Poshard: Overturn vetoed bill

Brandy Oxford
DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU President Glenn Poshard urged citizens to contact their legislators to encourage them to override President Bush’s veto of a bill that would provide $150.7 billion for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and related agencies. Bush vetoed HR 3034 on Tuesday.

“This is a program that supports undergraduates to prepare them to go to graduate school and get a Ph.D...” — Graduate Dean John Koropcha on the McNair Scholars program, which the bill could have saved.

Along with Bill Stockden of Carbondale, Welch has been trying to organize a local branch of the Socialist Party in southern Illinois—centralized around Carbondale.

The socialists hosted an informational meeting Saturday at the Interfaith Center on South Illinois Avenue. Stockden said 11 people attended and were interested in learning more about socialism before joining the party.

Carbondale candidate steps aside

Barton Lorimer
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Ralph Nader won’t have to worry about competing with a Carbondale resident for presidential nomination.

Dwight Welch, a resident of Carbondale and former graduate student at SHUC, was a recognized presidential candidate in California before dropping out to support the Socialist party candidate, as well as rally enough support to organize a branch of the party in Carbondale.

His name appeared on the California Secretary of State’s list of generally recognized candidates intending to run in the Feb. 5 primary election for the Peace and Freedom Party’s presidential nomination. Welch’s name was included with Nader, a third party candidate for president since 1990, and Brian Moore of Spring Hill, Fla.

Welch submitted his name for candidacy in June even though the National Socialist Convention, his declared party, was in September. When Mason received the Socialist nomination for President, Welch withdrew.

“I realized when I went to the convention, I did not have enough money... so I dropped out on the eve of the convention,” Welch said.

Welch ran for the Peace and Freedom Party because of its similar beliefs to socialism, he said. Along with Bill Stockden of Carbondale, Welch has been trying to organize a local branch of the Socialist Party in southern Illinois—centered around Carbondale.

The socialists hosted an informational meeting Saturday at the Interfaith Center on South Illinois Avenue. Stockden said 11 people attended and were interested in learning more about socialism before joining the party.

This program, that supports undergraduates to prepare them to go to graduate school and get a Ph.D...” — Graduate Dean John Koropcha on the McNair Scholars program, which the bill could have saved.
Bodies of two men found along suburban Chicago bike path

LINCOLN PARK — Millions of Chicagoans who ride public transit through the city’s sprawling network of rail lines are breathing a little easier this week, and for a very good reason: The city’s embattled transit police have issued a new, aggressive safety policy. The policy is strictly enforced, and if violated, the penalties are severe: Jail time, fines, or both.

The policy change comes in the wake of a series of high-profile incidents involving aggressive bike riders. In one incident, a commuter was seriously injured when he was struck by a train while trying to cross tracks at an intersection. In another, a group of teenagers was arrested for causing a disturbance on a bus.

The new policy, which was implemented this week, requires all bike riders to wear helmets and to follow all posted signs and rules. It also bans the use of loud, obnoxious music on public transit.

The policy is the result of months of planning and consultation with transit officials, community leaders, and law enforcement agencies. It is designed to make public transit safer and more enjoyable for all riders.

The new policy has already had a positive impact, according to officials. "We have seen a marked decrease in the number of incidents since the policy was implemented," said one official. "Riders are more mindful of their behavior, and the streets and tracks are quieter and safer.

"We are very pleased with the results so far," said another. "This is a big step forward for public transit in Chicago, and we are committed to maintaining this momentum.

"We are committed to making public transit the safest, most enjoyable mode of transportation in the city," said the official.

The new policy has been met with mixed reactions from the public. Some have praised it for making public transit safer, while others have complained about the inconvenience of wearing helmets and following rules.

"I don’t like the policy," said one commuter. "It’s too restrictive, and it’s making my commute a hassle.

"But I understand why they need to do this," said another. "It’s for the safety of everyone, and I’m willing to follow the rules.

The policy will be reviewed every six months to assess its effectiveness. If necessary, changes will be made to improve its impact. We are committed to making public transit safer and more enjoyable for all riders.

The new policy is a big step forward for public transit in Chicago, and we are committed to maintaining this momentum.

The new policy is a big step forward for public transit in Chicago, and we are committed to maintaining this momentum.
Karl Foster noticed a poster emblazoned with the leaf of a marijuana plant and wanted to know what it was all about.

