ATTENTION:

THESE DOCUMENTS ARE FILMED EXACTLY AS THEY WERE RECEIVED. IN SOME CASES, PAGES MAY BE DIFFICULT TO READ. SOME PAGES APPEAR TO HAVE OVERLAPPING DOCUMENTS. BUT THEY WERE PHOTOCOPIED IN THIS MANNER.

SANDRA MASON
DIRECTOR OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
MICROGRAPHICS DEPARTMENT
CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS
A night out at the giant SCREEN

The Egyptian Drive-In offers an outdoors venue for film lovers

STORY BY NATHANIEL PARK
PHOTOS BY DEVIN MILLER

To get to Energy, take Illinois Route 13 east to Illinois Route 148. Go north on Route 148, and watch for the drive-in entrance on the right.

Nestled in a wooded offshoot of Illinois Route 13 is an allusive hideaway, a treasure of sorts, buried within the continuities of Energy.

Stretching out and from the edge of this quaint, small town is the Egyptian Drive-In Theater which leads a wondrous glance up toward the sky, stretching the imagination nearly eight stories high.

With more than half a century of operation, the Egyptian Drive-In, 3106 Eden Park Drive, has set the standard for family entertainment while carving its niche in American history.

Dubbed the largest screen in the world, at 125 feet wide and more than eight stories tall, the Egyptian Drive-In Theater's screen stands as a monument to the creativity and ingenuity of the human spirit and a couple's dream.

SEE EGYPTIAN, PAGE 7
Correction

Thursday’s article, “H.O.P.E. says SIUC is overwhelmed with ex-politicians” should have stated H.O.P.E. represents individuals from the SIUC campus, Carbondale community, business community and civic organizations. The Examiner regrets the error.

www.dailyEgyptian.com

Yesteryear Jukeboxconnts

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$12,988

$12,988

$13,988

UPCOMING

‘West Me St. Louis!’ A Heartwarming Musical, July 24
8:00 p.m., children and students $6, seniors $10, all others $17,
Melvin Theater, Communications Bldg. Call for box office at 453-3001.

‘Southern Illinois Urban Fishing Program’ is offering free fishing clinics, June 7 to July 30, two days each day. Mon. thru Fri., 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and 1 to 3:30 p.m. All fishing rods, reels, bait and equipment provided. Grills for kids, parents, seniors and other interested groups. For reservations and information call 469-6091.

‘SIUC Museum presents “Ambassador’s Choice,” a selection of art and artifacts from the Museum’s collection by members of the Museum’s friends group, showing until July 24. Free admission.


‘SIUC Museum presents the 2007 Summer Exhibits. The exhibition will include summer exhibits featured in various exhibits made by students from the Master of Fine Arts Jewelry, Sculpture until Aug. 7. Free admission.

‘Library Affairs Joannis, July 29, 7 to 9:30 p.m., Melvin Library 1030, 453-2816.

‘Still Sailing Club meeting, every Wed. at 7 p.m. Student Center Library Rooms. Contact Shelly Solly 509-0993.

‘University Museum presents ‘Music in the Garden’ featuring Easter Strings, folk music, July 29, noon to 1 p.m. University Museum. Free admission. Contact 453-5388.

‘SIUC and HOF will be offering free motorcyclist rodeo rides, Aug. 6, from 9:30 a.m., Aug. 7 to 9 a.m., Woodly Hall, Room A-103. Contact Women’s Services at 453-5655.


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Local band to shoot promotional video

**Local band to shoot promotional video**

**STORY BY SARA BEAN**

The Bottlestones — that neo-retro, chirpily quintet hailing from across the great state of Illinois — are shooting a video to help promote future opportunities for the band.

Formed in Carbondale in 1995, the Bottlestones billed a mixture of '60s and '70s吃亏, '50s rockabilly and '60s hot rod and soul music. The video, to be shot tonight at Schuba's, 2355 N. Southport in Chicago, is primarily for promotional use, the band's drummer Speed Bottletone says.

"We are going to send it to agents or even clubs. We are not going to make it to MTV or anything."

