The Daily Egyptian, April 15, 2008

Daily Egyptian Staff

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Student trustee candidate accuses opponent of corruption

Allison Petty

A candidate for student trustee has questioned his contender’s fiscal responsibility, bringing forth the information just in time for the student elections today and Wednesday.

Dylan Burns, a junior from Springfield studying history, said Monday he had serious concerns about his opponent, Undergraduate Student Government President Domenous White. Burns cited what he believes is a relationship between White’s ties with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and a roughly 600-percent increase in USG funding of the fraternity.

There’s no way, in my opinion, that can be innocent in any way, Burns said, adding he believes White has a politi
cal endorsement from the fraternity.

According to USG records pro-
sided by White, Alpha Phi Alpha received $6,435 from USG in 2006-
07. That number increased to $38,420 in 2007-08. All of the money allocated by the organization comes from the student activity fee, which costs each student roughly $30 per semester and totals more than $400,000 per year.

White defended himself, saying his role as USG president has no bearing on the finance committee. White also questioned how Burns would know he had ties to the fraternity.

Finance committee chairman Stephen Albert, who is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, said USG offered more funding to the fraternity because many people on campus attend its events. Roughly $4,000 of the money would go to pay for rap artist Yung B.I.D. to perform at Saturday’s Spring Out BBQ; Albert added.

“Is that a big price jump? Yeah,” Albert said. “Did people come up with great ideas this year? Yeah, Should I penalize them? … Maybe tell them they shouldn’t put on events for the school?”

Albert became chair of the com-
mmittee in January, when former chair Joe Yancy stepped down halfway through the year. Yancy said he had always followed the funding guidelines set for USG, but now saw that Alpha Phi Alpha might have received more than its due.

“Now that you’re telling me this, it does kind of sound suspicious,” Yancy said. “Whenever I was chair, we would just fund whoever came in in the moment and how well we would meet the guidelines.”

Because White had been the com-
mmittee’s chair the previous year, he sat on an advisor and helped make decisions, Yancy said. He said White would encourage him to fund events such as the Miss Ebonie competition — allocated $10,000 this year — but White’s support was not limited to Alpha Phi Alpha events.

Burns said he took issue with White’s self-appointment as an advisor, because he said the president should not have a role in the finance commit-
tee’s decisions.

“He framed it to the senate as he was trying to help them along to better the process,” Burns said. “Clearly, it’s bettering the process in the name of the people that got him elected.”

Election Commissioner John Terre, who served as vice president two years ago, said he hadn’t seen enough information to know if White and the finance committee were corrupt. However, he said it would not be difficult for someone in USG’s executive office to push through funding for favored groups.

See FUNDS, Page 8

Eye-opening lecture kicks off GLBT week

Jenn Lofton

The Rev. Mel White said coming out as a homosexual was incredibly difficult.

He was a Christian minister. He feared ridicule. And he chose to make the announcement on national television.

Students, faculty and other com-
munity members gathered in Student Center Ballroom D Monday to listen to White’s story of his struggle to accept his own sexual orientation, but also acceptance from other Christians.

White is a well-known author and director of more than 50 television specials, documentary films and books on his experience as someone who faces daily scrutiny about his sexual orientation.

White said he travels across the nation to talk about his experienc-
es to convey that homosexuality is something a person cannot try to reverse and that there has been progres-
se made.

One of the reasons White said he was afraid of coming out was he was raised as an evangelical Christian. His faith forbade even the thought of some-
one being homosexual, he said.

“It’s important for society to see homosexuals as humans, too. We don’t need to be cured, nor are we sinful,” he said.

White also mentioned how he fought with himself for decades to prove he was not homosexual. He tried everything from a heterosexual marriage, therapy and even electric shock to desensitize something for which he knew he would be ridiculed for the rest of his life. However, White said what people say about him and the rest of the gay community no longer fazes him.

Bill Harper, assistant to the director for the University Christian Ministries, said White brings a real presence and power to the university on such a deli-
cate topic.

“It’s not a dead issue. People don’t want to talk about it, but it is some-
thing that needs to be discussed,” Harper said.

Harper said he hopes the lecture and the other events this week leave students and the com-
munity open to change and acceptance of different sexual orienta-
tions. It is important there is an under-
standing of the obstacles homosexuals have to face on a daily basis and people need to be more aware of the negative effects it has on them, Harper said.

Greg Garant, a junior from Chicago studying psychology, said the lecture made him realize there has been prog-
ness made in the religious community of accepting homosexuality.

But Garant said there is still a long way to go before there is full acceptance, which is a reason people have a hard time coming out to the community.

“There is often the belief that religion is anti-gay and they feel shut out. It’s important there is progress in reli-
gion so hopefully homosexuality will be more accepted in society,” Garant said.

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The Rev. Mel White speaks to an audience during a discussion on sexual orientation in American religions and culture at the Student Center Monday. White is the first of six events offered this week as part of the 2008 GLBT Awareness Week.
Huskies for Hokies: NIU plans vigil to mark anniversary of Virginia Tech shootings

CHICAGO — (AP) — NIU students at Northern Illinois University announced on Monday they are planning a candlelight vigil to mark the first anniversary of the shootings at Virginia Tech that left 33 people, including the gunman, dead.

The Illinois campus said it will have the “Huskies for Hokies” vigil Wednesday night. NIU president John Peters plans to join community leaders and NIU said it wants to show the same support that the Virginia Tech campus showed when a student opened fire in a DeKalb classroom on Feb. 14, killing five students and himself.

NIU officials say Virginia Tech counselors and students traveled to Illinois after the deadly DeKalb shootings and more than 1,000 students at the Blackhawk, Ill., campus had a candlelight vigil for the victims.

Malcolm X College evacuates due to threat

CHICAGO (AP) — Classes are set to resume at Malcolm X College after up to 1,000 people were evacuated from the school because a threat was found written on a bathroom wall.

