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Daily Egyptian Staff

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COLUMN PAGE 6: Gus Bode says have a happy holiday.

VOLUME 95, No. 63

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8 PAGES

## Coach left to pay for cancer treatment

Insurance won't cover costs

Ryan Voyles  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
VOYLES@SALUDU

SIU baseball coach Dan Callahan said he did not think much of a black spot on his lower lip he found about eight years ago. At the persistence of his wife, he got it looked at.

It was not just a spot.

Callahan was diagnosed with neurotropic melanoma, a very rare type of skin cancer. Even though he had the spot and part of his lower lip removed, the cancer not only remained, but it spread.

"In about 2006, Dan was complaining of a toothache, so we went to the doctor," said his wife Stacy Callahan. "He took some antibiotics first, but when he got a CAT scan, it revealed a tumor in his right mandible. It was devastating."

Last October, doctors at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis began administering a three-drug cocktail to treat his condition. Dan Callahan said he would not complain about his physical condition.

"I'm a person who can put up with a little discomfort and pain," he said. "But when it comes to my family and travel, it has become an inconvenience."

He said he chooses not to know everything about his condition.

"I don't think I know all that is going on. I've chosen to be uneducated about it, and that is the way I prefer it," he said. "I'm told where to go and how a certain procedure might or might not work. I'm as educated as I think I need to be."

Among the drugs in the treatment is Avastin, a next-generation anti-cancer drug approved in 2004 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The producer of the drug, Genentech, said it is one of the



JULIA RENDLEMAN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU head baseball coach Dan Callahan advises Brock Harding, a sophomore infielder, about his grades during baseball practice Tuesday. Callahan is undergoing treatment for a rare and serious form of cancer — neurotropic melanoma — at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Because the medicine used in Callahan's chemotherapy is considered experimental, his insurance will not cover the extremely expensive treatment. "I'm carrying on like I'll be here for next week and next month. I plan on coaching and traveling with the team next year," said Callahan.

most administered cancer drugs in the world, with sales of \$3.5 billion last year alone.

However, the drug is not cheap. A single vial of Avastin costs \$13,686.

Stacy Callahan said her husband has undergone six treatments involving Avastin.

The cost: \$82,116.

Despite being cleared for breast and lung cancer, Avastin is still considered an experimental drug. Because of this, many insurance companies will not cover its cost.

The latest national health care bills would not change this. It states any "biological drug" would need to be on the market for 12 years before it could be covered.

"They told me the insurance would not cover it, so I said I would just pay it ourselves," Stacy Callahan said. "Then they told me how much it was."

She said the community support so far has been outstanding for the family. She said friends and families have helped raise money for

the treatment, and the SIU Athletic Department has been doing everything in its power to help them.

But Stacy Callahan said she does not want to be treated any differently.

"We just want to live our lives every day — like a normal family," she said.

Athletic Director Mario Moccia said the Athletic Department would do everything it could to help the coach with what he needs.

"We'll put our heads together and find out the best way to help Cal

and his family with this," Moccia said.

The Callahan story is used by politicians as they fight for health care reform.

Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., has taken to the Senate floor to fight against insurance companies and what he perceives to be their bottom-line only approach to helping people.

Please see CALLAHAN | 2

*"We just want to live our lives every day — like a normal family"*

— Stacy Callahan  
Dan Callahan's wife

## Former colleagues say Cheng is big gain for SIUC

Cheng named new chancellor Tuesday

Stille T. Smith  
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Administrators at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee are said to see Rita Cheng go, but confident she will make an outstanding chancellor at SIUC.

Cheng, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at Wisconsin-Milwaukee, was named SIUC's next chancellor in a press conference Tuesday.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Chancellor Carlos Santiago said he had mixed emotions about Cheng accepting the chancellor position.

"Rita has made increasingly significant contributions to the success of UWM over more than two decades," Santiago said. "We are losing an outstanding administrator and leader, and I am losing an insightful adviser and ally."

Pending approval from the SIUC Board of Trustees at the Dec. 10 meeting, Cheng will begin her duties as chancellor June 1.

Tom Luljak, vice chancellor for university relations and communications at UWM, said Cheng was an outstanding provost.

