Road to recovery begins in Brookport

Amanda Henley of Brookport leads her son Lucas, 6, away from what remains of her great-grandparents’ home Saturday during community-wide cleanup efforts. Henley’s home, in the same neighborhood, was also damaged in the storm. "My little boy is six years-old. How do you explain all of this? What do you say? He’s doing really good now, but he won’t leave our side," Henley said the family plans to rebuild. “That’s our home, we’re not leaving it,” she said.

Report cites concerns with UCOL course

In its second year as a core-curriculum class, concerns are being raised about the University College 101, or UCOL, class. In an Oct. 31 report by independent consulting firm Teresa Farnum and Associates, titled “Retention Assessment Southern Illinois University,” Farnum said one of the problems was a lack of students being excited about the class.

According to the report, SIU freshmen retention has decreased since 2009, when retention was at 69 percent, to 2010 at 60 percent.

The report stated, “This should be one of the most exciting courses in the first semester, but it is reportedly not popular with students and some faculty.”

UCOL 101 class, said the extra credit to provide them with the opportunity to avoid a failing grade. The administration seems to be one of the most exciting courses in the first semester, but it is historically not popular with students and some faculty.”

UCOL 101 is not an academically challenging course,” she said. “What the challenge is, is setting yourself up in a pattern of behavior for points in the class.

"It’s not that UCOL 101 is not an academically challenging course,” she said. “What the challenge is, is setting yourself up in a pattern of behavior for success. So what I think we are seeing is students who have not adopted that pattern of behavior.”

"It’s not that UCOL 101 is not an academically challenging course,” she said. “What the challenge is, is setting yourself up in a pattern of behavior for success. So what I think we are seeing is students who have not adopted that pattern of behavior.”

The administration seems concerned with the amount of failing grades in the class as well. An email obtained by the Daily Egyptian, instructors were “encouraged” to offer high amounts of extra credit for assignments, some as high as 66 points, including taking the Kelsey Personality Test and movie reviews of films like “Office Space” and “The Lincoln Lawyer.”

Both assignments could equal just over 10 percent of the total points in the class.

The email stated, “We are just a few weeks before the semester is over, and unfortunately, some students realize very late in the semester that they can not afford to fail a class. So please provide them with the opportunity to rescue their UCOL course.”

Peden, who formerly taught a UCOL 101 class, said the extra credit could be detrimental to student behaviors.

SIU alumna to compete for Miss USA 2014

SIU alumna Chelsea Reardon is showing America that a small-town girl can become a pageant queen, and SIU alumna Chelsea Reardon is showing America that a small-town girl can become a pageant queen, and SIU alumna Chelsea Reardon is showing America that a small-town girl can become a pageant queen, and SIU alumna Chelsea Reardon is showing America that a small-town girl can become a pageant queen, and SIU alumna Chelsea Reardon is showing America that a small-town girl can become a pageant queen, and SIU alumna Chelsea Reardon is showing America that a small-town girl can become a pageant queen, and SIU alumna Chelsea Reardon is showing America that a small-town girl can become a pageant queen.

Chelsea Reardon is heavily involved in the SIU Public Relations Student Society of America and served as secretary of the Kappa Delta chapter of the Order of Omega Honors Society. She also competed in the Miss Illinois Collegiate America pageant, which took place in Texas. During that pageant, Reardon made the top five and won the overall best interview award.

At the age of 22, Reardon is now one of the youngest sales representatives at Pearson PLC, a London-based educational publishing company. As a sales representative, Reardon travels to universities and influences committees to use Pearson in their educational programs. Several courses at SIU use Pearson as part of their online curriculum.

Reardon said there is a lot that goes into pageants behind the scenes, and that she wanted to present herself ready to take up the title of Miss Mississippi.

Basically what my goal was, was to prepare myself mentally, physically and spiritually, I wanted to be all in, one,” she said. “When I was on stage, I just wanted to really project the confidence and maturity that I prepared for that.”