College spokesman Luis Tuberos says police have determined the campus is secure and classes will resume after 4:30 p.m. Monday.

Tuberos declined to reveal details about the threat discovered Monday morning.

He said the school’s security officers responded to the situation with the Chicago Police Department.

Four schools near St. Xavier university close Monday as a precaution

CHICAGO (AP) — Four schools near a Chicago college are canceling classes after a threat was found scrawled on a bathroom wall at the university.

Mother McAuley High School, Brother Rice High School, Queen of Martyrs elementary school and Renaissance Park Southwest Elementary were closed Monday because of their proximity to St. Xavier University.

That school shut down indefinitely last week after threatening graffiti was found scrawled in the bathroom of a freshman dorm.

One message read: “Be prepared to die on 4/14.” Officials hope the Catholic liberal arts college will reopen as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, officials at the area high schools and elementary school say they expect to resume classes today.

Daley looks forward to making Chicago’s case for Olympics

CHICAGO (AP) — Mayor Richard Daley said Monday he would welcome an extra chance to pitch Chicago to the International Olympic Committee before it decides which city will host the 2016 Summer Olympics.

Last week, the IOC’s executive board said finalist cities would be able to explain their bids to IOC members at a special meeting a few months before next year’s final vote.

“It’s a good venue for us to make a presentation,” said Daley, who spoke to reporters at a U.S. Olympic Committee media summit.

Chicago is a likely finalist when the IOC whittles a list of seven bids to an undecided number of contenders in June.

The IOC is going for the longest-looking special meeting to explain their bids as part of “Try-turning” of the process. IOC president Jacques Rogge has said.

Police reports

R. A. Littlefield, a 19-year-old SIUC student from Nebo, was found scrawled in the bathroom of a freshman dorm.

One message read: “Be prepared to die on 4/14.” Officials hope the Catholic liberal arts college will reopen as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, officials at the area high schools and elementary school say they expect to resume classes today.

CORRECTIONS

In the Monday edition of the Daily Egyptian, the page 15 story “Snow cancels Saluki series with Drake” should have stated the Salukis are in second place in the Missouri Valley Conference. The Daily Egyptian regrets the error.

Who will make the biggest impact in SIU sports?

• Kevin Olliar

• Anthony Booker

• Bryan Mullins

E-mail: mcharriss@countryfinancial.com or call 618-457-5373 for a free quote.

Who made the biggest impact in SIU sports?

• Kevin Olliar

• Anthony Booker

• Bryan Mullins
Conduct code revisions change hands — again

Madeleine Leroux  Daily Egyptian

After more than a year of review of the Student Conduct Code, the final report of recommended changes is being prepared and the responsibility of finalizing the code now lies with a new interim chancellor.

Paul Sarvela, committee chair and dean of the College of Applied Sciences and Arts, said interim Chancellor Samuel Goldman now has final approval on all recommended changes to the conduct code.

In March, Chancellor Fernando Treviso was placed on administrative leave and Don Rice, interim provost and vice chancellor, began fulfilling the day-to-day duties of the chancellor, including finalizing revisions to the conduct code.

On Friday it was announced Goldman would step in as interim chancellor, making him responsible for finalizing revisions.

Goldman said he could not comment on the progress of the conduct code revisions as he has not seen it yet and is not familiar with the process of code conduct revisions.

Sarvela said Julie Payne Karchmer, director of University Housing, is putting together the final report of recommended changes. It will then be distributed to all committee members and there will be a final opportunity to vote on all recommended changes, he said.

Sarvela said after the committee has its final vote, the report would be submitted to Goldman, who will decide which recommendations to follow and then discuss changes with SIU President Glenn Poshard. Sarvela said Goldman would also decide when the final conduct code is released.

"We really would like to have this done before the end of the semester," Sarvela said.

He said the most debated changes were to the sanctions policy, which allows the university to ban a student from campus without a hearing, and the jurisdiction policy. The current conduct code gives SIUC jurisdiction over students anywhere, off or on campus.

The committee has made lists of possible changes, with each item specified as a majority or minority opinion, to these areas for Goldman to consider.

But even a majority vote does not assure the change will be made.

Sarvela said all minority opinions of the committee are included in the final report and Goldman can pick and choose which recommendations to abide by.

"Dr. Goldman may take all of our suggestions, take half of them or modify them," Sarvela said. "It's his call."

Madeleine Leroux can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 264 or mleroux@eiu.edu.

Progression of conduct code

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Seven SIUC students accused of beating a fellow student were expelled because of procedures outlined in Student Conduct Code.</td>
<td>Committee turns in draft of conduct code to Chancellor Treviso.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Student Conduct Code committee appointed to review and revise code.</td>
<td>Interim Provost Don Rice takes responsibility of finalizing revisions to code.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Meetings and focus groups held with students, faculty and staff.</td>
<td>Interim Provost Don Rice takes responsibility of finalizing revisions to code after Treviso is placed on administrative leave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Committee begins drafting final proposed changes to code.</td>
<td>Preparations begin on final report of revisions, finalization of code now lies with interim Chancellor Samuel Goldman.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Final report of revisions, finalization of code now lies with interim Chancellor Samuel Goldman.</td>
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Delta, Northwest merger makes world’s largest airline

Harry R. Webster  The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Delta Air Lines Inc. and Northwest Airlines Corp., squeezed by record high fuel prices and a slowing economy, are combining in a shake-up deal that would create the world’s largest carrier.

The boards of both companies gave the deal the go-ahead Monday. The announcement could spur other airline combinations. The most likely scenario that has been talked about is a potential deal between United and Continental airlines.

