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## The Daily Egyptian, October 15, 2010

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# DE

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Friday, October 15, 2010

## Lance Jack to reapply for council seat

CHRISTINA SPAKOUSKY  
Daily Egyptian

Lance Jack said all too often it feels like he is the only person really fighting for Carbondale's future, which is why he has decided to reapply for his council seat.

"I would probably have a whole lot

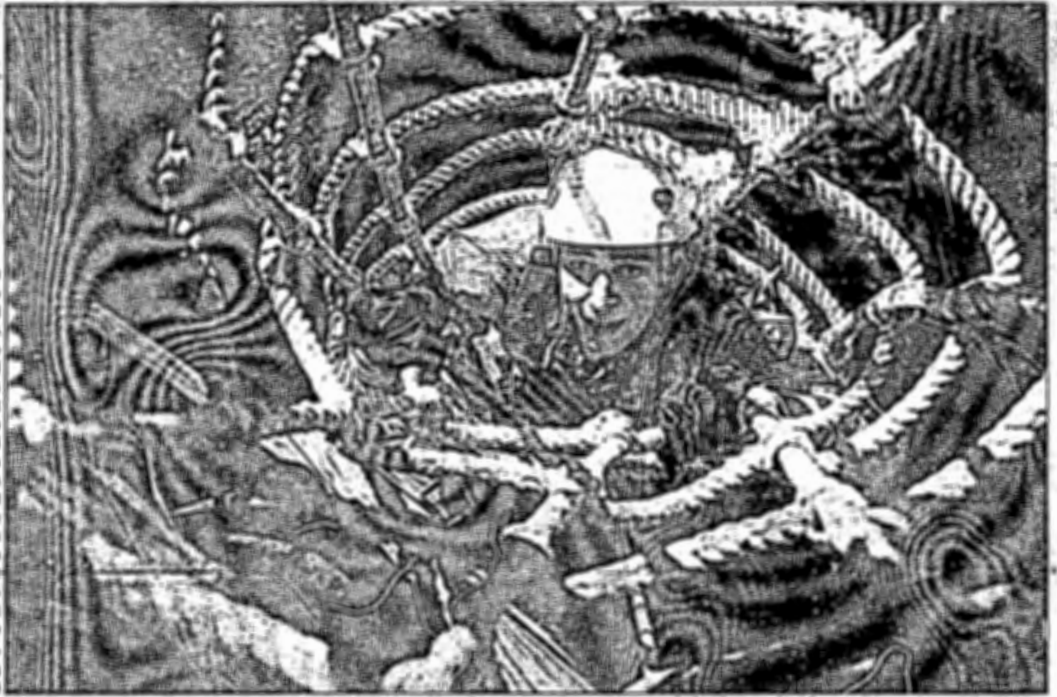
of people who would say, 'Lance Jack, you're crazy, and you're not going to get my vote,' but it's the silent majority who knows how I feel," he said.

Mayor Brad Cole announced Thursday that due to Jack's resignation, he is accepting letters of intent for the vacant City Council seat and the position would be appointed by the

end of the year. After he reviews the letters, Cole will select one application for the council to consider in a closed session, he said. All of this has to be completed by Dec. 9, but Cole said he doesn't see any reason why it should take that long.

Please see COUNCIL | 4

Volume 96, Issue 39, 12 pages



CADETS AND ROTC cadets competed in a 24-hour obstacle course at the University of Tennessee. The course included eight different obstacles and was as well as a steep climb. ROTC cadets competed in a 24-hour obstacle course at the University of Tennessee. The course included eight different obstacles and was as well as a steep climb.

## Finalists for provost announced

LAUREN LEONE  
Daily Egyptian

The search to fill the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor position has been narrowed to four finalists.

Two of the finalists are internal candidates: Don Rice, interim provost and vice chancellor; and Gary Minish, who retired Dec. 31 as dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences. The other finalists are Robert Hampton, professor of sociology and social work at Tennessee State University, and Cameron Hackney,

dean of the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design and director of the West Virginia Experiment Station at West Virginia University.

Finalists will visit campus and hold open forums between Oct. 17 and Nov. 2, according to a university press release.

Rice has held the position of interim provost since Dec. 2006. He was not available for comment at press time.

Minish said he has familiarized himself with SIUC after spending

more than five years as dean of College of Agricultural Sciences.

"It's got the breath and depth of academic programs and the diversity and culture," he said. "The people are the strengths and extreme positives."

During his 35 years at Virginia Tech, he served as a professor in the department of animal science and later as associate dean and director of development and agriculture technology for the College of Agriculture.

Enrollment numbers and budget

issues at SIUC are the two major issues Minish said he would address if he were provost, and said he has experience and success in both.

When he headed VT's animal and poultry sciences department from 1994 to 2001, undergraduate enrollment rose 76 percent, according to a 2004 university press release.

Minish said he came out of retirement because he enjoys working.

"I don't fish. I don't golf," Minish said. "I like to work. That's one of the things that encouraged me to apply for provost. I'll be working

somewhere."

Hampton, who served as provost and executive vice president and chief operating officer at Tennessee State University from 2006 to 2008, said he is eager for his first campus visit Monday during his open forum. The forum will serve as a critical moment in the search where students, faculty and staff can ask questions and express concerns about the university, he said.

Please see PROVOST | 4

## Gubernatorial debate brings no new answers

CHRISTINA SPAKOUSKY  
Daily Egyptian

Gubernatorial candidates debated over more than just their own jobs Thursday.

"I've had to lay off 1,100 workers, but the bottom line is that I've been able to get concessions from the unions of \$325 million dollars under the existing union contracts. That's never happened before in Illinois," Gov. Pat Quinn said.

Quinn, Republican Sen. Bill Brady and Green Party candidate Rich Whitney debated over job creation, the state

budget and other topics Thursday at the gubernatorial debate hosted by WSIU at Studio B in the Communications Building.

The two other candidates, Independent Scott Lee Cohen and Libertarian Lex Green, were not included in the debate.

Brady said Quinn's campaign has only cut jobs and been full of secrets. Most recently the Put Illinois To Work bill was created in secret with a state-made budget and used only for Quinn's endorsement.

"This is a continuation of a secret

**66** The Democrats still have not come home to Pat Quinn. Democrats won't vote for Brady; they'll tend to just not vote. If they do that then Quinn will lose.

