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Daily Egyptian Staff

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Hemp bill up in smoke

Illinois House rejects plan that would allow SIUC to research hemp

Alessa Aguilar
Daily Egyptian

A bill allowing the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and SIUC to research potential uses of industrial hemp for Illinois farmers was rejected Tuesday by the Illinois House of Representatives 69-24.

That number was insufficient for the bill to pass, but bill sponsor Rep. I. Ronald LaFaver, D-Frederic, said he plans to reintroduce it early next year.

The Industrial Hemp Act, passed by the Senate 49-9 in the spring, called for the two universities to look into the viability of industrial hemp as an alternative crop.

Tony Young, associate dean for research of the College of Agriculture, said SIUC was willing to do the research, but it would have been very costly.

Federal agencies would have required strict guidelines for fences, surveillance, etc.

"With financial assistance, we would have done the research," Young said. "Hemp has potential for Illinois, especially as an alternative crop."

"But there are other crops in Illinois with fibers that can be used for industrial uses."

Hemp fibers can be used for cloth, paper, oils, food products and building materials.

According to the North American Industrial Hemp Council, hemp can yield three to eight dry tons of fiber per acre — four times what an average wheat can produce.

The Illinois House debated the bill throughout the spring and postponed the legislation to the special fall veto session this week.


U.S. Senator Dick Durbin came to SIUC Tuesday night, highlighting the Electoral College and weighing his plans for the future, such as running for governor or staying in the Senate.

Durbin, D-Ill., and nearly 50 others gathered at a campaign fundraiser at the Student Center, where as much as $10,000 was raised. Durbin has not decided which campaign the money will go to.

"I'm trying to figure out what my future is going to be like," Durbin said. "I love serving in the Senate, and I've been urged by many of you to think about some other kind of service, which I'll definitely seriously consider. But, I'll wait until the first of the year to make my decision."

Jerry Prince, chairman of the Democratic Party of Hamilton County, said he believes Durbin decides to run for governor, it will produce tremendous changes for Illinois, which has not had a Democrat in the governor's seat since 1975.

"Dick Durbin is a real exceptional person. He is a formidable candidate," Prince said. "I personally would like to see him run for governor."

However, Prince said the Senate might be tough to give up for Durbin, especially now that the Senate may be evenly divided with Democrats and Republicans.

Durbin, a native of East St. Louis, said he wants to wait and see what the new Senate looks like before he decides. He said he has not accomplished a lot now that the Senate is split down the middle. Also, he said it will be interesting to see how Democratic和Republican leaders will act in the Senate.

"We are so excited about the fact that it appears we'll have a 50-50 Senate. It's beyond anyone's wildest dreams that that might happen," Durbin said. "If it does, it's going to give us an opportunity to push through a lot of things that are important, like education, healthcare, the minimum wage and things that have really been shoved aside for too long."

Durbin said he believes the Electoral College is a "constitutional dinosaur" that should be abolished, because it has fundamental flaws that make it work against our democratic system.

"Whomever is the next president has a tough job to handle. It's George Bush, he lost the popular vote, he won the electoral vote. It'll produce some really conflicting circumstances," Durbin said. "If it's Al Gore, the Republicans will say it was taken away at the last minute."

Durbin's host for the evening, former Sen. Paul Simon, director of the Institute of Governmental Affairs at SIUC, agreed that the Electoral College does not have a place in the modern world.

Simon left the reception early to make an appearance on MSNBC with Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, to talk about the current election fiasco.

While he believes Hutchison will probably disagree with him, he said he would like to see the Electoral College abolished.

"I think if somebody gets the majority vote, they should be president," Simon said. "But, I don't think the system is going to be changed."

Durbin will continue his SIUC visit in Babcock State and Local Government class today.

Saviors from the Sky

Matt Duffy, a senior in marketing from New Haven, examines the cockpit of an Arch medical helicopter flown in for Peggy Wilkins' Advanced First Aid class Wednesday morning.

Anne Marie Tavela
Daily Egyptian

Falling from the sky like a giant yellow-orange "insect, a helicopter hovered in mid-air momentarily before making its vertical descent onto State Field Tuesday. With its whistling wind that whipped golden leaves across the field and onto spectators, the landing was part of an education demonstration done for an advanced first-aid class from ARCH, a St. Louis medical transfer unit based in Sparta.