Under the terms of the Delta transaction, Northwest shareholders will receive 1.25 Delta shares for each Northwest share they own. The exchange ratio represents a premium to Northwest shareholders of 36.8 percent based on Monday’s closing stock price.

That currently values Northwest at almost $3.63 billion based on $277 million Northwest shares that the companies said are outstanding.

Delta said the combined airline, which will be Delta, will have an enterprise value of $17.7 billion, which includes the combined market values of the two companies and combined net debt. It will be based in Atlanta, and Delta CEO Richard Anderson will head the combined company.

There will be an unspecified number of job cuts or transfers through the consolidation of overlapping corporate and administrative functions, Delta said. The two airlines employ more than 80,000 people combined. The company expects no involuntary furloughs of front-line employees and said the existing pension plans for both companies’ employees will be protected.

Delta doesn’t plan to close any of the two airlines’ hubs.

Delta said it will use its best efforts to reach a combined Delta-Northwest pilot agreement, including resolution of pilot seniority integration, before the closing of the merger.

U.S. based non-employee pilots of both companies will get a 4.5 percent equity stake in the new airline when the deal closes, Delta said.

Northwest pilots and the union representing most of Northwest’s ground workers immediately announced they would fight the combination.

Dave Stevens, chairman of the Northwest branch of the Air Line Pilots Association, said in a prepared statement, “The risk to Northwest Airlines and to the Northwest pilot group from letting this merger proceed, as it is now structured, is simply too great.”

Northwest didn’t consult with the union that represents its baggage handlers, ramp workers and ticket agents, said Joseph Tiben, a spokesman for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

“If the airline wanted the support of the pilots, it should have brought us in and discussed it with us earlier,” he said.

Lee Moak, head of Delta’s pilots union, said Delta hopes cooler heads will prevail.

It takes two to fight, Moak told The Associated Press. “We don’t see a fight here. We see a cooperative relationship with the Northwest pilots to bring everybody to parity as soon as possible.”

Hear from the New York Times

Chief Washington Correspondent

David Sanger

Wednesday, April 16 at 7 p.m.
SIU Law School Auditorium

China, Japan and India: The Rise of America’s Strategic Competitors

David Sanger covers the White House for the New York Times and is one of the newspaper’s senior writers. In a 25-year career at the paper, he has reported from New York, Tokyo and Washington, covering a wide variety of issues surrounding foreign policy globalization, nuclear proliferation, Asian affairs and, since 2001, the arc of the Bush presidency. Twice he has been a member of Times reporting teams that won the Pulitzer Prize.

In 2004, he and four colleagues shared the American Society of Newspaper Editor’s top award for deadline writing, for the team coverage of the space shuttle Columbia disaster. Sanger appears regularly on public affairs and news shows, including Washington Week in Review, Face the Nation and the NewsHour with Jim Lehrer.

Art reviews online.
Democrats on Monday questioned rival Sen. Hillary Clinton over her failure to secure the endorsement of the influential United Steelworkers union, which backed Democrat John Edwards before he dropped out of the race. "Here’s what you can’t do. You can’t do exactly what part of two decades campaigning for NAFTA and PNTR for China, and then come home to Pennsylvania, and tell the steelworkers you’ve been with them all along," Obama said. "You can’t say you are opposed to the Colombia Trade deal, while your key strategist, the working for the Colombian government to get the deal passed," he added.

"This is not a vote against the president," Clinton spokesman Phil Singer said. "Senator Obama’s speeches would not have his condemn- ing views of Americans living in small towns." Addressing the gathering later Monday, Clinton said her husband made mistakes related to NAFTA, but that she planned to fix them. Clinton said she would either address the NAFTA problem by halting talks, or would tell Canada and Mexico that the United States is pulling out of the agreement.

Both candidates are hoping to secure the endorsement of the influential United Steelworkers union, which backed Democrat John Edwards before he dropped out of the race. "We’re tired, we’re frustrated, we’re angry and we need somebody who’s going to stand up for fair trade." Obama told a meeting of the Alliance for American Manufacturing, Clinton did just that at a stop Saturday at Brooklyn's restaurant in Crown Point, Ind.

The two presidential candidates continued to hammer each other Monday after a weekend of criti-

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Students employees enjoy eggs and exaltation

Jarin Dunnigan received two “bonus” checks for a total of $475 this week.

Named the state’s and the university’s Student Employee of the Year, Dunnigan was recognized at a special breakfast Monday. The Student Employment Program hosted the event honoring 14 student employee nominees. Financial aid staff said the event was meant to reward students for their hard work while keeping them motivated and focused throughout the year.

Dunnigan, who has been employed at the Department of Public Safety for nearly two years, said being a student employee is complicated.

“It’s challenging to balance all those things: your recreation, trying to pursue two degrees, pursing a master’s degree in the fall … I’ll go to school during the day and then come to work, sometimes until there in the morning,” Dunnigan said.

According to the Student Employee of the Year’s guidelines, any student employed on campus for at least six months during the academic year is eligible for nomination. Nominees were evaluated by a panel of four university employees on their reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution.

The SIUC Student Employee of the Year receives $400 and a plaque. The two finalists were recognized with a $200 scholarship and certificate. This year’s finalists were Julia Kozuck from University Housing and Alexa Young from Student Center Scheduling.

Because he also won the state title, Dunnigan, a senior from Flora studying administrative justice and psychology, received an additional $75.

Working at University Housing for almost four years, Kozuck, an undeclared graduate student from Roscoe, said her employers understood the “student” in student employee came first.

With her parents being six hours away, Kozuck said her supervisors have helped her cope with the stress of college life.

“I don’t call my supervisors my moms, but they’re like older sisters to me,” she said. “They know everything that’s going on in my life because I know I can spend five minutes up in their office and say ‘Oh my god. This is what’s happening. I hate this professor.’”