— David Yepsen

director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute

administration and it has to stop. The people of Illinois deserve an open and transparent governor," Brady said.

Quinn said it was a union contract that has never been done in Illinois and will reduce the public pension cost by \$220 million.

"I'm running against Senator Brady

who wants to abolish Put Illinois To Work and put 26,000 people out of work. He said that 10 days ago; I think that's heartless," Quinn said.

But Brady said Quinn's recent projects to create jobs using bonds had more motivation than just job creation.

"Taking taxpayer dollars to put

people to work in a private sector is not a solution. That is a political ploy to get you through the election. The unemployment rate and loss of jobs are what's hurting Illinois," Brady said.

Please see DEBATE | 8

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# New poll highlights voter dissatisfaction

## State, nation perceived to be headed in wrong direction

RYAN VOYLES  
Daily Egyptian

Likely Illinois voters are overwhelmingly pessimistic about the direction the state and nation and are headed are ready for reform, according to a poll released Thursday by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute.

The poll shows 81.3 percent of likely voters believe the state is headed in the wrong direction, as opposed to 11 percent who believe it's headed in the right direction. Respondents were also in favor of potential reforms, such as a recall of the governor and other statewide elected officials, an open primary and term limits for the leaders of the General Assembly.

The poll, conducted from Sept. 30 to Oct. 10, surveyed 758 residents likely to vote in the November elections and has a margin of error of 3.5 percentage points, said Charles Leonard, a visiting professor and director of the Institute's polling initiatives.

John Jackson, a visiting professor from the institute, said the recent history of Illinois politics has led to dissatisfaction among voters.

"We have two state governors, back-to-back, who were tried for federal crimes and one (is) in federal prison," he said. "It's not too hard to see why people would be a little bit skeptical of state government and in favor of reform proposals."

Many respondents favored reforms that will be on the November ballot. According to the poll, 61.6 percent of respondents favor a change that would allow voters to not declare their party ballot and 65.6 percent favor an amendment to the state constitution to allow a "recall" election, which would allow voters to remove the governor from office before their term ended. While its not on the November ballot, 66.7 percent favor the ability to recall all statewide office holders.

According to the poll, 62.4 percent of respondents said the country is on the wrong track, while 29 percent think it's headed in the right direction.

David Yepsen, director of the institute, said it was telling that more people believe the state is headed in

the wrong direction as opposed to the nation.

"That's pretty rare; usually they say the country is headed in the wrong direction, but look more favorable upon what their state is doing," he said. "This is a case where it's just off the chart. You take everything that's making people mad in general ... and you add on top of that the corruption in this state — we have a richly deserved reputation for corruption in public — office, and people are just disgusted with it."

Yepsen said future leaders must restore voter confidence in the credibility of the political system to settle growing voter dissatisfaction.

"We're going to have to have a governor who will say, 'I need to cut spending, and I need to raise revenue,' and have people trust him that the money is being wisely spent and not going to some political crony," he said. "Right now, people don't trust politicians to do that."

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### About Us

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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.

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# Rec Center struggles to maintain equipment



JACOB MAYER  
Daily Egyptian

William Ehling says deferred maintenance is the major casualty of the budget cuts for the Recreation Center.

Ehling, director of Recreational Sports and Services, said the center has replaced old equipment in recent years, but is very selective in what equipment is replaced.

"We're doing duct tape instead of fixing it the right way," he said. "We're buying temporary repairs in some cases instead of permanent repairs."

Todd Bryson, assistant director of operations and facilities, said the center first determines what type of maintenance needs to be done and sometimes a temporary fix is more efficient than the cost of completely replacing some equipment.

In addition to maintenance, the Recreation Center had to cut back operating hours on weekends, Ehling said. He said the center is now open until 6 p.m. Saturdays instead of 10 p.m. and open at 1 p.m. Sundays instead of 10 a.m.

He said the hours were reduced at times when the center was not

as busy and times it was not used much by students. However, he said the center did not want to lose the non-student members who used the facility at those times, he said.

"It was really delicate for us to (figure out) what can we adjust without losing their favor and not serving them, and then going somewhere else for their membership," Ehling said. "We didn't want to make an adjustment and lose revenue on the membership side."

He said the reduction in hours would save the center approximately \$30,000.

Ehling said his main goal was to protect people who work at the center and services that directly affect those who use it.

As the university faced a \$15.3 million shortfall coming into fiscal year 2011, Chancellor Rita Cheng said in an e-mail to university personnel Aug. 2 that she had asked each department on campus to submit plans for an average 4 percent reduction in its budget for the fiscal year. The SIU Board of Trustees approved this year's budget Sept. 16, which listed the 4 percent cuts as saving \$7.3 million.

Cheng also said at the State of the University address Sept. 30 she asked all non-academic units to cut an additional 1 percent from their budgets for the coming fiscal year.

Ehling said the center had already planned for the additional 1 percent cut.

He said two full-time pool-tending

positions at Pulliam Pool, which total about \$110,000, were formerly paid with state money. Those positions are now paid by the Recreation Center's other revenue sources, including student fees and non-student memberships, he said. One of those positions is currently vacant, he said.

Ehling also said the center expected its expenses to increase by about \$250,000 because of the two positions that it transferred from state budget lines, the decline in student fees from the enrollment decrease and increases in other expenses. To fill that gap, the center received a fee increase of \$1.57 that generated approximately \$50,000.

The increase made up \$110,000 from the two positions that were changed, saved \$30,000 because of the reduced hours and \$60,000 in other costs such as office supplies and less equipment purchases.

He said the center was able to maintain all of its services, but it does not have much room to use reserve money.

"I've got \$500,000 worth of things that need to be fixed, but I have to maintain \$600,000 in reserves," Ehling said. "So now we have to decide what we're going to fix and how we're going to fix it and perhaps the quality of our repair."

Ehling said the center did not have to lay off anyone. It did have to decrease the hours for some student-worker positions but added positions at the Thompson Point Recreation Center, he said.

## RECREATION CENTER BUDGET



CALEB WEST/DAILY EGYPTIAN

SOURCE: WILLIAM EHLING, DIRECTOR OF RECREATIONAL SPORTS AND SERVICES

Ehling said the center has maintained the level of revenue coming from sources other than student fees so far this year and came into the school year prepared.

"I think the advanced planning has helped us keep from this affecting our service in a negative way, up to this point," he said.