While it is great to see their daughter succeed, Larry Reardon said pageants are not necessarily as controversial as television shows make them out to be. “People see shows like ‘Toddlers and Tiaras’ and things like that and I have to tell you, that was not our experience at all,” Becky said. “I know times have changed but back then they put on a little make up on just for on stage but it wasn’t so fake.”
Domestic violence awareness will soon be at the forefront of regional humanitarian groups.

Recently, efforts have been made by No More, a national campaign to raise awareness and take action against controversial issues such as domestic violence. The No More campaign targets the general public and attempts to expose them to the issue and asks people to support victims from all over the country.

The southern Illinois region has several resource centers and organizations across seven counties, including the Woman’s Center located in Jackson County. Carbondale’s Women’s Center has done similar work to the No More campaign that promotes ending domestic violence and providing support for victims.

Abby Odor, program coordinator at the Women’s Center, said the Carbondale resource center is the main location for people, because victims from surrounding counties come to them.

Intimate Partner Violence is a newly coined term recognized by the Center for Disease Control, Women’s Health and World Health Organization.

Laura Zeman, professor of social work and women’s studies, said the World Health Organization identifies intimate partner violence as any behavior that harms emotionally, behaviorally, physically or sexually.

“Intimate partner is more inclusive for partners that may or may not live together, and the term domestic was limited to a household situation,” she said.

Zeman and her colleague, SIU alumna Jayme Swanke, wrote an article focusing on intimate partner violence that will be featured in upcoming Care Management journals.

Dejauna Smith, a senior from Evanston studying speech communication, Kaylan Mahone, a senior from Richmond Park studying speech communication, and Sydney Bartle, a senior from Chicago studying speech communication, plan to start a No More campaign at SIU to support the fight against domestic violence alongside places such as the Women’s Center.

“We are not directly working with the Women’s Center in our No More campaign but will be providing people with information as to where they can refer victims,” Smith said.

According to a study by the national No More campaign, one in five men have experienced sexual victimization in their lifetime and one in four women have experienced some form of violence from their partners at some point in their lives.

“People were inspired to do No More to the university because we felt that we could get students to speak out against domestic violence and make a real effort to put a stop to it,” Smith said.
Debris piles line the street across from Brookport Elementary School Saturday. Community-wide cleanup efforts were made with the help of numerous church groups and disaster-relief organizations from areas of southern Illinois and western Kentucky. Gov. Pat Quinn is scheduled to hold a news conference today at noon in Brookport with Red Cross Regional Chief Executive Cindy Erickson, to provide an update on the recovery efforts. According to the Massac County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency, no organized volunteers will be taken Monday, due to the use of heavy machinery. Volunteer efforts will resume after Thursday.

boy about eight years old,” Stevenson said. “His bedroom was in a pond. We found his tennis shoes, his pocketknife, and his Wii game. Those kind of things might seem unimportant to you and I, but to that little boy, his life was laying in that pond.”

Bread of Life Operations Manager David Neeks, of Lawno, Ky., said the group consists of mostly retired men and women and is supported by the donations of some 30 churches. All of the equipment, from the safety goggles to the front leaders, was donated.

do what they want to do, don’t matter what it is. Everything we’ve got been donated,” he said. “Once

“I worked 45 minutes with a little boy whose life was laying in that pond.”

Debra Christiansen of Christiansen Construction, who advises the victims to “What can we do?”

“The playground at the school was victim to the tornado as well. An uprooted 120-year-old tree, ripped fencing and environmental debris littered the small lot.”

“The kids have come back by and large,” she said. “This playground looks good now, but it was pretty clustered. We had 46 kids in the roof, things overthrown, lots of debris.”

The playground cleanup was done by volunteers from Operation H.E.L.P., a relief organization of Grace Pointe Church in Mayfield, Ky.

Director of the operation, Jennifer Hughes, said their group has been to disaster areas in Louisiana, Georgia, Oklahoma and now Illinois.

“My husband preaches, but this is what I do,” she said. “Being out in the community, touching peoples lives, there’s nothing more exciting than what we’re doing today. When you do stuff like this, every one of these people will be ready far after I’m gone.”