**Band member have not decided what songs are going to be included on the video as of yet, though the songs will presumably come from the band's new release "The Sheriff of Bottletone County."**

"Sheriff," released earlier this year through Hespic, is 14-all new work of the Bottlestones self-declared "hor-ee-i-ted rock-n-roll." The song "Save, Save, Basta for the Bank" the band, he believes everything for the show will just work out.

"I was just told to show up and play pretty." In addition to the new CD and the video, the Bottlestones are keeping busy with a tour booked for the month of September. The band will tick the tour in Carbondale on Sept. 11, followed by several dates across Texas. Plans for additional tours span the East Coast, the Midwest and the Southeast.

"We are not really sure what songs yet," Speed said. "We are going to be shooting a lot of videos that night.

"Once we go in and edit we are going to see what looks best."
Film's makers romp through chilling fields

Michael O'Sullivan
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Three-quarters of the way through the tape of an interview with filmmakers Daniel Myrick and Eduardo Sanchez, the sound inexplicably goes dead. The audio simply fades out and then, five minutes later, just as suddenly fades back in.

It would be unjustifiable to ascribe this technological glitch to Myrick and Eduardo Sanchez, the two who produced the home video classic "Blair Witch Project." What keeps your eyes glued to the screen and your catalogs simmering hotly is the desire to learn what happened to the three aren't going to return home with their documentary film about the legend, but never expected to experience the terrifying element in "The Blair Witch Project" was virtually unknown. The film is made to look like the group actually was terrorized by something in the forest. Supposedly, a year after the three disappeared from the woods, David Lowery, a freelance writer, directed a trio of naive kids supposed to be in the low seven figures. One of the reasons for the buzz is the painstaking reconstruction of three Montgomery (M.D.) College film students while documenting a local legend of witchcraft in the woods of suburban Maryland — first worked its disquieting magic on audiences at this year's Sundance Film Festival.

Within 24 hours after the final scene goes dark, the film was picked up for distribution by Artisan Entertainment for a sum reported to be in the low seven figures. The film isn't a traditional horror flick. There is a lack of blood and gore, serial killers and snazzy scenes but to become part of the legend first-hand. It is a simple, yet innovative effort to bring the documentary film to the screen so that the viewer is left with more questions than answers.

From the beginning of the movie, you know what's going on in the room with their documentary in mind, and then, but then doesn't ruin the ending, what keeps your eyes glued to the screen and your feet. The film is made to look like the group actually was terrorized by something in the forest. Within 24 hours after the three disappeared from the woods, David Lowery, a freelance writer, directed a trio of naive kids supposed to be in the low seven figures. One of the reasons for the buzz is the painstaking reconstruction of three Montgomery (M.D.) College film students while documenting a local legend of witchcraft in the woods of suburban Maryland — first worked its disquieting magic on audiences at this year's Sundance Film Festival.

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They don't call it the World Wide Web for nothing. Thanks to a wonderful thing called a cyber surfer, you can talk to people around the world about similar interests, hobbies and experiences.

Because of the growing popularity of chat rooms, there are a variety of sites specializing in chat room communities. Most of these sites are free, though a few charge for membership. Almost all of these sites offer chat rooms. It is important to read these rules, or you could be kicked out of the rooms by the room moderators. The room monitors are a big bunch like any group of people that monitor the chat and make sure it abides by the rules.

The most common rules prohibit threats, solicitation of cybersex, profanity and repeated unnecessary posts (flooding). Most sites also frown upon flaming, or personal disagreement of other chatters. Break the rules enough and not only will you be kicked out of the rooms, but you could be banned from the site.

Chatweb: www.chatweb.net

This is an excellent general chat site, with a variety of rooms to visit. There are four main areas of chat rooms at this site. There are the general chat rooms which offer chat opportunities for visitors of any age. Chatweb also offers rooms based on age and topics. Age ranges range from 12 to 50. Topics cover everything from automobiles and computers to gay and lesbian chat and gardening.

There is an adult chat area at this site, but you must be 18 years of age to enter.

A special feature on Chatweb is a chat by geographical area feature. Chatweb: www.chatweb.net

Chatropolis is the most-use site for the serious chatters. This site offers one of the largest, most active chat sites on the Internet. Chatropolis hosts over 100 rooms ranging from general topics and adult topics.