Larry Dietz, vice chancellor of student affairs, said there is a delicate balance when selling non-student memberships, but the Recreation Center has been able to use them to increase revenue without negatively affecting students who use the center. He said equipment has to be replaced on a cyclical basis, but all current services will continue to be offered.

"You're not going to see major portions of the fitness facility disappear out the door because of this," Dietz said.

Bryson said the center works hard to minimize the noticeable effects of the budget cuts to people who use the center, and so far he is pleased the cuts haven't had a larger effect.

"Anything that we can do so that students are not hurt, we will try all those avenues so that when you do come in here you will say 'You had budget cuts this year? I can't tell,' he said. "That's our goal."

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**PROVOST**

CONTINUED FROM 1

Hampton said he did not want to disclose or decide his specific goals as provost until the forum.

"That sort of thing should be discussed in front of a live audience," he said. "It doesn't make any sense to set my goals without meeting and speaking with people first. I don't really think it's sincere otherwise."

Hampton said during his time at TSU, he was a key component creating the university's academic 20 year master plan.

"If you don't know where you're going, any and whichever path will take you there," he said.

Hampton said his academic leadership experience qualifies him as provost.

"I want to make sure the resources are all there to support academic priorities and determine what we should stop doing," he said. "A university can not be all things for all people without some improvement."

Hampton was also a candidate for provost at University of Hous-

ton-Downtown in February.

Hackney said he has served as dean of the West Virginia University Davis College of Agriculture for eleven years, but he looks at the challenges facing the SIUC provost position as something exciting.

"Leadership is my hobby. I'm ready for a new challenge," he said.

He said he would like to see SIUC become an engine of economic development and to serve the state and region of southern Illinois. He said he wants to build on the success already established by the students at SIUC.

"I've studied Southern Illinois University," he said. "It seems like a good fit. I want to listen to students and faculty and find out what are their goals and aspirations are."

The position should be filled by the end of the semester, Chancellor Rita Cheng said yes.

Ryan Voyles contributed to this report.

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**COUNCIL**

CONTINUED FROM 1

"I'm sure there will be people that intend to run for office in the upcoming election that would probably like to be appointed," Cole said. "If I were them, that's what I would do."

Jack resigned from City Council on Oct. 5. He had been trying to procure a liquor license for his restaurant Fat Patties for more than a year, he said.

"This is one of the toughest decisions I've had to make in a long time, but I have a business to run," Jack said just before he stepped down.

Councilman Chris Wissmann said as of now he's unsure of any one person who's interested in the seat, but he specifically is looking for someone who is going to be open-minded, willing to listen, capable of casting an intelligent vote and making an intelligent argument.

"I would look for somebody who will ... not be carrying grudges or grinding axes or taking positions based on what other people have done. That, I think, is one of the most destructive things to have on City Council," Wissmann said.

Cole said in October 2009, he sought legal counsel from the Illinois Municipal League in case anyone resigned from the council. Earlier this week he revisited that advice and said it would be the process he would use for this situation.

**"I would run for mayor in a heartbeat. I would stand on a soapbox and scream."**

— Lance Jack former city council chair member

"This is the process the city attorney suggested we follow, and that was actually an opinion that was received about a year ago," Cole said.

But Jack said he's worried about who the council might appoint for the position. He said it's clear some council members don't have any idea what it's like to live and work in Carbondale. Some of them don't even live in town, he said.

"There are some on the council that have no idea what it's like to live in Carbondale, to be a student in Carbondale. Frankly, I have often been embarrassed to have some of these people representing Carbondale," Jack said.

Jack said running the city like a business would be a disaster, and if he had enough money to support Fat Patties and run for mayor, he would.

"I would run for mayor in a heartbeat. I would stand on a soapbox and scream," he said.

Christina Spakowsky can be reached at [csmj@dailyegyptian.com](mailto:csmj@dailyegyptian.com) or 536-3311 ext. 258.

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# Voices

Friday, October 15, 2010 • 5

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GUEST COLUMN

## Examine college alcohol consumption

Chris Jullian-Frallish  
coordinator of alcohol and  
other drug services

As we observe National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week Oct. 17 to Oct. 23, I encourage students, faculty, staff and community members to pay attention to their perceptions.

Our perceptions have power and influence how we see the world, including how we act within it. Often our thoughts and actions are based solely on our own experiences, expectations and perceived cultural norms. In the case of college students and alcohol use across the country and at SIUC, it

is common to overestimate how much and how often students drink.

The Core Institute provides a research survey measuring collegiate substance use behaviors and collects data reliably validating this estimation. For example, the Spring 2010 Core Institute survey of SIUC students found that roughly 94 percent believe their peers drink once per week or more, when the actual figure is closer to 51 percent.

Why the discrepancy? Why does the perception far outweigh the reality?

To explain how perceptions may work, I often use the example of living in a fishbowl. As a fish, the entire

world is made up of the water in the bowl, a fake plastic plant, blue rocks at the bottom and maybe even a little castle. Maybe it is placed on a table near the window sill, where outside of its perceived existence, is a pond, a lake or the ocean. A whole diverse, separate world thrives outside of the awareness of the fish.

Now consider our own social networks, friends, acquaintances and peers. If our own associations revolve around the use of alcohol for our entertainment, and that becomes a regular practice, we end up believing what we see. That is, we end up believing, in many cases, everyone drinks

a lot when in college. Because this heavy drinking behavior is more visible and socially accepted among the college population, even moderate, infrequent and non-drinkers ascribe to the perception, even if they are not involved in the behavior.

Those who use alcohol moderately or not at all tend to be less likely to encounter negative consequences, chaos and drama in their lives. Rarely is attention given to those who go about their business, enjoy themselves and use alcohol as an enhancement of their social experience, rather than making it the focus of the experience.

Perceptions can be used to national-

ize or justify behaviors that fulfill expectations about what college life should be about. They can be used to define an image about what this time in life should be. However, these alcohol use perceptions are frequently inaccurate and end up limiting the true, expansive college experience. If all I do is drink on weekends, am I truly being original? Am I really taking healthy risks? Am I using this time in my life to truly give myself expansive opportunities?

Or are my perceptions leading me to believe I am doing these things?

For confidential help with alcohol or other drug issues, contact the Wellness Center at 536-4441.

