

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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Daily Egyptian 2007

3-26-2007

The Daily Egyptian, March 26, 2007

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Volume 92, Issue 123

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MAX BITTLE ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Eric Linster, Rita Adamitis and Amber Brooks take part in the Southern Illinois Pagan Association's Ostara Celebration Saturday night at the Davis-McCann Center in Murphysboro. The ritual was a lighthearted celebration for the spring equinox. The participants decorated hard-boiled eggs to represent their individual will.

Pagan group celebrates equinox

Alicia Wade
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

A group of slightly less than 30 people, some sporting rabbit ears, stood in a circle around a small wooden floor in the Davis-McCann Center in Murphysboro, tracing the outline of their bodies with eggs.

The high priestess of the ceremony, Tara Nelsen, instructed the group that doing this would help pull the negativity out of their lives and breaking the eggs would completely remove it.

One by one they threw the eggs into a metal trashcan in the center of the circle, shattering them with a loud thump. As one zealous member of the circle vocalized as he threw his egg into the metal trashcan, Nelsen had words of her own.

"That's pretty satisfying isn't it?" she said.

The egg breaking was part of the Southern Illinois Pagan Alliance's Ostara celebration Saturday. The light-hearted ritual celebrated the spring equinox, which Nelsen said is a time when the earth becomes fertile

again, hence using eggs in the ceremony as a symbol of that fertility.

As part of the ritual, members not only broke eggs to rid their lives of negativity, but decorated hard-boiled eggs with their wills and desires to help them manifest. At the end of the ritual, the circle shared marshmallow Peeps from a basket.

Those participating were also asked to bring canned food to donate to the Good Samaritan House.

"SIPA tries to give back to the community as much as we can," Nelsen said. "We live here, we work

here, we go to school here, so we try to give back."

Nelsen, a graduate student at SIUC studying health education, founded SIPA and has been a practicing pagan for about 18 years. She said the group has anywhere from 75 to 90 paid members, and usually has about 50 to 60 present for events.

Nelsen said there is no specific belief system for pagans and there is no singular text they follow. She described the term pagan as

See EQUINOX, Page 9

Behind the ballers

March Madness means game time for more Salukis than just the athletes

Sean McGahan
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

SAN JOSE, Calif. — While the men's basketball players clothed themselves in gear familiar to any March television viewer in the hour before their Sweet 16 match up, dozens of Saluki students stood out in the hallway putting on less acclaimed attire.

Students preparing to join the heroes of the hardwood on the HP Pavilion court included masses of brass-holding band members, sparkling faced shakers and colorful cheerleaders.

Perhaps the largest transformation, though, was turning a young blonde into a larger-than-life canine.

Kristin Slechticky, a sophomore from Pinckneyville studying accounting, has donned the Gray Dawg suit since January.

She began Thursday by putting on the large, furry feet. When she put one on the wrong way, cheerleader Wendy Harper ran to her aid.

Slechticky said the oversized back paws have sometimes given her problems.

"My feet are too big so it's really hard to walk around, and I can't see very well, and I step on little kids sometimes," she said. "Well, not really step on them, but you have to be really careful not to step on them."

Harper, a graduate student from Johnston City studying agribusiness economics, helped Slechticky put on her fuzzy outfit, zipping her up in the back and giving her tape to keep up Gray Dawg's baggy shorts.

"So my pants don't fall down," Slechticky said, trying to avoid the peril of the previous Gray Dawg,



ANTHONY SOUFFLE ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU Grey Dawg mascot Kristin Slechticky, a sophomore from Pinckneyville studying accounting, laughs with members of the Saluki Shakers and cheerleaders prior to the third round NCAA tournament game between Southern Illinois and University of Kansas on Thursday evening at the HP Pavilion in San Jose, Calif.

whose portrayal Brian Ardaugh was suspended in December for "moon-ing" the crowd at a football game.

Slechticky said she loves getting the crowd into the game and interacting with children. She did have some advice to offer overzealous fans.

"Just be nice to him," she said.

"Don't hit him in the head, because when you hit the mascot's head it comes back and hits me in the face, and I've got a busted lip numerous times."

When not helping out with

See SUPPORT, Page 9

Cole, Simon face off in mayor debate

Andrea Zimmermann
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sunday became a showdown between experience and ideas as Mayor Brad Cole and Councilwoman Sheila Simon battled it out in a mayoral debate hosted by the Arbor District Neighborhood Association.

Cole and Simon laid out their ideas as they also had the opportunity to shoot holes in each other's plans.

On dealing with older rental properties and homes that have become eyesores, Cole called for a moratorium on multi-tenant buildings.

Cole called the city's inability to keep up with rental inspections a failure of leadership over many years.

He proposed creating fees for first time inspections and larger fees for older unit inspections which would bring the inspectors from five to 11 for nearly 9,000 units.

Simon said, as she would throughout the debate, the city needs to watch its spending.

"We don't need to spend money like we are teenagers with money that is burning a hole in our pocket," she said.

Simon proposed a \$5 fee which would pay for one additional inspector.

Cole countered that the City Council decides whether to spend the money, therefore it is the council, not him, that would act like teenagers.

The debate quickly drew a distinct line between how the mayor's office should run day to day. Cole, who considers the \$8,500-a-year position his only job, said he believes the mayor should work in City Hall full-time. This, he said, allows him to be more effective, be the first to meet with potential developers and even do his own clerical work.

The council, including Simon, voted in 2003 to attach retirement benefits to the mayor's position, and he said he took that as indication that it should be a full-time job.

Simon said voters chose the weak mayor-strong council system more than 30 years ago. This was meant to stave off corruption, she said.

"The system of government can only be changed by referendum — not by choice or whim," said Simon, who works at the SIU School of Law and intends to keep the position if elected.

The candidates were also asked about how they could boost the image of the city's schools even though Carbondale is not officially a part of the school district's business. District 95 schools frequently have poor test scores, which have sent many families searching for schools outside the city.

Simon, who trumpets the quality of District 95, said much of the bad image stems from racism that still exists throughout the city. She pointed to Sunday's crowd at the debate, which was largely white and middle class.

Cole agreed that racism exists in Carbondale, in and out of the schools.

"There are a lot of families that avoid District 95 because of the African-American kids and international kids," he said. "There is some phobia, some racism. ... And what we can do is talk about it."

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 536-3311 ext. 274

This poll is brought to you by **COUNTRY** Insurance & Financial Services

siuDE.com Question:
How far do you think the salukis will go in the NCAA Tournament?

Fall out after the Sweet 16	25%														
Make it only as far as the Elite 8	17%														
Make it to the Final 4 then choke	9%														
Take it ALL! GO DAWGS!	49%														

This is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general nor the public as a whole.

Up next: Do you think students on campus are apathetic?
a. Yes
b. No
c. Don't care

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CALENDAR

'Una Platica Por Mis Ojos' Jose Guajardo thesis show

- March 20 to 28 show, 4 to 6 p.m.
- An MFA thesis show defining/refining what culture is "to artist"

Sexual abuse survivors group

- 7 to 9 p.m. today at Grand Avenue Christian Church
- Led by Jennifer Schrappe, MA, LPC, NCC
- Fee per session is \$10, for more information contact SaraHouse Ministries at 303-4934

The Composters Haul the Motherload

- 7 p.m. today at Longbranch Coffee House
- An environmental performance activist group who use humor and turn their attention to mothering, food and how this affects us as a society and the environment
- Donations will be accepted for The Women's Center

Caribbean Student Association first meeting of the year

- 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Student Center, Ohio room

Got Purpose?

- 6:30 p.m. today at the Student Center Auditorium
- Premier viewing of a documentary by radio and television student Candace Griffin, panel discussion will follow
- Free admission

The calendar is a free service for community groups. We cannot guarantee that all items will run.

Submit calendar items to the DAILY EGYPTIAN newsroom, Communications 1247, at least two days before event, or call 536-3311, ext. 266.

NEWS BRIEFS

Police: Murdered student's body burned on grill

HOUSTON (AP) — A 19-year-old Texas A&M University student was killed by her ex-boyfriend, who then dismembered and burned her body on a patio grill, authorities said Saturday.

Investigators say Timothy Wayne Shepherd, 27, confessed Wednesday to strangling Tynesha Stewart because he was angry she had begun a new relationship. Shepherd, who is charged with murder, is being held on \$250,000 bond.

Stewart, a college freshman from Houston, was last seen with Shepherd on March 15 while she was home for spring break visiting her mother. Friends have said Stewart and Shepherd quit dating at the beginning of this school year.

Authorities did not give any more details about how they believe the slaying occurred, but said nothing remains of Stewart. Although human remains generally require extremely high temperatures to destroy, a police spokesman would not discuss how he believed the body could be burned to nothing.

Couple charged with trying to sell toddler

OWENSBORO, Ky. (AP) — A couple are charged with trying to sell a 15-month-old girl for \$3,000 and a sport-utility vehicle.

Charles G. Hope Jr., 32, and Amber M. Revlett, 26, both of Owensboro, planned to use the money to pay off his fines for previous criminal charges, said Daviess County Sheriff's Lt. Bill Thompson. They were arrested Friday.

Thompson said it started out Wednesday as a joke between the couple and two women, but it became apparent that Hope and Revlett weren't kidding.

"This is one of those things that worked out, and, luckily, we were able to do this before they were able to sell the child to someone who may not have contacted law enforcement," Thompson said.

Hope told the Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer that he wasn't trying to sell his girlfriend's little girl.

"I love her babies, I love my babies, and people don't have enough money to get any of my kids," he told the newspaper.

Man sentenced after sex pact with 12-year-old

MUSKOGON, Mich. (AP) — A 37-year-old man who was accused of having sex with his girlfriend's underage daughter under an alleged written contract with the girl and her mother was sentenced to several prison terms.

Michael Fitzgibbon was sentenced Friday to up to 15 years for each of four counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct after prosecutors said he, his girlfriend and her daughter signed a contract allowing the teen to be his sex partner for two months. He was also sentenced to 12 to 25 years for each of two other cases involving first-degree criminal sexual conduct charges involving a 12-year-old girl. He is to serve the sentences at the same time.

