Students rally for Lobby Day

Many gather behind Grinnell to support Lobby Day trip

Stile T. Smith
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If 800 SIUC students are as rowdy as the roughly 100 who gathered behind Grinnell Hall Wednesday, state legislators could be in for a rude awakening.

Aaron Mallory, with the help of Undergraduate Student Government, put together a rally to help gain support for today’s rally in Springfield aimed at reinstating the Monetary Award Program grant.

Mallory, a senior from Flossmoor studying electrical engineering, said all students, not just those who will lose the grant, should be involved in efforts to bring it back.

“If you don’t receive the MAP, you’re still being affected because the value of your education is being reduced,” Mallory said.

Mallory said because a written excuse will be given to students to miss class, they have no reason to miss the rally.

See RALLY | 2

Public Safety to improve campus lighting

Christina Spakousky
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University officials tagged several sections of campus to upgrade lighting in efforts to improve campus safety.

Todd Sigler, director of public safety, assembled a safety walk Tuesday. Officials, including campus police and representatives from University Housing and the Office of the Chancellor, were encouraged to record any safety observations during the walk. Sigler said they prefer to conduct the walk after dark to watch for any lighting deficiencies.

The areas surrounding the Wham Education Building and Lawson Hall were pegged as areas of concern, and Sigler said they would be the next areas to receive new lighting. The boundaries of the Nichols Building parking lot also contains a tree line that needs to be pushed back and trimmed to improve lighting and safety, Sigler said.

Sigler said the lack of lighting and dense foliage are the main safety concerns for students who walk around campus in the dark.

Old light bulbs are gradually being replaced, Sigler said. When they burn out, the mercury bulbs are replaced with new, high-pressure sodium lights, he said.

According to the Department of Agriculture Web site, sodium lights use less energy and get brighter over the years.

“This is the year we are enhancing the lighting, we’re also being more efficient and saving some money,” Sigler said.

Sigler said trees and dark areas give potential offenders hiding spots, but there are 35 call boxes placed around campus for emergencies.

When someone uses the emergency boxes, the call goes to campus police and the Physical Plant, he said. Police are informed of the exact location of the call and are sent to the location immediately.

Phil Gatton, director of Plant and Service Operations, said it was his fourth year participating in the walk. In the past, he said he had seen improvements made in the Old Main area, which is in front of Shryock Auditorium.

“We’ve spent a lot of time cleaning the canopy up,” Gatton said. “(Now) the main issues are lights out that we don’t know about.”

Sigler said the Old Main area would soon receive new lighting to replace the globe lighting, which causes large shadows on the walkway.

Sigler said the university would hire new staff for winter weather. He said the Physical Plant plans to hire temporary employees in preparation for the snow and ice, and they will treat streets and sidewalks with an ice-deferring solution.

“(They) actually attend conferences on snow removal on what’s effective,” Sigler said. “The biggest problem is the ice. When it stacks up two inches, conventional machinery can’t get through it.”

Doctor gives fertility options

Nick Johnson
daily@grin.edu

Jessica Raines was on pins and needles before she got pregnant.

Raines and her husband Heath tried unsuccessfully to conceive their second child when a friend referred them to Dr. John Corley, a Murphysboro chiropractor, for acupuncture infertility treatment.

After four weeks of the treatment, Raines became pregnant, she said.

During acupuncture, needles are put no deeper than half an inch into specific areas of the body to stimulate nerve endings under the skin, which allows organs to operate more effectively, Corley said.

“I stimulated certain points in the body that I learned improve certain hormone release and ovarian processes, and it worked,” Corley said.

The Murphysboro couple tried fertility medication and ovulation tests before acupuncture, Raines said.

Doctor gives fertility options

See OPTIONS | 3
Governing warns of growing problems in Ill budget

Christopher Wills
Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. Pat Quinn’s office warned Wednesday that state government now faces an additional $900 million budget deficit, largely because rising unemployment is eating away at income tax revenues.

Quinn’s budget director David Vaunder said the new budget hole will increase the pressure for officials to raise taxes early next year. Until then, he said, Quinn will cut spending further and seek legislative permission to borrow money set aside in special government funds.

This year’s budget was put together with the assumption that income tax revenue would be about the same as last year, around $10.2 billion. But the latest projections now show revenues falling by $850 million, Vaughter said.