Rebecca Dycus, the publicity and promotions supervisor at University Housing, said since Kozuck has been there for almost three years longer than she has, Kozuck has been her go-to person.

“Julia is such an important part of my job. I absolutely cannot do my job without her. I depend on her for everything,” Dycus said. “It’s going to be really hard to find someone to fill her shoes.”

Dunnigan said being a student employee gave him maturity, responsibility, experience and networking connections. But he said being a student employee is not something that should be done as an incoming freshman.

“First semester, concentrate on what you’re here for … going from high school to college is a big transition. Take it easy. Then towards the end of the semester, decide if you’re capable of taking on a position for work within the university … then try to find a job,” Dunnigan said.

Lindsey Smith can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 255 or lgsmith@siu.edu.

Secretary of State
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- State ID Card (renewal, replacement, corrections)
- Vehicle Sticker Sales
- Southern Illinois University Collegiate License Plates
- Passenger and B- Truck License Plates
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- Vehicle Title and Registration
- Parking Placards for Persons with Disabilities

State law allows driver’s license renewed up to one year in advance. Proper identification is required for new and duplicate driver’s license and state ID cards. A complete list of acceptable forms of identification is available at:

www.cyberdriveillinois.com

April 17, 2008

9:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.
Ballroom A Student Center

Jesse White • Secretary of State

Memberships are available at the Student Recreation Center!

Purchase a membership at a special price that is valid until August 8, 2008.

SIU Faculty, Staff, Alumni, Spouse or Dependents . $150

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www.siuc.edu/rss
or call 536-5531.
Check Watts, Burns and the ‘green’ fee

Editor’s note: The Daily Egyptian reported today that student trustee candidate Dylan Burns has accused current USG President Dominque White of irresponsibly allocating funds to select Registered Student Organizations.

The story, as some do, materialized on deadline. In the spirit of transparency, the Voices page will be back tomorrow with our word on the matter.

The students of this university all have one thing in common: We pay it too much.

For the future Undergraduate Student Government president and student trustee, this should be a sentiment they hold dear.

But they should also be knowledgeable of the reasons behind this. They should be fair-minded, convincing and confident in their abilities to stand up against the administration.

They should inspire people to align with them.

They should be willing to put in long hours.

Above all, they should be committed to representing their constituents.

They should be Chiqulta Watts for president and Dylan Burns for student trustee.

(Oh, and be sure to mark the box for the “green” fee, too.)

Chiqulta Watts for president

“I would be in their face,” said Watts, on reaching out beyond non-binding powers of USG to the administration.

This attitude is important considering the truth of the matter. The USG is merely a constituency group; it cannot enact any real change. It will take petitions and protest for its message to sink into the heads of the higher-ups. Watts said she would do this.

Watts also says she wants to start with the small things. It’s a realistic notion that we appreciate. Her goals to require CPR classes and expand student parking may be lesser problems that a place like SIUC faces, but they are far from trivial.

You can’t go wrong on decreasing our chances of being late to class and increasing our chances of living.

Burns for student trustee

We like Burns’ “let’s compromise” ideology.

The student trustee will be a stark minority in a room full of middle-aged Board of Trustee members. It will take someone who is willing to bridge this gap in a well-reasoned, mature way to have any impact.

“You have to come into the Board of Trustees meeting, into executive session, with a compromising attitude, saying that ‘I’m here to work with you,’ Burns said.

Bringing forth issues such as the deterioration of Greek Row and the university becoming more sustainable are ones that will require patience — patience that Burns has made evident through his reasoning.

Burns has said that by voting down every fee just because it’s a fee, people tend not to take you seriously.

Burns is right.

The “green” fee

On that note, we hope that students realize some fees are so important that they come down to our very livelihood.

The sustainability research and implementation the “green” fee promises is imperative to the longevity of this university. It would allow a professional council to develop efficiency plans specific to SIUC — and with a $300 million-plus deferred maintenance bill, efficiency seems to be just what we need.

Imagine if our campus was entirely powered by solar energy, a free and renewable resource.

With rallied support, it is entirely possible.

Thumbs down to blackouts and lack of funding

Thumbs Up to plans for new energy efficient roofs for Farner Hall and the Agriculture Building.

The days of falling ceiling tiles, buck- ets and water collection systems only MacGyver could rig up are over. I actually foresaw Farner Hall becoming something similar to a giant fishbowl before I ever heard plans for getting the roof fixed.

Thumbs Down to the elimination of the Finish in Four scholarships.

Tighten budgets equal no more money for scholarships that reward people for finishing college in four years. The once innovative, first-of-its-kind program in Illinois is gone and students who aren’t graduating this year are now out $500. They might as well make us pay for our books and then not give us anything back for them. Oh wait, they already do.

Thumbs Up to the possibility of a full week of intramural softball action for the first time all season.

As of Sunday, the forecast said no rain until at least Friday, so hopefully all the teams that haven’t played a game yet (like the two teams I’m on) will finally be able to get on the field before the playoffs start next week. Maybe next year the intramural staff should look into starting the season a few weeks earlier than they normally do so we don’t run into the problems we have this year.

Thumbs Down to the idea of the American athletes boycotting the opening ceremonies at the Summer Olympics in Beijing.

With all the protesting going on all over the world over the torch relay, I think the message has been relayed to China and skipping the opening ceremony would be pointless. If the United States wants to prove a point to China using the Olympics, I suggest we make that point on the field, on the court and in the pool like we always do by sweeping the medal count at their place.

Thumbs Up to future Saluki Kevin Dillard, Torres Roundtree and Anthony Booker whom all shined in last Saturday night’s McDonald’s Riverway.

This exhibition match up featured high school all-star teams from Illinois and Missouri and was played in the new Chaifetz Arena at Saint Louis University. Dillard scored 20 points off the bench and a pair of McCluer North High School (Mo.) teammates led the way as Roundtree scored 20 points and Booker scored 17 points and pulled down 12 boards.