However, unlike many sites, Chatropolis is not free. You can register for a fee a 14-day trial to all chat rooms and space to create your own personal chat room.

The Chat House

The internet connection: No matter what you fancy, the internet has a variety of different chat rooms for you to choose from.

EGYPTIAN

continued from page 1

Driving slowly stop the gravel gateway into the theater, Bob Emery engages to collect a fee of $4 per adult. As his hand extends, hewelcome you to the theater and smiles with an eye-sore. Il. No monorail construction has ever been disruped. In the wide world of exploration, and during the 1980s we saw the answer to this unique and off-the-wall question can be summized in one word - Bogus.

Brad Dillard of the Physical Plant explains that the odd structures are nothing more than an attempt by the university to cover a potential monorail system that never came to be. I've asked several times what the function of these structures existing elsewhere on campus. Help me, Gus?

Grab your chalk to announce a party! Walking around campus is a much-avoided duty in the wide world of exploration, and during the 1980s we saw the answer to this unique and off-the-wall question can be summized in one word - Bogus.

The radio transmitter gives Smith the opportunity to entertain people from places around the world. In its 31 years of providing Southern Illinois University with big-screen amusement, the Egyptian Drive-In has seen travel from all parts of the globe. "This is one of the big tourist attractions for Southern Illinois," Smith said. "We've had people from Australia, France, Germany, and all over the U.S."

We're a strong force of nostalgia isn't enough to entice crowds of viewers. Smith has created unique promotions and giveaways to keep the drive-in to experience fresh over the past half century.

"We've always been big on giveaways," Smith said. "We've given away TVs and we gave a away a 1956 Cadillac in '56.

Smith also used other inventive measures to keep the driver-expectant interesting. Many of her ideas were unusual for the typical drive-through format, but Smith said the Egyptian Drive-In has been on the lookout for more.

"We used to play a game called Wahoo — it's like Bingo," Smith said. "We used to have a fella dressed up in an Indian outfit to pass out the cash prizes."

In addition to the giant double features played every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Smith said she tries to enhance her theater to the comfort of her patrons, children included.

"We used to have some circus acts for the kids," Smith said. "And we were the only ones to have fireworks on the 4th of July."

Sustaining a cozy environment and maintaining the level of excellence that Egyptian patrons have come to expect has been an ongoing process. As to be expected of any business of longevity, improvements had to be made to the Egyptian Drive-In to accommodate the changing technology of the film industry. A wider screen was necessary with the invention of cinema scope, and single speakers for each car wasn't enough to keep the drive-in encounter interesting. Many of her ideas were unusual for the typical drive-through format, but Smith said the Egyptian Drive-In has been on the lookout for more.

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**JULY 25**  

**We Meet at St. Louis** at Meador Theater. Show begins at 2 p.m. Call the Meador box office at 433-3001 for ticket information.

**Tuesday and Wednesday** watch what you're doing. Thursday and Friday, relax with a friendly competition. Saturday, get together with your partner. Sunday, practice or study something with the advantage. Saturday looks good for a party day. Those are going to be pretty good party days for you. On Sunday, take care of your own business. Sunday's the best day this week for relaxation, so schedule something fun for then.

**JULY 31**  

**Summer Senset Bar & Eat Lake** on Siles Family Reunion (gospel). 7:30 p.m. in the Town Square Pavilion, Carbondale. No cover.

**Chatlist is continually updating its database, so check it out today!**

**Webtalker** offers a variety of chat rooms on such up-to-date topics as The X-Files, South Park, The Simpsons and Howard Stern. Chatlist is continually updating its database, so check it out today!

**Make the most of your time on the web!**
Cooling woes turn Mae Smith into cinder-block blast furnace

By ANNA RYTH TRINIDAD

Sweating in a hot, stuffy residence hall room around 11 p.m. last night, residents of Mae Smith Tower complained about the lack of air-conditioning throughout the building by the past two weeks.

"We need $400 a month to live here, which is more than enough to live with air-conditioning," Sara Freeman, a freshman in secondary social studies education from Danville, complained. "Freshmen have no choice to live in the condition we are in.