"I am confident that she will be a wonderful addition to your campus community," Luljak said. "She's also

a very good leader. She has inspired those working alongside her to do their very best."

Luljak said Cheng always did her job to her best ability, which caused everyone around her to work harder.

At Tuesday's press conference, SIUC President Glenn Poshard said Cheng shone above the other candidates to be named to the position.

"(The chancellor search committee) had about 39 candidates from all over the country, and eventually through that process they whittled that down to two exceptional candidates," Poshard said. "Dr. Cheng was my choice."

Poshard said Cheng has shown great leadership during tough economic times and that showed him that she is ready to be the next chancellor.

*"We are losing an outstanding administrator and leader, and I am losing an insightful adviser and ally."*

— Carlos Santiago  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Chancellor

Luljak said Cheng would be a huge gain for SIUC.

"Losing her is something we will have to deal with, because she has performed so well in so many different ways," Luljak said. "From my standpoint, SIUC is very fortunate to have her."

Luljak said it would be very difficult for Wisconsin-Milwaukee to find a replacement for Cheng.

Cheng beat out Barbara Couture, senior vice chancellor for Academic

Affairs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Couture was named New Mexico State University president Thursday.

Luljak said Cheng was outstanding in every aspect of her job and showed strong leadership.

"She has been absolutely essential to the tremendous growth in degree programs that UWM has offered or currently offers," Luljak said. "She has really helped steer a number of new programs through the UWM system."

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# Festival unites SIUC artists

Travis Bean  
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Nick Yeck-Stauffer said he wanted to throw a party to help the university.

Yeck-Stauffer, an alumnus with a filmmaking degree, decided to create an event that would unite community artists while he worked for SIUC University Communications. "All Together Now," which started on Wednesday, will have its final event at 6 p.m. today in Ballroom D of the Student Center.

Yeck-Stauffer said his goal was to bring different art forms together to help people realize they can create something new.

"You have your photography students and your film students who both do a lot of the same things, but very rarely do they collaborate," Yeck-Stauffer said. "I knew a lot of these people, so I figured I could just have an excuse to get my friends together."

Of the numerous projects going on, Yeck-Stauffer said there would be open gallery time for anyone to show off their art, projection time for student films, an open microphone for performances and various art workshops.

Megan Oestry, a senior from Carbondale studying speech communication, helped Yeck-Stauffer plan the event. She said the event welcomes every kind of art, from painting a picture to playing a violin. "There are no boundaries. You

can do whatever you want to do," Oestry said. "We basically said come do it, come see other people and maybe see if you can collaborate with someone to create something big and awesome."

The event kicked off Wednesday with a performance by Dave Armstrong, also known as DaveX on the radio station WDBX. Armstrong said his performance was a recreation of a 1971 composition by John Cage and Lejaren Hiller called "KNOBS." Armstrong said the original performance consisted of 208 computer-generated tapes, a circular screen 340 feet tall and more than 100 projectors displaying various movies and slides.

"(The event) had such a good turnout," Armstrong said. "I think everybody is energized and we got the feel of what's going on."

In addition to Armstrong's performance, Oestry said other musical and theatrical presentations would take place in the Student Center Auditorium, including a performance by local band The Cloud Cuckoo Band. She said there would also be art workshops, including stencil and circuit bending workshops.

Yeck-Stauffer said people were hesitant to get involved because of the project's ambitious goals and layout. However, he said the projects have come together, and people have gotten excited and jumped on board.

Oestry said she and Yeck-Stauffer have been planning the

*"You have your photography students and your film students who both do a lot of the same things, but very rarely do they collaborate."*

— Nick Yeck-Stauffer  
 creator of "All Together Now"

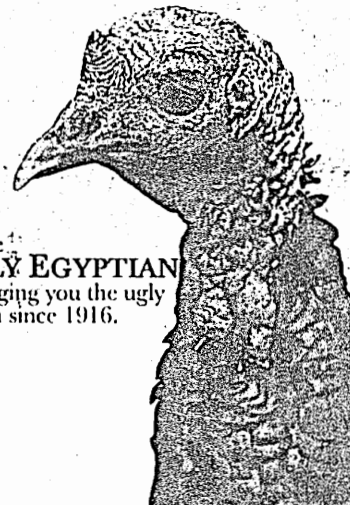
event since the summer. She said they sent out e-mails to various Registered Student Organizations and relied on the student network and local artists to stimulate support for the event. The historical lack of communication among various art groups in the community makes the event important, she said.