“Basically, what happened is unemployment is worse than what the economists were projecting,” he said. “We’re in the same boat as the rest of the economy.”

The statewide unemployment rate for August was 10 percent, compared to 6.7 percent a year earlier.

In addition, revenues from riverboat gambling are now expected to be $50 million lower than projected because a Joliet casino was closed for several months by a fire.

Brown said today’s rally is the most important event in the fight to hold on to the grant, because it would be the best opportunity for students to let legislators hear their voices.

“As they felt it, but at the same time they didn’t really understand the MAP grant and how it’s affecting them,” Epps said. “But now I think students are getting way more involved.”

Steve Smith can be reached at 536-3331 ext. 259

Calendar

Black Women’s Black Men’s Roundtable 5 p.m. today in the Student Center Auditorium

Media Hour 5 p.m. today in engineering 2121

Power and Politics: Black Women in Politics Speaker: Stasha Kelly 2 p.m. Sunday in engineering 2121

Reaching Us

E-Mail: C&C Center: ccc@illinois.edu 217

Mailing Address: 408 E. Main St. Urbana, IL 61801

ANNUAL MEETING: April 2013

WOMEN’S CENTER: 1st Monday of every month, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cafeteria: 1st Tuesday of every month, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Welsh-Ryan Center: 2nd Wednesday of every month, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Rebecca: 3rd Wednesday of every month, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Dining Hall: 1st Thursday of every month, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

In the Community:

Illinois Wesleyan University

Illinois State University

University of Illinois

Urbana-Champaign

Correction

If you spot an error, please contact the Daily Illini at 536-3331, ext. 253.
Corley said Raines suffered from polycystic ovarian disease, which creates cysts on the ovaries that could prevent ovulation.

She also had a thyroid condition that kept her body temperature about one-half degree cooler than normal, he said.

"The body has to be at a certain temperature, just like eggs of a chicken, to incubate, so we did a lot with the thyroid as well," Corley said.

Raines said she barely felt the needles.

"It’s less (painful) than somebody pulling one hair out of your head," she said, adding that she usually fell asleep during the 20-minute treatment sessions.

Raines became pregnant in November 2008 and gave birth to her son Nathan in July.

Corley said acupuncture can treat infertility, pain, carpal tunnel and birth pain without side effects and is now used to treat effects of chemotherapy in cancer patients.

"Corley told Blevens that acupuncture can help overall well-being and that hospitals in China that only use acupuncture to treat people are successful every day."

"The theory behind acupuncture is that there’s a nervous-flow blockage, and acupuncture releases that blockage to allow the body to run at 110 percent," he said.

Corley’s chiropractic work also saved Murphyboro resident Jamie Blevens from back surgery, he said.

Blevens, a former late-shift hospital nurse, injured her lower back when she wrestled a knife from an estranged patient.

One of Blevens’ spinal discs put pressure on a nerve that ran from her back to her foot, she said.

"I didn’t realize the pain level until the third day, when it was ridiculous," Blevens said.

Blevens said the pain was so intense that if she rode in a car for more than half an hour, she would have to pull over and vomit.

Corley treated Blevens using spinal manipulation, muscle therapy and strengthening programs.

"Once you return the spine to its normal position and the biomechanics are correct, you need to strengthen that area, and that solidifies it," Corley said.

Blevens said she initially resisted the strengthening program.

"It hurts. You have to hold all these exercises ... and he has you moving all your body parts to learn how to make yourself stronger, and it’s parts that you’ve never used before," Blevens said.

Corley then told her she had the worst MRI report he had read in a long time, and surgery would have been her only other option, she said.

"The mother of 13 children reluctantly adhered to Corley’s strengthening techniques, and though she’s been told her pain will never go away completely, Blevens said she learned how to control it.

"If you don’t know any better, you would go to your medical doctor, they would refer you to a surgeon, and you’d have surgery," Blevens said. "If you don’t look into chiropractics, you don’t understand that your body can help itself."

Blevens said Corley has told her acupuncture could help alleviate lingering pain, but she said she might not be ready for another round.

"I don’t know," Blevens said laughing, after admitting her fear of needles. "Maybe."
Shady business

THE MIDDLE OF CENTER

If the business of America is business, what standard is America setting with its business practices? Private equity practices show there is a lack of transparency and honesty in the business executive work place.