Freeman and other residents have suffered trying to study, only to feel sleepy and crabby. Many complaints were made by residents over the past few weeks.

"In fact, many residents, such as Freeman, feel the problem has been given the "run around" via excuses.

One architecture student has had problems drawing on the thin, fragile and expensive paper used for school assignments because the paper does not hold up well in heat and humidity. Whether it comes from the air or a human hand, "It's pretty bad, it's taken two weeks," Freeman said.

"Can they provide us with fans?" another resident asked.

Some students went to Wal-Mart and other discount stores to purchase fans and stock up on water to put powders and ice in.

Glenn Stine, deputy housing director for facilities management, said a 300-ton chiller was shut down and a leak occurred in one of the 600-ton chillers for East Campus.

The building units that make chilled water, which is pumped throughout the building by way of water and coolant, Stine explained, is the only way water and coolant can be eliminated.

"The chiller is a $2 million project, but will not be replaced until the summer 2001," Thursday said. The cooling tower will lower the temperature to the wet bulb, Stine said.

"The temperature is determined by taking a thermometer and putting a wet wick on it, Swilling the chiller tank around by a request made by Stine. The higher the reading on the bulb, the hotter it is temperature wise.

"This high extent that was designed for, it stops working. Unfortunately, the wet bulb is still bringing the heat around campus, felt a rushes in the walls of the affected buildings.

"We want to restore power to the (back-up) transformers," Pike said. He added that the chiller was shut down before the buildings will return to cooler conditions.

"We just have to stay with it until this gets back to normal," he said.

Harry Wirth, director of the Physical Plant, said the problem originated at the Communications Building.

"We have a transformer that provides electricity to the chiller that malfunctioned," Wirth said. "We are trying to remove the electricity so we can get the chiller working."

Pike said the cost of a new transformer would range between $50 thousand and $50 thousand. In addition to the cost of labor.

"We have people working on it ever since it failed through the broken and lunch hours," Pike said. "The water can never have that one before. This takes care of the chiller that affects of the buildings.

"The back-up transformer has never been used. We're just fortunate we have some people who have worked on it," Pike said. "It could last for another 30 years, or it could fail as soon as we put power to it," he said.

Dillard said that after discussions with interior architecture professor, John Jackson, the decision to cancel classes was left to the discretion of each individual.

"They were a wise investment, and certainly they had an added benefit in this situation," he said. "I would not have to have taught a class in any other room downstairs.

Dillard said complications occurring as a result of the heat inside the possible cancellation of the performance of "Meet Me in St. Louis" and the removal of five animals from Life Science II to an air-conditioned environment.

"Next to the humans and the play potentially being canceled, that is probably our next obstacle," Dillard said.

Michael Cioni, a junior in radio and television from Collinsville, arrived to work for the WSIU television station at 8 a.m. in the Communications Building and was not discouraged.

"I've been on no matter what the temperature is," he said.

He said it would be a good idea to make up the work he missed from Thursday's performances to keep the students classes in the shortened summer semester are crucical.

In summer school, different things have to miss class because the class represents a couple of days in the regular school year," Cioni said. "You really fall behind, and your teachers have to decide if they will drop anything or propose things."

Cioni said he will have work to catch up in of his editing classes. "It's a four-week class," he said.

"To miss a day is like missing a whole week of school," Dillard said that despite the failure of the air conditioning system, the Physical Plant has not received many complaints from people around campus.

"People are going home," he said. They usually don't complain when they get to home.

Heat cancels sold-out performance last evening

By MANAGING EDITOR DEVIN MILLER

Thursday's sold-out performance of "Meet Me in St. Louis," was a canceled after a transformer for the Communications Building's cooling system failed, leaving McDowell Theater hot and inhospitable for people.

Theater Department Chairwoman Sarah Blackstone made the decision to cancel the theater for one night after spending the morning making phone calls inquiring about the status of the cooling system and receiving word the system wouldn't be fixed until the afternoon.