"We had all of these art groups on campus that were all doing really wonderful things, but they were all doing them within their own disciplines and in their own areas," Oestry said. "They weren't really reaching out and making art together."

Yeck-Stauffer said one of the most pleasant things about planning the event was the simplicity of booking the Student Center.

"You just have to have an idea. Communicate with RSO's about what it is you want to do, get some people on board, and the president of the student organization can reserve the ballroom or the auditorium for free," Yeck-Stauffer said. "It is free and easy to do. It just requires some motivation."

# Happy Turkey Day!



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## CALLAHAN

CONTINUED FROM 1

Durbin, who Dan Callahan said he is acquainted with, used the story to attack health care providers and to urge his fellow senators to take up health care reform.

"If these companies can turn us down for life-saving drugs and treatments at these critical moments, then we are entirely at their mercy," Durbin said on the Senate floor. "Its enrollment has fallen off a little bit, but it didn't stop (Callahan's insurance provider) WellPoint from posting \$730 million in profits for the last three months. Despite their profitability and their strength in the stock market and increase in share value, they've decided they will no longer cover the use of the drug for Dan Callahan."

Dan Callahan said he was

*"I'm focusing on my coaching, my family and everything else... I'm going to carry on like, I'll be here for a while."*

— Dan Callahan  
 SIU head baseball coach

surprised to hear about Durbin using his story, but said he would be OK with it if it helped other people.

"Durbin is a good man, and if he thinks this will make a difference," he said. "If it helps other people who are in the same position as me, then I am fine with it."

For now, Dan Callahan said he is focused on getting back to managing the Salukis. The coach, who has the second most wins in school history, said he is looking forward to the season — and traveling with the team. Last year, he was unable to travel with the team because of the treatment.

"I'm looking forward to sitting in that dugout, watching my guys go out there and play," he said. "I plan on traveling with them and fulfilling my duties as coach."

From the start, Dan Callahan has refused to ask his doctors about his prognosis. He said with everything else going on in his life, he cannot worry about that.

"I'm focusing on my coaching, my family and everything else," he said. "I want to be able to put all of those things in front of me without having that thought constantly in the back of my mind. I'm going to carry on like, I'll be here for a while."

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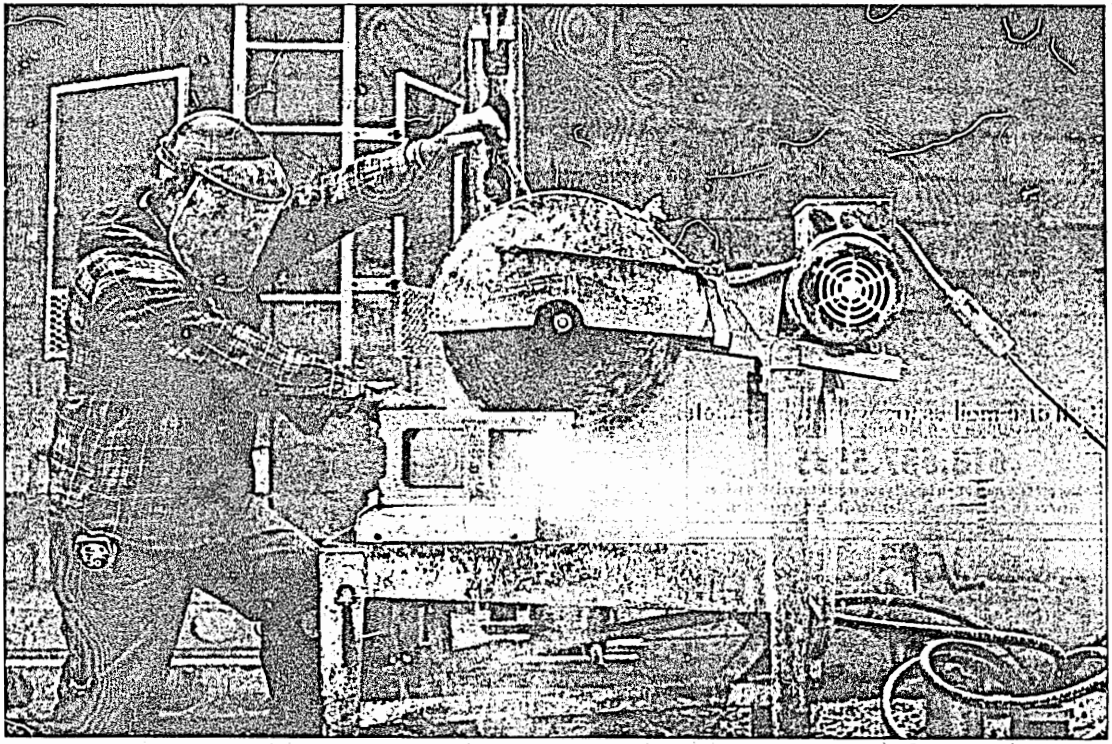
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EDYTA BLASZCZYK | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Ron Charles, a foreman for Mason Concrete Construction, cuts a block for the inside of the northeast corner of SIU Arena Thursday. Associate Athletic Director Jason King said Saluki Way is on schedule for the 2010 athletic seasons.