GUEST COLUMN

## GOP stance on gay marriage shifted quietly

Jon Cowan and  
Evan Wolfson  
McClatchy Tribune

As the tea party's outsider challenge to Republican Party orthodoxy grabs headlines, another, quieter revolution is unfolding inside the GOP: This rebellion has at its heart a truly surprising issue, one that could have long-term consequences for the party: gay and lesbian couples' freedom to marry.

The latest evidence of this quiet revolution came with the release of the Republicans' mid-term-campaign "Pledge to America." Though the pledge gives a perfunctory nod to "traditional marriage" (in a single line in a list of things, like "families," that it supports), explicit opposition to marriage for same-sex couples is conspicuous in its absence. The document never uses the word "gay" (or "homosexual") — a stark contrast to past party platforms, which have made opposition to gay equality a centerpiece of their social agenda.

Is this an isolated development? After all, the 1994 "Contract With Amer-

ica" was also focused solely on fiscal issues and government reform. But in 2010, there is compelling evidence the shift is deep and possibly lasting.

The GOP, in large part, isn't displaying its usual anti-gay election-year demagoguery, and not just in the "pledge." As recently as 1995, a Republican-controlled Congress held hearings investigating "homosexual recruitment" and the "promotion" of homosexuality. During the George W. Bush administration, the party used its fervent opposition to marriage for gay and lesbian couples as a get-out-the-vote strategy, encouraging more than a dozen anti-gay state ballot initiatives geared at driving turnout in the 2004 election and engineering repeated efforts to pass an amendment to the Constitution. This year is the first election year in recent history in which anti-gay rhetoric has been significantly muted: No state is facing an anti-gay initiative on the ballot, and marriage has not been a focus of the national conservative agenda.

Beyond that, the Republican estab-

lishment is stepping up — and coming out. In just the last few months, leading Republican heavyweights have begun to announce their support for the freedom to marry. Ted Olson, Bush's solicitor general and a longtime Republican power broker, took the lead, writing articles ("The Conservative Case for Gay Marriage," in *Newsweek*) and, with co-counsel David Boies, filing, arguing and winning the first federal court case to uphold gay and lesbian couples' constitutional right to marry. Cindy McCain and former first lady Laura Bush have both spoken out in support of gay marriage.

In August, Ken Mehlman, former Republican National Committee chairman and campaign manager for Bush in the 2004 election, revealed that he is gay and supports the freedom to marry. Mehlman hosted a fundraiser in support of Olson's lawsuit, with a guest list that would have been unheard of five years ago. It included numerous well-known Republicans such as former New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman, former McCain strategist Steve

Schmidt, former Bush White House communications director Nicole Wallace and former RNC counsel Benjamin Ginsberg. Bush's daughter Barbara Bush made an appearance.

Perhaps even more telling, the proudly right-wing GOP Sen. John Cornyn of Texas appeared for the first time at a reception for the Log Cabin Republicans, a leading gay GOP organization. Cornyn had turned down invitations and even contributions from the Log Cabin group in the past. In September, he weathered significant criticism from the anti-gay Family Research Council. Because Cornyn is chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, and thus tasked with getting Republicans elected to the Senate this fall, every move he makes is watched for ballot-box implications.

What's driving this insiders' insurrection? Perhaps a sense that a libertarian-leaning belief in fully extending the freedom to marry to all Americans does not, in fact, clash with a conservative commitment to holding together the social fabric, as marriage entails

personal responsibility and social stability. Or perhaps these GOP leaders are beginning to see an alignment of their rhetoric about individual liberty with public opinion; in the last month, two national polls, by CNN and the Associated Press, showed a majority of Americans nationwide now support marriage for gay and lesbian couples.

The implications of such a historic shift in the GOP establishment's stance on marriage should not be underestimated. For Republicans, it means they could become less moored to their socially conservative base and may get back in touch with the cautious but forward-looking American political center that is vital to GOP hopes of cobbling together a governing majority. For the country, it is evidence we are inching ever closer to a national consensus that gay and lesbian couples should have the freedom to marry under the law.

Jon Cowan is president and co-founder of Third Way, a moderate think tank, and Evan Wolfson is founder and executive director of Freedom to Marry.

Gus Bode says: Send us more letters! If you can write coherently and would like to share your perspective with the world, please consider lending your voices to our pages.

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Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author's contact information, preferably via e-mail. Phone numbers are required to verify authorship, but will not be published. Letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. Others include hometown. Submissions should be sent to [voices@dailyegyptian.com](mailto:voices@dailyegyptian.com).

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# Where fantasy meets reality

Story by: Sarah Schneider  
Photos by: Jess Vermeulen

Witnessing his friends' bodies strewn throughout an open field and claiming victory over the fallen is just a typical Sunday for Bill "Ginsu Hac Tao" McNelly.

The triumph is only temporary, as the fallen fighters stand up, grab their foam weapons and battle again.

Anywhere from 10 to 30 members of the Carbondale-based fighting group "Blood Horde" indulge their inner fighting personas twice a week at Evergreen Park, said McNelly, the group leader.

The game is Dagorhir, a nationwide live action role-playing game based in historical fantasy. Players

make and wear their own historically based garb, or clothing, and weapons.

McNelly said the goal of the game is simple: kill the opponent. He said the game is over once everyone on one side is dead.

"It depends on the scenario of the battle, but if you just have team A and team B, the goal is to kill your opponent before they kill you," McNelly said. "It is a war."

He said a player could be killed if they lose two limbs or are hit in the torso.

"If you are unarmored and you get hit in the arm, you lose the use of that arm. If you get hit in the leg, you

have to go down on one knee," he said. "If you are wearing armor on any of those locations, it negates one hit."

McNelly said the objective is to use strategy and tactics to outplay the opponent.

"It's not always about who has more numbers or which team has better fighters. If you can outthink them, you can usually beat them," he said.

McNelly played football and wrestled in high school, and he said this sport is more strenuous than anything he ever did in high school. He said it doesn't take a lot of athleticism, but having some athletic ability helps.

"A normal field battle only lasts

two minutes, but we are out here doing this for hours," he said. "Most of these guys got up from the couch playing Dungeons and Dragons and decided to come out and be active."

Jodi "Magdelin Rose" James said the uniforms, physical combat and the use of a referee make Dagorhir a sport.

"Heralds are the equivalent to a referee," she said. "They help with safety and check out the construction of the weapons; they generally make sure people aren't being tools on the field."