"I have to cancel the show was not as easy one for Blackstone. "It's a little difficult on this show because it is selling so well," Blackstone said. "My main concern is the health and safety with our performers and audience." Ticket holders for Thursday's performance will have the option of receiving a refund or attending another scheduled performance.

"Meet Me in St. Louis" will resume Friday evening at 8 p.m. in McDowell Theatre.

Transformer culprit for campus cooling failures

TEMPID: Thursday system failure leaves 11 buildings sans cooling.

"The halls of buildings that hot air conditioning affects are the west wing of campus resembled ghost towns Thursday as the蚝ious and humid weather hit the area with only one week left until the summer 2001."

"The Cooling tower will lower the temperature to the wet bulb, Stine said. The temperature is determined by taking a thermometer and putting a wet wick on it, Swilling the chiller tank around by a request made by Stine. The higher the reading on the bulb, the hotter it is temperature wise.

"This high extent that was designed for, it stops working. Unfortunately, the wet bulb is still bringing the heat around campus, felt a rushes in the walls of the affected buildings.

"We want to restore power to the (back-up) transformers," Pike said. He added that the chiller was shut down before the buildings will return to cooler conditions.

"We just have to stay with it until this gets back to normal," he said.

Harry Wirth, director of the Physical Plant, said the problem originated at the Communications Building.

"We have a transformer that provides electricity to the chiller that malfunctioned," Wirth said. "We are trying to remove the electricity so we can get the chiller working."

Pike said the cost of a new transformer would range between $50 thousand and $50 thousand. In addition to the cost of labor.

"We have people working on it ever since it failed through the broken and lunch hours," Pike said. "The water can never have that one before. This takes care of the chiller that affects of the buildings.

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"We have people working on it ever since it failed through the broken and lunch hours," Pike said. "The water can never have that one before. This takes care of the chiller that affects of the buildings.

"The back-up transformer has never been used. We're just fortunate we have some people who have worked on it," Pike said. "It could last for another 30 years, or it could fail as soon as we put power to it," he said.

Dillard said that after discussions with interior architecture professor, John Jackson, the decision to cancel classes was left to the discretion of each individual.

"They were a wise investment, and certainly they had an added benefit in this situation," he said. "I would not have to have taught a class in any other room downstairs.

Dillard said complications occurring as a result of the heat inside the possible cancellation of the performance of "Meet Me in St. Louis" and the removal of five animals from Life Science II to an air-conditioned environment.

"Next to the humans and the play potentially being canceled, that is probably our next obstacle," Dillard said.

Michael Cioni, a junior in radio and television from Collinsville, arrived to work for the WSIU television station at 8 a.m. in the Communications Building and was not discouraged.

"I've been on no matter what the temperature is," he said.

He said it would be a good idea to make up the work he missed from Thursday's performances to keep the students classes in the shortened summer semester are crucical.

"In summer school, different things have to miss class because the class represents a couple of days in the regular school year," Cioni said. "You really fall behind, and your teachers have to decide if they will drop anything or propose things."

Cioni said he will have work to catch up in of his editing classes. "It's a four-week class," he said.

"To miss a day is like missing a whole week of school," Dillard said that despite the failure of the air conditioning system, the Physical Plant has not received many complaints from people around campus.

"People are going home," he said. They usually don't complain when they get to home.
Summer blockbuster fizzles into a bomb

**Review by Nathaniel Park**

Paving the way for untested and untested scripts everywhere, "Arlington Road" is one of the summer's worst movies. Star Aliens Ethan Kauger brought back the idea of an enormous alien

outfitting Earth with Bruce Willis in the planet's only hope, the unrealistic plot wouldn't be so insulting to the intelligence of the audience.

Kuger provides a good premise for a paranoid alien-invasion movie, but fails to deliver an ending worth believing. Named by a host of impossible coincidences, "Arlington Road" bot spins dangerously out of control.

The film opens with Michael Faraday (Jeff Bridges) stumbling upon a little boy neighbor boy who is staggering down Arlington Road about the bombshell fireworks decomposition. The boy just happens to be the son of Oliver and Cheryl Lang (Tim Robbins and Joan Cusack), the right-wing extremist bombers who, by coincidence, are Faraday's neighbors.