# Saluki Way to present scoreboard designs

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One of the last details still to be determined in the Saluki Way project is also one of the biggest.

Jason King, associate athletic director, said the athletic department is working on picking the company it will use for the scoreboards, which will go into the new football stadium and the renovated SIU Arena.

King said the scoreboards would be state-of-the-art and include large video screens.

"I think within the next month,

we'll be able to announce who we went with and eventually unveil some of the renderings of what the scoreboards are going to look like," King said. "I think that's a very exciting part of the project."

King said the scoreboards are the last big element administrators are working on with planning for Saluki Way.

Saluki Way is the massive over-haul on the east side of campus. The first phase carries a price tag of \$83 million with \$20 million coming from a tax imposed by the city of Carbondale, \$41.5 million coming from student fees and the remaining

\$21.5 million coming through private donations.

Athletic Director Mario Moccia said the good weather last week allowed a lot of progression on the project.

"We're as up to speed as we've ever been from a construction schedule standpoint," Moccia said. "It's been pretty amazing to see what they've been able to accomplish so far."

Moccia said the press box at the new stadium is almost at its full height, and just a few more pieces of steel need to be installed.

King said weather would no longer play a major factor in the construction

of the addition to the arena because a metal sheath now covering the top, and the roof construction will begin next week.

"When it rains, water still gets through on that upper level, but, for the most part, we're able to continue working over there when we have weather issues," King said. "When we get that roof put on, that will even make it more permanent."

King said except for the new concession stands, bathrooms and a few other small things, construction on SIU Arena has been halted until the season is over.

Moccia said the department has

almost reached the halfway point for the \$21.5 million needed in private funding with about \$9.7 million in cash and pledges.

"People still are making pledges everyday," Moccia said. "We have a ton of people on the prospect list. We feel really good about where we are right now."

Moccia said with the football team competing in the playoffs and basketball season now beginning, a surge in private donations could be expected.

"I think we're unbelievably fortunate to have teams winning right at the cusp of this," Moccia said. "It sure helps when teams win."

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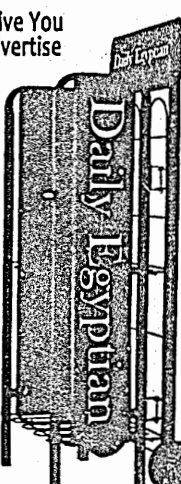
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## Student government fails to make quorum

### Gaia House unable to receive funding for annual Thanksgiving dinner

Erin Holcomb  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
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Undergraduate Government has struggled for, but has achieved, a quorum for its past few meetings — with the exception of the Nov. 12 meeting.

In order to meet a quorum, which is the two-thirds majority needed for senators to approve funding, 15 out of 22 members need to attend.

Only 12 senators arrived for the second-to-last meeting of the semester, rendering the group unable to allocate money to any Registered Student Organizations.