The Student Programming Council showed the film “Waiting to Inhale” followed by a panel discussion Thursday night to a half-full Student Center Auditorium, with Dr. Christopher Fichtner and Gretchen Steele of the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

Foster, a senior from Ottawa studying journalism, said he noticed the flyers around campus and wanted to find out what was going on.

Carbondale was the last stop in a six-city tour showing the film that started in Chicago and moved through Illinois. The tour was funded by several groups, including Illinois Humanities Council, National Endowment for the Humanities and the Illinois General Assembly.

The documentary is the latest entry in an ongoing debate over the legalization of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Focusing on certain activist groups, the film addresses key aspects of the movement and the roles played by the government and the media.

Director and producer Jed Riffe said he hopes the interest in the film will create a deeper awareness of the movement and move the viewing public to communicate with legislators on the issue.

“People do not have access to this information, the scientific studies or clinical trials,” Riffe said. “One person is worth a thousand television viewers. That’s one person to write to their legislator or send an e-mail.”

Gretchen Steele said she hopes students are able to gain a better understanding of what the film is advocating.

Steele, a Coulterville native and registered nurse suffering from multiple sclerosis, finds the criminalization of medicinal marijuana illogical. “It’s ludicrous that some of the drugs are just horrific,” Steele said of such prescription medicines as Vicodan and Oxycontin, drugs that have been known to be addictive. “But they can’t prescribe marijuana to me?”

Melvin Parks, the student programming council director of films, said the showing of the film was purely coincidence and has no connection to the recent request by SIUC’s smoking laboratory for a grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

The lab’s director, David Gilbert, has said the request would ask for six studies, each of which would cost about $200,000.

Andre Spencer can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 254 or spenc@siu.edu.

Marijuana film: Legalize it
Bush cuts traffic delays for the holiday rush

P.O. EST Wednesday through Sunday — the busiest days of Thanksgiving.

WASHINGTON — In a year of record delays, President Bush stepped forward Thursday to try to speed American air travelers to their Thanksgiving gatherings and back home again.

Declaring that “business as usual is not good enough for American travelers,” Bush announced at the White House a series of detailed steps to cut congestion and long delays that have stranded passengers stranded and turned holiday travel into a season of dread for too many Americans.

In his “Thanksgiving wish list,” the Pentagon will allow commercial airliners to use two air corridors off the east and west coasts that are normally restricted to military flights. Supplementing the dozen air corridors usually used from Florida to New England, Bush directed the nation’s two largest displays worldwide auction every week. Unwanted horses that once handled the holiday crush efficiently. In late October, a rollover caused deaths in the last quarter of the year. Sick horses may just feel a common cold. Sickening of the lungs, coughing and difficulty in breathing are the symptoms. The new bug probably would not have the money or the flexibility to move funding around to adequately cover the costs of the canceling operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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**Salukis mind their manners at etiquette dinner**

**Christian Holt**  
*Daily Egyptian*

Forks on the left. Spoons and knives on the right. Napkin on your lap.

About 40 SIUC students, staff and Carbondale residents learned about utensil placement and other types of dinner etiquette Thursday evening in Lentz Hall. For $10, they received a five-course meal including foods ranging from sushi to salad, and instruction on how to properly consume them.

The evening began with dinner manners, where students learned the proper way to eat soup, deal with toothpicks and what to do in case of unwanted food.

After dinner, presenters from career services taught participants about business manners.

Michelle Ostien, nutrition counselor for residence hall dining and Alyssa Rider, the undergraduate assistant for nutrition for residence hall dining, were in charge of the event.

Ostien said the dinner was a perfect opportunity for students, staff and community members to learn proper etiquette for the business world and also for dinner invitations.

“It’s a great way to impress a future boss or a girlfriend or boyfriend, or at least your parents can be impressed.”

But Ostien reminded them of some manners they should already know.

“Please and thank you are a must,” Ostien said during her presentation at the dinner.

Karen Duncan, a resident of Anna, said she attended the dinner with her daughter, Melissa, because she will be teaching etiquette soon throughout the area, and thought it would be nice continuing the education.

Duncan said she believed it was important to attend etiquette lessons, even for college students.

“I believe it is important because when they’re in the work world they have to handle situations with all different kinds of people,” Duncan said.

Some students attending the dinner felt it was unnecessary because they already knew a lot about etiquette.