Hughes said the playground destruction hits particularly close to home for her. She spent many hours on the playground with her five children.

“It could have been us,” she said. “I live 30 minutes from here, and you just would like to know that someone’s going to be there for you. Seeing the people and their stories and you connect with what they’re going through, you feel part of their family.”

Christiansen said she is happy the kids can come back to a safe playground to spend their recess time on.

With the Thanksgiving holiday right around the corner, Operation H.E.L.P. teamed up with the Bob Evans restaurant in Paducah, Ky., which donated 15 percent of its profits Saturday to help fund a Thanksgiving dinner put on from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday at the elementary school.

“When this disaster hitting so close to the holiday, it was only fitting that we jump in,” Hughes said. “We contacted the local Bob Evans and they were on board immediately.”

Now, there is an extra handout in the school gymnasium on Thanksgiving Day. Items vary from toiletries to clothing. A full list of necessary items can be found on the Graves County Prayer Chain Facebook page, and monetary donations can be made through the Paducah Bob Evans or Operation H.E.L.P.

Kip/Fliner can be reached at kipfliner@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-5314 ext. 252.
Jury awards Apple $290 million in patent feud with Samsung

HOward Mintz
San Jose Mercury News

SAN JOSE, Calif. — A federal jury Thursday awarded Apple $290 million in damages in its patent feud with Samsung, close to the amount the Silicon Valley tech giant sought for Samsung’s copying of the iPhone and iPad in its smartphones and tablets.

With the verdict, Apple is owed a total of more than $900 million for its overall patent infringement case against Samsung, including the results of last year’s trial, in which a separate jury found the South Korean maker of Galaxy smartphones and tablets and other devices violated Apple’s patent rights in dozens of products.

In the most recent trial, which began last week, a six-woman, two-man jury awarded the $290 million for 13 Samsung products after it concluded Samsung owed nearly $380 million in damages and slashed $450 million from the original $1 billion verdict. The latest jury verdict restores much of the $450 million Koh cut.

During the trial, Apple argued that Samsung owed it $800 million in damages for infringing its iPhone and iPad technology, based on Apple’s lost profits, Samsung’s profits from selling infringing products and royalties. Apple portrayed Samsung as a company trying to capitalize on copying the popular iPhone to keep pace in the smartphone market.

Samsung, meanwhile, told the jury that Apple had inflated the worth of its patents and overstated their importance to consumer choice, arguing damages should not exceed $52 million. Samsung contended that consumers buy Samsung products for their lower cost, Android operating system and factors such as larger screens, not Apple’s patented features.

Barring a global settlement, which has eluded the two companies, Apple and Samsung are not done with each other. The competitors will square off again in March in another patent trial, this time over more recent smartphones and tablets, although even that case will be well behind the release of even newer versions of Apple and Samsung products. In addition, a federal appeals court this week revived Apple’s bid to block the U.S. sales of Samsung infringing products in the case that has been resolved. The issue was sent back to Koh for further review.

Meanwhile, Apple and Samsung continue to dominate the worldwide market for smartphones and tablets, which runs Samsung’s products.

Although portrayed poorly in media, Becky Reardon said her daughter began doing pageants through friends. Jo Rana Smith, a longstanding family friend, met Chelsea at the Dream Girls USA Pageant in 1999, when one of Smith’s daughters, Mollie, was competing. After becoming close friends, Smith helped the then-four-year-old win many local pageants.

“She had enjoyed the pageants, but when we put her in that and she won, and I thought, ‘Oh, this is kind of fun,’” Becky Reardon said. “She had come home from school one day and they had been playing basketball,” she said. “She had enjoyed the pageants, but when she showed an interested in basketball I got together with her and we’d go to the park and shoot hoops.”

Reardon went on to play basketball as point guard at Agape Christian High School, where she served as team captain and earned the Most Valuable Player title. Her records included most points scored in a single game, most points scored in a career.

Upon graduating, Reardon attended John A. Logan Community College for two years and decided to take up pageants again during the 2008 Murphy/Sheboho Apple Festival.