However, the Gaia House was the only organization asking for money in the meeting: \$350 for its annual vegetarian Thanksgiving dinner and \$100 to help fund Gaia's Café, a late-night study session with coffee provided.

This was the first time the senators could not allocate money out to an organization.

Julie Grey, a member of the organization, said she and other members had to pay for the dinner out of their pockets because they didn't receive the money needed to fund the event. The Gaia's Café night has yet to be scheduled, she said.

"It's frustrating," Grey said. "But that happens with bureaucracies and paperwork and people having to show up."

Grey said it was a disappointment the Gaia House could not get the funding for its dinner, but she understands that sometimes people simply can't show up for meetings.

"I think the USG is working very hard," Grey said. "I know they've tried really hard to do whatever they can."

Because the food for the dinner



KEVIN TRUJILLO | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Jaclyn Rodriguez, a senior from Machesney Park studying zoology, wipes the tears off Juan Herrera, a sophomore from Chihuahua, Mexico, studying pre-med as he cuts onions in preparation for the vegetarian Thanksgiving dinner at the Gala House Thursday. The Gaia House could not get funding for the event after the Undergraduate Student Government failed to have a quorum.

had already been bought, Grey said the stress of the money no longer mattered.

USG President Priciliano Fabian said he was also frustrated the senators could not give the Gaia House its requested money.

"It was our fault that we weren't able to get a quorum," Fabian said. "We have been working towards

fixing that and e-mailing senators to let them know to go to the meetings or face impeachment or just resign."

Fabian said he was very sorry the organization could not receive the money, but he's confident the group will have a quorum in its final meeting.

John Kiwala, executive assistant for USG, said he has taken the responsibility of recruiting more members to become part of the senate. He said he has been working with faculty and staff to get recommendations.

"Once we have a lot more senators, you'll see that a lot more meetings will be interactive," Kiwala said. "We need to get it movin' and boomin'."

**It was our fault that we weren't able to get a quorum. We have been working towards fixing that and e-mailing senators to let them know to go to the meetings or face impediment or just resign.**

— Priciliano Fabian  
USG President

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### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If we don't want it all, we shouldn't have to have it."

**Sherril Milley**  
 Canadian resident and mother of three, who won a legal battle exempting her children from homework after arguing there was no clear evidence it improves academic performance.

### 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.

### About Us

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### Notice

The **DAILY EGYPTIAN** is a "designated public forum." Student editors have authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval. We reserve the right to not publish any letter or guest column.

### Submissions

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

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### SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK

# That turkey time of year



**NATHAN BUCKLIN**  
 nath713@siue.edu

As everyone knows, Thanksgiving is drawing close. Often times, I forget which holidays are when, and I am usually surprised when they arrive.

Take Veterans Day for example — that holiday totally caught me off guard, I would have preferred to be in school.

The fact we didn't have school didn't really make me think much about veterans, but I did wonder what I was going to do with my day off in the middle of the week.

Thanksgiving is different. I always look forward to Thanksgiving

and Christmas. These holidays, and this time of year in general, mean a lot to me because I really enjoy what they are about.

I don't mean that they are about celebrating how some people survived a winter 300 years ago or how a child was born that we now base our calendar off of, but the principals they promote.

Thanksgiving promotes sharing, family and friends, and Christmas promotes giving and caring, and they both promote happiness and goodwill in general.

I know there is some horrible Scrooge (with a troubled childhood, no doubt) out there that says "Bah, that's just what the media has fed to you. The true meaning of these holidays has been lost to corporations!"

To me, these holidays —

Thanksgiving in particular — mean more than the common descriptions associated with them.

I love fall — the trees, the changing weather, the smell of the air, everything. The only problem is it makes me feel a little crazy. It makes me feel a strong urge to just go anywhere.

I feel compelled to ride my bike for hours, searching for something and finish feeling rather empty.

I have a strong urge to retreat into nature and be alone for a long time. I feel saddened in such a way that I am learning more through my sadness.

And yet, despite all of this, these feelings make me happy in some sort of way. I am content in my craziness.

Then! Thanksgiving comes. I don't know why, but it makes everything all right. Maybe it's because I

haven't been home for a while and get to see my family, or maybe it's because all my friends are back in town, but something about it just fixes everything.