Andy Becker, an undecided freshman from Washington, Mo., at Brehm Preparatory School, said he would rather be somewhere else because he went to one last year.

Becker said even last year he didn’t learn much he didn’t already know because of the many formal dinners he had attended at his grandparents’ country club.

However, assistant dorm parents and tutors from Brehm said they brought the students in order to prepare them for the upcoming holiday season.

People wanting to attend an etiquette dinner such as this one are not completely out of luck. The lesson is held once in both the spring and fall semester each year.

Christian Holt can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 268 or cholt@siu.edu.

**Wyatt Bode, a student at Brehm Preparatory School, applies a dipping sauce on his sushi at the etiquette dinner served at Lentz Hall Thursday evening. Students at the dinner learned proper etiquette techniques for formal situations like dinner with dates or possible employers.**

**Edith Blaszczyk**  
*Daily Egyptian*

**Barry Bonds formally accused of perjury**

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Barry Bonds was indicted Thursday for perjury and obstruction of justice, charged with lying when he told a federal grand jury that he did not knowingly use performance-enhancing drugs.

The indictment unsealed Thursday against Barry Bonds formally accuses the seven-time National League MVP of perjury in a federal criminal investigation that began with his use of steroids and involved witnesses who already knew about them.

During the criminal investigation, evidence was obtained including positive tests for the presence of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing substances for Bonds and other athletes.

In August, the 43-year-old Bonds passed Hank Aaron to become baseball’s career home run leader. Late in the season, the San Francisco Giants told the seven-time National League MVP they didn’t want him back next year.

Bonds finished the year with 762 homers, seven more than Aaron, and is currently a free agent. In 2001, he set the season record with 73 home runs.

**A REAL GEM, I HOPE PEOPLE CHECK IT OUT.” – AT THE MOVIES WITH EBERHARD & BOREPER**

The Associated Press

James Williams replaces the rear differential of his cousin’s 85’ Chevrolet Caprice at the corner of Lynda and E. Dorthella in Carbondale Tuesday morning.

NOW PLAYING

CHECK YOUR LOCAL LISTINGS OR LOG ON TO LOVEsurVIVES.COM FOR TICKET INFORMATION

www.siuDE.com
Don't count on Hugo Chavez to shut up, even if the admonishment from Spain's king was sound and long overdue. The reprimand from the monarch, King Juan Carlos, occurred with other verbal fright with his minister a "fascist."

Spain's current prime minister then rebuked Chavez for his lack of tact. When Chavez interrupted the scolding, the monarch had a car or truck rush in front of me because they are in a hurry. We're in just as much of a hurry as you are. Why don't they drive with a little less speed? People have gotten hurt doing that.

A pedestrian, I frequently have I had a car or truck rush in front of me because they are in a hurry. We're in just as much of a hurry as you are. Why don't they drive with a little less speed? People have gotten hurt doing that.

What was the driver's excuse for nearly running me over? "Oh sorry, I didn't see you there." Very original. First of all, he should not have been speeding around campus at 45 mph when the posted speed limit is 20. Second of all, drivers need to be aware of everything around them, especially on campus.

Not just other drivers, but people using the crosswalks as well. I'm not condoning people to just walk or ride into the crosswalk and expect cars to stop for you. People have gotten hurt doing that. But please — to all you motorists -- take five seconds to let that biker or walker cross the street. We're in just as much of a hurry as you are.

Casey Lavaz junior studying theater, theater

**Chavez and his pricey oil**

When Chavez interrupted the scolding, the monarch snapped back, suggesting Chavez to say "shut up."

When Chavez interrupted the scolding, the monarch snapped back, suggesting Chavez to "shut up."

The stinging, public dressing-down is another misstep for the Venezuelan leader. Back home, Venezuela is once again coming apart at the political seams as various social sectors, most notably students, protest sweeping constitutional changes proposed by Chavez.

The alterations to Venezuela's constitution, if approved by the electorate next month, would make Chavez more powerful. The president has shown a willingness and capability to use his power to quell dissent, similar to the way he cracked down on a popular radio and TV station earlier this year. You can count on his making good use of any new powers he gets his hands on.

Unless the opposition can get its into a solid block at the polls, however, Chavez will get his way again. And it will come thanks in part to the financial windfall Venezuela is reaping, much of it by selling petroleum at record prices to the United States.