All three will be suiting up with the Salukis next year and will debut along with Nick Evans (who likes to dunk anything within 10 feet of the basket), so we could be in for quite a show next year.

Fruth is a graduate student in curriculum and instruction.
Read it or leave it

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Before Jordan Wilson takes another swing at my paper — no dissertation — “Bill Fix” he should probably look a bit closer to the large ‘r’ in sidenote and the smaller ‘r’ in sidenote/index.htm. Every one of the points made by Wilson in his most recent article is specifically rebutted in the paper.

First, despite admitting “oblivious rarely pay,” Wilson argues that the decisions and NCAA/television revenues brought in by winning teams make college sports a logical investment.

Not quite. The latest figures for SIU show that our men’s basketball team brought in $815,891 in NCAA distributions. One television contract was worth $23,350. Basketball focused alumni donations amounted to $139,128. This is very typical — alumni pay only 2 percent of the operating expenses of an average university.

However, our basketball team also spent $900,000 on scholarships and salaries alone. Overall, the team lost $187,184 despite being the main beneficiary of $3,473,081 in student scholarships and the powerful influence of basketball than sports.

Colin Powell was right when he said this is a catastrophe. One possible solution to the gross failure of the U.S. education system might be to take a cue from some of the more successful European systems, like Finland. Something that seems overlooked in the U.S. and embraced around the world are vocational or trade, schools. In Finland, all children are required to go to comprehensive school, similar to middle school, and continue to high school, until they are 15. At that point they decide whether to pursue more schooling that would lead to college, or to immediately learn a trade.

Unfortunately, in the U.S. there seems to be some kind of stigma associated with trade schools. Equally, those who choose not to attend college and work a trade are viewed as slightly lower than those who have framed degrees. Everyone has different strengths and learns in different ways. Some students excel with lectures and writing while others need more hands-on approach. Those who choose or want to learn to trade are often stuck in a lecture hall shouldn’t be dismissed.

If vocational schools were better funded and students were educated on the opportunities offered there, then the high dropout rate and resulting problems of an uneducated populace might be averted. Dropping out leaves students with no diploma, and worse, no real job skills. If they can find a trade at a vocational school that interests them more than sitting through art history classes, they might focus more on learning and thus have better future employment.

For students or family members of students contemplating dropping out, this might be a very real solution that satisfies both the need to keep learning and keeping the students’ interest.

There is nothing wrong with learning a trade rather than getting a four-year degree. Vocational jobs are an important part of our economy and those who work in them deserve respect for their skills and knowledge.

There are plenty of Ph.D.’s who can’t unplug a sink or change their car’s oil.

Wenger is a senior studying journalism and Spanish.

**THE CASE FOR THE ‘GREEN’ FEE**

In the past, the Student Environmental Center has tried to emphasize the moral imperative of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to avoid atmospheric and social decline. But for those of you out there who aren’t worried about climate change, or maybe even believe it’s already too late, there’s another very good reason to vote yes on the ‘green referendum’ today and Wednesday.

Why? Because the referendum is an investment in energy efficiency technology that will save SIU millions of dollars over time, making higher education more accessible.

The university has not received a net increase in funding from the state in the last eight years, while the price of electricity has continued to skyrocket. This causes the university to endlessly raise tuition and fees, effectively slamming the door in the face of low income students.

Last January, Aremen increased electricity rates by as much as 40 percent. The university is currently negotiating with Aremen, expecting a 10 percent increase in the new contracts. This has forced the university to reallocate funds meant for building maintenance and other infrastructure services to account for rising energy bills.

We can expect the price of higher education to continue to go up and more and more of our tuition and fees to go straight into Aremen’s coffers — unless we act now.

The ‘green’ fee works that way, eh?

We need you Project EcoDagw is a campaign of the Student Environmental Center and is the product of more than a year of planning by several students, faculty and staff at the university. We are very excited for this opportunity to make our university an environmental leader while simultaneously helping reduce the costs of higher education. That we can’t do it without you.

If you think Project EcoDagw and the ‘green’ fee is the right thing for SIUC, we need you to come out and vote during the UNG election today and Wednesday. It only takes a minute, and there are several on-campus polling places, including the Student Center and Recreation Center.

*If you have further questions, please visit http://session.siu.edu/ECOFEE*
Matchbox Twenty has recently pulled out of a gig scheduled at Cheyenne Frontier Days, the world's biggest outdoor rodeo festival. “We ask that (fans) please understand that it would be impossible for us to put ourselves in the position of making money from what we believe to be the mistreatment of animals,” stated lead singer Rob Thomas. What do you think of the group’s sudden animal rights activism?

Devin Vaughn
I think they should have gone ahead with the gig and donated the money they would have earned to PETA. I mean, they probably would have made at least $75 each (at least that’s how much it took for them to play my sister’s senior prom).

Alicia Wade
Eh, you have to stand for something. But I think, unfortunately, Matchbox Twenty has become about as irrelevant as rodeo sports.

Audra Ord
I think they’re just burned out from being on the road and are looking for any excuse to take a day off. Sorry, fans … better luck next time.

**The State Budget: Priorities and Pressures**

Illinois will have to meet several serious challenges during the next few years. The state is balanced spending with revenues reasonably well in recent years. Moreover, officials have taken measures to address the state’s pension shortfall by issuing bonds to infuse money into the system. But the state still faces a significant budget shortfall that puts into question its ability to weather a recession or other emergency. Furthermore, the state has not had a capital budget in several years, and this may threaten federal matching funds.

---From the Pew Center on the State’s Government Performance Project 2008

**Wednesday, April 23, 2008**

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
SIU Student Center Ballroom D  
For space and food considerations, free registration is required by contacting Christina Rich at (618) 453-4078 or clinch@siue.edu.  
Metered parking is available across from the Student Center.