Fitzgibbon pleaded no contest to the charges last month. A no contest plea is not an admission of guilt but is treated the same way for sentencing purposes.

The case arose after the woman, afraid of losing her boyfriend while recuperating from surgery, allegedly arranged for the three to sign a contract in June, The Muskegon Chronicle reported Saturday. In exchange for the sex, the 15-year-old testified she was to be paid and receive privileges, such as piercings, hair dyeing and permission to stay overnight with her own boyfriend.

CORRECTIONS

If you spot an error, please contact the DAILY EGYPTIAN accuracy desk at 536-3311, ext. 253.

POLICE REPORTS

There are no items to report today.

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THE HILLS HAVE EYES 2 (R)
4:00 6:30 8:45

TMNT (PG)
3:40 4:40 6:15 7:10 8:30 9:20

REIGN OVER ME (R)
3:50 6:45 9:30

300 (R)
4:15 5:00 7:00 8:00 9:40

WILD HOGS (PG-13)
4:50 7:30 9:50

BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG)
4:30 7:20 9:45

UNIVERSITY PLACE
1-800-FANDANGO 1553# 76
BY SUPER WAL-MART - CARBONDALE

THE LAST MIMZY (PG)
3:40 6:40 9:00

PRIDE (PG)
4:30 7:30 10:00

SHOOTER (R)
4:00 7:00 9:50

I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE (R)
4:20 7:10 9:30

PREMONITION (R)
4:45 7:20 9:40

DEAD SILENCE (R)
3:50 6:50 9:15

ZODIAC (R)
4:10 7:50

AMAZING GRACE
5:00 7:40 10:05

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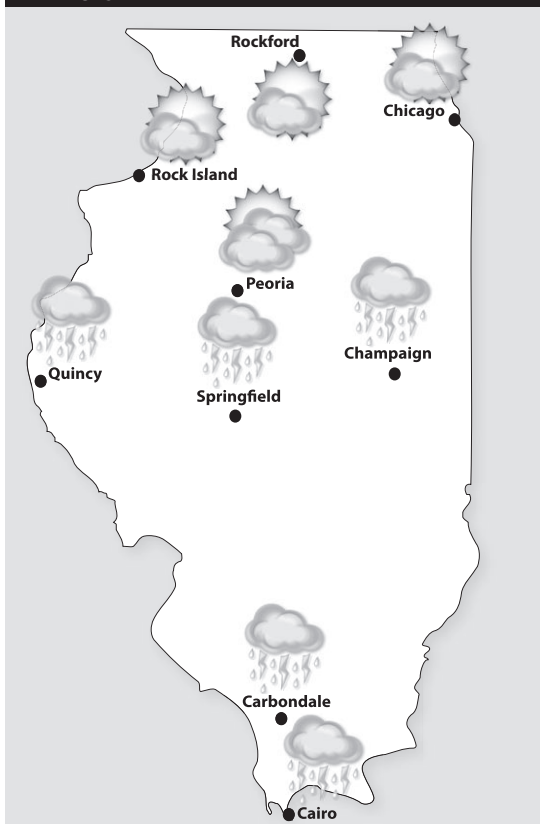
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DAILY WEATHER

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Thunderstorms	Mostly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms
79° 57°	77° 58°	78° 58°	78° 56°	70° 47°

ILLINOIS WEATHER



REGIONAL CITIES

City	TODAY		TUES.	
	HI	LO	HI	LO
Bloomington	78	53	72	54
Champaign	78	56	74	53
Chicago	76	53	70	48
Edwardsville	79	56	77	59
Moline	74	56	70	53
Mount Vernon	79	57	77	57
Paducah	82	58	80	58
Peoria	78	58	72	54
Quincy	73	54	72	55
Rockford	76	57	67	50
Springfield	78	58	74	57

NATIONAL CITIES

City	TODAY		TUES.	
	HI	LO	HI	LO
Atlanta	80	58	77	57
Boston	48	38	60	41
Dallas	70	61	79	64
Kansas City	74	56	72	57
New Orleans	81	63	80	64
New York	52	44	72	48
Phoenix	85	61	78	50
San Francisco	60	46	59	44
Las Vegas	80	57	65	47
Indianapolis	78	61	74	56
Washington, D.C.	58	53	80	54

Inventors show off ideas at business center

Brandon Augsborg
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The drive to invent is as old as the human race, and the inventors themselves, those ingenious tinkers or armchair MacGyvers, have helped propel our species forward through innovation.

That drive for improvement called 25 local inventors to a pre-audition event for ABC's "American Inventor 2" at the Illinois Small Business Development Center on Saturday. The event was a tune-up before the actual audition on March 31 at Navy Pier in Chicago.

Robyn Laur Russell, director of the center, said she was very pleased with the turnout. The inventions ranged from redneck apparel to a portable, inflatable playpen, all providing a good cross section of inventive ideas, Laur Russell said.

"I thought they were really neat," Laur Russell said. "There was some stuff I'd never thought of before and there was some real practical stuff, but I was really impressed with the way stuff was all over the board."

Tim Homoya and his stepson Austin Nelson, both of Energy, claimed the top spot with their peanut butter and jelly gun. Improvised from a pair of caulk guns with wide, flat nozzles, Nelson said the PBJ guns were perfect for



Tim Homoya of Energy demonstrates how to use his invention, a gun that dispenses peanut butter and jelly, for a panel of judges during a pre-audition event for ABC's 'American Inventor 2' television show. Homoya and co-inventor Austin Nelson, Homoya's stepson, were awarded first place for their invention.

JAKE LOCKARD
DAILY EGYPTIAN

people who want a sandwich but don't have time to make them in the traditional way.

Homoya and Nelson wowed the judges by quickly pumping out a handful of ready-to-eat sandwich-

ing and playing "Peanut Butter Jelly Time," a song made famous by a dancing banana on the Internet.

Homoya said they came up with the idea when Nelson visited him at work. Homoya was installing flooring and using a caulk gun to apply adhesive when Nelson said the adhesive looked like peanut butter. They decided to go with the idea, and originally created the guns without the nozzles and used them to apply peanut butter to crackers.

They are planning on travel-

ing to Chicago for next weekend's audition, especially after receiving \$300 in travel reimbursements for winning first place, Homoya said. Each of the five winners received an inventor's gift basket with books and CDs, and the top three inventors also received varying amounts of travel reimbursement for the trip to Chicago.

Laur Russell said 15 of the contestants indicated that they will be traveling to Chicago for the audition, where they will compete to earn a spot on the show which is

set to debut June 6. There are six audition spots all over the country, and one winner will be selected from each city and given \$50,000 seed money to further develop their product.

Anyone is allowed to audition, but the application process is lengthy and confusing. Laur Russell said the center will provide technical support for anyone who wants to audition in Chicago.

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American Inventor pre-audition winners

- First Place — Tim Homoya and Austin Nelson — Peanut butter and jelly gun
- Second Place — Michael Garcia — Portable, inflatable playpen
- Third Place — Don Falknor — Redneck apparel
- Fourth Place — Lance J. Melville Bradshaw III — A device that automatically puts the toilet seat up and down
- Fifth Place — Terry Sharp — Hydroguard



Don't forget!
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and online at www.siu.bkstr.com

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WIRE REPORTS

TOKYO

Earthquake kills one, triggers tsunamis

TOKYO (AP) — A strong earthquake struck Japan early Sunday, killing at least one person, violently shaking buildings and triggering two very small tsunamis that hit the coast, officials and media reports said.

The quake hit shortly before 10 a.m. off the north coast of Ishikawa prefecture (state), Japan's Meteorological Agency said. It had a preliminary magnitude of 7.1. A small tsunami of 6 inches hit shore around 10:18 a.m., public broadcaster NHK said. A second tsunami of similar size hit minutes later down the coast.

Television footage from the quake zone showed buildings shaking violently for about 30 seconds.

NHK reported one woman died and 40 were injured.

FLORIDA

Human remains found in woods

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — Skeletal remains of eight people were found in southwest Florida woods, and investigators believe the bodies have been there for several years, police said.

The skeletons, which had no skin or clothing, were found Friday in an unlit wooded area about 25 feet from an unpaved section of an east Fort Myers street, Fort Myers police Lt. Brian Phillips said.

Investigators were working to identify the bodies and were handling the deaths as homicides unless they find evidence to the contrary, police said. No trauma was evident, Phillips said.

An ecologist who was surveying a 10-acre lot for a developer discovered the bodies, police spokeswoman Shelly Flynn said. At first, police thought there were three skeletons, but a search turned up five more within a 50-yard radius, detectives said.

RHODE ISLAND

Teen killed at same spot as friend

WEST WARWICK, R.I. (AP) — A teenager was killed by a hit-and-run driver at the same spot where his 14-year-old friend had died in a car crash just hours earlier.

Andrew Coit, 18, was hit by a car after 4 a.m. Saturday as he played a guitar at a makeshift memorial to Darien Plass, 14, on West Warwick's Main Street. Plass died after driving his mother's minivan into a utility pole late Friday, friends of both teenagers told the Providence Journal.

"He wanted to play one last song for (Plass), and that was the last time anyone saw him. He loved singing. He died doing what he loved doing," said Coit's friend, Dennis Sullivan.

Plass' friends said he had been drinking and took his mother's minivan without her knowledge. Coit and other friends set up the memorial.

Sullivan told the newspaper the mourners remained at the memorial until about 4 a.m., but Coit stayed behind to play one more song for Plass by himself.

FLORIDA

Cheney: House undermining troops

MANALAPAN, Fla. (AP) — Vice President Dick Cheney on Saturday accused the Democrat-led House of not supporting troops in Iraq and of sending a message to terrorists that America will retreat in the face danger.

"They're not supporting the troops. They're undermining them," Cheney told a gathering of the Republican Jewish Coalition at the oceanside Ritz-Carlton hotel in Manalapan, Fla., about 60 miles north of Miami.

On Friday, the House voted to clamp a cutoff deadline on the Iraq war, agreeing by a thin margin to pull combat troops out by next year.