I suppose this is feasible, but what else is there besides being a history professor at George Washington University, also happening to be a 17-year-old classmate in the name of his dead wife, an FBI agent killed by an apparent extremist.

OK, it's all still possible and at this point the plot still seemed semi-endgame to me. So it's not until Faraday begins to unravel the double life of the normal neighbor that the story begins to get a little ridiculous.

After being told the assumptions of his neighbors are unfounded by everyone from new girlfriend Brandy Lang (Mason Gamble) to his line wife's former employee, the FBI, Faraday's bombings warming and perceptually pushes the issue until he is discovered by Oliver Lang.

Ripped from headlines surrounding the Oklahoma City bombings, the Lang team found for Framey's project, the bomb plot of yet another fake bombing.

On the inside chance your heart is set on seeing this film, I won't dwell on the absolutely miserable ending. A series of script rewrite wills have fleshed out the plot, but it falls flat without a solid plot to make the ending much more believable, or at the least easier to swallow.

Despite the reckless plot, credit should be given to director Mark Pellington for his first-rate camera shots and the sweeping angle changes. Pellington's style produces tension and creates a disorienting feel to the film. Slimy action and slow character development is turned into a sense of panic for Faraday while he desperately tries to find the terrorists behind.

The stick book to the film is its most interesting element, the subject of the perfect, a characteristic that translates well once the movie trailers, but falls flat without a solid plot to pull the audience through the visual trip.

While Bridge's performance seems heartfelt, his adversary, Michael Faraday, is far from a believable character as an evil person. I never got the psycho vibe that characterizes the personality of a real terrorist.

Combined with a poor script, the unbelievable villain boggs down an already problematic story. With the barrage of summer movies leading local theaters on a weekly basis, your money is best spent avoiding the dead-end ending on "Arlington Road."

3 stars out of 10

"Arlington Road"

Director............ Mark Pellington

Writers............ Michael Faraday, Jeff Bridges

Cheryl Lang

Michael Faraday

Jeff Bridges

Cheryl Lang

Recommended.

That's what you're supposed to do that because of the backsliding.

The line of what's working is: are you even asking yourself what's working or are we too busy to be asking ourselves anything? Is there anything we can do to make this film better? Because we're all becoming sick of the formulaic, the predictable, the redundant.

Myrick and Sanchez were looking for a practical action/thriller movie, an unrealistically plot wouldn't be so insulting to the intelligence of the audience.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Legislation allows boats to remain dockside

By RHONDA SCIARRA

LEGISLATION ALLOWING RIVERBOAT CASINOS TO OPERATE WHILE REMAINING DOCKSIDE, SIGNED INTO LAW A MONTH AGO by Gov. George Ryan, is aimed at increasing gaming business along Illinois’ waterways.

Senate Bill 1077 modifies current gaming law to allow riverboats to conduct dockside gaming. The law also repeals the prohibition against riverboat gambling in Cook County. Although dockside gaming is now allowed in Illinois, there is no legislation permitting gaming devices on land.

Ryan said the changes to the gaming laws of Illinois were crucial in making Illinois riverboats a competitive force against boats in other states.

“I believe the provisions of this legislation will provide southern Illinois with a competitive edge in the Metro East and other areas of our state by allowing Illinois riverboats to compete with boats in neighboring states,” he said.

Danielle Oer, spokesperson for the Casino Queen in East St. Louis, said the Queen supported dockside gaming because of the advantages it gives to its customers: the Casino Queen is located in the Metro East area and currently competes with six casinos in the St. Louis area.

“We were definitely in favor of it,” Oer said. “It gives us a better opportunity to serve our patrons.”

Dawn Justice, media coordinator for Illinois’ Playners Island Casino in Metropolis, said the transition to dockside gaming allows customers to have the freedom to enjoy the boat at their own pace.

“I believe, personally, that it would be more convenient for our customers because we are a lot further from the Tennessee line than we are with the boats from Tennessee and all over who had to worry about making the cruises,” she said.

“When they embark on the boat, we’re a two-hour wait, and some people didn’t have that option. Now they can come on and go off the boat at any time.”