“It was kind of a surprise, really, because I didn’t think she had an interest to get back into doing pageants because it had been awhile,” her mother said.

Reardon returned to pageants when she was 19, and said it substantially helped in paying for college.

“I got about $8,000 of scholarship money back in southern Illinois from pageants, so it’s a great scholarship program,” she said.

She then transferred to Southern Illinois University because she could not see herself anywhere else.

“To be honest, I love southern Illinois. I was born and raised there and I just never thought to go anywhere else,” Reardon said. “I was just raised a Saluki fan, so it only made sense.”

At SIU, Reardon joined the Sigma Kappa sorority and actively participated in Greek life.

Crystal Powell, a junior from Rockford studying anthropology, Spanish and criminal justice, was Reardon’s little sister in the sorority.

She said the bond between a big and little sister in sororities is a special one.

“When she became Miss Mississippi, I was like, ‘Oh my god, no way,’” Powell said. “I tested her and I was so happy for her.”

Reardon said competing in pageants helped her daughter become more confident growing up, and had made her a well-rounded person.

In previous years, the Miss USA pageant has been held in Las Vegas. Regardless of where it is, Smith said her many members of the southern Illinois area will definitely be there, cheering on Chelsea as she competes for the Miss USA crown.

Luke Nozicka can be reached at lnozicka@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 254.
Sexist professor limits literature options

AMBER WATERSON
for the Daily Egyptian

You walk into a literature class ready to take your mind on an intellectual journey; a journey that will take you to faraway places or turn you into a mythical creature. We expect professors to show us these places, and to lead our minds there through an array of materials.

At the University of Toronto, students in David Gilmour's English classes have been deprived of literature with female authors. One could not possibly learn the ways of literature without knowing such great works by Jane Austen, Sylvia Plath or Louisa May Alcott.

However, Gilmour thinks differently. In an interview with Hazelit Magazine, Gilmour states that women writers are not good enough for his curriculum. “I don’t love women writers enough to teach them. If you want women writers, go down the hall,” he said.

Not only is Gilmour closed-minded about the gender of the writers he teaches, he also maintains strong opinions regarding race and sexuality. In the same article, Gilmour stated that he does not teach Chinese literature, and favors works from heterosexual, white authors.

I am shocked that anyone could be so closed-minded, let alone a professor, and that of literature is even worse. While obviously Gilmour is OK with shrinking the learning experience of his students, should his university allow this? I am greatly disturbed by the fact that this man is a teacher whom neglects the duties of his job, which is to mold great minds.

What if Gilmour's students don't share his narrowed choice of literature? To take a class with Gilmour would be like reading three-fourths of a book, and then asking your friend what you missed.

Thinking about this on a greater spectrum, this is also a great injustice to the authors themselves. Authors write to create, not only for themselves but also for the readers. Gilmour should recognize this because he himself is an author. He has written eight novels and one memoir. One would think that in order to create such works that garnering an open mind to fellow authors would only assist in the writing process.

With the revealing of how he teaches his students, I can only hope that he realizes the world extends much further then his bookshelf and that he has a great duty to teach and help his students evolve.

Amber Waterson is a junior from Belleville studying journalism.
Twice a month, the tasteful venue Global Gourmet runs an evening in which an ever-expanding group of individuals present creative works of art. This event, known as the Transpoetic Playground, is not merely as much a group of people as it is a place of cordial acceptance and of freedom. Event host Zachary Seibert said the grounds on which the poetry has been heard have been shifted from one venue to another, arriving now at Global Gourmet, though the melody of the poetry has remained resilient.

“This event was actually created by members of the speech communication department,” he said. “Many years ago, it was originally Metalingua Franca and is now the Transpoetic Playground and has been for some years.”

Even though former members and past organizers have left town for their various and respective vocations, the event persists, he said. “To keep things organized, I have stepped in as the default host,” Seibert said.

Seibert has been a part of Transpoetic for many years. His first poetry reading occurred in 2008 and he was solidified as a reoccurring member in late August.