The \$124 billion House legislation would pay for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan this year but would require that combat troops come home from Iraq before September 2008 — or earlier if the Iraqi government

Gonzales support erodes

Lara Jakes Jordan
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

Support for Attorney General Alberto Gonzales among Republicans eroded Sunday as three key senators sharply questioned his truthfulness and a Democrat joined the list of lawmakers who want him to resign over the firing of eight federal prosecutors.

"We have to have an attorney general who is candid and truthful. And if we find out he's not been candid and truthful, that's a very compelling reason for him not to stay on," said Sen. Arlen Specter, the top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee, which oversees the Justice Department.

Specter, R-Pa., said he would wait until Gonzales' scheduled April 17 testimony to the committee on the dismissals before deciding whether he could continue to support the attorney general. He called it a "make or break" appearance.

To Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., Gonzales "does have a credibility problem. ... We govern with one currency, and that's trust. And that trust is all important. And when you lose or debate that currency, then you can't govern. And I think he's going to have some difficulties."

Hagel cited changing stories from the Justice Department about the circumstances for firing the eight U.S. attorneys. "I don't know if he got bad advice or if he was not involved in the day-to-day management. I don't know what the problem is, but he's got a problem. You cannot have the nation's chief law enforcement officer with a cloud hanging over his credibility," Hagel said.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said Gonzales has been "wounded" by the firings. "He has said some things that just don't add up," said Graham, who is on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Additionally, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., called for



CHUCK KENNEDY ~ MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE
Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) talks to Sen. Mark Pryor (D-Ariz.) after the Senate voted overwhelmingly Tuesday to end the Bush administration's ability to unilaterally fill U.S. attorney vacancies.

Gonzales to step down over his conflicting statements on how involved he was in the dismissals last fall. Democrats contend the prosecutors' firings were politically motivated.

Gonzales has said he participated in no discussions and saw no memos about plans to carry out the firings on Dec. 7 that Democrats contend were politically motivated.

His schedule, however, shows he attended at least one hourlong meeting, on Nov. 27, where he approved a detailed plan to execute the prosecutors' firings.

The White House has stood by Gonzales, saying the documents do not conflict with Gonzales' earlier statements. "The president continues to have confidence in the attorney general," a spokesman

said Saturday.

Gonzales maintains the firings were proper, but also has said he relied heavily on his former chief of staff, Kyle Sampson, to plan the prosecutors targeted for dismissal. Sampson, who resigned under fire March 12, is scheduled to appear Thursday before the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is investigating the dismissals.

The committee chairman, Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said he is concerned the Bush administration is trying to make Sampson "the fall guy."

Democrats question whether the eight fired prosecutors were selected because they were not seen as, in Sampson's words, "loyal Bushies."

Leahy's committee has authorized subpoenas for presidential

political adviser Karl Rove and other top White House staff linked to the firings in more than 3,000 e-mails, calendar pages, memos and other documents the Justice Department has released.

President Bush has offered to grant a limited number of lawmakers private interviews with the aides with no transcript and without swearing them in — which senators from both parties have rejected. A House Judiciary subcommittee also has authorized subpoenas in the matter.

The subpoenas issue could turn into a constitutional standoff if the White House claims executive privilege in refusing to let its staff testify under oath. The matter has even split Republican senators who want answers from the White House on its role in the firings.

Blair says capture of sailors a serious issue

Tariq Panja
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — British Prime Minister Tony Blair said Sunday that the 15 British sailors and marines captured by Iran as they searched for smugglers off the Iraqi coast were not in Iranian waters and warned that Britain viewed their situation as "very serious."

The group was seized at gunpoint on Friday, and the Foreign Office in London said British officials do not know where Iran is holding them.

Speaking at an EU summit in Berlin, Blair said Iran's claim that the sailors had crossed into Iranian territorial waters "is simply not true."

"I want to get (the situation) resolved in as easy and diplomatic a way as possible," Blair said, but added he hoped the Iranians "understood how fundamental an issue this is for the British government."

Britain said its diplomats met with Iranian officials in Tehran

on Sunday where their demand for access to the group was denied after Iran refused to say where they were being held.

"This is a very serious situation," Blair said.

Britain and the United States have said the sailors and marines had just completed a search of a civilian vessel in the Iraqi part of the Shatt al-Arab waterway when they were intercepted by the Iranian navy.

Lord Triesman, a Foreign Office undersecretary who had held talks with Iran's ambassador on Saturday, told Sky News there

was good evidence the men were in Iraqi waters, but that the issue of whether the sailors had strayed into Iranian waters was only a technical one.

Iran's top military official, Gen. Ali Reza Afshar, said on Saturday the seized Britons were taken to Tehran for questioning and had confessed to what he called an "aggression into the Islamic Republic of Iran's waters." He did not say what would happen to them but said all were being treated well and were in good health.

Clashes break out in central Baghdad

Sinan Salaheddin
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — With U.S. attack helicopters buzzing overhead, gunmen and Iraqi security forces clashed Sunday in a Sunni area in central Baghdad, and police said at least two people were killed in fighting in the neighborhood's narrow streets and alleys.

The fighting started about 1:30 p.m. when gunmen attacked Iraqi army positions in the Fadhil neighborhood, on the east side of the Tigris River, police said. The U.S. military said it had no immediate reports about the fighting.

An Iraqi army colonel from the brigade in charge of the area said the gunmen were firing at army checkpoints and patrols from rooftops and the soldiers returned fire, calling for U.S. assistance when the fighting became fierce. He said the situation had calmed by late afternoon but sporadic clashes continued.

"The soldiers raided some houses believed to be used by the gunmen today. Several suspects were arrested and they are being interrogated," the colonel said, speaking on condition of ano-

nymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

The military sealed off all roads leading to the area, causing traffic jams, according to witnesses and police. Stores closed their doors as the streets emptied of people fleeing the fighting.

"The gunmen were shooting at every moving object. The streets were deserted and all shops closed," said Ghaith Jassim, the 37-year-old owner of a textile store in the area. "These frequent clashes have affected our work. We cannot earn our living. People and traders are afraid of coming to our area."

Jassim said the arrival of U.S. troops in the area briefly stopped the clashes but the fighting resumed when the Americans left.

Iraqi police said two civilians were killed and two policemen and two civilians were wounded.

Fadhil, one of Baghdad's oldest and poorest areas, is ridden with Sunni insurgents and common criminals and its narrow streets and alleys have been the site of frequent clashes.

A helicopter owned by the private security company Blackwater USA crashed in heavy gunfire in the area on Jan. 23, killing four civilian contractors. A fifth contractor in a second helicopter died of gunshot wounds.



Ninja turtles not terrible in latest

Wayne Utterback
DAILY EGYPTIAN

'TMNT'
Rated: PG
Starring: Patrick Stewart, Sarah Michelle Gellar
Directed by: Kevin Munroe
Run time: 1 hour 27 minutes

For the first time in 14 years, the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles have jumped from the sewer to the silver screen, and for the most part, it's a fun journey.

With a confusing storyline, great visuals and good voice acting, "TMNT" is a breath of fresh air in computer-animated flicks.

"TMNT" picks up where the last film left off. Shredder is long gone and the turtles have broken up. Leonardo has been sent to South America to learn leadership skills. Raphael has taken up another identity as an armored crime fighter, while Donatello works tech support and Michelangelo works as a children's entertainer.

Reporter April O'Neil (Sarah Michelle Gellar) returns from South America with an artifact that a

wealthy businessman, Max Winters (Patrick Stewart), is collecting. It turns out Winters is immortal and wants the artifact in order to right a wrong he committed 3,000 years ago. The rest of the plot is just confusing and convoluted, but it doesn't have to be in-depth for a movie about ninja turtles and pizza.

The turtles return with their own distinct characteristics. Raphael is hard-edged and serious, Donatello is intellectual and technological, Michelangelo is a doofus and Leonardo is the reserved and cautious leader of the pack.

However, a majority of the plot is spent with conflicts between Raphael and Leonardo. The two constantly butt heads while the other two turtles are left on the backburner. While watching Raphael and Leo scrap is entertaining, the movie could have used a little more focus on all four turtles.

Another problem with the story is O'Neil. In "TMNT," she has suddenly become a treasure hunter who picked up some kung fu along the way. Add in her relationship with the scruffy Casey Jones, and her character feels like it has no direction.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Visually, the movie looks great onscreen and the turtles look awesome. The fight scenes are crisp and entertaining. The characters have a unique identity and look, though they might not be well developed story-wise. It's a movie that looks way bet-

ter than all previous chapters of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. It's also different from most computer-animated flicks because it's darker and more action-based, which is a good departure from the norm. The movie works best by not making audiences

think too hard about the plot. Instead, it works best when viewed as brainless eye candy. It's also humorous at parts and offers up a few laughs.

For fans and children, "TMNT" is a great ride that is entertaining from beginning to end.



Sandler 'Reigns' in theaters

Wes Lawson
DAILY EGYPTIAN

'Reign Over Me'
Rated: R
Starring: Adam Sandler, Don Cheadle, Jada Pinkett Smith, Liv Tyler
Directed by: Mike Binder
Run time: 2 hours, 4 minutes

The question of whether Adam Sandler can successfully cross over into dramatic films has been answered in "Reign Over Me."

"Reign Over Me" is a sad movie about two flawed people who, through each other, find what they were missing and help each other to overcome their flaws. It's not a particularly original plot, but strong acting and an interesting story keep this film afloat, and the use of Sept. 11 as a story device distinguishes the film from so many others on the subject.

Charlie (Sandler) lost his entire family in one of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center and becomes a total recluse. By chance, he meets Alan (Don Cheadle), a dentist who happened to be Charlie's old college roommate. Charlie doesn't remember Alan, but Alan, whose life with his wife (Pinkett Smith) and kids has grown to be monotonous, wants to rekindle their friendship to help Charlie recover from his grief and hopefully find some meaning in his own life.

The movie follows the two

as they become friends, and how the friendship puts pressure on Alan's personal life. There are several subplots that come and go involving a therapist (Liv Tyler) and a client of Alan's (Saffron Burrows) that amp up the runtime and serve to further flesh out the story.