James Sheffstall, Sparta ARCH education coordinator, instructed the students on the proper ways to prepare a medical helicopter landing sites and to move the injured victims to the helicopters for transport.

One of the main points Sheffstall stressed was to approach the helicopter head-on and to avoid the tail propeller at all times when the helicopter's engines are on.

"It's running and I walk under it — and I was 6 (feet)," 1 inch tall, I'll probably be 5 feet," Sheffstall said, clad in a bright blue paramedic flight suit.

"The landing was originally scheduled for 10:15 a.m. However, the helicopter was on its way from Sparta when it was called for an emergency Arch was able to dispatch an alternative helicopter from Cape Girardeau, Mo., which arrived about 10:40 a.m. for the demonstration," Sheffstall said.

The helicopter was one of the smaller used in medical transport. It is fitted to capacity with blankets and medical supplies. Because of its size it is limited to safely transporting one patient. ARCH also has larger helicopters that are capable of transporting more than one patient or a patient and a family member.

Sheffstall said the focus of the demonstration is to educate students, but it also gives them the opportunity to interact with people in a non-crisis situation. "It gets us in touch with the community," he said, adding he hopes to get the students to hear the throb of the helicopter, which keeps its engines running for about three minutes after landing.

He said it is important to teach students proper techniques, while getting them excited about the profession. "It's addictive for me," Sheffstall said. "I've been in it for four years and I love flying."

Guided by a human perimeter formed by students, the helicopter landed the first time before setting down in the grassy landing pad.

Jason Billings, a senior in administration of justice from Carbondale, was one of the students who was able to climb into the helicopter and learn about what goes on inside.

"With financial assistance, we will have a 50-50 Senate. It's going to give us an opportunity to push through a lot of things that are important, like education, healthcare, the minimum wage and things that have really been shoved aside for too long," Durbin said.

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**USG may appoint election commissioner tonight**

Summer funding resolution back at the table, despite complaints of possible loopholes  
**CHRISTIAN HALE  
DAILY EAGLE**

After nearly two months of discussion, Undergraduate Student Government may appoint a presidential candidate or the Senate to be the Carbondale Convention Bureau and USG Election Commissioner at tonight’s meeting.

The summer funding comes after USG was criticized for studying education practices last spring. Oster has spoken publicly about the issue, which has been raised by the faculty and students at the upcoming elections.

Oster has met with the USG Internal Affairs Committee and received unanimous support from committee members. Earlier fears concerning a possible conflict of interest if Oster held a commission position and his IGC position simultaneously were examined, said USG Senate Valée Chávez, who is also a member of the IAC.

Oster has been waiting for an appointment for almost two months.

If Oster doesn’t think Maris is the absolute best person for the job, the fact remains that he has to do a good job,” Oster said.

While Oster and student accounting manager are trying to create an environment of discussion, Oster has met with the students and held a meeting with the student leaders and USG members.

“Ober has already put forth a lot of effort and has shown that he has the heart to do the job,” Oster said. “If he is appointed, he’ll have a jump start on the elections and that would be a good thing.”

...continued from page 6...
I was a teenage Santa Claus. Out of school, out of work and out of money, I was a prime candidate for the glittered trailer beneath the town water tower. Santa house from New Jersey—dog-in-a-trailer and I—from the affordable local retailer.

The head of the chamber of commerce back home knowing. I was desperate for income, so I decided to earn some extra income by working as a street vendor. I was a young man, but I had a dream to make it big and be a success at something. I decided to sell hot dogs and roasted chestnuts.

Besides, I knew I had to do something. I was living on my own in my trailer and I had no parents to rely on. I needed to make some money to eat and buy clothes.

I sold hot dogs and roasted chestnuts at the local park and I did well. I was able to buy a new trailer and a car, and I was able to pay my rent and buy some clothes.

I was able to save some money and I decided to invest it in a business. I bought a pizza shop and I was able to make a good living.

But I never forgot my roots. I always remember where I came from and I try to help other people who are in the same situation as I was. I am proud of my work and I am proud of my family. I am happy with my life and I am grateful for the opportunities I have been given.
**U. of Southern California finally gains custody of horse mascot**

**Amanda Garaci**

**Daily Trojan**

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES - The trademark controversy over the name of University of Southern California's mascot, Traveler, seems to be coming to an end Thursday when Petri Saukko, the horse's owner, decided the rights to Traveler's name to the university.

"Traveler has a permanent home, and it's USC where he belongs," Saukko said.