Jones said approved weapons are arrows, flail, swords, spears, javelins, rocks and bats that simulate a club. All weapons are padded with foam.

James said a typical battle starts with someone yelling, "Fighters, to the field!"

"We will do a simple everybody against everybody and then eventually we sort it out to captains and pick teams," she said. "It is three-quarters combat, and the only reason we say that is because you are not supposed to hit anyone in the head, and you cannot kick and punch."

At Ragnarok, the annual event the group attends, different objective battles are played around a replica castle. The week-long event, held in Pennsylvania, has a turnout of 1,800 people,

with 600 to 700 on a battlefield at one time.

"That is an amazing sight and sound because it sounds like thunder when the fighting comes together," McNelly said.

McNelly, who has fought for seven years, said this is more than a sport, it is a lifestyle. He said not everyone fights; some make weapons, some sew, some do leather-working and some make food.

"That's the good thing about having a fighting company, because there is usually somebody in that organization who can help you make weapons, help you make a shield, help you make garb, help you move, let you come crash on the couch if the woman kicks you out," he said. "Whatever it is, we are brothers and sisters."

The fighting units' chant "One Blood, One Horde, All Are Equal!" symbolizes the unity of the group, McNelly said.

"Blood Horde functions like a village, essentially," he said. "We fight together, we party together. We are like a big family; we take care of each other."

Megan "Allura" Jarrett said her two sons, Aiden "Bacon" Jarrett, three, and Faolin Jarrett, three weeks, will be raised by the battlefield.

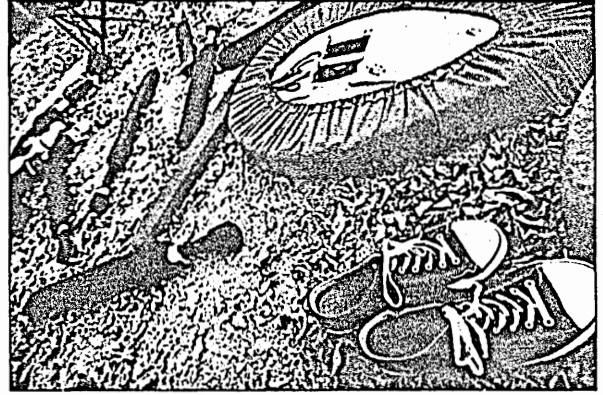
"My kids will be running this field someday," she said as she laughed.



JESS VERMEULEN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Aiden "Bacon" Jarrett, 3, fights with Matt "Ducky McFeelgood" Steams during Dagorhir practice Wednesday at Evergreen Park. Aiden's mother, Megan "Allura" Jarrett said Aiden has

been coming to practices since he was a baby, and he and his 3-week-old brother Faolin will be raised by the battlefield. "My kids will be running this field someday," she said.



James said this game carries into her everyday life because she met most of her friends through Dagorhir.

"I love the fighting, I get into it, and I really do love it, but I would not be doing it if it weren't for the people," she said.

McNelly said almost everyone in the fighting unit are good friends and hang out together often.

"Sometimes we go rolling into a Chinese restaurant with 20 of us wearing garb," he said. "We used to get some strange looks."

James said the group is often, made fun of, but they do not let it bother them.

"I have been out with my boyfriend before who wears his kilt on a regular basis and people yell obscenities at him," she said. "They think we are geeks, but then they come out, pick up a weapon and get stomped."

Steven "Simon" Jones said people

**6** "I have been out with my boyfriend before who wears his kilt on a regular basis and people yell obscenities at him. They think we are geeks, but then they come out, pick up a weapon and get stomped."

— Jodi "Magdelin Rose" James  
Dagorhir participant

often watch them battle at the park with mixed reactions.

"We have had guys who came up and said we were weird, and then 10 years later they have more garb than I do, and they have this whole long persona written out and it started out with a friend dragging them out there to make fun of us," he said.

Jones said everyone in the group is required to come up with a fighting name. He said a biography and historical research for the alter-ego persona is optional because the group combines history and fantasy.

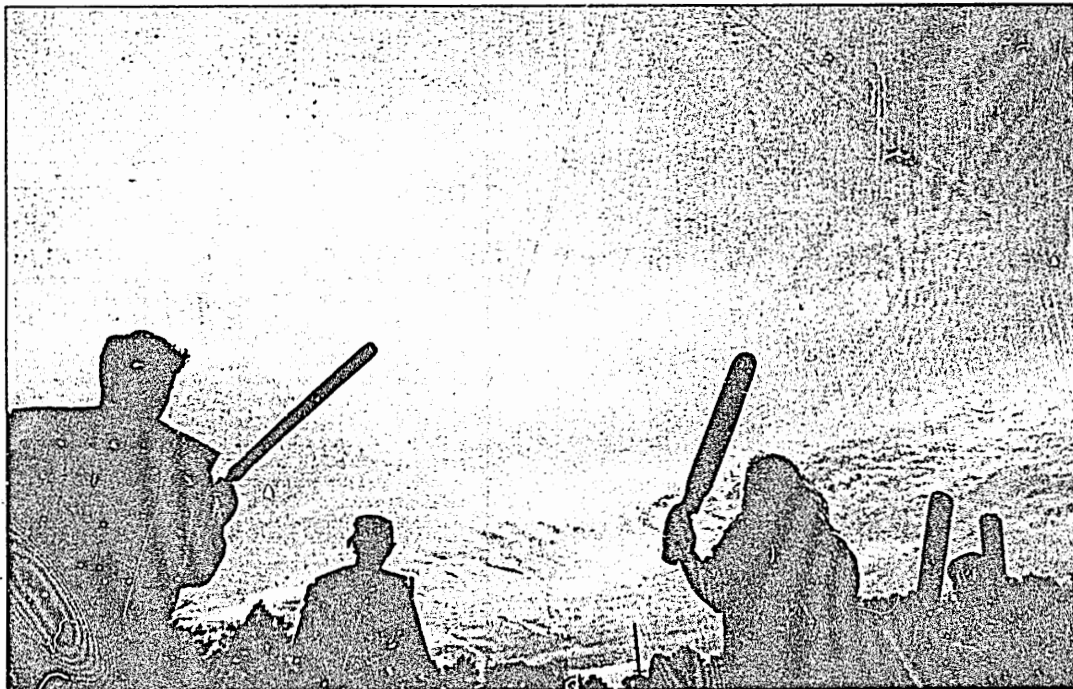
Jones said his mother calls him

by his fighting name "Simon" because it fits him better.

