) adds a huge dynamic to the team. He's one of the most mentally strong players I've ever seen."

The Salukis will return to competition Jan. 18-20 during the Missouri Valley Conference Individual Tournament in Des Moines, Iowa.
The men’s golf team couldn’t recover from a rough first round and finished 10th out of 14 teams in the F&M Bank Austin Peay State University Intercollegiate Tuesday.

The Salukis shot a 301 in the tournament’s first round Monday, placing the team in a tie for 12th overall. While the team dodged the 300-stroke mark in the tournament’s two remaining rounds with scores of 290 and 297, the effort wasn’t enough to place the team in the competition’s top half.

Seniors Jake Erickson and Joe Goelzhauser, and junior Caleb Harms led the Salukis with scores of 222, which was good for six strokes over par. They also tied for 27th individually.

Seniors Jeff Miller and Brandon Cauldwell also competed for SIUC and finished at eight and 11 strokes over par, respectively. Austin Peay State University won the tournament with a team score of 860, which was 28 strokes below the Salukis’ score of 888.

The tournament was the Salukis’ last of the fall season. The team will be back in action in February for the Frito Lay Intercollegiate in Philadelphia, Miss.

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Junior Cassie Rushing took her second career individual title Tuesday as the Salukis took fourth as a team. Rushing beat her career-best by five strokes with a total score of 217, which was four strokes better than the second-place finisher at the Blue Raider Invitational in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

“Cassie is the hardest worker on the team,” coach Alexis Mihelich said. “She played three consistent rounds and came out on top. The best part for us is that her best golf is still in front of her.”

Rushing shot a 72 in tournament’s first and second round, and she tied for third before the third round Tuesday where she shot a 73. Rushing is the second Saluki to win a title this season after freshman Amy Lee won the SIUE Intercollegiate Sept. 25. She is also the seventh golfer to win an individual title under Mihelich.

The team also finished two spots better than last year.

The team shot a 298 in the first round, which tied it for first. Scores of 300 and 310 in the second and third round, respectively, put the team in fourth and 44 over par.

Junior Ashleigh Rushing tied for 11th place and came in eight strokes under her sister. Lee tied for 41st, Senior Shaina Rennegarbe tied for 51st and Freshman Mattie Lindner tied for 81st.

The team will play in its last fall season tournament Monday and Tuesday at the Braun Intercollegiate in Boonville, Ind.

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