As stated before, this movie would not have worked without a strong cast, and it has one. Cheadle does admirable work, as do Tyler and Pinkett Smith in largely thankless roles. But the real deal in the film is Sandler, who, like Robin Williams and Jim Carrey before him, looks to have serious chops as an actor. His portrayal of a man who has retreated into himself and occasionally lashes out in anger is something he has trained for in all his dumb comedies, but now he uses that anger to create a broken man.

Writer/director Mike Binder, who knows a thing or two about dynamics between people, creates a story, that although it hits on many clichés, it feels fresh. The movie has a kind of fly-on-the-wall style that adds to the realism, and in a sequence involving Sandler in a waiting room towards the end, he uses largely unbroken shots to give the actor a powerful dramatic scene.

The movie's heavy use of classic rock also must be commended, since the title itself comes from a Who song. Although the movie can get heavy with the product placement (namely the use of a



PROVIDED PHOTO

video game and an iPod) it's never distracting from the story.

Small flaws exist. The movie is way too long. Had 15 minutes been cut, it might have had more of an emotional impact. Some of the subplots are also underdeveloped, especially the one involving Alan and his wife. Also, the use of Sept. 11 isn't quite justified. Charlie's family tragedy could have been any tragedy. Using Sept. 11 might work since the story takes place in New York, but it feels a little gratuitous.

"Reign Over Me" is a solid movie that doesn't wrap up nice and tidy, which is an enormous plus for its cause.

Adam Sandler has never been better, and one can only hope that he continues to make films like this as his career progresses.



'Hills' need glasses

Wes Lawson
DAILY EGYPTIAN

'The Hills Have Eyes 2'
Rated: R
Starring: The Famous Jett Jackson, and some others
Directed by: Martin Weisz
Run time: 1 hour, 29 minutes

Anyone who has seen a horror film in the last fifteen years has absolutely no reason to see "The Hills Have Eyes 2" or any horror film released thus far this year, for that matter.

It's difficult to write a review of any horror film released in theaters these days because they are all awful in exactly the same ways, and the only difference is where the plot occurs. Paper-thin characters wander into dark rooms and areas when they should be running for their lives. Also included are noises on the soundtrack, pointless sex, and directors whose only previous credits include music videos.

"Hills" has one character that is smart and seems to have seen some horror flicks in his day, and he is almost interesting enough to warrant a film. But alas, this is an American horror film and we must rush past character development and believability in order to get to the gore.

The film follows the same path that the original film did, in that characters wander into a New Mexico nuclear test site and get picked off by a clan of radioactive mutants.

The crucial difference is that this time, the characters are a team of National Guard trainees. In the first film, it was an unsuspecting family, so we could believe that they would

not cope well with the situation. But now it's people who are trained to fight overseas against people with bombs. So they can't beat a bunch of backwoods mutants? These people are in the National Guard! They should at least be able to shoot the mutants without wasting the bullets on the surrounding rocks.

The first "Hills" was not very good, but it had a brutal intensity that had been lacking in many horror films these days. The sequel strips away the brutality and leaves nothing except random gory kills. This is pretty much par for course when it comes to horror cinema in America: If we can't create tension or scares, cover it up with bloody violence.

This movie also follows the path of the first film in including a rape scene. What is the point of it? To show that the mutants are sadistic and evil? The same goal could have been accomplished via other means. To rape a woman on screen without justification is not only wrong, it is sick and misogynistic. What kind of people are we when we find these sorts of things entertaining?

So basically, what we have here is a film with crappy acting, little story, cheap scares, and nonstop horror cliché punctuated with dashes of gory violence and a completely tasteless rape. What on Earth would possess someone to see it? Only one thing: The Famous Jett Jackson. He is in this movie as one of the soldiers. And he lives almost the entire time.

Why is anyone still reading this review? Those who know they want to see this movie will go see it, and those who don't, won't. But this review should serve as a warning: If we continue to pay money to see this crap, Hollywood will continue to make this crap.



OUR WORD

Lowery may head for greener pastures

At age 34, Chris Lowery is a rising star in college sports. He's the youngest coach in the MVC, and also the best.

Fresh off a stellar run in the NCAA Tournament and another successful year at the Salukis' helm, big bucks inevitably await this sideline strongman, and the rumor mill has speculated that he may leave SIU for a better paying job.

It may be that Lowery will listen when the money from bigger programs talks. He's got everything going for him and might hop on the best offer tossed his way.

Or it could be that Lowery's loyalty to SIU fans, his love for the area and his closeness to his hometown, Evansville, Ind., may keep him around.

Lowery has done great things for this university. He's engineered a solid Saluki squad and has helped to make basketball season an exciting time for the SIU faithful.

He earns every bit of the \$200,000-plus the university pays him and he deserves more.

But he's so good he's out of SIU's price range.

SIU is not in the greatest of fiscal positions. Enrollment is low, state aid is low, the deferred maintenance backlog is atrocious and the bills are stacking.

Two floors of Morris Library — considered one of the top research libraries in the nation — will not be renovated in the current project because of slim funds. The faculty, which is equally deserving of higher pay, fought for eight months to get SIU to budge on salary issues. Professors have been promised an increase in pay that the university might have a hard time covering.

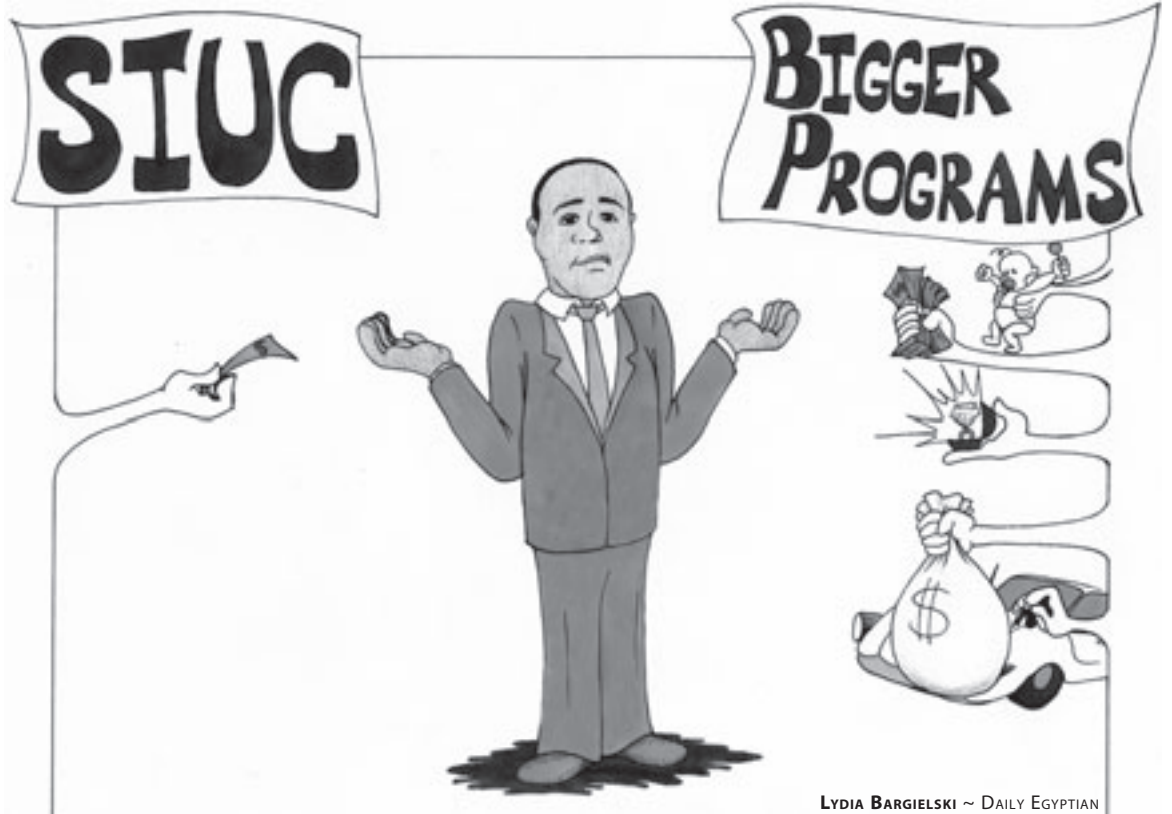
Athletics generate a load of dollars and attention for the university. Sports are integral to SIU's success, and solid leaders are key.

If greener pastures present themselves, losing Lowery will be tough for SIU. But the university does not have Big Ten resources and must accept the fact that all good things must come to an end.

Besides limitless potential, Lowery has a family. He has a duty to care for his wife and children, and make sure their future is sound.

No one can fault Lowery for looking out for the most important people in his life.

Good coaches have come through SIU Arena and, after their exit, have been followed by just as good or even better front men. Lowery will leave big shoes to



fill, but another talented coach will come in to guide SIU to glory.

There's no doubt that the Salukis are good and envied by many.

But SIU is, for all intents and purposes, a springboard school. It's the perfect platform for aspiring big timers to build a strong resume and grab the attention of more elite institutions.

Former SIU leading man Bruce Weber, who is the sixth best coach in school history in terms of wins-losses, landed a coveted job at the University of Illinois with the help of the Salukis' program. Purdue's head honcho Matt Painter had a good run with a 25-5 record in his one season in Carbondale.

Partly because of SIU, these two former Saluki leaders are rolling in dough and heading up powerful programs.

Lowery deserves to do what his two predecessors did — follow the money.

While he ducks the question about shopping around at other universities or fielding offers from them, Lowery is adamant about being SIU's coach

“right now.”

His love for the team and the Salukis' respect for him are apparent and impressive.

But it's also apparent that Lowery is on the market.

Athletic Director Mario Moccia acknowledged that Lowery is a hot commodity and SIU will do what it can to keep him. He also acknowledges that it won't be the end of the world if Lowery goes elsewhere.

Regardless of his decision, Lowery should let his supporters know what he plans to do. If he's accepting another job, Lowery needs to speak up soon so fans can begin the coping process and look to the future. If he decides to stay, he needs to tell the fans so they can rest their nerves and count on another year of Saluki success.