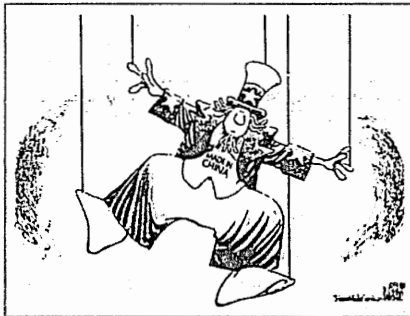
I suddenly feel much more stable, much happier and optimistic, and am ready to finish up the semester. Then again, maybe that's why I ~~study~~ study to finish the semester, it's ending soon, and it will be Christmas break.

I have nothing but fond memories for the period of time between Thanksgiving and Christmas ... everything seems just right.

So, I want to wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving and happy holidays between Nov. 23 and Jan. 1. Have a great break!

*Bucklin is a senior studying political science.*

### EDITORIAL CARTOON



### THE COUNSELING CENTER

# Dealing with pain and distress

**Chuck Hees**  
**Jon Marin**  
 GUEST COLUMNISTS

*Editor's note: This is part one of a two-part series.*

Pain and distress are a part of life; they cannot be entirely avoided or removed. Situations that come up can include the death of a loved one, break up of a relationship that was very meaningful to you, chronic or severe illness, taking finals in college, etc.

It is the inability to accept these facts that leads to increased pain and suffering. Your urge may be to fight a situation that you cannot change.

However, fighting a situation you cannot control often makes the situation worse — hurting yourself or someone else. Everyone has to tolerate some amount of pain and distress in life. Life simply is not pain-free.

Learning how to use skills when you cannot change the situation you are facing helps to reduce your

suffering or at least survive a bad situation.

Distress-tolerance skills are those that help us learn to tolerate and survive crisis situations. No matter how many skills we use in our life and no matter how effective we are in using our skills, traumatic and crisis situations occur. Distress-tolerance skills are for accepting life as it is in the moment. It is the ability to tolerate and accept distress. It is learning to bear pain skillfully.

There are four components to distress tolerance skills: distracting, self-soothing, improving the moment and focusing on pros and cons. Eain is a method for short-circuiting or coping with overwhelming negative emotions and intolerable situations.

These strategies are intended for getting us through a crisis situation and overwhelming emotions in order to continue to focus on immediate needs, such as being involved in class, completing homework or

taking a test. Distracting is a way to temporarily reduce our focus on the emotion. There are several ways to accomplish distraction.

You can engage in an activity that can involve thoughts, images or sensations that counteract the negative emotions, such as visiting a friend, walking, playing sports, working or studying.

You can contribute to someone else through volunteer work, making something nice for someone else, or doing a surprising, thoughtful thing.

It can also be beneficial to compare how you are coping with others who are not coping as well as you. This can be done through watching soap operas, reading about disasters, or noting others' suffering.

A fourth distraction is to replace negative emotion with other, less intense emotions. This is accomplished with reading emotional books or stories, old letters going to emotional movies; listening to emotional

music. Be sure the event creates different emotions. You can separate yourself from the present emotion by leaving the situation or using your imagination to build a wall between yourself and the situation.

Sometimes it is helpful to imagine putting the situation in a box and putting it on a shelf until you are ready to face it. You can distract yourself by changing the focus of your thoughts to something neutral such as counting numbers, working on puzzles, reading or watching TV.

Finally, you can use other senses to help distract, such as holding an ice cube in your hand, squeezing a rubber ball or listening to music.

In the next article of this series, specific strategies for self-soothing, improving the moment and focusing on pros and cons will be discussed.

*Hees and Marin are professional psychology interns at the Counseling Center.*

## Saluki Insider

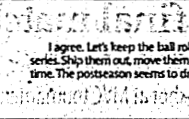
MLB Commissioner Bud Selig said the league is looking into ways to cut down on breaks in the playoffs, making for a shorter postseason. Agree with the choice?



**RYAN VOYLES**

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I'm not sure right now. I don't think I have ever agreed with a decision Bud Selig made, and I'm not sure if I want to start now. I feel all sorts of weird about right now, but I agree with Selig. Cut down on the breaks, schedule the games closer to each other and make the postseason a better. Now if you'll excuse me, I need to shower — I feel so dirty.