“The Transpoetic Playground, is not merely as much a group of people as it is a place of cordial acceptance and of freedom. Event host Zachary Seibert stepped up as a default organizer and host for the event after many of the former leaders left town to follow their careers. “Everyone is really welcomed and as a result the Transpoetic Playground open mic at Global Gourmet. The open forum, held every other Monday at 8 p.m., is for anyone who desires to bring their work or inspirational work of others to share. Zachary Seibert stepped up as a default organizer and host for the event after many of the former leaders left town to follow their careers. “Everyone is really welcomed and as a result The Transpoetic Playground has created something that I have not seen anywhere else,” Seibert said. “I have felt the obligation to keep it alive and going.”

Rachel Thomas, of Carbondale, reads poetry Nov. 18, during the Transpoetic Playground open mic at Global Gourmet. The open forum, held every other Monday at 8 p.m., is for anyone who desires to bring their work or inspirational work of others to share. Zachary Seibert stepped up as a default organizer and host for the event after many of the former leaders left town to follow their careers.

“Everyone is really welcomed and as a result The Transpoetic Playground has created something that I have not seen anywhere else,” Seibert said. “I have felt the obligation to keep it alive and going.”

“We encourage literally everyone to come to the mic,” Seibert said. “People get warm welcomes, very low rivalry and the ability to actually express themselves and use this place as a venue for the continuation of their own artistic process, instead of it turning into a disgusting popularity contest that can happen in other poetic groups around the country. I just like the spirit of this event.”

Transpoetic Playground presents at Global Gourmet every other Monday evening. Their next event will occur at 9 p.m. Dec. 2.

Jake Saunders can be reached at jsaunders@dailyegyptian.com or at 536-3311 ext. 254.
Prepping for Last Call

Jake Ingram, a freshman from St. Louis studying physics, helps clamp down equipment for a film shoot Sunday at Stix Bar & Billiards. Ingram said the group Movie Camera Militia is filming all day for its production of “Last Call” and it is supposed to be a night scene. “We’re trying to make sure these are covered as well as possible so no light will get in for the scene,” Ingram said.

Steven Beard, a sophomore from Chicago studying criminal justice, dances Saturday during the Lip Sync Competition hosted by Phi Rho Eta in the Student Center Auditorium. The Undergraduate Student Government allocated $1,393 to the fraternity for the annual event, which gives away a $500 prize for the best performance. Beard, a member of Phi Rho Eta, said he has enjoyed being part of the competition every year with fellow fraternity members and enjoys the atmosphere. “It’s just all about having fun,” Beard said.
‘Dallas Buyers Club’ storytelling at its finest

KARSTEN BURGSTAHLER
Daily Egyptian

I am a sucker for a good story. Sure, acting can make or break a movie. Cinematography can take the movie to new heights and make it beautiful. However, you need a story worth telling to make the production worth it.

Too many studios have forgotten this. The stars are so large, the sets are so sumptuous, the special effects are so breathtaking, the movie takes on the life of the set and not the story. It can be said that the director is not giving enough time to the story. The background is all around, but it is the story that should be told.

I was thankful for ‘Dallas Buyers Club’ because the story was told. The actors were used to tell the story. The movie was not about the special effects and the sets, but about the story. It was a story that should have been told.

‘Dallas Buyers Club’ is a story that should have been told. The story is about a man who was diagnosed with HIV and had to find a way to survive. The story is about a man who was given a chance to live, but had to make the most of it. The story is about a man who was given a second chance, but had to make the most of it.

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SIU tries to find solution to 0-4 start

SYMONE WOOLRIDGE Daily Egyptian

After suffering 26 losses last season, the Salukis have been facing many mental and physical changes allotted by the new coaching staff.

The women’s basketball team has been searching for ways to better themselves as a unit. In 2010, SIU ended its season with only two wins and 28 losses. In 2011, the Salukis overall record was 8-22, and in 2012 they ended their season with only five wins.