It was an abrupt yet conciliatory conclusion to a sometimes bitter dispute over the future of the Traveler name and tradition. Both sides expressed happiness with the outcome, which university officials called a "win-win" situation.

As part of the deal, Saukko is to receive a portion of the revenues from USC sales of Traveler merchandise. Saukko will also return the horse to the university, the original owner of the name — a point that was never disputed — and her contract with the university was extended two years, through 2004.

Saukko was the university's contract Wednesday, but said she did not sign it until Thursday in honor of the birthday of her late husband, Rick Saukko, the original rider and owner of Traveler I, who brought the tradition to USC in 1961.

"I wanted to make sure he was part of it, because it was such a great part of him," she said. "For him, there was no other place for Traveler."

Michael Jackson, vice president of Student Affairs, said he thought "it is simply the fiber crop that will best grow in the Corn Belt."

Breshenmeyer said, "It is simply the fiber crop that will best grow in the Corn Belt."
Unsolicited credit cards causing confusion

Faculty, staff report unsolicited credit cards passing themselves off as University approved

Ryan Trogt
Daily Egyptian

SIUC Controller Jeff Holder is warning employees to be aware of a recent wave of solicitations by credit card companies that have printed SIU on the card or application.

The solicitations are focusing on SIUC faculty and staff. They have been reported by three or four departments on campus, and Holder believes there may be more.

The cards were issued by department stores, bookstores and credit card companies but Holder did not specify which stores in particular were sending the pseudo cards.

Holder said the confusion is that the University has its own credit card for employees called the Procurement Card, or P-Card, and some recipients may before the other cards are also SIUC-supported.

"The P-Card is the only credit card issued by the University and that's the official University credit card," Holder said.

About 1,000 P-Cards are being used for travel, expenses, supplies or any variety of University-approved expenses by SIUC employees, Holder said. The P-Card allows users to obtain goods or services without any out-of-pocket expenses.

Holder said the impostor cards began surfacing about four weeks ago when the Accounting Department received the impostor cards and called Holder's office.

It is not believed that the companies intentionally attempted to deceive customers, but the confusion has caused problems.

"They are trying to solicit business just like everybody else," Holder said.

Memos have been sent to all deans, directors and faculty and staff warning them about the cards and Holder has advised anyone who receives one to be aware that they will be responsible for any charges incurred. Anyone who received an impostor card is asked to call the SIUC Controllers Office.

INFORMATION

Jeff Holder, SIUC Controllers Office
536-6616

LIGHTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The children were occupied with games such as mixing reindeer food. The children were allowed to mix oats, cracked corn, sunflower seeds and candy cane pieces to spread on their lawns. This will attract the reindeer to their houses and give them something to eat while Santa dominates gifts.

The workshop, which is located in the "First Heat Building" at Pennsylvania and 10th streets, runs until Dec. 31. The fair will not only cater to children but will also be an event parents can enjoy. The Governor's Mansion will be decorated and historical tours will be offered.

The Coca-Cola Bottling Plant will offer similar festivities.

The children kept their attention fixed on meeting Santa Claus and telling him what they wanted for Christmas. Whitehead listened and humored the children when they asked for Barbie merchandise and PlayStation 2.

"It's very nerve-racking," said Conley. Whitehead did such a great job portraying St. Nicholas, he could have been the real thing.

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What Does It Take To Get You In The Christmas Spirit?

It's no secret that for many, Christmas is one of the more depressing times of the year. It is a time to step away from the busyness of life and reflect. Many don't like what they see, in themselves or their families.

During his life, Jesus spent much of his time with those who felt on the fringe—outcasts, people who were disconnected from family and society. His message to them: "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." He will respond if you sincerely seek him. And the feeling of warmth, freedom and being known won't wear off in the morning.

Questions or Comments:

Steve 351-7901
Ginger, 351-7664
sugerussade@hotmail.com
everystudent.com

Sponsored by Compass Creek School for Christ
The SIUC trip to Cuba that was postponed on Nov. 7 is "temporarily off," said Paul Simon, director of the Public Policy Institute. The trip was scheduled to start Nov. 7 and include 33 students and 41 others, including SIUC students and staff. The group was originally scheduled to have crossed over on Nov. 7 and had beena surprise at the force of the wind the helicopter produced. If you think rape can't happen to you, you're in for a real education.