The opportunity for the individual to make a quick buck needs to be regulated so the system doesn’t suffer another major breakdown.

According to “Flipped,” a series in the New York Times, private equity firms are getting paid to make deals that don’t produce real worth.

For private equity investors to get paid, they have to buy a deal. Even if the investors find a deal with a lot of debt, they can still say they found the deal and get paid for making it. The problem is when these deals snowball, creating financial holes of debt in the system as they roll along, they are never repaired.

When an individual borrows money to buy a company, the private equity firm is banking on the assumption the company will do well enough to pay off the debt.

The people making the deals end up with tons of money while the real corporation fails to do its business, and the average worker gets none — or very little — out of the process.

In “Flipped,” the mattress company Simmons is a test case. It shows the process of private equity on a company. The workers at Simmons had benefits such as pensions when they retired. Those benefits were cut, and workers were laid off, creating pressure for those on the line. In a plant near Atlanta, the factory was closed down and thousands lost their jobs.

The Securities and Exchange Commission, the government body in charge of equity markets, has had trouble keeping business clean of such dealings.

One recent example of this is the Bernie Madoff scandal. The SEC, in its report to the public, admitted it failed to stop Madoff, despite complaints about his business practices.

The Private Equity Council talked last week about the new regulations. Douglas Lowenstein, president of the council, said it would be problematic for Private Equity to reveal its actions to a third party.

“Such a requirement is potentially destructive of normal commercial relationships and could expose proprietary information and trade secrets to those with whom we compete,” Lowenstein said.

Companies should not have anything to hide from the govern ment, if they are an honest business.

In this report, Lowenstein said the amount of money used in private equity is small. He said the amount of retirement money lost as a result of Madoff’s Ponzi scheme was insignificant.

Private equity practices need to be managed with the law and create real wealth and not just pad the businessmen’s pocket.

Thomas is a senior studying journalism.

When asked recently whether the Pentagon would meet its January deadline to close the Guantanamo Bay prison, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said the task ’has proven more complicated than anticipated.”

That phrase pretty well sums up the attitude the administration and Democrats in Congress have taken toward national security since President Barack Obama took office.

Issues that seemed simple on the campaign trail require subtler handling than voters were led to believe. Gitmo is one of those.

Soon after being inaugurated, Obama announced he would close it. But what to do with the inmates is still up for grabs. Congressional Democrats have joined Republicans in rejecting their transfer to American soil, even in maximum-security prisons.

Finding countries to take inmates has been harder than expected. The administration also hasn’t decided how to procede with detainees who for one reason or another can’t be tried in criminal courts but are too dangerous to release. Some of those cases will probably end up before those military commissions that were estab lished under President George W. Bush and widely denounced by his critics.

There then is the Patriot Act, which Democratic presidential candidates uniformly reviled as a violation of privacy rights. Three of its provisions will expire at the end of this year, including one authorizing “roving wiretaps” of suspects who use multiple cell phones to evade detection and one allowing federal agents to sub poena data such as library records.

But the Justice Department, urging their renewal, insists that the law and its guidelines not only protect national security but “safeguard Americans’ privacy and civil liberties.”

Then there is the “state secrets privilege,” which the Bush admin istration used to block lawsuits alleging government wrongdoing by claiming (truthfully or not) that it couldn’t mount a defense itself without spilling vital secrets.

So, Attorney General Eric Holder has stuck to that position in cases already in the courts, while stipulating that use of that defense will require review by the attorney gen eral and a commit tee of government attorneys.

But it has shown no interest in legislation to limit the president’s discretion, meaning that Obama and his successors would remain largely free to do what they want. How to explain the discrepancy between the bold pledges of 2008 and the relative inaction of 2009? One reason is that Democrats were eager to condemn almost anything associated with George W. Bush, without looking too closely at the details. Another reason is that being given responsibility for the lives of Americans can alter your perceptions.

“What a surprise that things look different when you’re president,” said Northwestern University law professor Ronald J. Allen, who regards the Patriot Act as a collection of valuable tools, some of which could use new restrictions to prevent abuse.

That seems to be the newfound view of many Democrats.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy of Vermont has introduced legisla tion that would extend the expir ing provisions while expanding oversight by judges and Congress, as well as the Justice Department’s own inspector general. But it’s not just greater realism that motivates the president and his allies. They seem to see no urgent reason to relinquish these tools, because they trust themselves to act wisely.