Lowery has all the right to advance his career and we wish him best in that endeavor.

We just hope he doesn't forget the university and the people who helped him get wherever he's going next.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Watch out for sneaky hippies

DEAR EDITOR:

In response to Thursday's editorial entitled “Biased media misleading citizens,” I couldn't agree with the author more that we need a forum where we can talk about the war. I just have one question for the author: What in the [expletive deleted] is an “ultra-liberal propaganda rally?”

I scoured my dictionary of Fox News scary buzzwords, and it said that an ultra-liberal propaganda rally is a protest. Although I trust Fox News on all matters pertaining to sexual predators and Anna Nicole Smith's drug habits, I couldn't rest until I found out what this protest thing really was. So I looked up the word protest in my ultra-liberal Oxford English Dictionary, and it said

that a protest is “a statement or action expressing disapproval of or objection to something.”

So that's what an ultra-liberal propaganda rally is! It's nothing more than a bunch of people expressing their opinion! But why would those freedom-hating hippies want to express their opinion?

I'm sorry for all the questions, Mr. Cathelyn. If I only had your assistance while writing this letter, I'm sure that we could get to the bottom of this matter in no time. But since I can't bask in the sweet spring of your wisdom, I will have to press on alone.

Why would those hippies want to protest my war? The only answer that I can come to is that perhaps those freedom-hating hippies were angry, just like you, but for different reasons. I

would bet a nickel that those hippies were protesting because they too agree that there needs to be a forum where we can talk about the war. I would also bet that they realized that this forum would not just pop out of thin air, so they decided that they would make their own forum.

And what better way to do that than with a protest. The last time I checked, the best way to make your voice heard is to shout. And it looks like their ultra-liberal plan worked too because not only were they able to have their little protest, they were able to get people like you to express your opinion about the war. Watch out for those freedom-loving hippies, Mr. Cathelyn — they're a tricky bunch.

Joshua Estabrook
 junior studying special education

MISSION STATEMENT

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

WORDS OVERHEARD

“We don't take moral victories. If we lose, they beat us. We play every game like we want to win it.”

Randal Falter
 junior forward
 on falling out in the third round of the NCAA Tournament

Embrace the culture at SIUC

ERIK RANCATORE

erik.rancatore@gmail.com



Music is something that has been encoded in my DNA. It's something that I am passionate about, something that I cherish and enjoy beyond belief. Attending concerts and recitals here at SIUC is something that allows me to further engage in the music experience since I am not studying it in any shape or form. I did attend the March 7 "Stars of Altgeld" concert and thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

To my surprise, the next day there was quite a powerful letter to the editor in the DAILY EGYPTIAN. After reading Professor Edward Benyas' "DE utterly disregards culture," it started to get me thinking.

Are we ignoring too many of the events, happenings and cultural experiences that are occurring on our campus? By we I don't mean the DE, but a student body and community as a whole. In the technology and Internet age, are students caught up in the instant access to culture?

Now, I am not saying that all students are ignoring going out and experiencing these opportunities, but does having the instant gratification of typing in a Web address and being able to go anywhere in the world affect how you want to participate in campus events?

If it's easier to take the route by visiting a Web site to listen to the latest music or find out about the latest happenings in the world, it most likely will be taken advantage of. Granted, students have busy schedules and are cramming many activities and projects into a not always a flexible schedule.

But overall, choosing to listen to a streaming version of a song online is not as beneficial to the campus community as going out and seeing a concert.

On March 20, there was a

protest against the Iraq war held on campus, which 80 people showed up to. Was it hard to skip class and attend? Was the event not publicized enough or was it just easier to make an argument about the Iraq war on a political or activist blog?

My personal belief is that most people would believe it's easier to protest the war from the comforts of their home on their computer. It's not necessarily about making the effort to be out there, but more about being able to do it without making a huge time commitment.

Where else but a college campus can you have anthropologists come in and speak about the Makah Tribes, and then see someone like former White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card speak at the Shryock Auditorium? Not only are these events almost impossible to find in the same day anywhere else, but also this is an opportunity that only lasts while we are here at college.

The message is: Stay involved! The Internet is a fantastic tool, and an amazing way to connect people all over the world. It's meant to bring us all closer together, knowing that not all of us can travel around the world and see all different cultural aspects that everyone has to offer.

But, when some great opportunity is available on campus, take advantage of it. If it means missing your favorite television show, it might be worth it. The SIU campus offers many chances for you to go out and experience all different things from around the world. Many of these opportunities are free for students. Take the time to go out and support these occasions.

I still enjoy hearing music on the Internet, but there is nothing like hearing a live orchestra at the Shryock Auditorium. Get out and support these events on the SIU campus!

Rancatore is a sophomore studying radio and television

A closer look at Al Gore's truth

Jonathan Last

McCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

The post-Oscar attacks on Al Gore for living in a mansion that consumes 20 times as much energy as the average American house were enjoyable, but unfair.

Gore's consumption of fossil fuels has nothing to do with the arguments he has been advancing about climate change. After all, his thesis is empirical, not subjective.

It doesn't matter a lick whether Al Gore is a hypocrite. What matters is whether or not he is right.

Gore proposes essentially four assertions, which build conditionally:

(1) Earth's climate is getting warmer; (2) man is responsible in substantial part for this change; (3) this change will result in net harm; and (4) this change can be reversed by man.

Let's take them in order.

Here is what we know for certain about climate change: In the last 100 years, the average temperature on Earth has risen 1 degree Fahrenheit.

This is not unprecedented. Throughout history, the planet has gone through temperature cycles. There have been "warm periods" and ice ages.

To take just one example, Swiss climatologists believe that the glaciers in the Alps have melted into near nothingness 10 times in the last 10,000 years.

As recently as the 1970s, global cooling was considered by many scientists to be a major imminent threat, with the book "The Weather Conspiracy: The Coming of the New Ice Age" doing the work of today's "An Inconvenient Truth."

Given the history of fluctuations in temperatures, to what degree is man responsible for the current rise? That depends on whom you ask and when you ask them. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says it believes that human activity has been a primary driver. But this verdict is not final: The IPCC recently explained that its initial work on climate change overestimated man's impact by as much as 25 percent. Who knows how it will change its estimates in the future.

Meanwhile, other scientists say they believe the sun is responsible.

Researchers at the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research in Germany note that the sun has seemed

to be burning more brightly for the last 60 years, which may account for the increase of 1 degree.

But as British scientist Nigel Calder notes, theories about climate change that don't finger man as the culprit are met with hostility or blank stares in the parts of the scientific community most heavily invested in Gore's theses, such as the IPCC.

Which brings us to the third part: If global warming is real, what would the net effect be? Gore says it would be very bad indeed. Taking his cue from the former vice president, the announcer of the Academy Awards telecast gushed that "Davis Guggenheim and the cast were scheduled to shoot in New Orleans the night before Hurricane Katrina hit, an event that brought home the threat — and the impact — of global warming." If global warming causes more storms like Katrina, that would be trouble.

But as a recent piece in Slate acknowledges, "the hurricane-warming link isn't settled at all. Rather, it's a very contentious debate between two groups of scientists — computer-modeling atmospheric scientists versus meteorologists."

Gore, however, goes further. In promoting the 2004 film "The Day After Tomorrow," he told the press, "I hope this movie will provide many opportunities for in-depth conversations about what this issue is really all about."

The movie depicted a series of super storms that cause a near apocalypse and bring about, in a matter of days, a new ice age.

Given this promiscuous doomsaying, it's no surprise that some scientists have begun to quietly complain about Gore. A number of them went on record with their complaints to the New York Times last week.

Kevin Vranes, a University of Colorado climatologist, worried that Gore had been "overselling our certainty about knowing the future."

But when you compound the probabilities, the claims of environmentalists such as Gore begin to look less and less certain. In fact, in their unwillingness to brook dissent or countervailing theories, they seem less like scientists and more like the fundamentalists they otherwise scorn.

Last is a columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

ABOUT US

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, with fall and spring circulations of 20,000. Free copies are distributed on campus and in the Carbondale, Murphysboro, and Carterville communities.

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PUBLISHING INFO

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University. Offices are in the Communications Building, Room 1259, at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901. Walter Jaehnig, fiscal officer. First copy is free; each additional copy 50 cents. Mail subscriptions available.

EDITORIAL POLICY

OUR WORD is the consensus of the DAILY EGYPTIAN Editorial Board on local, national and global issues affecting the Southern Illinois University community. Viewpoints expressed in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Salukis provide emotional rush

DEAR EDITOR:

This is a big thank you letter to our basketball team. In my last year at SIU they have given me (us) the greatest rush!

I have been a basketball fan since I was 11 and a Salukis fan since I arrived at SIU. Our team has been a key factor for me to find a connection with both Carbondale and the university. Finding that connection is not always easy for international students, but

in my case I really have to thank the three coaches I have seen in my time here, and all their players, for creating some of the best memories that I have from Southern Illinois.

Last Thursday, Coach Lowery's team made me reach a pinnacle of emotions that still send shivers down my spine. The fight the Salukis put up against one of the top-notch teams in the country, the No. 1 seed in our bracket, was worthy of the most fearless warriors. Kansas' future NBA players were very lucky not to have fallen to the team that ESPN Sportscenter's commentators called "the Egyptian Dog Dragon."

There is no better way to put it and we must

be proud.

Thank you, coach and all the players, especially seniors Tony and J.T., for making such an impression on people around the country, and for making us feel so incredibly special. It has an even greater meaning for an international student as myself, more used to getting that kind of rush from the soccer World Cup.

In the last few years, more and more people have learned what a Saluki is. This weekend people in all 50 states, and in many countries, know it as well: An Egyptian hunting dog, the Egyptian Dog Dragon.

Alonso Cordoba
 graduate student in zoology

• Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author's contact information, preferably via e-mail. All letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. All topics are acceptable. All submissions are subject to editing.



• Phone number required to verify authorship (number will not be published). STUDENTS must include year and major. FACULTY must include rank and department. NON-ACADEMIC STAFF include position and department. OTHERS include hometown.