Throughout the few games played this year, the Salukis have been facing the same repetitive mistakes in each matchup. Defensively, they are having a hard time boxing out and forcing outside shots. On offense, it has been difficult for SIU to make long distance shots and crucial free throws.

Coach Cindy Stein has been working to turn the program around. Stein previously coached at Illinois Central College where the Cougars went 32-4. Prior to her arrival, the Cougars were a team that went 16-16.

Stein has been working with the Salukis to boost their confidence, and work together as a team. Stein said the SIU women sometimes keep their heads down after a mistake, and she is trying to fix that.

Junior guard Carissa Macklin said nervousness plays a factor in her game, as well as her teammates. Macklin has been a leading scorer for SIU, and recently tallied her 1,000th point in her college career.

“I get nervous all the time no matter what,” Macklin said. “It doesn’t matter who we play, what division they’re in or anything, I still get nervous, but it eventually wears off.”

The Salukis went head-to-head with Wright State University in their season opener. SIU could not make outside shots count, shooting 30 percent from the 3-point line and 23 percent from the free-throw line and lost 67-64.

Sophomore forward Dyana Pierre ended the game with a double-double, with 12 points and 10 rebounds. Sophomore guard Rashonda Napier did the same, scoring 13 points and 10 rebounds.

“There have been good signs of teamwork and fighting through,” Stein said. “But we have to box out and make our free throws, there is no excuse why we’re not.”

SIU is at a minor setback, playing each game and that a frustrating thing is that you just never get to show what you’re capable of.”

LEWIS MARIEN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sophomore center Dyana Pierre drives to the basket Thursday during the Salukis’ 78-43 loss to the University of Illinois Fighting Illini at the State Farm Center in Champaign. Pierre notched her 11th double-double of her career with 10 points and 12 rebounds. The Salukis will travel to Huntington, W. Va., Wednesday to face the Marshall University Thundering Herd.

Patterson is the only player at that position. Stein said she wishes the Salukis had a backup center, but other players of different positions have to step up and play hard.

Pierre has been a huge competitor for SIU this season. She has scored in double digits in every game thus far. Pierre is working towards becoming a talkative player on the floor.

“I am kind of shy and coach wants me to get out of that,” Pierre said. “I know I need to be more vocal on the floor and that’s what I am trying to work on.”

SIU faced an intense battle in its second game against Austin Peay State University. They were just two seconds away from forcing overtime until the Lady Govs scored a basket in overtime until the Lady Govs scored a basket in the last seconds of the game.

As soon as they get to the point where things are becoming natural, I think we have a very good shot of doing something significant,” Stein said. The lead changed 16 times, and the score tied 19 times. Macklin lead SIU with 20 points, and shot 10-11 from the free throw line. Pierre was the second leading scorer with 13 points.

SIU shot fairly well from the free-throw line, making 75 percent of their attempts, but they struggled a bit from the 3-point line, shooting 25 percent.

“I can’t teach them my philosophy in every single day of practice,” Stein said. “You try, but in game scenarios something different comes up regardless of how much you think you’ve practiced or prepared them.”

The Salukis faced their first away game of the season as they traveled to Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne University. They suffered another loss, losing to IPFW 79-62. SIU only made eight of its 20 free throws count, and four of 17 three pointers from the outside.

In the most recent game against the University of Illinois in Champaign, SIU took its biggest loss of the season. The Illini defeated SIU 78-43 with four Illinois players scoring double digits.

SIU struggled to make outside shots, and scored 1-18 from the three-point line and 14-62 in field goals. Pierre earned her third double-double of the season with 10 points and 12 rebounds.

Sophomore Asia Washington scored 8 points and 7 rebounds.

Washington said the team had a hard time shooting, even in warm-ups before the game.

“I don’t know if it was the different hoop or if it was just us not making any shots but we all just couldn’t knock them down,” she said.

Stein said changing a team who only won five games last year would be tough, but manageable. SIU is a team with only two seniors and four juniors, but no appointed leader.

“I don’t know who our leaders are on this team, and that’s a part of the problem,” Stein said. “We have to have someone that is the calming force, and we still have to find the one or two people who will step up and do that.”