**RYAN SIMONIN**

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I agree. Let's keep the ball rolling. I have always hated the breaks in between series. Ship them out, move them in. I've been waiting to see this happen for a long time. The postseason seems to drag on for way too long.



**DEREK ROBBINS**

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@slu.edu

I like the breaks in the playoffs. It allows the top pitchers to get rested and pitch multiple times in the same series. If they were to reduce breaks, a lot of that would have to go away, and I just do not want to see that happen. The breaks also increase drama between games. Call me crazy, but I like it when the media whips us into a frenzy over one game. Baseball has my favorite postseason of the four major North American sports, and I just do not want to see it tampered with. No need to rush through the baseball postseason when basketball's postseason runs roughly a calendar year.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Salukis head out to Sin City

### SIU faces Rebels in season's first road game

**Ryan Voyles**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
RVVOYLES@SLU.EDU

The Salukis are hoping what happens in Vegas will not stay in Vegas.

The men's basketball team will travel to Las Vegas for its first road game of the season as it looks to bring a victory over University of Nevada-Las Vegas back to Carbondale.

The game is scheduled to start at 9 p.m. Saturday.

Head coach Chris Lowery said the main emphasis during practice has been on defense, which he said would be vital to win on the road.

"We are not playing at the level where we can win on the road," Lowery said. "I think the one thing that we're focused on is being a little more disciplined — gambling less, having more position defense and really trying to help each other a little more by making the big steals and helping each other defensively."

The contest is part of the first Missouri Valley-Mountain West Challenge, where teams from both mid-major conferences play one game against one another.

Lowery said he enjoys the concept, but wants to see some changes if it continues.

"I would like to have UNLV here next year," Lowery said. "It's not going to happen, and that's what I don't like — where if you play somebody, you won't necessarily play them the next season. But it's a terrific opportunity for both leagues to make a statement before anybody else does in the country."

Senior guard Tony Freeman said the team needs to get off to a quick start if it wants to have success against the Rebels.

"We need to come out to a quick start and establish ourselves early," Freeman said. "If we do that, we'll be good. If not, we could facing an uphill fight."

SIU will look to improve on last year's road record, where it struggled to a 5-12 record away from SIU Arena. Nevada-Las Vegas (2-0) has won both of its games at the Thomas

& Mack Center this season.

"(With) them having played there already will make it a little tougher for us," sophomore Justin Boost said. "We'll just go out there and play like we know we can."

The Salukis should become acquainted with Las Vegas, as they will play there again starting Dec. 19 at the Las Vegas Holiday Hoops Classic.

Lowery said most of the players have already been to Las Vegas before, so he does not expect any distractions. However, he said he does not like having to travel there twice in a year.

"We didn't want to do that. We had a tournament, and they rescheduled it, and then they give us UNLV before the tournament," Lowery said. "We want to make it a business trip for our kids. Most of them have played AAU ball, so they've been to Vegas for the big tournaments out there. We're just going out there like it is another game. Obviously, our fans are looking at it differently because it is a good time, but we want to go to win."

Drake, Creighton, Wichita State and Missouri State. Evansville is 3-7 in its last 10 matches. SIU is 5-5.

Freeman setter Rachad Brown said the season has been a roller-coaster ride.

"We have had our ups and downs this season," Brown said. "I want to end this season on an up."

"This team is too good to miss the tournament."

SIU has the best record it has ever had under Wisnitzer, with an 18-10 record overall and a 7-10 record in conference.

Evansville enters the match on a season-worst four-match losing streak. Its losses came against

games during the playoffs.

The Redhawks (2-8) and their 17 seniors will look to end the season as spoilers. The Redhawks bring in the FCS 16th best rushing attack into Saturday, averaging 183.1 yards per game. Against Murray State Saturday, the Redhawks rushed for 302 yards.

But the Redhawks have yet to face a defense as strong as the Salukis', who have only allowed an average of 109 rushing yards a game. The defense has also forced 26 turnovers on

the year, including 21 interceptions.

Running back Deji Karim will also look to end his regular season on a high note against a defense allowing an average of 195.9 yards on the ground per game.