Chavez is a menace, not just to U.S. interests but to neighboring countries, too. But until Washington and the U.S. public take proactive steps, such as with a profound, long-term plan to decrease oil imports, we won't have any leverage.

It is simply impossible to wield moral authority when you need Chavez and his $100-a-barrel oil. Until then, we'll have to depend on Old World monarchs to tell Chavez when to chill.

This editorial appeared in the South Florida Sun-Sentinel Wednesday.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Motorists need to pay attention**

Dear Editor:

As a pedestrian, I frequently use the crosswalks around campus. I have also noticed that many drivers do not think that those bright yellow signs that say “Yield to Pedestrians” don’t seem to apply to them. For them, the sign reads “Try to Beat the Pedestrian Through the Crosswalk.” Too often have I had a car or truck rush in front of me because they are in such a rush that they cannot stop for five seconds to let me pass.

Recently, I had that happen again. An SUV was in too much of a hurry to stop to let me walk through, so I shook my head at them, as usual. When they passed, I saw that yes, there was another car coming, but it was a good 25 to 30 feet away, which is plenty of time to stop. I proceeded, keeping the second car in the corner of my eye. All of a sudden, I hear squealing tires. Without giving me any time to react, the car stopped less that a foot from my legs!

What was the driver’s excuse for nearly running me over? “Oh sorry, I didn’t see you there.” Very original. First of all, he should not have been speeding around campus at 45 mph when the posted speed limit is 20. Second of all, drivers need to be aware of everything around them, especially on campus.

Not just other drivers, but people using the crosswalks as well. I'm not condoning people to just walk or ride into the crosswalk and expect cars to stop for you. People have gotten hurt doing that. But please — to all you motorists — take five seconds to let that biker or walker cross the street. We're in just as much of a hurry as you are.

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Daily Egyptian, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

**WORDS OVERHEARD**

“...This has nothing to do with academics at all, and I have a problem with restricting education on grounds other than academics.”

Demetrous White USG President

on his objections to the increased fees that may be effective in fall 2008.
**Guest Column**

Old School: We are not the government

**Dave Hall**

I was flipping channels the other day and ran across the “Star Jones Show.” Her guest was Ann Coulter. Coulter was the co-leader of the Republican Party, was having her newest book, “If Democrats Had Any Brains, They’d Be Republicans.” Coulter was in high spirits, not her self-assured, bent on destroying the country. Her guest was Sean Hannity, “a moon bat liberal who hates America.”

Coulter was in high spirits, not her self-assured, bent on destroying the country. Her guest was Sean Hannity, “a moon bat liberal who hates America.”

I am not the government and the people are not the government, “I am not the government, Ann Coulter’s job, like Bill O’Reilly, Sean Hannity, Rush Limbaugh and countless others, is to entertain you. The method they use is trash talking the other side. If you read their books and listen to their programs you might get the feeling that the greatest threat to democracy and America’s existence is not from outside sources, but from Democrats bent on destroying the country. Army. Most people in this country by the students of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, with student editors have authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval.

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Editorial Policy

Our Word is the cornerstone of the Daily Egyptian Editorial Board on local, national and global issues affecting the Southern Illinois University community. Viewpoints expressed in columns and letters to the admiral do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Egyptian.

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with the student editor’s contact information, preferably via e-mail. All letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. All topics are acceptable.

All submissions are subject to editing.

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Fax: (618) 536-3365
Email: editor@siude.com

Letters and guest columns can be sent to voices@siude.com.
Ray Logan, an unemployed paint-er, who has been living in his van since 2003. Logan spends his days reading newspapers and selling old softies and is one of hundreds of thousands of people living in the United States classified as chronically homeless. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recently released a report documenting an 11.5 per cent decrease in the number of chronically homeless people living in the United States, from 719,944 to 155,623. While the numbers report more than 20,000 people left the streets between 2005 and 2006, the southern Illinois region has not seen such a significant change.

According to Brandy Sullivan, a spokesman for HUD, chronically homeless people are those who are continuously homeless for more than a year, or experience four or more epi-sodes of homelessness over the course of three years.

Sullivan said many of these cases involve people with mental illnesses, drug or alcohol addiction, or people who are veterans.

Logan has been searching for work for more than four years and said, “I think I just got tired of life.” Logan said, “I feel like I’m lost, it’s like you can’t find yourself anymore.” HUD research indicates that chronically homeless people account for only 10 per cent of the homeless population yet receive half of the resources dedicated to ending homelessness.