Shiloe Stallings, who uses her given name as her fighting name, said joining the organization to fight is very easy.

"Weapons are really simple to put together because they are just foam and PVC. You don't have to have garb right away," she said. "You just have to sign a waiver and then go out and start beating on people."

Sarah Schneider can be reached at [sschneider@lilyegyptian.com](mailto:sschneider@lilyegyptian.com) or 536-3311 ext. 259.

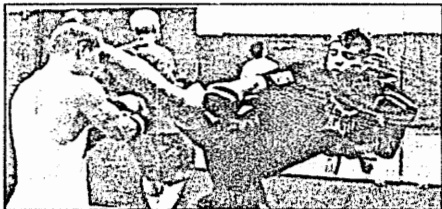


(TOP LEFT) Rachel "Silly" Phillips, of Carbondale, takes a strike at Aaron "Silas" Porter, of Gorham, during Dagorhir practice Wednesday at Evergreen Park. Both Phillips and Porter have practiced Dagorhir for only a few months. (TOP) Dagorhir battle gear is strewn across the ground Wednesday during practice at Evergreen Park. (ABOVE) Steven "Simon" Jones, of Carbondale, assembles a belt loop for a belt strap Monday in his workspace in his garage. Jones said he sells items he makes at battle events all over the country. (LEFT) Dagorhir competitors prepare to battle Wednesday at Evergreen Park.



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October 15, 16 & 17, 2010

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For more information: Visit the Saluki Family Weekend 2010 Website at [www.silucstudentcenter.org](http://www.silucstudentcenter.org) or call University Programming at 618.453.2721



## Candidates open up about higher education

RYAN VOYLES  
Daily Egyptian

The governor candidates used their trip to Carbondale on Thursday to reinforce their support for higher education, though questions about how to support it still linger.

Gov. Pat Quinn, Republican Sen. Bill Brady and Green Party candidate Rich Whitney debated the state budget, job creation and other topics Thursday at the gubernatorial debate hosted by WSU in Studio B in the Communications Building.

The two other candidates, Independent Scott Lee Cohen and Libertarian Lex Green, were not included in the debate.

Quinn reiterated several times during the debate that he has been a proponent for higher education during his term as he mentioned the university's construction projects, including the Transportation Education Center being built at the Southern Illinois Airport in Murphysboro.

"It is very important to me to make schools and higher education accessible to our students, and to make sure it is done in a top-notch fashion," Quinn said.

He said he has been a proponent of scholarship programs, to make sure as many students as possible get their education paid for.

Brady contested Quinn's priorities and pointed out how Quinn's fiscal year 2011 budget cut millions of dollars from higher education. Brady said he had the best interest for higher education.

"I understand the importance of higher education, and I'll fight for the (Monetary Awards Program) and other supports for higher education," Brady said. "I will not target higher education."

Quinn said Brady's proposed "radical, severe cuts in education" could total more than \$1.2 billion and ultimately hurt Illinois. He said education remains the No. 1 issue in the race.

"I'm a governor who has been able to maintain our investment in education despite our budget crisis," he said. "We're not going to cut back on education."

Whitney, who states on his website he wants to "provide free higher education for all in-state residents



Gus Bode says:  
Less than three weeks  
until the election!

who qualify academically," said it was a disgrace that Illinois and the country could not help students go to college.

"It is absolutely pathetic that in a wealthy state, in the wealthiest country in the world, we can't do this," he said. "Instead we're saddling students with \$30,000 to \$35,000 in debt just to get a higher education. We can do better than that."

It was a change of pace from previous debates as candidates discussed some of their plans for higher education, said John Jackson, a visiting professor at the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. He said higher education has not come up as much in the past due to its lack of "clout" in statewide politics.

"We're eclipsed by kindergarten through 12th grade and a great number of other service providers," he said. "Students also do not vote, so they don't have any clout. Although I believe (students) deserve some clout, (they) don't vote at all, so why should (candidates) pay attention to (them)?"

Jackson said the candidate to bring up education the most is Sheila Simon, Quinn's lieutenant governor candidate and a law professor at SIUC.

"She has a deep understanding of the university, and she has said in the past that she wants to take education as her special field," he said. "So she is the one who stands out... as an exception to the rule that they haven't paid much attention."

David Yepsen, director of the institute, said advocates for higher education, like everybody who receives money from the state, is frustrated by the lack of answers they have received from the candidates.

"They are not seeing the level of detail that they would like to see about what these candidates are going to cut, as well as how they are going to generate revenue," he said.

Ryan Voyles can be reached at [rvoyles@dailyegyptian.com](mailto:rvoyles@dailyegyptian.com) or 536-3311 ext. 254.

## DEBATE

CONTINUED FROM 1

Whitney said Quinn's deal managed to sell out the public interest and workers while other services have been cut.

"We're cutting into the bone and muscle of government, not the fat, not the corruption, not the political favoritism; we're cutting into real services," Whitney said.

Quinn said during his year as governor, the state faced several crises including a state budget crisis and a loss in the integrity of government, so he did what he could to get the state back on track.

"We've had to get our economy back on track and Illinois has had positive job growth this year, with more jobs created than any other state in the Midwest. We've been able to reduce unemployment for eight months and brought compa-

nies to Illinois," Quinn said.

John Jackson, visiting professor at the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, said the there were no clear winners of the debate and that each candidate played it safe by giving the same answers they'd used in the past.

"Nobody made any obvious gaffes or stood out as having stuck their foot in their mouth," Jackson said.

David Yepsen, director of the institute, said the next two weeks will be a close race and the Democrats will rely on Chicago's votes to win.

"The Democrats still have not come home to Pat Quinn. Democrats won't vote for Brady; they'll tend to just not vote. If they do that then Quinn will lose," Yepsen said.

Christina Spokowsky can be reached at [cgray@dailyegyptian.com](mailto:cgray@dailyegyptian.com) or 536-3311 ext. 258.