**9:00 a.m.**  
Opening remarks  
• Ralph Martire, Executive Director, Center for Tax and Budget Accountability  
• Mike Lawrence, Director, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute

**9:10 a.m.**  
Keynote address: Illinois State Comptroller Dan Hynes

**10:00 a.m.**  
Panel discussion: Priorities and Pressures Facing the Illinois State Budget

**Moderator:** Beverly Bunch, Associate Professor, Center for State Policy and Leadership, University of Illinois at Springfield  
**Discussants:**  
• Linda Baker, Professor, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, Southern Illinois University Carbondale and former secretary of the Illinois Department of Human Services  
• Fred Giertz, Professor of Economics, Institute of Government and Public Affairs, University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign  
• Tom Johnson, President, Taxpayers Federation of Illinois and former director, Illinois Department of Revenue  
• Mary Jo Waits, Project Director, Pew Center on the States and an expert on the state budgets across the nation

**11:30 a.m.**  
Presentation by the Office of the Illinois Governor (invited)  
**Lunch**

**12:30 p.m.**  
Bonus session: Effective Lobbying by Nonprofit Organizations  
This 45 minute session, hosted by the Donors Forum, and presented by Linda Renee Baker, is specifically designed for staff, board members and volunteers of nonprofit organizations that seek and rely on grant funding.

If you plan to attend the Bonus Session, please inform us of that upon registration.

Sponsored by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability and the Donors Forum.
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507 W. College #6
509 W. College #6
710 W. College #6
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303 W. Elm
716 S. Forest
500 W. Freeman #1,3,6
109 Glenview
520 S. Graham
505 S. Hays
507 S. Hays #2
408 1/2 E. Hester
408 E. Hester
410 E. Hester
703 W. High #6
208 W. Hospital #1
705 N. James
507 1/2 W. Main #B
207 S. Maple
906 W. McDaniel
300 W. Mill #2-3
411 E. Mill
400 V. Oak #1,3
402 W. Oak #E, W
408 W. Oak
501 W. Oak
300 N. Oakland
505 N. Oakland
511 N. Oakland
514 N. Oakland
602 N. Oakland
1305 E. Park
507 S. Poplar 6,7
301 N. Springer #1,2,4
913 W. Sycamore
919 W. Sycamore
404 S. University #6
404 1/2 S. University
402 1/2 W. Walnut
820 W. Walnut #2
406 W. Willow
404 W. Willow

Two Bedroom
607 N. Allyn
408 S. Ash
504 S. Ash #1,3
514 S. Ash #1,2
512 S. Beveridge #2,7
514 S. Beveridge #1-5,7
508 S. Carico
510 N. Carico
306 W. Cherry
311 W. Cherry #2
405 W. Cherry Court
406 W. Cherry Court
407 W. Cherry Court
408 W. Cherry Court
310 W. College #1-4
401 W. College #7
501 W. College #4,6
503 W. College #4,6
507 W. College #6
509 W. College #6
710 W. College #6
305 E. Crestview
303 W. Elm
716 S. Forest
500 W. Freeman #1,3,6
109 Glenview
520 S. Graham
505 S. Hays
507 S. Hays #2
408 1/2 E. Hester
408 E. Hester
410 E. Hester
703 W. High #6
208 W. Hospital #1
705 N. James
507 1/2 W. Main #B
207 S. Maple
906 W. McDaniel
300 W. Mill #2-3
411 E. Mill
400 V. Oak #1,3
402 W. Oak #E, W
408 W. Oak
501 W. Oak
300 N. Oakland
505 N. Oakland
511 N. Oakland
514 N. Oakland
602 N. Oakland
1305 E. Park
507 S. Poplar 6,7
301 N. Springer #1,2,4
913 W. Sycamore
919 W. Sycamore
404 S. University #6
404 1/2 S. University
402 1/2 W. Walnut
820 W. Walnut #2
406 W. Willow
404 W. Willow

Three Bedroom
607 N. Allyn
408 S. Ash
504 S. Ash #3
508 S. Ash #1
514 S. Ash #1,3
409 S. Beveridge
502 S. Beveridge #1
503 S. Beveridge
506 S. Beveridge
509 S. Beveridge #4
513 S. Beveridge #3-5
515 S. Beveridge #5
510 N. Carico
405 W. Cherry
405 W. Cherry Court
406 W. Cherry Court
407 W. Cherry Court
408 W. Cherry Court
608 W. Cherry

Four Bedroom
409 S. Beveridge
502 S. Beveridge #1
503 S. Beveridge
506 S. Beveridge
405 W. Cherry
807 W. College
809 W. College
305 Crestview
104 S. Forest
120 S. Forest
603 S. Forest
208 W. Hospital #2
610 S. Logan
400 W. Oak #2
408 W. Oak
412 W. Oak
514 N. Oakland
602 N. Oakland
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With the Daily Egyptian!
Viva telenovelas

Alicia Wade
DAILY EGYPTIAN

"Viva Hollywood"

New episodes at 9 p.m. Sunday on VH1.

The absolute deliciousness of overt sexuality, scathing storylines, bombastic acting and the epic dramatic pace of telenovelas has come to VH1 in yet another reality show monopolizing its airwaves.

Except, thankfully, amongst the bland formulaic reality shows, "Viva Hollywood" takes formula, injects a ton of drama, which is what telenovelas are all about, and adds fun challenges to watch, making it a program worth seeing.

It's sort of like watching behind the scenes of American soap operas on drama-laced stressed.

"Viva Hollywood" takes an up-and-coming group of actors and actresses and puts them in a house together to compete for the final prize: a contract with Telemundo, the largest telenovela production company statewide. They are given chances to record scenes with one another, based on mammoth emotions such as hate, and given challenges such as acting. The worst one is picked from the challenges to be up for elimination, while the rest of the participants pick another competitor from the house to duel in the elimination ceremony.