• Letters and guest columns can be sent to voices@dailyegyptian.com.
 • We reserve the right to not publish any letter or guest column.

11th Annual

11th Annual Celebrate Women!

A Women's History Month Celebration of Women's Work

Wednesday, March 28, 2007
SIUC, Faner Hall, University Museum Lobby & Auditorium

Juried Posters (12 pm-6 pm):

- Scholarship by and/or About Women


Workshops: Past, Present and Beyond

- **Women and Investments in Today's World**
 - Andrea Turner, Investment Representative
 - Edward Jones
 - 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.
- **Historical Notes on African American Women's Health**
 - Pamela Smoot, Clinical Assistant Professor
 - Black American Studies, SIUC
 - 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Presentations (5 pm):

- 2007 Faculty Woman of Distinction
- 2007 Administrative/Professional Woman of Distinction
- 2007 Civil Service Woman of Distinction
- AAUW Scholarship Awards
- Women's Caucus Scholarship Awards
- Women's Studies Scholarship Awards

Sponsors: Carbondale Branch American Association of University Women, University Museum, University Professional Advancement, Women's Caucus, & Women's Studies



Light Refreshments
U-Card Approved Event



DAN CELVI ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sarah Cummane, a junior from Orland Park studying social work, runs to first base as she plays softball on Jean Stehr Field on Sunday afternoon. Cate O'Brien (not shown), a senior from Chicago studying recreation, dubbed 'the coach,' said she and the other students playing were practicing to start intramural softball at the Rec Center.

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Students look to LEED the way

Workshop teaches environmental construction codes

Joe Crawford
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Hot topics such as global warming have forced Americans to pay attention to the environment, and some SIUC students may have to do the same if they want to get a job, said student Emmett T. Harrison.

Harrison, a senior from Carbondale studying architecture, led a workshop Saturday in the Student Center's Illinois room aimed at teaching architecture and interior design students about a set of sustainable building standards known as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

For a building to be LEED certified, it must meet requirements in areas such as energy efficiency, materials selection and water savings.

The code, developed by the United States Green Building Council, gives buildings credits for actions such as leaving "green space" at a building site and recycling.

Cities, companies and universities are becoming increasingly interested in making their buildings LEED certified, Harrison said.

"It's the sexiest building code in America right now," he said.

Dana Stromme, the president of the American Society of Interior Designers, said she attended the workshop because she is concerned about the environment and she believes accreditation will look good on her resumé.

"You don't realize how much energy is taken up by buildings," said Stromme, a senior from Momence

studying interior design.

The Student Environmental Center has asked the university to guarantee all of the buildings it constructs in the future, including those incorporated in Saluki Way, will achieve at least the second highest certification, said group member Megan Pulliam.

Pulliam said the university has cited money as a major concern because LEED certification tends to increase construction costs.

Physical Plant Director Phil Gatton said there are plans to make the new Transportation Education Center LEED certified, which would increase the cost of construction by about 1 percent to 3 percent.

Certifying a building tends to save money throughout the life of the building because the structure is energy efficient, he said.

He said there are no current plans to make all of Saluki Way certified.

Gatton said the documentation necessary for certification is intensive and some procedures are not appropriate for certain projects.

He said the Transportation Education Center would get credit for installing showers to encourage people to bike to the facility. But because the building is so far from campus, it is not likely people would ride their bike there, he said.

Harrison said he knew that public relations would be a motivating factor for many institutions looking into LEED.

"As someone who actually does care about the environment, if someone is doing this for the wrong reasons, I don't really care," he said. "As long as the environment is being helped, I'm OK with that."

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EQUINOX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

an umbrella term, similar to how the term Christianity encompasses Baptists, Lutherans and Catholics, among others. She said one prevalent belief for pagans is in nature and balance, as well as believing that deities are accessible through everyone.

Nancy Pedersen, a board member for SIPA and participant in the Ostara celebration, said she had followed paganism for about five years after finding that the balance between all things, such as male and female, was what she was looking for from a religion.

"At the equinox, the days and the nights are the same length," Pedersen said. "It's all about balance and growth — going from cold to warm and dark

to light."

She also said pagans have eight seasonal celebrations throughout the year, each one led by a different person. Because of paganism's broad nature, she said rituals often focus on different methods of worship, such as goddesses or Celtic traditions.

Nelsen said there is no way to tell how many pagans are in the southern Illinois area because some practice secretly due to the fear that the surrounding community may not be accepting of that religious path.

"Sometimes paganism is misunderstood or feared or completely dismissed as false," she said. "You know we're not evil, we're not scary. We're normal people."

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SUPPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Slechticky's transformation, Harper got ready with her teammates. She said her only anxiety during warm-ups is for the team.

Kristi Yamaoka, a junior from Springfield studying psychology, said she does not get nervous for herself either, despite suffering injuries when she fell from a pyramid in an MVC Tournament game in March 2006.

Yamaoka said she tries to keep the focus on the team.

"Our goal isn't really to throw the most amazing stunts and try to do the hardest thing," she said. "It's to get our crowd involved."

The goal of the Saluki Shakers — the dance team that accompanies the cheerleaders during routines — is similar during Tournament action, said Shaker Karissa Wolfe.

She said the Shakers are traditionally more for time-out entertainment than pep, but they can also motivate and bring a lift to the players.

"The louder it is, the more ener-

getic they're going to be, so they play harder," Wolfe said.

Also attempting to up the noise level was the Saluki Pep Band.

Jessica Drake, who plays the mellophone, said the band takes pride in pumping up the fans.

"I haven't heard a band as loud as us," she said, screaming over the practice session behind her.

The sophomore from Charleston studying music education said the band has also helped the team in a more tangible way — by forcing opposing players to miss free throws.

She said NCAA officials told the band to stop heckling players and yelling "choke" during second round action in Columbus, Ohio.

"Every time we yell choke, they miss it," Drake said. "We're going to try it again tonight and see what happens."

Kansas shot 10 of 19 from the charity stripe Thursday, compared to the Salukis' 10 of 14.

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- 408 W. Cherry Court
- 409 W. Cherry Court
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- 401 W. College #5, 7
- 507 W. College #5-6
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- 503 S. Beveridge
- 507 S. Beveridge #5
- 405 W. Cherry
- 501 W. Cherry
- 405 W. Cherry Court
- 406 W. Cherry Court
- 407 W. Cherry Court
- 408 W. Cherry Court
- 409 W. Cherry Court
- 309 W. College #1,2,4
- 810 W. College
- 809 W. College
- 506 S. Dixon
- 115 S. Forest
- 303 S. Forest
- 109 Glenview
- 511 S. Hays
- 212 W. Hospital
- 611 W. Kennicott
- 610 S. Logan
- 409 E. Mill
- 413 W. Monroe

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- 503 S. Beveridge
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- 501 W. Cherry
- 401 W. College #1-4
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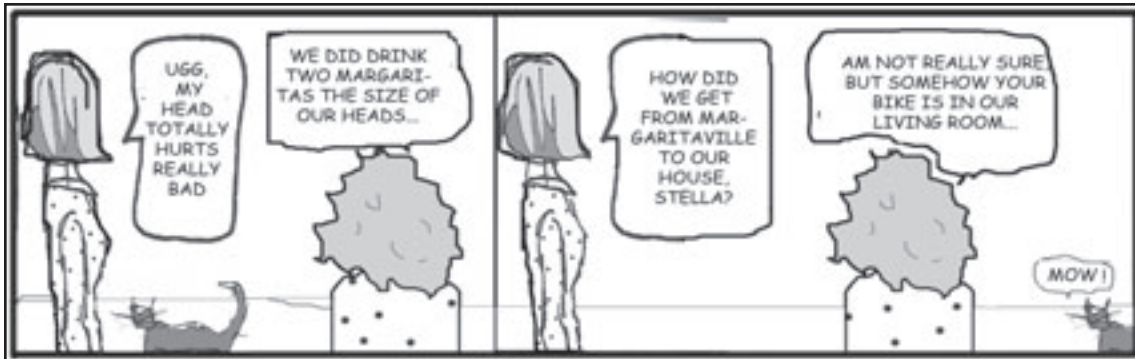
John and the Giraffe

by Marc Chyba



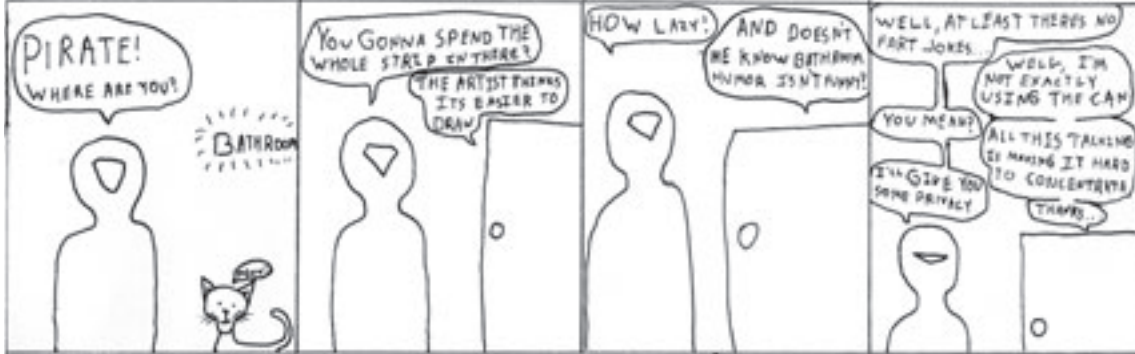
College and Cats

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Sudoku By Michael Mepham

		8	9	1		5		
					6		9	
6	9			2				
		1		5		4	7	
3								8
	7	9		1		2		
			7				4	5
	3		1					
	2		5		4	3		

Level: **1** 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Solution to Friday's puzzle

9	2	8	5	7	3	6	4	1
4	6	5	8	1	9	7	3	2
7	1	3	2	6	4	5	8	9
2	3	7	4	9	8	1	5	6
5	8	1	6	2	7	3	9	4
6	9	4	1	3	5	2	7	8
1	5	9	3	8	2	4	6	7
8	4	2	7	5	6	9	1	3
3	7	6	9	4	1	8	2	5

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By Linda Black

Today's Birthday (03-26-07). Home and family encourage your spiritual advancement this year. You'll make amazing discoveries in the privacy of your own head. You'll figure out answers to questions you didn't know you could ask. And, you'll do it all naturally, without psychedelic drugs. Be courageous.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 5 - The key to your success is hidden somewhere in your own subconscious. If you can remember where you put it, you'll triumph over all. Try meditation.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - The trouble is, what you're learning contradicts what you already knew. What's really true? Or does it depend on your point of view? Keep reading.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - It's still important for you to carefully think before you speak. You may not be in the habit, but it's a valuable one to acquire.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - You're liable to be frustrated. Your progress seems to be blocked. Don't worry, this little setback leads you to a brilliant new plan.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 5 - Let others carry the ball today. Let somebody else take the heat. You're about to have a brilliant insight that will help you achieve victory.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - Let your friends know what you need. You'd do anything for them.