In 2005, a count of homeless people involved in civil services “We tried to total 120,” the statistician changed very little in 2006, said Susan Mertall, executive direc-tor of the Good Samaritan House, a soup kitchen and homeless shelter in Carbondale.

“I can tell you that no matter what that U.S. report tells you, we’re full almost every single night,” said Louis Schraer, a volunteer at the Good Samaritan House.

The shelter contains 23 beds available for the homeless and some beds upstairs in the transitional portion of the house, all of which are occupied most nights, Schraer said.

The Good Samaritan House is one of three homeless shelters in the southern Illinois area. According to Schraer, Carbondale provides many services for homeless individuals, including a shelter, soup kitchen and a workshop to help the homeless earn money.

Schraer said it is difficult to get a good estimate of the homeless popula-tion in Carbondale because many people move from one area to the next or are just passing through some nights.

“What I’ve heard is that we’re an island of social services in an area that doesn’t have much,” Schraer said. “So we don’t really feel the impact of the national drop.”

The drop is attributed to more programs such as transitional housing for the homeless, work programs and better data-collecting methods.

A one-night headcount is per-formed every year in communities with homeless shelters. In 2005 and 2007, communities also conducted a census of homeless people living outside of shelters, which provided more accurate data on the number of homeless individuals.

Charles H. Carlisle Sr., a resident at the Good Samaritan House and former U.S. Marine, said he traveled the world with the Marines, yet after being discharged, marital and financial problems left him without a home and he has been searching for a job since arriving at the shelter.

“Homelessness is a double-edged sword. Some people don’t want to change; they like to get things the way they do,” Carlisle said. “Not one, I like a roof over my head.”

David Lopez can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 273 or dlopez@siumiss.edu.
While most students are stuffing their faces with turkey and pumpkin pie, many Saluki athletes will be busy with season-changing tournaments and championships.

Playoff posturing for football, a national ranking for men’s basketball, an in-state rivalry for women’s basketball, a long-awaited tournament bid for volleyball, a measuring stick for the swimming and diving team and national pride for one cross-country runner is all at stake over the break.

Though the newspaper will not print for the week, the Daily Egyptian will provide daily coverage of each event online at www.siuDE.com. Readers can also sign up for e-mail alerts of the breaking news for each Saluki sport.
Student musician pays her dues

Emily Riesen is leading a double life. In addition to being a full-time student, the senior from Warsaw studying music business is putting in long hours to crack the music industry and achieve her dream of being a recording artist.

"I don’t feel like I’m living a normal college life, but at the same time it’s really exciting," she said.

Riesen, who will graduate in December, has been in the studio for the better part of the last three months producing her first EP, due out in mid-December.

Though Riesen primarily gives solo acoustic performances, she produced her EP with a full band, incorporating instruments such as a harmonica, cello, fiddle and organ.

"After graduation, Riesen wants to move to Nashville, Tenn., to pursue a country music career."

The singer is realistic about the challenges of making it big in the music industry and recognizes that she’ll have to pay her dues before she establishes herself as an artist.

"It’s going to be a lot more difficult. I think I’m going to be a needle in a haystack," she said.

Knowledge of the inner workings of the music business will give Riesen an advantage in the industry, said Jessie Hine, a senior from Springfield studying music business and radio-television.

"I feel like she’s going to fit in really well, because she’s nice, humble, down-to-earth and a wonderful performer. She has so much going for her," Hines said.

The songstress has a diverse musical background, with experience in musicals, pop and country. She said she prefers to sing and write country music now because it’s been engrained in her through growing up in rural southern Illinois.

Riesen writes the music and lyrics for all her songs herself, drawing mostly from personal experiences she’s had or situations she’s seen other people go through.

"Music has been my life for a really long time, and the fact that I can do what I love and have other people enjoy it at the same time is the most rewarding part of it," she said.

Hine saw Riesen perform Thursday at Hanger 9. She said the audience reacted well to Riesen’s performance.

"It was funny, because after she was doing so well, a lot of people cleared out for the other two bands on the outside stage," Hines said.

Riesen performs tonight at 2 North in Cape Girardeau, Mo. She will also perform at half-time of the Saluki men’s basketball game against Bradley Jan. 8 — her largest love performance to date.

"It’ll be a 30-minute performance of all my music, and I’m really excited about that," she said.

Her music can be heard on her Web site, www.emilyriesen.com.