The Salukis hope to capture their first win as they play Marshall University Wednesday in Huntington, West Virginia.

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FOOTBALL

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“The weather was a big factor and it changed certain elements of the game,” Lennon said. “If you look at the first half, it was very indicative of what weather can do. We moved the ball up and down the field, but we went into the half only up 7-3. You had to be aware of the environment and that affected play calling.”

Senior quarterback Kory Faulkner returned midway through the second quarter from a month-long finger injury to spark the Saluki offense after freshman quarterback Ryan West strove to find a rhythm.

“Ryan struggled and we needed something to boost the offense,” Lennon said. “Kory came in and picked up where he left off. His comfort level with the offense was good. He was able to make plays with his feet. He was the complete package when he came back. It was good to see.”

Senior receiver John Lantz was appreciative of Faulkner’s return. Lantz hauled in eight receptions for 99 yards.

“John is one of my best friends, and he’s my roommate,” Faulkner said. “I try to give him as many touches as I can. He’s one of the receivers I trust a lot. I trust that he will always be in the right spot.”

Priot to playoff selections being made, Faulkner said he hoped that Saturday would not be his last time wearing the Saluki maroon.

“I’m hoping this isn’t the last time I put on this jersey,” Faulkner said. “It would mean a lot to keep going. We feel that we are one of the top teams in the country. If we get a chance to keep going, we’re going to make some noise in the playoffs.”

Unfortunately, the Salukis will not have that opportunity.

Lennon said the realization that the season is over stings, but the fact that not being given the chance to compete for the championship— although they are a championship-caliber team—burns even more.

“We know we are a playoff-caliber team. We know if we had made the playoffs, we could make some noise. We could advance; we could have a chance to make a run at this,” Lennon said. “The frustrating thing is that you just never get to see what you’re capable of.”

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Salukis clinch three seed in MVC Tourney

TYLER DIXON  Daily Egyptian

After winning two matches this past weekend, the Salukis were able to grab the third seed in the upcoming conference tournament.

SIU welcomed Illinois State University Friday for “Spike Out Hunger” night, and Indiana State University Saturday for the final regular season match of the year as well as senior night.

The first set caused problems for the Salukis in both matches. Friday night, the Salukis and Redbirds were tied at 20 in the first when Illinois State scored five straight to go up one set to none.

SIU won the next three sets in route to a 3-1 victory, but the win had its fair share of adversity. The Salukis had substantial leads in the second, third and fourth sets, but allowed the Redbirds back into each game. They won by narrow margins: 25-20 in the second set and 25-21 in the final two sets.

Coach Justin Ingram did not downplay the win against conference foe Illinois State.

“Every conference win is a big win, no matter who the opponent is,” Ingram said. “We have had a lot of historic wins this season.”

Sophomore middle blocker Taylor Pippen led the way for the Salukis with 12 kills and a .450 hitting percentage.

Senior outside hitter Elly Bragen said the team turned it around after the first set and played well the rest of the match.

“We were mad after the first set; no one wants to lose the first set,” Bragen said. “We were ready to go in the second one, made a few adjustments, got back on the service line and put it on them.”

Morale was high after the win against Illinois State, but the Salukis could not overlook the Sycamores on senior night.

“Tomorrow is senior night. That’s kind of scary, my last game in Davies,” Bragen said. “Give it all you have and we’re going to take on Indiana State.”

Indiana State was the kind of opponent that teams do not want to play on senior night. The Sycamores had nothing to lose, with no hopes of making it to the Missouri Valley Conference tournament.

The first set was a forgettable one for the Salukis.

They fell 25-18 in the opening game, but were able to rebound in the second and third winning 25-18 and 25-16.

The fourth set was a rollercoaster for both teams. The fourth game alone had 10 ties and four lead changes. SIU looked as if it was going to win the set when they had match point at 24-23, but the Sycamores strolled tall. Indiana State was able to squeeze by with a 28-26 win to force the match to a deciding fifth set.