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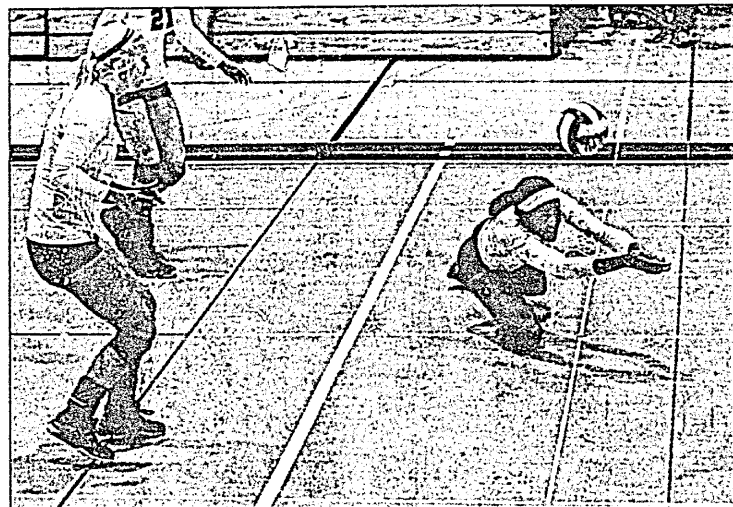
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VOLLEYBALL



DAN DYWER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Freshman middle blocker Jessica Whitehead digs an Indiana State spike Oct. 8 at Davies Gymnasium. The Salukis take on Wichita State at 7 p.m. Friday in Wichita, Kan., and play Missouri State at 7 p.m. Saturday in Springfield, Mo.

# SIU looks to keep streak alive

BRANDON LACHANCE  
Daily Egyptian

*“Think this weekend showed progress by staying after it, going back to basics and just focusing on our side of the court and not the other team as much”*

— Lauren Blumhorst  
junior defensive specialist

After winning back-to-back Missouri Valley Conference games for the first time this season, the Salukis are ready to try to do the same thing against bigger, more physical teams, coach Brenda Winkler said.

SIU is in sixth place in the MVC with a 3-4 record, but could move up in the rankings with wins against No. 5 Wichita State on Friday and No. 4 Missouri State on Saturday.

SIU will be undersized in both matches because the teams have lineups with players who are 6 feet 3 inches and 6 feet 4 inches tall, Winkler said. The Salukis want to continue their winning streak after they beat Indiana State and Illinois State but will have to perform to the best of their abilities to do that, she said.

Winkler said senior middle blocker Jasmine Conner and junior defensive specialist Lauren Blumhorst played well against Indiana State.

“I said we needed a surprise, that surprise was Jasmine Conner having a career night. Saturday we needed a surprise, it was Lauren Blumhorst,” Winkler said. “These next two matches, we need everybody on.”

Conner said she thinks the team has what it takes to upset Missouri State once again. In 2009, SIU beat Missouri State for the first time since 2002. Because the two upcoming opponents are bigger, the Salukis may have to make a few changes in court position.

“They have some big outsides and a big middle, so we might switch up some matchups,” Conner said. “I think I might go against the bigger middle.”

Blumhorst played her first two matches Friday and Saturday after sitting out for six weeks due to a concussion she sustained during the second preseason match against Iowa. Watching from the sideline, she said the team has shown defensive and passing progress, but she said she is glad to be back to help the team.

The Salukis have to worry about themselves and not others in order to win, Blumhorst said.

“I think this weekend showed

progress by staying after it, going back to basics and just focusing on our side of the court and not the other team as much,” Blumhorst said.

Having Blumhorst healthy is a positive for the team on the court and in the huddle, Winkler said.

“She anchors the defense, and anchors the huddles,” Winkler said. “Friday I was saying ‘What do you have to say, Lauren?’ because she always has something to say to pump up the team, so she finished him off the huddles.”

Winkler said she thinks the girls recognize the momentum factor from the two wins could translate to the two matches.

The team hopes to build off the energy level against Wichita State and Missouri State, Blumhorst said.

SIU plays Wichita State at 7 p.m. Friday in Wichita, Kan., and Missouri State at 7 p.m. Saturday in Springfield, Mo.

quarterbacks ran 20 times for 80 yards and two touchdowns. Stiegelmeier said he wasn’t surprised to see senior SIU quarterback Chris Dieker find success on the ground in wins against Illinois State and Northern Iowa.

The South Dakota State game plan is designed to stop SIU’s quarterback runs, an aspect of their game Stiegelmeier’s team simply can’t ignore, he said.

“When (Dieker) runs he doesn’t cover, he doesn’t slide, he gets the extra yards,” Stiegelmeier said.

With the conference wide open, the Salukis are treating every

game, including their duel with the Jackrabbits Saturday, as a playoff matchup, Franklin said.

Since joining the Missouri Valley Conference in 2008, South Dakota State has beaten every conference team except SIU.

The Jackrabbits will try for the third time Saturday at Saluki Stadium during SIU’s Family Weekend. Kickoff is scheduled for 2 p.m.

Nick Johnson can be reached at njohnson@dailyegyptian.com or 536-311 ext. 256.

school and that he will be a Saluki in December.

Watson, a 6-foot-7-inch forward, who averaged 10.3 points and 7.7 rebounds per game in 2009

while playing for Trinity Valley Community College in Athens, Texas, could join the Salukis for the spring semester, but he must be enrolled first, Weber said.

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ENEMY  
CONTINUED FROM 12

“Their defense is just very solid. They just don’t make mistakes,” Lennon said.

Allaria said the Jackrabbits’ secondary may not always impress their opponents but is always in position.

“You can’t fool them too much, so you’ve got to execute your scheme (because) you’re not going to get them out of position,” he said.

Against Northern Iowa, Saluki

LETTER  
CONTINUED FROM 12

On his Twitter account Watson said he is not attending any other

# Sports

12· Friday, October 15, 2010

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## Men's Basketball Letter of intent player not yet enrolled