“When people gain power, they prefer not to be scrutinized,” said New York University law professor Stephen Schufler.

But a power that can be easily abused, like the state secrets defense, is a power that should be confined by checks and balances, not left to the executive’s pleasure.

It’s nice to see the Democrats recognize that on matters involv ing national security, the Bush administration got some answers right. It would be nice if they also recognized that the nation could use safeguards to keep the Obama administration from getting them wrong.

This editorial appeared in the Chicago Tribune Monday, Oct. 5.
**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Dunn is the opinion editor of the Daily Egyptian. Staff editors have authority to make all content decisions without oversight or advance approval. We reserve the right to not publish any letter or guest column.

**NOTICE**

The Daily Egyptian is a designated public forum. Student editors have authority to make all content decisions without oversight or advance approval. We reserve the right to not publish any letter or guest column.

**SUBMISSIONS**

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author’s contact information, preferably an e-mail or phone number. Submissions should be e-mailed or brought in to the newsroom. Letters are limited to 500 words. Columnists should include a resume. Columnists must include a resume. The daily Egyptian is not responsible for lost or damaged e-mail. Submissions that do not meet these requirements are subject to publication discretion.

**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

![Editorial Cartoon](image)

**GUEST COLUMN**

**Is the Mississippi coast invisible?**

**Stan Tiner**

**MCCLATCHY TRIBUNE**

When the White House recently announced the president would be visiting New Orleans and the "hurricane-damaged" areas of the Gulf Coast in mid-October, in accordance with a campaign pledge, our immediate thought was we better get ready.

But since the initial notice was lacking additional facts, the Biloxi (Miss.) Sun Herald asked the White House press office directly — will he be coming to South Mississippi?

The response was brief: "The president will be going to New Orleans."

The president’s decision, or that of his advisors and inner circle, to visit the one place and not the other, underscores the persisting observation that southern Mississippi has faded into obscurity, and that the consequence of four years of the Katrina narrative development is invisibility, even to the president of the United States.

Invisibility means that an object can literally not be seen, but it can also mean that because of perception or philosophical blindness, or lack of knowledge, a person or group, or a place such as Mississippi may be invisible.

Ralph Ellison’s powerful novel, “ Invisible Man,” is about an unnamed black who believes himself to be socially invisible.

He tries over the course of the book to understand his place in American society. He is an unperson, and he is invisible because he is seen in the stereotypes that society has placed on his existence, and through the prism of those views he becomes invisible.

Aimee Berger and Kate Cochran addressed some of the reasons for our invisibility in a 2007 College English Association Forum exploring news coverage of Hurricane Katrina and how it had affected New Orleans as well as the Mississippi Coast.

Berger and Cochran frame their analysis of the coverage involving the two places by saying “Primary among the ... Katrina narrative is the dialectic of invisibility and visibility, which displaced and erased Mississippi while rendering New Orleans hyper-visible.”

They go on to say that as the cameras almost instantly shifted from here to there, the story portrayed New Orleans as “a most un-American city” chiefly populated by drug dealers, criminals and people who refused to leave.

The omission of coverage here, they say, was related to our “unique place in the national imagination,” a collective memory that focuses largely on poverty, high illiteracy rates, and “general social backwardness.”

To many Americans, the name “Mississippi” still evokes the past “and the murders of Medgar Evers, Emmett Till and Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner.”

The violent eruptions surrounding the admission of James Meredith to Ole Miss is also cited in the 2007 Forum article. This was published more than a year before the historic presidential debate at Ole Miss on Oct. 7, 2008, between Sens. Barack Obama and John McCain. Much of the coverage leading up to the debate recounted the problems involving race-relations in Mississippi. A good deal of attention was paid to the progress that has occurred here over the last several decades.

The lack of coverage about the Coast in Katrina’s aftermath was related to the “nation’s reluctance to identify with Mississippi,” the authors conclude.

Whether for those reasons or others, “media coverage relented in images and tales from New Orleans, (and) the Mississippi Gulf Coast was all but forgotten, rendered invisible by the media’s rhetorical operations.” There is a political dimension embedded in this. Of course.

Various commentators on the post-Katrina story have pointed to the ties that Republicans Gov. Haley Barbour and Sens. Thad Cochran and Trent Lott had with the administration then in power and suggest favoritism in the allocation of funding for recovery in Mississippi when compared to Louisiana.