Six more lead changes occurred in the final, as the first team to 15 points wins the match. After being tied at 13, the Salukis won the next two points to win the match and sweep down the Sycamores.

Senior outside hitter Jessica Whitehead led the Salukis with 17 kills in the win.

Freshman setter Meg Viggars had arguably the best weekend of any player on the SIU roster as she had 22 kills and 25 digs in the two Saluki wins.

Whitehead said she stayed strong in front of her teammates, but the emotions finally hit her after the match Saturday.

“With these other two, Elly (Bragen) and Emily (Less), we’ve been through a lot,” Whitehead said. “Different assistant coaches, different head coaches and it’s like we got through the whole four years together and didn’t quit.”

Ingram wants his team to celebrate the senior night win, but get back to work before the team leaves Wednesday for Wichita, Kan. The team’s first match is 5 p.m. Thursday against the No. 6 seed Bradley University Braves.

The tournament wraps up Saturday afternoon.

Ingram said he knew his team would have to get used to a new system, but when they came together, they could beat anyone.

“I am proud of the team,” Ingram said. “We started the season rocky because we were learning but we knew once it started clicking that the sky is the limit.”

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REMY ABROUGHT | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Senior outside hitter Emily Less goes up for a spike Friday during a matchup against Illinois State University at Davies Gymnasium. Less and fellow seniors Jessica Whitehead and Emily Bragen were recognized for their contributions to the women’s volleyball team on Senior Night Saturday after defeating Indiana State University. The win against Indiana tied the school record for the most conference wins with 13 this season. Beginning Thursday, Salukis will go on to compete in Wichita, Kan., at the 2013 Missouri Valley Conference Championships where they will face Bradley University.

FOOTBALL

Despite conference wins, Salukis shut out of FCS playoffs

TERRANCE PEACOCK  Daily Egyptian

After a 31-9 drubbing of Indiana State University Saturday afternoon, the SIU football team had hopes to qualify for the Football Championship Series playoffs come selection time.

That case fell by the wayside Sunday morning as the FCS Selection Committee withheld the Salukis from the playoffs for the fourth consecutive year, and ended their season.

Coach Dale Lennon said the team was disappointed that they did not impress the committee enough to solidify its spot in the playoffs.

“The toughest thing as a coach is where you break the news to them that you don’t make it and you see the looks on their faces,” Lennon said.

“It’s tough to explain, but the bottom line is we needed to win more games and we understand that,” the Missouri Valley Football Conference did not fare well altogether in the selection process. Only two out of five potential playoff teams made the 24-team field, leaving three playoff-caliber teams upset, and forced to begin preparing for next season.

North Dakota State University and South Dakota State University were the only schools to reach the playoffs from the MVFC.

“The thing that’s disappointing is we play in a league that’s brutal,” Lennon said. “You look at early season; the polls will have six teams (in the MVFC) ranked in the top-25, eight teams getting votes, but then when it comes to the end of the season, there’s no love for the league. It’s because the teams end up bearing on each other.”

The Salukis did just that in front of a little more than 200 fans in Terre Haute, Ind., against a 1-11 Indiana State team that did not win a game against a Division I opponent all season.

SIU (7-5, 5-3 MVFC) held the Sycamores (1-11, 0-8 MVFC) to 55 yards of total offense, which ties for the fourth lowest total allowed by SIU in school history.

The Salukis could not separate themselves from the Sycamores until the second half leading ISU 7-5 at halftime.

Lennon said refereeing, temperatures played a role in the Salukis’ first-half performance.

LEWIS MARIEN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Junior running back Tay Willis is brought down by an Illinois State University defender Nov. 16 during the Salukis’ 24-17 win over the Redbirds at Saluki Stadium.

The Salukis defeated the Indiana State University Sycamores 31-9 Saturday, limiting the Sycamores to just 55 total offensive yards, which tied for the fourth lowest output ever against SIU. With the Football Championship Subdivision Selection Committee only taking North Dakota State University and South Dakota State University from the Missouri Valley Football Conference, the Salukis have not reached the postseason for the fourth consecutive year.

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