BRANDON LACHANCE  
Daily Egyptian

Earl Watson signed a letter to join SIU basketball April 21 but is not on the

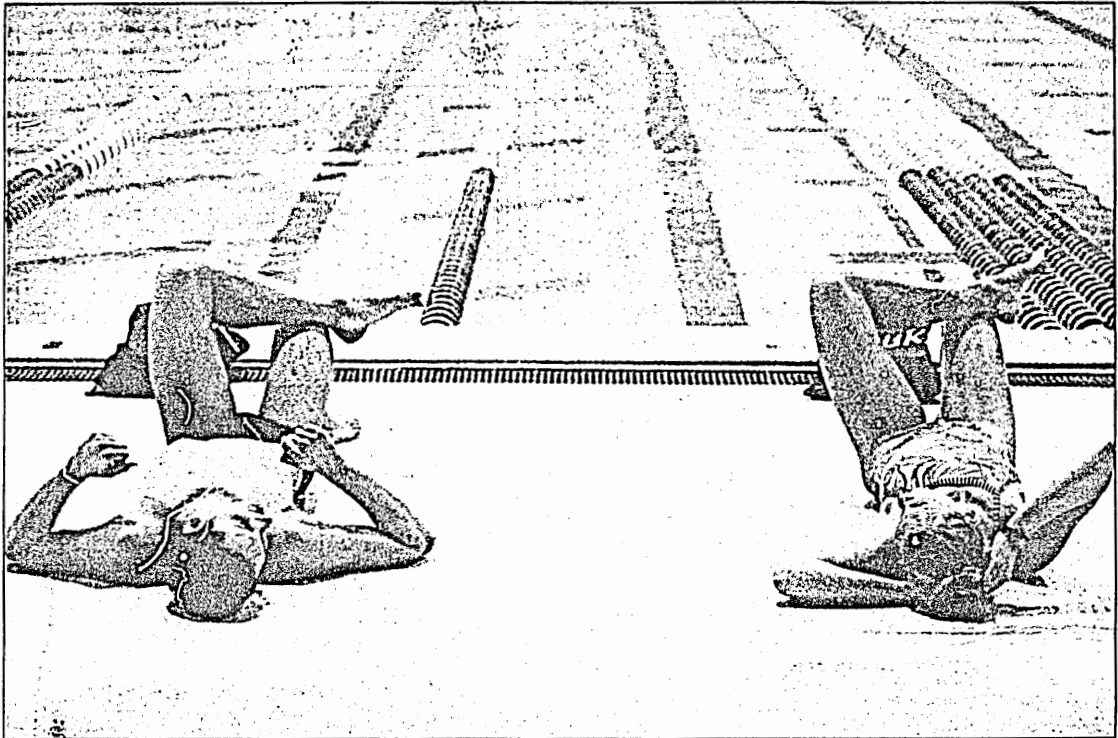
roster and hasn't been seen on campus during the fall semester.

Tom Weber, director of media services for SIU athletics, said Watson is not enrolled in school and his future

with SIU is up in the air. Since he is not enrolled, he has not received a basketball scholarship from SIU, Weber said.

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### SWIMMING & DIVING



Freshman Csaba Gercsak and junior swimmer Jill Weckbach stretch before practice Thursday at the Edward J. Shea Natatorium in the Recreation Center. The Salukis will host the University of Kentucky and University of Missouri at 2 p.m. Saturday. GENNA ORD DAILY EGYPTIAN

## Salukis to battle 'Big Cats' as underdogs

RYAN SIMONIN  
Daily Egyptian

The Salukis will suit up to battle some of the country's best Saturday as the men's and women's swim teams of the University of Kentucky Wildcats and the University of Missouri Tigers at the Edward J. Shea Natatorium in the Recreation Center.

Coach Rick Walker said hosting a tri-meet with a Big Ten team and a Southeast Conference team is a great experience for SIU in preparation

**"We are going to be right up there with them throughout the whole meet, and if they don't show up to swim they are going to find themselves in a bit of trouble."**

for the conference meet at the end of the season.

"Our approach is going to be to try and maximize the areas that I think we can compete really well with them," Walker said.

Assistant coach Scott Olson said the two teams have consistently ranked among the top 15 teams in the

country. Olson said when the Salukis swam against the two teams in 2009 the results were closer than what was expected, as SIU men's team lost 172-122 to Kentucky and 144-90 to Missouri and the women's team lost 153-80 to Missouri.

"To have the opportunity to race teams like them is always a positive

— Steve Wood  
Junior swimmer  
experience. We are going to race them and we are going to take it to them," Olson said.

Junior swimmer Steve Wood said the meet would be the first of the season for both Kentucky and the Salukis. Wood said Missouri has posted some good times this season but is not unbeatable.

"We are going to be right up there with them throughout the whole meet and if they don't show up to swim they are going to find themselves in a bit of trouble," Wood said.

Junior Jill Weckbach said the competition is going to be tough but the team is not going to back down.

"We know they may beat us but we are going to make them for work for it," Weckbach said.

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### FOOTBALL

## 'Rabbits' running strong, look for first win against SIU



NICK JOHNSON  
Daily Egyptian

There's a different heartbeat in the South Dakota State Jackrabbits after their win against Western Illinois on Saturday, coach John Stiegelmeier said.

The 33-29 victory in Brookings, S.D., was the Jackrabbits' (1-4, 1-2 MVFC) first of the season and gave them a great deal of confidence heading into Saturday's game against the Salukis (3-3, 2-1 MVFC), Stiegelmeier said.

A 34-15 loss to the Salukis was the Jackrabbits' only conference loss in 2009. Like the Salukis, the Jackrabbits lost in the first round of the FCS playoffs.

But South Dakota State found itself 0-4 in 2010 after a brutal early season schedule.

The Jackrabbits lost 26-3 in Week

1 to Delaware, an undefeated team ranked as the No. 2 FCS team in the nation; 24-14 in Week 2 to an Illinois State team that started 3-1; 17-3 in Week 3 to Big 12 school Nebraska and 24-14 in Week 4 to No. 22-ranked Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

"It's a tough schedule. We did not gain confidence from those (games)," Stiegelmeier said. "So whether it was the schedule or a win there we feel like a better football team."

But Stiegelmeier said the Jackrabbits are starting to get it back thanks to improved offensive line play and run-

ning back Kyle Minett, who ran for 143 yards and three touchdowns against Western Illinois.

SIU coach Dale Lennon called Minett one of the best running backs in the conference and in the country, and said limiting his yards will be one of the Salukis' biggest challenges.

"He's the key piece," senior SIU linebacker Stephen Franklin said of Minett. "If we stop him we have a good chance of winning."

Franklin said Minett thrives on defenses that don't fill gaps at the line of scrimmage.

"If you don't get in your gaps, he's going to and when he does he hits it pretty hard and can make some big plays out of it," Franklin said.

After starting 1-3, the Salukis have plenty of confidence after knocking off rival Northern Iowa in overtime in front of their homecoming crowd Saturday.

But they'll need to execute better to get past South Dakota State, Lennon and senior wide receiver Joe Allaria said.

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