Audra Ord can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275 or at aer@siu.edu.
FOOTBALL

continued from page 16

year from 1991 to 1996 and split the series 3-5.
However, the new edition of the classic rivalry will likely be filled with.

The Salukis feature six freshmen on their roster while Illinois' head coach Jolette Law is in her first season at the helm.

Law has already made a difference with the team as she has implemented an up-tempo offense and fullcourt defense that has led to an early 2-1 record with both wins coming by 20 or more points. SIU head coach Dana Eikenberg said Illinois is going to be a challenge, and the Salukis will be prepared for the challenge.

"We have a young group and we didn't want to take anything for granted," Eikenberg said. "The speed is going to be faster, the ball is going to be handled differently, and defenses are going to be a lot sharper." After a loss to DePaul and an inconsistent game against Chicago, Eikenberg said the Salukis will see early on.

Freshman Tawnya Worden looks to contribute in her first road game as a Saluki. Worden was named Missouri Valley Conference Newcomer of the Week after scoring 17 points and shooting 43 percent from behind the arc against DePaul.

Worden has a key component in Eikenberg's strategy to drive the lane and kick the ball back out to open shooters. Eikenberg said that with the scheme, the Salukis can utilize the Salukis' speed while making up for their lack of size.

Worden has been playing with a cast due to a broken wrist but said she has not let it affect her game.

Basketball

continued from page 3

"They're our Kansas," Paradise said in an interview with the Northern Star.

"There are a number of teams out there that have been without the big three throughout the year, especially since

A turnover in the paint, and of course after this one, it's all sudden-death," Kill said.

SIU junior guard James Cloud made 15 of 27 attempts and 13 of 15 tackles for percentage in the win against the Redbirds.

He said he expects Hampton to try to establish the run before turning to the pass, so Cloud said he was working on his running routes leading up to Saturday's game.

Cloud leads the Salukis with 4.5 assists this season, and said he's hoping to get to the quarterback more against Hampton.

"I know I'm going to get the opportunities, so when it's there I just want to make the best of it," he said.

The lineups and matches in Eikenberg's team are starting to understand what it means to win this conference.

"I've never had a team in the past year that's been as energized at the end of the season and really loving to play volleyball," Eikenberg said.

Scott Middendorf can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 256 or smiddendorf@siu.edu.

FOOTBALL

continued from page 16

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Basketball

continued from page 3

"They're our Kansas," Paradise said in an interview with the Northern Star.

"There are a number of teams out there that have been without the big three throughout the year, especially since
"Boston College has gone from No. 2 to a bye after consecutive losses to ranked foes, but will be coming out strong to upset No. 15 Clemson on the road with the divisional crown on the line. It will be a lousy show through the air, but the BC secondary will come away with the ball in this one!"

“Kentucky’s going to beat Georgia. I just think that Kentucky’s got a really good quarterback. They’ve had an up-and-down year, but at the beginning of the year everybody was talking about them. They’ve got the chance to be a really good team, and they know that they get a couple of big wins at the end of the year here, so I think Kentucky’s got a good chance.”

-- SIU football team senior quarterback Nick Hill

**STAT OF THE DAY**

The Salukis (9-1) at Hampton Pirates (6-4)

When: Saturday, Time: 12 p.m. EST
Where: Armstrong Stadium

Broadcast: 95.1 FM (radio), www.siu-salukis.com (audio Web cast)

The word on the Salukis…

SIU is hoping to improve its seed in the playoffs, and also keep the momentum it has going into the postseason. The Salukis are winners of three straight games, the latest coming Nov. 10 against Illinois State, 34-24. SIU has a plus-10 turnover margin, while Hampton is just plus-one in the turnover margin.

The word on the Pirates…

Hampton has ridden the chips recently, winning its last two games after suffering through a three-game losing streak. During that streak, however, the Pirates lost twice by just one point. Scoring could be the key for Hampton as the Pirates are 5-0 when they score 30 or more points.

Position-by-position breakdown

**POSITION: Quarterback**

SIU quarterback Nick Hill took back the Gateway Football Conference lead in touchdown passes against Illinois State, connecting for the three touchdown passes in the game to bring his season total to 30. Hill has completed 72.5 percent of his passes this season, and has the conference lead with 2,337 passing yards.