Let them return the favors. Yes, there is something they can do for you, and if you ask, they will.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is an 8 - Don't offer suggestions unless specifically asked. Be polite, charming and attractive. Let somebody else lead you to success.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - Use what you're learning to advance your position. You're having fun, but not for the fun of it. This is about doing business.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - Careful shopping will be required to achieve your latest goals. This is not your favorite pastime, but you can do it well, if you must. Do the homework.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 6 - Let somebody else do the difficult stuff. You can supervise. That's your favorite job anyway, and you're really good at it.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is an 8 - Eureka! You've found it! The way to bring in the money to take your plan to the next phase is right there in front of you. Don't spend like a drunken sailor; exercise self-discipline.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - By about now, you will have had another blinding insight. Don't bother with trying to figure out how these things happen to you. Do believe in miracles, from first-hand experience.

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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

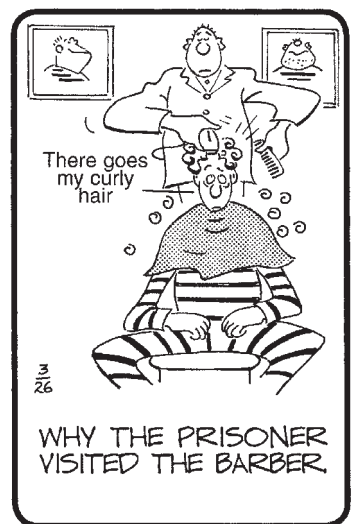
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NOLFE
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

NAGIT
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

GAROUC
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

DEKOOH
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

A: TO □ □ □ □ " □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GAUGE ABYSS POPLIN MAGPIE
Answer: Why the senator didn't submit his report — A "PAGE" WAS MISSING

TRACK AND FIELD

Individuals shine at Spring Classic

Men finish third and women take second

Josh Johnston
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The Saluki track team opened the outdoor season grabbing five regional qualifying marks.

This weekend, SIU hosted the annual Saluki Spring Classic at McAndrew Stadium. The Saluki men finished third scoring 82.5 points and the women finished second scoring 110.5 points.

This two-day event attracted teams from all over the Midwest including Illinois, Marquette, DePaul, Indiana State and Missouri State. Indiana State took first on the men's side scoring 142 points and first on the women's side scoring 122 points.

"It was a real good start for us overall," Saluki coach Connie Price-

Smith said. "We had regional performances and look for bigger and better things next week."

One of those regional performers was junior thrower Brittany Riley, who finished first in all three of her events.

On Friday, she qualified in the hammer throw with a 62.02 meter toss, a new McAndrew Stadium record.

On Saturday, Riley qualified for regionals in the discus, with a throw of 51.64 meters and also took first in the shot put with a throw of 14.22 meters.

Riley said qualifying for regionals so early in the season will not disrupt her focus on improving.

"Next week, I am going to try to do better at the hammer," Riley said. "I fouled on a 225-foot throw, so I'm going to get after it this week."

Senior triple jump competitor Antwon Stapleton was able to not only win the triple jump competition

with a jump of 15.76 meters, but he was also able to qualify for regionals.

"It feels good," Stapleton said. "There is always room to improve and get better and that's what we are going to do."

Junior thrower Brenton Siemons regionally qualified for the hammer and the shotput. Siemons took first in the shotput with a toss of 16.95 meters.

Sophomore long jump competitor Bianca Stuart, who took 14th at the NCAA Indoor National Championships, started the outdoor season qualifying for regionals with a first place jump of 6.1 meters.

The men won the 4x100 meter relay as freshman Brandon Love, junior Antoine Jennings, freshman Sammy Biggs and junior Derrick Fisher finished with a time of 41.76 seconds.

"They come out and they want to keep getting better and better," Price-Smith said. "Even though they hit the regional mark there is a descending order list-the higher on that list the better chance at qualifying for nationals."

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JOSEPH MIDKIFF ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Junior Brittany Riley prepares to break the McAndrew Stadium hammer throw record with a 62.02 meter toss on Saturday.

BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Weber coached the Salukis five seasons, beginning in the 1998-99 season and then leaving for Illinois following the 2002-03 campaign. Weber led SIU to the Sweet 16 in 2002, which sparked the run of six straight NCAA Tournament appearances for the Salukis.

Weber's record at SIU was 103-54, making him the sixth winning coach in school history. Lowery, however, is the fastest coach at SIU to reach the 75-win plateau, doing so in 99 games.

Iowa and Michigan, both in the Big Ten, have openings at the head coaching spot right now. Michigan fired Tommy Amaker, while Iowa's former head coach Steve Alford and his top assistant, Craig Neal, are now with the New Mexico Lobos.

The last two Saluki coaches have bolted for jobs in the Big Ten, and forward Randal Falker said SIU has to give Lowery what's coming to him.

"They going to have to pay the man, to be truthful," Falker said. "I think Matt Painter got like, seven years, \$9 million, and it takes coach Lowery seven years to make \$1 mil-

lion, with taxes.

"He's going to have to want to stay, too, but he likes us, so hopefully he'll stay."

After the Salukis' Sweet 16 loss to Kansas, Lowery did not comment on what it would take for SIU to retain him for the future, but did say he was confident in what the Salukis have heading into next season.

"You know, I'm the coach of Southern Illinois right now," Lowery said. "So that's the most important thing."

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BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Senior Jordan Powell threw five innings in SIU's 6-3 win Friday. Powell allowed only one earned run while the Saluki bullpen tossed four scoreless innings to seal the victory.

With Kelly behind the plate the entire weekend, the Saluki starters responded well.

Kelly also helped out his pitchers offensively combining to go 7-for-8 with a double and four RBI on Friday and Saturday.

Saluki coach Dan Callahan said he was pleased with the way the entire pitching staff threw this weekend, especially the bullpen because it takes pressure off the starters.

"(Kyle) Catto did a good job, (Ian) Reinhart did a good job and Bryant George did a good job," Callahan said. "Yesterday, Cody gave those guys a break and our bullpen was in great shape again today."

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Name: Erik Brown
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Hobbies: Video games, sports, reading
Why I donate plasma: "Not enough people donate. I don't think people realize, for two hours a week they can give someone a second chance at life."

Name: Tamara Ahrens
Occupation: Student
Hobbies: Reading, watching TV, hanging out with my friends, and just relaxing
Why I donate plasma: "I like to save lives, especially burn victims. Plus, the cash is a bonus, and it fills up my gas tank."

Saluki Insider

Kobe Bryant has been making history as he has scored 50+ points in four consecutive games. He dropped 50 points on the Hornets, 60 on Memphis, 50 on Minnesota, and 65 on Portland. Wilt Chamberlain is the only other player to do what Kobe has done. Is Kobe Bryant the MVP of the NBA?



MATT HARTWIG

matt_hartwig@dailyegyptian.com

"I do not always like the guy, but the truth is Kobe is just too good. He should be the MVP even with Dirk Nowitzki and Steve Nash playing excellent basketball. Kobe is the best player since Michael Jordan and may be better when he is done, he deserves to be recognized with an MVP award."

JEFF ENGELHARDT

de_editor@dailyegyptian.com



JOSH JOHNSTON

jstone59@siu.edu

"After these last couple of performances it is hard not to make a case for Kobe Bryant to be the MDP, Most Dominant Player of any sport in the modern era. I don't think I can name four other players on that team. My MVP vote is still going to Steve Nash, the Lakers can win without Kobe, the Suns can't win without Nash."

STATS OF THE WEEK

KERRI BLAYLOCK



SIU head softball coach Kerri Blaylock won her 300th game this weekend. Blaylock became the fastest coach in Missouri Valley Conference history to reach 300 wins, accomplishing the feat in eight years. The Salukis have been the winningest team in the MVC in Blaylock's eight years as coach.

16.08 168.43" 17-36-3 37

Do you have questions for the Saluki Banter that you want answered?
E-mail de_editor@dailyegyptian.com

SOFTBALL

Salukis sweep Sycamores

SIU improves to 8-0 in conference

Jeff Engelhardt
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Coach Kerri Blaylock hit the 300-win milestone over the weekend as the SIU softball team maintained its undefeated status in the Missouri Valley Conference.

The No. 19 Salukis (27-6, 8-0) swept a three-game road series against Indiana State Saturday that was punctuated by a 300th career win for Blaylock. She hit the mark faster than any other coach in the MVC by reaching the goal in eight seasons.

Blaylock said she credits the assistant coaches for doing a great job recruiting.

"If you don't get out and get the players, you're not going to win ballgames" Blaylock said. "I have been fortunate to coach a lot of good players. They play the game and the credit goes to them."

The Salukis shut out the Sycamores in the series finale on Sunday 2-0 as senior pitcher Cassidy Scoggins struck out seven to improve to 13-3 on the season.

SIU took the lead in the second inning when junior first baseman Lauren Hass had an RBI double.

Junior shortstop Becky Wegmann celebrated her birthday with a solo homerun in the fifth to secure the victory for SIU.

The fifth inning also included a single by freshman second baseman Alicia Garza, who extended her hitting streak to a team-high nine games.

SIU's 6-2 victory on Saturday was a rare comeback win. The Sycamores were able to jump out to a 2-0 lead in the first inning courtesy of a Katie Iocongeli two-run homer.