The two then plead their cases on why they should remain in the house for the prize in front of a panel of judges. The panel then decides who gets to stay and the participants must watch a scene shot in telenovela style in order to find out who the judges have chosen. Those up for elimination act out a scene and when the recording reaches its peak, the one who is eliminated from the competition dies, while the others watch away the prize.

"Viva Hollywood" is a wonderful behind-the-scenes look for anyone who has ever wondered what it takes to be a part of the drama-filled telenovelas — or soap operas in general — for that matter. It's worth watching the participants learn the trade, honing their acting skills while learning new tips and tricks along the way.

Not to mention the show is filled with gorgeous men and stunning women who no doubt supply a little bit of eye candy, even for those with no interest at all in the show. The elimination ceremonies alone are worth watching the whole time for the first one ended with a scene of a cat fight, two women falling down the stairs, one death and one thankfully thankful participant who lived to compete another day.

"Viva Hollywood" is a perfect fit for anyone looking to fill the void of "Rock of Love 2," which is getting ready to leave, or someone just looking for a little more over-the-top drama in his or her life that you never actually have to participate in.

Alicia Wade can be reached at s36-3131 ext. 275 or awade@siu.edu.

SPORT BRIEFS

Tatum makes stylish return to Carbondale

Former Saluki guard Jamaal Tatum will return to Carbondale this weekend to unveil his new clothing line.

Tatum will be at Galway's on Saturday from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. where he will release the spring collection of his new clothing line, "One Couture." The guard is also in town for his second annual Tatum Shootaround camp. Handbags from his collection will be given for free during the event. Autographs will be available throughout the entire event as well.

Tatum said releasing his own clothing line is a dream come true.

"The idea of starting a clothing line has been something that has existed in my mind since my freshman year in college, nearly five years ago," he said.

Standout prospect Johns to another could follow

Marshall standout Ryan Hare has made a verbal commitment to the SIU men's basketball team, co-recruit Kevin Dillard said Monday.

The 6-foot, 5-inch guard led Marshall to a Class 3A Illinois State Championship with 18.4 points per game while collecting 10 rebounds on the season. He joins a recruiting class that includes Dillard, Toronto Roundtree and Anthony Booker.

"Vince is the Saluki's," Mike Reis said. "Frank Henry-Ala or Kevin, who have 18.4 points per game while collecting 10 rebounds on the season. They're a recruiting class that includes Dillard, Toronto Roundtree and Anthony Booker. These are people that are and who they're not supportive of blogs and anonymously. I can't correct that," she said.

Eikenberg continued from page 16

He said he would not discuss specifics of the findings, but determined the priority is to improve communication between the coach and the team as well as with the athletic administration.

Freshman Paris Campbell, Ellie Young, Brenna Saline and Natalie Taylor left the team after the season and Moccia said all were granted releases.

Freshman Taneeya Wood had a wonderful season this season, and Moccia said all were granted releases.

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People that are not supportive of us have been non-supportive on blogs and anonymously. I can't correct that," she said.

Eikenberg added that some people in the community have been supportive and are looking to help the program move forward.

"The people who have e-mailed and called and sent letters, those are the people we know we can count on and continue to do what we have started to do here," she said.

Matt Hertwig can be reached at 336-3131 ext. 275 or mhertwig@siu.edu.

Eikenberg said she has a candidate in mind but wouldn't elaborate further.

When asked about changes she wanted to make for the 2008-09 season, she said she wanted to wait until her staff was complete before going any further.

Eikenberg said she is also in the process of rebuilding relationships with area high school teams, which have seen and been affected by the coverage of the accusations.

"You find out in situations like this who your friends are and who they're not. People that are not supportive of us have been non-supportive on blogs and anonymously. I can't correct that," she said.

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The SIU track and field team continues to collect individual titles as it gets closer to the Missouri Valley Conference Outdoor Championship.

The Salukis picked up four meet titles and posted 25 top-5 finishes at Saturday’s Ole Miss Invitational in Oxford, Miss. In its first three meets of the outdoor season, SIU has captured 22 meet titles.

Head coach Connie Peterson-Smith said she was happy to see the way the team has improved and continues to perform at a high level.

“I thought they did a good job competing with the teams that were there,” Peterson-Smith said. “We had a lot of top finishes and a lot of personal bests.”

Senior Brenton Siemens accounted for two of the Salukis’ individual titles. Siemens posted the top finish in the hammer throw and shot put. His hammer throw measured more than 186 feet, edging Ole Miss junior James Makovey. Siemens’ effort in the shot put resulted in a throw more than 55 feet, 3 feet farther than second-place finisher, Memphis senior Glenn Edwards.

Sophomore Thomas Smith followed Siemens’ first-place showing in the hammer with a third-place finish in the hammer and a fifth-place finish in the shot put. Senior Blake Beachrath cleared 5-3 in the pole vault to pick up the team’s third title.

Sophomore Geoffrey Daniel and freshman thrower Dan Young attempts the hammer throw during the Spring Classic meet March 28. The Salukis picked up four meet titles and 25 top-5 finishes at the Ole Miss Invitational.

Trevor Poore posted top-5 finishes in the triple jump and long jump, respectively. Poore also finished third in the javelin.

Freshman Kyle Kirchner posted the best finish of the Salukis runners with a second-place finish in the 5,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 14:42.25, while freshmen Brad Wieg and Willie Knox posted top-5 finishes in the 5,000-meter run and 400-meter hurdles.

Senior Brittany Riley and teammate freshman Rebecka Roach and junior Sasha Leeth took the top three spots in the women’s hammer throw. Riley’s 218-foot throw bested her Saluki teammates and accounted for the women’s only meet title.