The contentious post-storm squabble between Mayor Ray Nagin and Governor Kathleen Blanco, both Democrats, presented one image in Louisiana, while Barbour articulated quite a different rhetorical message, and from the beginning presented a calm and competent figure that represented almost perfectly the preferred self-image of Mississippians.

Some have also concluded that a measure of that rhetoric was pointed across the state border when he said things like “our people weren’t looking for someone to blame; they weren’t whining, complaining. Our people are not into victimhood.”

Berger and Cochran regard this, and comments of other leaders in Mississippi as an attempt on the part of the state “to construct a new space in the social imaginary instead of representing America’s shameful qualities like racism and arrogance. Mississippi’s public face is hopeful, gracious, grateful, humble, and its public voice bespeaks that all-American can-do attitude.”

This is quite true and there has mostly been a unified voice from the state throughout the post-Katrina period.

The most notable off-message voice involves the disbursement of Katrina funds, especially those to be spent in behalf of housing for the poorest in the state.

Advocates for those groups would likely assert they are invisible among the invisible. In the years since Katrina it is ever more obvious that Mississippi is being erased from the collective consciousness of many Americans as a place that suffered significantly from the storms.

I will write for any who might have forgotten: taken alone, without any damage having occurred in Louisiana or elsewhere, Katrina’s toll on the Mississippi Coast would constitute the greatest natural disaster in American history.

Will restate for any who might have forgotten: taken alone, without any damage having occurred in Louisiana or elsewhere, Katrina’s toll on the Mississippi Coast would constitute the greatest natural disaster in American history.

The recent news cycle left the impression that the response was weak, in contrast with the response of the federal government.

This was a gross misrepresentation of what actually occurred. The response was quick, decisive, and the allocation of federal funds was almost immediate.

And, in a sense, Katrina was over in Louisiana and other Gulf Coast states well before it was over in Mississippi.

But the configuration of the settlement and the distribution of funds was a matter of concern.

The 2007 Forum article asked, “Will we be better prepared for a disaster of Katrina’s magnitude in the future?”

Yes, we will be better prepared.

“After Katrina, the federal government, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, turned the corner, and for the first time, in a coordinated manner, made sure that every community was able to project, plan and act based on its own assessment of what was needed,” said the authors.

In the aftermath, the state of Mississippi was “organized and committed to fast action.”

“Questions on the state’s ability to respond to another natural disaster have been squelched. Perhaps the state of Mississippi has found its voice, and its message is ‘We are capable of responding efficiently, effectively, and quickly to another natural disaster.’”

If that is the case, then my previous concern that history books won’t contain the accurate story of Katrina has come true in only four years.

Tisser is vice president and executive editor of the Sun Herald.
Iraqis soldiers prepare for a mortar-firing exercise in the desert outside of the southern Iraqi city of Nasiriyah. The U.S. military is helping to train the local security forces.

centrally, the brutal insurgency sharply limit-
ed on-the-scene reporting. The U.S. military never shared its data. At least, the numbers released by the Hu-
man Rights Ministry are a minimum of the number who died.

Emanuel D’Harcourt from the New York-based International Rescue Commit-
tee, who participated in mortality surveys in such places as Sudan and Sierra Leone, said the figures are undoubtedly low and that considering the challenges associated with counting those killed in the Iraqi conflict, a true figure might never be reached.
Charity ‘kicks’ funding toward Cure Tay-Sachs

Travis Bean

Kicking balls and taking names are on the agenda this weekend for participants in Kickballapalooza.

The tournament will take place Saturday at Artaxx Park in Carbondale, said co-director Anne Karayannis.

Co-director Ron Perry, a West Frankfort native, played in kickball leagues with Karayannis, who is where they came up with the idea for the event.

“We just had so much fun playing in St. Louis that we had to bring it to the Carbondale area,” he said.

Karayannis said all proceeds will go to the Cure Tay-Sachs Foundation.

“We decided to put out a tournament to see if people are interested,” she said. “We want to give back to the community and do something for a charity.”

Tim Rochman, a board member of the foundation, said he knows Perry through kickball leagues in St. Louis and was approached about participating in the charity event.

“It was nice that everybody came together to help out with it,” Rochman said.