SIU senior pitcher Ashley Hamby didn't let the homerun get to her as she struck out 16 Sycamores in a row.

The Salukis were claimed the lead in the fourth when they displayed their power in a five-run inning. Sophomore catcher Jayme Wamsley started the offense with a solo home run, followed by a two-run homer from freshman outfielder Katie Wilson.

Wilson's eighth homerun of the season put her at ninth all-time at SIU for homeruns in a single season.

On Friday, the Salukis shut out Indiana State 7-0.

Junior first baseman Lauren Hass hit a solo homerun to start the inning and junior outfielder Tiffanie Dismore hit a grand slam. The slam prompted the Sycamores to make a pitching change, taking out preseason All-MVC pitcher Darcy Wood.

Dismore said she stayed calm at the plate and just wanted to help the team.

"Any time you get up to bat in a situation like that, you're hoping to put the ball in play," Dismore said. "I wanted to attack early and not get behind in the count and get my pitch to hit."

Scoggins allowed only two hits while striking out eight. The two shutouts for Scoggins in the series gave her 30 for her career.

Blaylock said she was pleased with her team's offense in the series.

"We really attacked the ball well on offense against a very good Indiana State pitcher," Blaylock said. "When you hit the ball hard good things are going to happen."

I have been fortunate to coach a lot of good players, they play the game and the credit goes to them.

— Kerri Blaylock
SIU head coach

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SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

March 31	Creighton	12 p.m.
March 31	Creighton	2 p.m.
April 1	Creighton	12 p.m.
April 3	SEMO	3 p.m.
April 3	SEMO	5 p.m.
April 6	Drake	6 p.m.
April 7	Drake	12 p.m.
April 7	Drake	2 p.m.

SPORTS BRIEFS

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Tsala Mvilongo continues wining streak

The Saluki women's tennis team hosted Indiana University-Purdue University on Saturday for the Salukis' first home match of the season.

The Salukis took down the Jaguars 6-1 and is now 6-4 this season.

Junior Sabine Tsala Mvilongo won her singles match against Jaguar senior Jessica Peterson 6-1, 7-6. Tsala Mvilongo teamed up with freshman Agata Skorupska to defeat Jaguar seniors Jessica Ritchie and Tessa Williams 8-6.

SIU was scheduled to play Evansville on Friday, but because of weather conditions, the match has been changed to 4 p.m. Friday in Carbondale.

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Travel/Study Mexico Summer 2007
The Social Architecture of Oaxaca, Mexico
Social Services, Design, and Hispanic Culture
August 5 - 18, 2007

Orientation Meeting
March 27, 2007
Quigley 140 7:00pm

Situated 230 miles southeast of Mexico City, Oaxaca is the political and economic center of the state of Oaxaca with signs of Spanish and French colonization are expressed in the social culture, art and architecture of the region.

The fourteen days in Oaxaca will have an interdisciplinary focus through field trips and excursions to architectural sites, observation of social service delivery systems in an historical context, and cultural encounters with the indigenous tribes of the region. Students will study at the archaeological sites at Mitla and Monte Alban, the home of Benito Juarez, the Santa Domingo Church and Anthropological Museum, the Rufino Tamayo Museum of Pre Hispanic Art, Coyotepec (traditional black pottery), San Martin (traditional wooden carvings), and Tlacotal (traditional weaving). Other activities include: Oaxacan art galleries, regional folk dances, home visits, and a trip to the Oaxacan Coast. Students will explore how the environment, including architecture and design, impacts behavior and the sustainability of the culture.

This is a 1 to 6 hour credit course open to all majors, undergraduate and graduate students. Social Workers and Health Educators who attend can apply for CEUs through Continuing Education and International Programs and Services. Participants will learn how architecture expresses human culture, social structure, economic and political status, and spiritual beliefs. ARC 444 is open to all majors and is identified as an Interdisciplinary University Core Curriculum course substitute for ARC 314I - Expression in Architecture.

For information on the program and application contact:
Dr. Mizneur Miah, Judith McFadden, or Paul D'Angelo, 618-453-1204, School of Social Work
hm2@siu.edu
Jon Devey 618-453-3774 jdevey@siu.edu School of Architecture,
<http://www.ssioc.edu/~socialwork/Oaxaca/home.htm>

U-Card Events for the Week of March 26-April 1

March 26:
Oxycontin & Prescription Drug Abuse
Student Health Center - 3:00-4:00pm (Rm 1111/112)
Educational Programs Category
Sponsored by: Student Health Center - 536-4441

March 28:
Celebrate Women
University Museum Auditorium, Faner Hall - 12:00 - 6:00pm
Educational Programs Category
Sponsored by: Office of the Provost & Vice Chancellor & Women's Studies - 453-5141

March 29:
"Bare Bones" II - Spring Workshop
Student Center Video Lounge - 6:00 - 8:00pm
Educational Programs Category
Sponsored by: Graduate School - 536-7791

Indian Woman Transitioning to Western Culture*
Dr. Nilanjana Bardhan
Student Center Ballroom A - 7:00pm
Lecture Series Category
Sponsored by: Multicultural Programs & Services - 453-5714

New Arts Jazztet
Shryock Auditorium - 7:30pm
Performing Arts Category
Sponsored by: School of Music - 536-8742

March 30:
SIUC Jazz Ensembles
Shryock Auditorium - 7:30pm
Performing Arts Category
Sponsored by: School of Music - 536-8742

***Women's History Month Event**

Watch this space every Monday for a partial listing of U-Card Events where you can collect a sticker. Complete your card by attending 8 events and be entered into our semesterly drawing!

To pick up your U-Card, stop by Student Development or visit www.siu.edu/~ucard. Check it out!



MEN'S BASKETBALL

SIU tries to retain Lowery

Players say coach needs to be offered more to stay

Scott Mieszala
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The Salukis' season had just come to an end, and departing senior guard Jamaal Tatum had one message for other schools trying to lure SIU coach Chris Lowery away from the university.

"I know a lot of schools are going to be trying to get him right now, but they are going to have to come with it if they want him for real, because he ain't going nowhere," Tatum said, and then pointed to SIU athletic director Mario Moccia, who was looking on in the back of the press conference. "Ain't that right, Mario?"

Moccia has said he will make the best offer he can to Lowery, so the coach can then make an informed decision when the time comes.

Lowery has a 78-28 record in three seasons at SIU, including 6-2 in Missouri Valley Conference Tournament games and 3-3 in NCAA Tournament games. He's also been named MVC coach of the year this season and in 2005.

This season, Lowery guided the Salukis to their best ranking (No. 11) and highest NCAA Tournament seed (No. 4) in school history. The Salukis also reached their third Sweet 16 in school history under Lowery in 2007.

"There's two ways of thinking about it. You could argue that we've had success with different coaches, but at the same time, and the view I take, winning is very difficult," Moccia said. "What we're doing is incredible and Chris has beat Creighton and other teams that have infinitely more resources, so I think it's critical that he stays."

"Now at the other end, it's certainly not the end of the world if he leaves, but that's why we want to do everything we can do to keep him because I think he's that valuable to the program."

At the same time, the other departing senior guard, Tony Young, said Lowery has



ANTHONY SOUFFLÉ ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU head coach Chris Lowery reacts to a botched play in second half action during a third round NCAA tournament game between Southern Illinois and University of Kansas at the HP Pavilion in San Jose, Calif.

For me, it's a lot more personal than it is basketball. He played a huge part in me becoming a person and a man that I am right now.

— Tony Young
senior guard

meant more to him than just a coach since he returned from Illinois, where he was an assistant coach for Bruce Weber during the 2003-04 season.

"For me, it's more personal than it is bas-

ketball. I mean, basketball-wise, he was the one that believed in me and told me what I could do," Young said. "He made me be a leader; he made me stop cussing at everybody. He played a huge part in me becoming

a person and a man that I am right now."

Lowery's predecessor with the Salukis, Matt Painter, coached one season at SIU, posting a 25-5 record in 2003-04 with a 17-1 record in the MVC. Painter then left for the Purdue Boilermakers to be an associate head coach under the assumption he would take the helm when Purdue coach Gene Keady retired. Painter signed a six-year contract and is now the head coach of the Boilermakers.

See BASKETBALL, Page 14

BASEBALL

Saluki pitching guns down Redbirds



JAKE LOCKARD ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Adam Hills narrowly escapes Illinois State first baseman Jesse Griswold as he slides into first base. The Salukis defeated the Redbirds 9-4.

Kelly continues to deliver offensively going 2-for-5

Matt Hartwig
DAILY EGYPTIAN

In its Missouri Valley Conference opening series, the SIU baseball team ripped through the Redbirds for its seventh win in a row.

The Salukis' pitching staff allowed 10 runs during the three-game series as they finished off the sweep with a 9-4 win against Illinois State Sunday afternoon.

Junior pitcher Shawn Joy pitched seven innings and allowed three runs en route to his second win of the season.

Joy said he wasn't pleased with the way he finished the game but was happy with the overall effectiveness of his start.

"I didn't have my changeup early but my curveball was working pretty well for me," Joy said. "After the home run in the third, I settled down and got into a pretty good rhythm."

The Salukis (19-6, 3-0) led 4-3 after Joy

departed in the top of the eighth inning.

With the bases loaded in the bottom half of the eighth, an RBI single by freshman center fielder Aaron Roberts gave SIU a 5-3 lead.

On the following play, junior right fielder Adam Hills walked, scoring freshman shortstop Michael Finigan to make it 6-3 before sophomore catcher Mark Kelly doubled home a pair of runs to increase the Salukis' lead to 8-3.

Kelly went 2-for-5 while driving in three runs. He also upped his batting average to .481.

He said he's trying to do whatever he can to help the team.

"I've been on a hot streak but hopefully I can keep this going for as long as I can," Kelly said. "My focus has been getting hits when I'm to bat and driving in runs when I can."

In Saturday's 5-3 win over the Redbirds (9-12, 0-3) sophomore Cody Adams improved to 7-0 this season after he pitched a complete game.

See BASEBALL, Page 14