Because statistics show that a college-aged woman is vulnerable to rape, very often by someone she knows.

A fellow student. Even a date.

And that's a crime. Because anytime a woman is forced to have sex against her will it's a felony.

Rape. It's a subject no one should take lightly.

Rape Crisis Services of the Woman's Center
24 hour crisis hotline 522-2824 or 1-800-334-2984

SIUC's trip to Cuba still uncertain

University officials look into a spring rescheduling

MATT BRENNAN
DAILY EDITION

The SIUC trip to Cuba that was postponed on Nov. 7 is "temporarily off," said Paul Simon, director of the Public Policy Institute. This trip was to have been Simons and about 40 others, including SIUC students and staff. The group was originally scheduled to have crossed over on Nov. 7 and had been forced to have sex against her will. If you think rape can't happen to you, you're in for a real education.

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SIUC Student Center
Scheduling an event this Spring for your Registered Student Organization

Beginning Monday, December 4, 2000, Student Center Scheduling will take place in the Student Center. Scheduling offices are on the 2nd floor of the Student Center. Prior to scheduling, all Student Development must have a Student Development number. For more info, call 536-4633.
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Elaborate costumes, whips and chains; S&M is all the rage

Erik Gallagher
DAILY CALIFORNIA

(UWIRE BERKELEY, Calif.)- Local professionals, writers and doctors by day abandon slips and smocks for leather and lace at night. The scene is loud, raucous and decadent, exactly how people want it to be, according to organizers.

Bondage shows are very popular among a certain age group. A few minutes ago in the audience, a woman in a black leather miniskirt and a corset is looking towards the stage, eager to see what will happen next. The audience is also made up of local munches, who are friends of bondage enthusiasts, and people who have never participated in bondage before.

While some may feel alcohol and drugs are necessary to lower such inhibitions behind, they will not find any chemical substances at the party, says Richard.

The bondage community is a very open community, says Richard. Participants need to be in control and aware of their actions in order to guarantee safety. Druggies manipulate with various drugs and condoms, handing them out to all participants.

For the most part, the parties are centered around play, not actual sex - most people are just for fun when they get home, says August, "inhabitants" of Phil, both of whom attended Berkeley's munch last month.

"If it's not consensual, it's abuse," says Phil. "It's not safe, then it's being done wrong.

August, an upbeat and talkative local hairsplitter, says she has been active in the bondage lifestyle for 10 years. Phil and August met at a party play party and have been together for six years.

"We live the lifestyle 24-7," says Phil. August says "It's not safe, then it's being done wrong.

Among the dominant "switch" partners, one of whom takes the submissive role, is a "lifestyle" baby. She takes on the dominant role to please her partner, and she says that she enjoys being tied up.

Participants are tied up, whipped, chained and blindfolded.

"It's not like a real job, it's like a fantasy," says August. August says that people might have taken a look at the party, but they will not find anything that is real.

While some may think of bondage as being dangerous or ungodly, there is a virtual dictionary of terms for "switch" partners. The "top" gift of physical sensations and control and the submissive receives the bottom gift of emotional and vocal feedback.

"Switch" partners move between various roles at will and obey their partners.

Berkeley munch meetings are all about sharing knowledge and information. To begin the evening, attendees mingle before the actual meeting starts - socializing and getting to know each other.

People tend to enter the scene in their late 20s or early 30s. The bondage community is a community of people who have never tried bondage before and want to take a walk on the wild side.

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Our Hacker is a complete beginner, he needs to learn a lot. He needs to learn much faster than the other students, so he asked me to look into the possibility of hiring a Hacker from his place. We need to have this done within the next week or two.

CASHIER AT BP, PF, and reply, 500-520 between 7am & 6am.

GENERAL STAFF NEEDED, evenings, week-ends, 7am-9pm, Kelly's Bar & Grill. Call 245-3750.

Graduate Assistant, spring semester 2001. Student Hold Housing, Winyah Center, Veterans' Administration, Office of Long Term Disability, and presentation ad. Apply and receive interviews at the Graduate Office. 529-3145. Winyah Center, 820 W. University, Carbondale, 6-835-2907.

BUSINESS MANAGER/ADMINISTRATION needed for new, growing and developing business. Must be available for interviews early next semester. Contact 529-3145.

HOUSE MANAGER FOR CLA home or students, paid, good working conditions, on-site residence available. Call 549-8000.