Rochman said his 13-year-old daughter has Tay-Sachs. He said the disease is a rare and fatal neurological disorder, and his daughter has it.

James Rochman, Tim Rochman’s brother, is part of Blue Sky Vineyard’s team in the event. He said he is always happy to help the fight against Tay-Sachs.

“Anytime there’s a fundraiser for the foundation, we try to show up and support it,” he said. “That’s one of the main reasons I got a team together.”

Karayannis said other charities have contacted her about hosting benefits.

She said she plans to make the event annual and host a different charity each year. She also hopes to start a kickball league in the spring, she said.

Perry said the event has drawn many sponsors and support, most notably from Pinch Penny Pub and the Heartland Pediatric Clinic.

Jimmy Karayannis, manager of Pinch Penny Pub and Copper Dragon Brewing Company said both bars will have teams in the tournament.

“It just sounds fun and different and out-of-the-ordinary of regular, everyday card softball,” he said.

Perry said the tournament would start at 9 a.m. and end around 6 p.m. He said there are 12 teams divided into three pools. The top teams from each pool will advance to a single-elimination round where the winner will receive a trophy.

James Rochman said he has 18 members on his team ranging in age from 17 to 43. He expects the team to be competitive and fun as well.

“I know there’s going to be two or three teams taking it a little more seriously than probably the rest of the teams,” he said.

Annie Karayannis said the kickball tournaments in St. Louis could be very competitive. She said the atmosphere in Carbondale should be less aggressive.

“I think it will be a good time overall, just playing kickball, having fun and hanging out with friends,” she said.

For more information about the spring kickball league, visit www.sikkiball.com.
Senator candidate addresses students

Madeleine Leroux

For Cheryl Jackson, Illinois and the nation need to focus on vision, strategy and execution to move forward.

Jackson, Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate, met with students Wednesday in Parkinson Building to discuss student perspectives and answer questions from potential supporters.

Jackson is running for President Barack Obama’s Senate seat, now held by U.S. Sen. Roland Burris, D-Ill. Burris said he would not seek a full term and wants to focus on issues such as gun violence and health care with his remaining time in the Senate.

Jackson challenges Illinois Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias and former Chicago Inspector General David Hoffman in the Feb. 2 Democratic primary for the open Senate seat.

Jackson said she emphasizes the importance of small businesses in recovering from the recession. There is a need for a strong focus on entrepreneurs, Jackson said, through education and investments in colleges and universities.

Students said one way she differs from other candidates is her lack of personal funds to finance her campaign.

“I’m the only non-millionaire running in this campaign,” Jackson said. “I think that’s important. I don’t come from privilege.”

According to the Chicago Tribune, as of Oct. 13, Jackson raised $354,000 for her campaign, Giannoulias raised $2.4 million, and Hoffman raised $405,000 plus the $500,000 he said he loaned his campaign.

Tjuyan Cratic, a senior from Chicago studying political science, said he worked to bring Jackson to the Carbondale campus to spread her message. Cratic said it was a difficult task to organize Jackson’s visit, considering part of a formal organization.

“You have to believe in what your candidate stands for,” Cratic said. “The way (Jackson) talks to small businesses, that’s one of the most important things you can do.”

Jackson worked as a spokesperson for former Gov. Rod Blagojevich and a former top aide in his administration before leaving in October 2006 to become president of the Chicago Urban League, which promotes social and economic advancement for Chicago’s black citizens.

Madeleine Leroux can be reached at 536-3313 ext. 254.

You have to believe in what your candidate stands for.

—Tjuyan Cratic

Democratic Cheryl Jackson, candidate for U.S. Senate, spoke with students and university staff members Wednesday in Parkinson Building for a question and answer session. “I’m the only non-millionaire running, I don’t come from privilege, I have to rely on people,” she said. “My campaign is the people’s campaign.”

Cutler stays mum on Owens

Andrew Seligman

LAKE FOREST — If Jay Cutler is salivating at the thought of passing to Terrill Owens, he wasn’t about to let the public in on it. “The Chicago Bears quarterback would not say Wednesday whether he’d like the team to acquire the flashy and controversial receiver from Buffalo.

Asked what he would say if Bears management approached him about Owens, Cutler responded: “I don’t think they’re going to think I’ll keep that upstairs.”

Is that because the team is happy with its wide receivers? Roughly translated, Cutler mumbled, “Hmmmm.”