Hampton sophomore T.J. Mitchell leads the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference with 2,025 passing yards, although he completes just 62 percent of his passes. Also, his pass attempts have been scaled back in recent games, giving way to the running game.

**ADVANTAGE- SIU**

**POSITION: Wide receiver**

The Salukis have gotten good production from three different receivers this season. Allen Turner has the team lead in touchdowns, while Justin Allen leads. SIU in catches and receiving yards. Allen caught a touchdown in the last game, as did Phil Golightly, who has been good for numerous big plays this season.

Hampton will spread the field and bring in four wide receivers at times, but the passing game runs through the junior Jeremy Gilchrist. Gilchrist leads the MEAC in receptions, with 65, and yards, with 919. He has also caught six touchdowns this season, and is a quality punt returner.

**ADVANTAGE- EVEN**
**FOOTBALL**

**SIU jockeys for position**

Salukis hope to improve playoff seed with win against Hampton

**Scott Mieszala**

Forget about the SIU football team giving players a rest before the playoffs begin.

SIU coach Jerry Kill is hoping the No. 5 Salukis (9-1) can help improve their playoff seed and pull out a win Saturday at Hampton. Kickoff is slated for 1 p.m. EST, against a team Kill said is better than its 6-4 record suggests.

"This is a game you really don't want to play at the end of the year," Kill said. "This is a huge challenge for us and there won't be resting for anybody."

The Pirates have won two straight games, rebounding from a three-game losing streak they suffered in the middle of the season. However, Hampton lost two of those three games by one point.

"You better your situation the playoff game, and the mindset will be the same against the Pirates," Kill said. "We just need to play aggressively and play with confidence." Winkeler said it is crucial for the Salukis to pick up wins in order to secure the final spot in the tournament.

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Last season, SIU and Evansville were tied for sixth place at the end of conference play and were beat out for the final spot by the Purple Aces in the MVC Tournament appearance since 2002.

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Brenda Winkeler

women's volleyball head coach

**VOLLEYBALL**

Salukis in tight race

Two victories would guarantee tournament bid

**Megan Kramer**

The SIU volleyball team can't afford to fall behind a team it doesn't play in its final regular season games this weekend.

Currently tied for sixth place in the Missouri Valley Conference standings with Evansville, the Salukis (14-14, 6-10 MVC) will need victories against both weekend opponents to guarantee a spot in the conference tournament.

Evansville, meanwhile, plays the same opponents — Illinois State and Indiana State — to wrap up the season.

"The Salukis have not made an MVC Tournament appearance since 2002. Coach Brenda Winkeler said it is crucial for the Salukis to pick up wins in order to secure the final spot in the tournament.

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Brenda Winkeler

women's volleyball head coach

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

Enemy of the state

SIU prepares for Illinois State

**Jeff Engelhardt**

It has been 11 years coming, but the SIU women's basketball team is prepared to revisit an old rivalry.

Bringing rights will be on the line Sunday when the SIU heads to Champaign to face University of Illinois.

The last time the teams played each other every season was in 1996, when Illinois emerged victorious 85-57.

Although the rivalry has been on hold in recent years, its long history favors SIU, which has a 21-10 advantage all-time in the series. The two teams played each other every season.

See ILLINOIS, Page 14

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

No. 21 Salukis put ranking to test

Start of season brings forth initial threats

**Sean McGahan**

SIU coach Chris Lowery appreciates the work of Kentucky, Southern California and Michigan State this season.

Lowery said the fact that those high-profile teams presumably underestimated the talent of their lower-status opponents and were subsequently upset was a good lesson for his No. 21 Salukis as they head into their first game of the season against Northern Illinois Saturday.

"I think it just makes them aware that you have to play," Lowery said. "That's something we really try to get them to focus on — treat every one the same so there are no highs and lows mentally and emotionally. They have a different color jersey on than us, and that should be enough to compete."

Northern Illinois (0-3) hasn't played the role of the upsetper so far this season, getting swept in its opening-season tournament against Northern Iowa, Massachusetts and Cal Poly by an average of 18.5 points.

The Huskies haven't notched a victory against a ranked opponent since 1973, but leading-scorer Ryan Paradise said the team is taking the opportunity seriously.

Randall Falker

and SIU men's basketball team get pumped before Sunday's preseason victory over Lincoln Memorial. The No. 21 Salukis look to start the season strong Saturday against Northern Illinois.

**See BASKETBALL, Page 14**

See ILLINOIS, Page 14