MAIS, U.E.V., 2 bedroom, $300, 1-5 people, 925-1214 E. College Ave.

CRIME, CAFE, 1 bedroom, all utilities included, parking, 529-2401.

Angel's, 925-1214 E College Ave.

CLIFF HOUSE, 2 bedroom, $800, 1-3 people, 529-2401.

WILDWOOD HOUSE, 2 bedroom, $1000, 1-3 people, 529-2401.

CRIME, CAFE, 1 bedroom, all utilities included, parking, 529-2401.

HELP WANTED

Teaching Assistant, Carbondale Community High School, 1-3 people, 529-2401.

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2 Bedroom mobile home on 3 acres in Bunker Hill, $425/month, 547-7967.

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Rental CIC, must be 21, 1-800-561-6443.


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**COMICS**

**On On Catboy by Nathan Stiffler**

**Shoe Me Now by James Kerr**

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**Doonesbury by Garry Trudeau**

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**Mixed Media by Jack Ohman**

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**Helen, Sweetheart of the Internet by Peter Zale**

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**Shoe by Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins**

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**Daily Crossword**

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Not valid with any other offer. Customer pays sales tax. Offer valid until 12/31/00. Valid only at 602 E. Grand, Carbondale.
Dana Morrell starts the 200-yard backstroke at the Indiana invitational swim meet in Bloomington, Nov. 17-19. That day came exactly at the midpoint of the June Stane Parrish just playing a try, trying to get at the clock. To the nicks of his game.

The Wildkats, though... That day came exactly in the middle of the 23-game Stane Parish era. His Wildkats had two victories in the 16 zones that preceded that day zero in the 16 short followed.

Four of the SIU relay teams placed in the top eight as the 400 relay relay relay team of Radostin, sophomore Amy Legare, Erickson and Meckler took fifth; the 400 freestyle relay team of Radostin, senior Nicole Michalichis, junior Carrie Haneshal and Meckler took sixth; the 200 freestyle relay team of Meckler, Radostin, Michalichis, senior Emily Romand took seventh; and the 800 freestyle relay team of Meckler, junior Carly Heipp, junior Ashley Legner, Erickson and Meckler took eighth.

Even though the Wildcats have the talent to compete with the big-name schools, they seem to be a little overeweighed by them.

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Even though the Wildcats have the talent to compete with the big-name schools, they seem to be a little overeweighed by them.

"We had some people swim some outstanding swims," Hawkins said. "If we're going to come to mind as someone who really swim well, it's Dana Morrell. She swim really well. We have our ups and downs like any meet, but it was good. I was pleased."
Four Saluki football players named All-Gateway

SIU sophomore running back Tarek Knuesse earned a first team All-Gateway distinction, while senior defensive lineman Travis Twito picked up first-team honors on the defensive side of the ball.

Knuesse led the Salukis offense all season, finishing with 1,257 yards rushing on 220 carries. The senior also scored a team-high 14 touchdowns this season. Twito helped anchor a much improved Saluki defense recording 15 tackles for losses this season, which matched his total from the previous season.

Senior linebacker Teddy Simic and junior defensive back John Archibald were second team All-Gateway selections, as the duo totaled 113 tackles and 20 tackles for losses, respectively. Archibald was fourth in the conference in sacks with eight, just ahead of Knuesse, who finished with seven.

Senior defensive lineman Brian Bousien, senior linebacker Dante Standall and junior defensive lineman Larnes Matheny all earned honorable mention recognition.

Two Gateway playoff teams ousted in opening round

Both Western Illinois University and SIU-St. Louis were knocked out of the I-AA football playoffs in Saturday's opening round games.

Western Illinois, the No.1 team in the Gateway conference, was upset 27-7 against Lafayette University in Missouri. The loss officially ended the Leathernecks season for the third straight year.

Youngstown State dropped a close contest 13-10 to the University of Missouri-St. Louis, a team that entered the season well below .500.

Western sweeps Gateway

Both Western Illinois University and SIU-St. Louis swept the Gateway in the opening round of the playoffs, staged in the teams' home stadiums.

Western Illinois topped SIU-St. Louis with a 27-7 victory, while SIU-St. Louis defeated Western Illinois 10-3 in Richmond, Va., to end the Leathernecks' season.

MEN'S SWIMMING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

higher-ranked programs as they won seven events and took second in seven others.