And when asked if he’s texted or tweeted Owens, Cutler simply said he doesn’t know him. He did, however, let on that he has watched Owens’ reality show and that it’s “humorous.”

While the possibility of T.O. taking his act to the Magnificent Mile and joining forces with the strong-armed quarterback is a tantalizing one, Cutler likes what he’s seeing from the Bears (3-1). They’ve won three straight and should be well-rested after a bye heading into their game Sunday at Atlanta, where they lost in the closing seconds last year.

Last season in Atlanta, the Broncos rallied for a victory. That made Cutler the lone opposing quarterback to win there in 2008.

“It’s a loud environment,” said Cutler, who threw for 216 yards and led a fourth-quarter touchdown drive that lifted Denver to a four-point win. “Sunday night football, it will be even louder so we’ve got to protect the football. They’re a good defense. Matt Ryan, Michael Turner, all those guys will try to do a good job. We’ve got to play our best ball.”

Whether they could use help at wide receiver is open to debate, considering the group in place is exceeding expectations.

The Bears opted not to go after a high-profile receiver in the offseason, when Owens was on the market, and stuck with an unproven group. The results so far are promising. The Bears are averaging more than 26 points, and Devin Hester, Earl Bennett and rookie Johnny Knox have all contributed on offense and special teams.

“We had high expectations for them,” offensive coordinator Ron Turner said. “We felt good about that group coming in. The only knock on them was they’re young and inexperienced. But we felt they were good players.”

For the Owens rumors?

“I just heard something about that,” Turner said. “We’re happy with the guys we have. We really are. I’m excited about the young receivers we have. They’re not playing like young receivers. They’re playing well.”

“They’re thrilled with their futures, quarterback, too, of course. And seeing Matt Forte break out with 121 yards in the last game against Detroit certainly was a welcome sight.

Now, they’d like to get tight end Greg Olsen a little more involved and improve on their 33 percent third-down conversion rate.

“We’ve only played four games and there’s a lot of football left for us to improve that area,” Cutler said. “We’ve gone against some tough defenses. ... We’ve kept ourselves out of third-and-long, which is good. When you get to get a little bit better at third-and-7 and 8s.”

With the arrival of Cutler and an unproven group of wide receivers, Olsen seemed poised for a Pro Bowl season. Instead, he’s fifth on the team with 10 receptions for 94 yards.

Were the expectations too high? “I don’t think so at all,” Olsen said. “I feel I have that type of potential and that type of ability. Things have to go your way sometimes.”

Cutler said they will for Olsen, eventually.

“We’ve done a lot of different stuff with Greg,” he said. “A lot of plays are trying to take him away from us, which is fine. That’s why it’s opened up stuff for everyone else.”

Miami Dolphins’ Vontae Davis covers Buffalo Bills’ Terrill Owens in the fourth quarter on Oct. 4, at Landshark Stadium in Miami. The Dolphins defeated the Bills 38-10.

Joe Romenes Jr. | McClatchy Tribune

Lela Neibert | Daily Egyptian

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For Cheryl Jackson, Illinois and the nation need to focus on vision, strategy and execution to move forward.

Jackson, Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate, met with students Wednesday in Parkinson Building to discuss student perspectives and answer questions from potential supporters.

Jackson is running for President Barack Obama’s Senate seat, now held by U.S. Sen. Roland Burris, D-Ill. Burris said he would not seek a full term and wants to focus on issues such as gun violence and health care with his remaining time in the Senate. Senate candidate addresses students
Several ESPN analysts have mentioned the possibility that the Buffalo Bills could trade Terrell Owens to the Chicago Bears. Do you think T.O. would be a good fit for the 3-7 Bears?

Ryan Vogles

Ray McGillis

Rayovil

Derek Robbins

Ray McGillis can be reached at 536-3111 ext. 282.

Mohamed said this weekend will be a revealing test to see how SIU matches up against some of the top programs in the nation, including top ranked schools such as No. 1 Stanford University, No. 2 Northern Arizona University and No. 4 University of Colorado.

"I'll be key for us to go in confident," Mohamed said. "We will be facing some tough schools. We know we're out in the snow, so it's just time to perform." The women will travel to Peoria to compete in the season's first meet featuring a field of primarily Missouri Valley Conference opponents.