Prior to the legislation being required by the U.S. Court of Appeals to staff each ship with deckhands. With dockside gaming, fewer workers will be needed to maintain the ship’s interiors.

“All of our employees will be given other options to take other positions,” Oer said.

Belk said the transition from operating on a cruise schedule to remaining docked has been simple.

“Before we went dockside, things had to be cleared internally,” she said. “The only change that we had really made was that we have moved our tamales and have built a permanent boat ramp.”

Belk said since the passing of the law, people have speculated how business on riverboats in Illinois has been affected.

“There has been discussion about how remaining dockside has affected business, although no official numbers have been concluded,” she said.

CASINOS

continued from page 1

“There is a lot of paperwork involved,” she said. “We were-figured that we had to take a day and a half before we could start working and we all have our own scopes of work.”

“We are the nicest, but of course every right of the region, and we continue to do what we do,” she said. “The boat offers one of the best views of the St. Louis skyline.”

A sports bar and grill, courtyard buffet and gift shop are located in the casino’s guest pavilion.

In addition, the Queen offers a variety of live entertainment, including an observation deck with the help of the 14th Street renovation project.

President Casino on the Admiral, St. Louis, Mo.

A plaque on her wall reading “Goddess of Gaming,” Dawn Justice, assistant general manager of the President Casino on the Admiral, takes her job to heart. She said a trip to enjoy her position as the media consultant for Players Island in St. Louis, said the Queen supported dockside gaming in the state of Illinois to offer, she said.

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June 23, 1993, is a four-story replica of a 19th century side-wheelers: boat and is the largest casino on the inland waters. It offers 26,600 square feet of Slot and Video Poker Machines as well as live gaming tables. Gaming tables include blackjack, jack, craps, Caribbean and poker and roulette.

“Casino Queen is one of the leading casinos in the Midwest,” Oer said, “from the entertainment nearly every night of the week to outstanding gaming opportunities.”

The Casino Queen holds the record for the highest attendance of any Illinois Casino and Fun has had 18.5 million visitors since its opening, “We have made a name for ourselves in the region, and we continue to lead the nation.”

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Rollin’ on the river and in the dough

Riverboat casinos provide alternative nightlife

A cocktail waitress outfitted in silver-glittered spandex shorts and tank tops stands on the floor of the President Casino as dice roll, slots ding and millions of dollars are at stake in the atmosphere around her.

Included in a quiet, private room in front of television monitors, SIUC alumnus Aaron Smith sits back and observes the fast-paced excitement of riverboat gambling.

"On the floor on any Friday night there are people laughing, drinking, winning money, losing money — it is like a party," Smith said.

"Everyone is having fun. It’s a real upbeat atmosphere, and that is how it should be."

Smith began working as a surveillance operator on the President Casino in St. Louis after graduating with a degree in radio and television in May of 1996.

A night of riverboat gambling exists hours away in all directions from Carbondale, providing a high-intensity alternative to local nightlife.

The President Casino, located in East St. Louis, is home to 28,000 square feet of casino gaming space, a gift shop, sports bar and grill and many live entertainment options.

Players Island Casino, Metropolis.

Making a jaunt to the home of Superman brings the vision of all-brick sidewalks, black-iron street lights and a fuchsia glow leading the wandering eye to an oasis on the Ohio River.

Having opened in 1993, the Players Island Casino in Metropolis offers four gaming floors. With the capacity to accommodate nearly 1,700 passengers, Players Island entertains its guests with 53 table games, including blackjack, roulette, Caribbean stud poker, craps, mini-baccarat, slots and video poker machines.

An Island Facility welcomes customers to the boat and includes a 300-seat buffet, bar, gift shop and boarding area. A fine-dining Island Terrace Restaurant can accommodate 140 people.

Entertainment acts visiting the casino have included the Little River Band, Tanya Tucker, George Jones and Wayne Newton. Tonight R.E.O. Speedwagon will perform at 7:30 p.m.

Players Island employs more than 800 individuals. Working on a casino mandates a lot of time and effort. Deonna Belt, a spokesperson for Players Island Casino, said those who wish to be employed by a casino operation should be prepared to obtain an Illinois Gaming Board License.

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