"We're very happy with our team," coach Marc Men, talking first in these individual events and was part of two winning relay teams. "When you're not in the job, you worked really hard all summer," Walker said. "He worked to Olympic trials and I've always said that you put in a great summer, not only training, but also competing." He also said that the team went out and the ground running for your college season. Men's work was... for it and it really was the... Western Illinois won 200 yard individual medley, the 100 and 200-yard backstroke, and the 200 and 400-yard medley relays.

The other winners for SIU were freshman Derek Heston in the 100-yard freestyle and 400-yard medley relay and senior Tom Utovszki, Brian and Bryan Elam, who opened the meet by winning in 34 seconds to win.

Also competing for Northwestern at the Saluki was senior Anna Allred. The director of Kate Jones decided that the right ones to start the team were the top ten performers of the season. The Saluki won the team title.

Jeffrey named permanent men's tennis coach

After conducting a three-month national search for a new IAA men's tennis coach, the SIU system president, Director Kate Jones decided that the right ones to start the team were the top ten performers of the season. The Saluki won the team title.

Jeffrey joined the Saluki family in 1992, when he was named to the MVC All-Scholar team.

Two named to MVC All-Scholar volleyball team

"Two members of the SIU volleyball team have been recognized by the Missouri Valley Conference with the MVC All-Scholar and MVC All-Academic honors," SIU head coach Matt Tharp said.

Sophomore outside hitter Kaitie "Kev" Wolf and junior middle blocker Jenny Perel were named to the Honorable Mention team for the second straight year.

The 12 returning players from last season have averaged 3.526 grade point average, with 10 of them being named to the Dean's List last spring.

TENNIS

Tenacious veterans return for third season

"We're excited to have these four veterans back, considering they're the key players on the team," SIU head coach Matt Tharp said.

"It's going to be a tough game for us," Opp said. "They're very fundamentally sound. They play hard. They're not weak."
Salukis show big dogs who's boss

SIU men's swimming and diving team earns respect at Northwestern Invitational

The participants were a top-20 Southeastern Conference team, a powerhouse Big Ten team, a tough Big Twelve team and little old SIU. This lineup was for the Northwestern Invitational which took place Nov. 17-19 in Evanston.

By no means were the Salukis a favorite in this tournament with the likes of the University of South Carolina, the University of Missouri and host Northwestern University.

Someone obviously forgot to tell the Salukis they were the underdog because they came out on fire and finished just 45 points shy of beating Northwestern and taking the institutional title.

"I'm very impressed with the performances of our guys, very pleased with where we are in our season," said SIU head coach Rick Walkcr. "I think it's a big boost to our overall program. The hard work has paid off for the guys and that's always good to see."

SIU finished with 828 points, which was behind Northwestern (872) but ahead of South Carolina (652) and Missouri (539).

"It was three very big schools we swam against," said junior Corne Spath. "South Carolina is No. 18 or No. 19 in America and we thought it's big boost to our overall program. The hard work has paid off for the guys and that's always good to see." The Salukis proved they were not only a good, but better than the

Lady Salukis struggle in Indiana

The SIU women's swimming team placed sixth at Indiana invitationale

The SIU women's swimming team went to Bloomington, Ind., hoping to show its stuff against a top-20 Southeastern Conference team and its other two opponents on the upcoming road swing - Southeast Missouri State or the University of Illinois-Chicago (Dec. 9).

After these consecutive home wins to start the season, the Salukis now turn to the road for three consecutive road contests, starting with an intimidating -- even without the General on hand -- jaunt to Assembly Hall.

"I've seen good teams go into Assembly Hall and get their butts kicked," Weber said. "This will be a good learning experience for us, if we really are a good team." The national exposure should be great. The actual game could be just the same. But Bruce Weber would rather not fret too much about Saturday.

With just three days remaining until the SIU men's basketball team clashes with Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind., the third-year Saluki head coach wants to make it clear that Saturday's game will not make or break the season.

Weber has tried to downplay the game to his players, reminding them that there is a lot of basketball left this season after Saturday. And while he has every intention of his team improving in 4-0 for the year, he wants them to keep cool and play loose.

"I don't want the season to end -- win or lose -- at that game. Our players have kind of been disgusted with how I've presented the game. A loss on the road to Indiana would not be nearly as damaging as an upset, if for the all-important RPI ratings go, as a loss to these two opponents on the upcoming road swing -- Southeast Missouri State or the University of Illinois-Chicago (Dec. 9)."

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