Senior A’Shert Dokubo has been a key contributor for the women this season with top-10 finishes in each of the Salukis first four meets, including a second place finish at the Saluki Invitational.

"I'm headed in the right direction so far," Dokubo said. "I started off real fast, but something was just off at Notre Dame. I hope to rebound this weekend from that and head into the conference championship strong." Dokubo said the conference title is already in the team's sights and thinks the team matches up well against the rest of the field. "The majority of our team has ran against these schools for three years now, and we know we can beat them," Dokubo said. "This (meet) will be a good gauge of how much we've progressed."
Panthers ready for top-10 showdown

"Whoever wins this game is gonna be in the driver's seat for the conference," Northern Iowa senior linebacker Josh Mahoney said. "It's at the right moment in our season when we want to play a team like Southern Illinois, and we're excited to line up against them next week."

The No. 2 Panthers (5-1, 3-0 MVFC) come into Saturday's game winners of five straight games since their 17-16 season-opening loss against the University of Iowa. The Hawkeyes, ranked No. 11 in the AP Top 25 poll in the Football Bowl Subdivision, won the game after blocking two straight Northern Iowa field goals in the closing seconds.

The Panthers seem to have taken out the frustration from the loss on all their opponents. The Panthers won their past five games by an average of 37.4 points, holding four of those opponents to seven points or less. They are allowing only 10.83 points per game, and an average of 261.5 yards per game. But that's only when the opposing offense gets a chance to run a play.

The Panthers have recorded 18 sacks on the season, including 6.5 sacks from Buck Buchanan Award Candidate James Ruffin. The award is given to the most outstanding defensive player in the Football Championship Subdivision.

Head coach Mark Farley said it has been a complete team effort on defense.

"It's all about our front four. They're doing a good job of putting on the pressure and getting to the other team's quarterback," Farley said. "But there's also been competition in those sorts of games between the players. They're all trying to outdo each other."

The Panthers aren't just dominating opponents on the defensive side. Northern Iowa is second in the FCS in scoring offense (41.8 points per game) and fourth in total offense (468.3 yards per game). The balance has also been noticeable, as the Panthers average 216.5 yards rushing and 251.8 yards through the air.

Head coach Dale Lennon said the balance of the Panthers' attack is impressive.

"They're a pretty loaded team on the offensive side. They can hurt you with (redshirt senior quarterback Pat) Grice, but then they can hit you with their run game," Lennon said. "They can do everything, so that's something we'll have to prepare for."

Grace has hedged the call as offensive leader in his second year under center. The redshirt senior has thrown for 1,470 yards this season with 15 touchdowns and only two interceptions. He also does not have to worry about the pass rush, as the five seniors on the offensive line have only allowed seven sacks the entire season.

See ENEMY | 11

Men's Basketball

Ex-Badger to sign with SIU

Former Wisconsin freshman guard Diamond Taylor will enroll at SIU and join the men's basketball team, according to his former coach.

Mike Mullins, father of former Saluki Brian Mullins and Taylor's Amateur Athletic Union coach, said Taylor will be the newest Saluki.

The three-star recruit was expected to be a key contributor for the Badgers this season, but the team revoked his scholarship after he was arrested in September.

Taylor and his University of Wisconsin teammate Jeremy Glow- er were arrested on charges of burglary and possession of stolen property after being caught with iPods, a cell phone and more than $400 in cash after a break-in.

"That's very uncharacteristic from the Taylor I know," Mullins said. "He did something stupid; there is no excuse for what he did. He's facing the consequences for it now, and I know he'll bounce back from this."

Wisconsin has since released Taylor from his scholarship and, according to Mullins, he will move to Carbondale this weekend and start classes next week.

See TAYLOR | 11

Robbins’ Nest

Expert NFL analysis looks novice

Derek Robbins

The NFL is clearly the hardest league to figure out. Year in and year out, at least know who one of the teams in base- ball are. Sure, World Series predic- tions aren’t so easy to make, but be- fore game one is played, the experts know who has a realistic shot.

Once in a while, a baseball team will come out of nowhere and out- perform or under-perform expec- tations. Usually, it is pretty pre- dictable. By comparison, Houston Texans’ quarterback Rex Grossman launching the ball 80 yards down- field into a flock of defenders is less predictable than baseball.

Visit www.SIUE.COM for the rest of the Robbins’ Nest.