Junior Bianca Stuart jumped more than 19 feet on her final jump en route to posting a second-place finish in the women’s long jump. Senior Andrea Norris and sophomore Nefertari Williams also posted second-place finishes in the 100-meter dash and 1,500-meter run, respectively.

Jumps coach Andre Scott said the team’s performance was good, but expects its best performances are yet to come.

“We stayed the same as we did last weekend and hopefully we’ll run into some better weather this coming weekend because they should be getting better,” Scott said. “I’m just waiting for them to turn that corner and have some better performances.”

SIU looks to keep up its strong start as it travels to Tennessee, to compete at the Vanderbilt Invitational.

Luis C. Medina can be reached at lcm1986@siu.edu.

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SIU track stars keep rolling

Salukis collect four more meet titles

Luis C. Medina

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Sophomore Geoffrey Daniel and
Coach Dana Eikenberg is ready to move on with day-to-day basketball operations. After an internal review was completed this weekend, Eikenberg remains the head coach of the SIU women’s basketball team and is spending his time getting her team ready for next season.

But after former players came forward with allegations of verbal abuse and fire freshmen ask for their releases, she knows questions about her program are not going to go away any time soon.

“Because of your articles, we’re going to have to talk about this for the next two years,” Eikenberg said Monday. “The more we continue to communicate and talk about it, the more we will have to defend ourselves.”

Eikenberg said she has been “honest and forthright” with everything that has been published, which has made a difference as she attempts to rebuild her team through recruiting. After the releases, only five players return from last season.

The problems facing the squad are not exclusive to SIU, she said, referring to other Missouri Valley Conference schools without giving specifics.

“We have the only Valley school that have had their stuff reach the papers,” she said. “There’s two other schools having major issues and it hasn’t made their local papers.”

Eikenberg was endorsed by Athletic Director Mario Moccia after a two-week review of the program. Moccia said he talked to every player and coach individually to get a handle on the situation.

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The Salukis (18-15) will take on Southeast Missouri State at 2 p.m. today at Abe Martin Field, looking to end the skid against the team that started it. The Redhawks (14-14) defeated SIU 11-4 April 8 to end its five-game winning streak.

“We got pitchers struggling, we got hitters struggling and we’ve made crazy plays in the field,” coach Dan Callahan said. “It’s a combination of a lot of bad things and we got to figure out a way to right the ship.”

Southeast Missouri State has had some struggles of its own recently. It was swept by Jacksonville State but dominated SIU April 8 when he tossed eight innings of scoreless relief on route to his first win of the season.

The Saluki offense struggled to get anything going in the game after a four-run first inning, and had similar problems this weekend in a sweep at the hands of the Braves.

Eight of the nine hitters in the Saluki lineup are hitting above .300 but they were only able to muster three runs in the first two games of the series.

Junior second baseman Scott Eldemond said the offense got off to a good start but hadn’t gone out there and proved it.

On the mound, Callahan has the option of going with either freshman Nick Rice or junior Andrew Dunn. Rice has a 3-1 record with a 4.35 ERA while Dunn has a 2-4 record with a 3.64 ERA.

Dunn started the previous game against Southeast Missouri State. He allowed six runs, one earned, through five innings en route to the loss.

See EIKENBERG, Page 14

## Baseball

### Salukis look to rebound against SEMO

Fresh off of a weekend in which it stranded 43 base runners, the SIU baseball team is hoping to turn around its season in the midst of a four-game losing streak. The Salukis (18-15) will take on Southeast Missouri State at 2 p.m. today at Abe Martin Field, looking to end the skid against the team that started it. The Redhawks (14-14) defeated SIU 11-4 April 8 to end its five-game winning streak.

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See EIKENBERG, Page 14

## Men’s Golf

### Men post season’s best

SIU finishes in second place at Illini Spring Classic

Luis C. Medina

The SIU golf team is finally starting to live up to its preseason expectations, posting its best finish of the season.

The Salukis finished in second place at the Fighting Illini Spring Invite. It was the team’s first win of the season and best since a second-place finish at the D.A. Whiting Intercollegiate at the Weibring Golf Club in Normal Oct. 8.

Host-school Illini shot a final round 303 and a tournament total of 609 to finish in first place, seven strokes ahead of SIU. The Salukis started Saturday’s final round in a third-place tie with Eastern Illinois, but shot four strokes better than the Panthers en route to a final-round 303 to finish in second place at the 11-team event.

Coach Lenzy Newton said he was proud of the team’s performance in the poor golfing weather.

“The conditions were brutally cold, but I’m happy with the way the team battled through and never gave up,” Newton said.

“I was as good as hard-ship sports go, the tough winds, but we did a good job tak- ing one hole at a time.”

Junior Todd Obergoner followed up his career-best second-place finish at the Arkansas State Invitational with another top-10 finish.

Obergoner was the Saluki’s high scorer with a mark of 9-over-par, finishing tied for seventh with three other golfers including sophomore teammate Blaire Drinkard.

Sophomore Jordan Cox shot a final-round 4-over-par to finish tied for 13th overall for SIU’s third individual top-20 finish. Senior captain Matt Ellis and junior John Elmendorf rounded out the Saluki scoring, finishing in 34th and 36th place overall.

Newton said the second-place fin- ish is encouraging for SIU, which will finish the season in search of its first conference title since school his- tory at the Missouri Valley Conference Championship on Monday. The Salukis hosted Missouri Valley Conference foes Northern Iowa (II) and Bradley (11th) in the Fighting Illini Spring Invite.

“Those are our numbers one and two," Newton said. “Every time out against SIU we’re ready to do our best to bring home the loss.”

Eikenberg was endorsed by Athletic Director Mario Moccia after a two-week review of the program. Moccia said he talked to every player and coach individually to get a handle on the situation.