Karim said the plan is to finish the season the same way they have played all year.

"We'll keep doing what we've done all season," Karim said. "We want to finish out the year with a bang."

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



EVAN DAVIS | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Saluki guard Olivia Lett has her shot blocked as she attempts a layup in Wednesday's game against Vanderbilt at SIU Arena. The Salukis go on the road to play Northern Illinois this weekend.

## Basketball goes on road to play Huskies

### Tiber looking for first regular-season win as Saluki

**Derek Robbins**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
DROBBINS@SLU.EDU

After one game at SIU Arena, the Salukis are back on the road.

The Salukis travel to DeKalb to face the Northern Illinois University Huskies at 1 p.m. Sunday.

This is the second road game of the season for the Salukis. They lost their first road game of the season 71-45 against Saint Louis University.

SIU is 0-2 on the season and searching for its first victory. The Salukis lost against No. 18/22 Vanderbilt in its home opener 90-64, but head coach Missy Tiber said the team showed a lot of improvement in the defeat.

Tiber said if the team improves that much again this week, it has a chance of getting its first victory.

"I think if we can continue to improve like we have from last week to this week, I think we can go in and possibly win a game," Tiber said.

Tiber said the difference between the team in its first game of the season and its second game of the season had to do with the effort. Tiber said the first half of the Vanderbilt loss was very emotional for the Salukis and they played hard.

Northern Illinois is 1-1 on the season, and both of its games were at home. The Huskies showed off a strong defense in their last game, holding the Western Illinois Leathernecks to a 29.7 field goal percentage.

Opponents' defenses have rattled the Salukis so far this season. Tiber said SIU has struggled to protect the basketball.

"I think our kids played extremely hard, and I am proud of them from that aspect," Tiber said. "I'm still discouraged of our ability to take care of the basketball. That just continues to kill us."

Senior guard Stephany Neptune said she agreed with the coach.

**"We have to stop giving the ball away. We are a better team than what we've been playing."**

— Stephany Neptune  
senior guard

"We have to stop giving the ball away," Neptune said. "We are a better team than what we have been playing."

In the first two games, the Salukis have turned over the ball 46 times.

Freshman guard Tejj Oliver said for SIU to win, it needs to have a good game in both halves. Oliver said SIU could play well for one half, but then flounder in the other half.

In its game against Saint Louis, SIU only scored 11 points in the first half. It was the lowest first-half point total in team history. In the second half, SIU outscored Saint Louis 34-33.

In its game against Vanderbilt, the halves reversed. Against a nationally ranked team, SIU was within five points for much of the first half of play. In the second half, Vanderbilt pulled away and ended up winning by a final score of 90-64.

Oliver said once the team figures out how to put together 40 minutes, it will be a competitive team.

Tiber said the team will do what it takes to get better and hopes to see the improvements come together against Northern Illinois.

Tiber said how the team plays from behind is an indicator of its character.

"I'm extremely proud of the fact that when you go down 26, you don't fold," Tiber said. "I think that's a sign of a team that is being coached and a team that is going to fight to get better, and we did that."

### VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8

Johnson said if SIU wants to sweep Evansville, it has to play its best.

"We have to play hard, because we know if we don't we could miss the tournament," Johnson said.

### FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8

The Salukis have already clinched a spot in the postseason, but are looking to grab a top-four seed in the playoffs. Five other teams in the FCS have one loss or less, including still undefeated No. 3 in the Sporting News Poll — and first in the FCS Coaches Poll — Montana. With a victory at nearby Cape Girardeau, Mo., the Salukis are almost guaranteed a top seed and at least two home

**"I think our kids played extremely hard, and I am proud of them from that aspect. I'm still discouraged of our ability to take care of the basketball. That just continues to kill us."**

— Missy Tiber  
women's basketball head coach





## CROSS COUNTRY

# Schirmer plans to make SIU history

Ryan Simonin  
Daily Egyptian  
rsimonin@salu.edu

Jeff Schirmer will be the lone Saluki representing the SIU cross country team in the NCAA National Championships as the rest of the pack stays home.

Senior runner Jeff Schirmer will compete in his second NCAA Cross Country Championship, which begins at noon Monday in Terre Haute, Ind.

Last season, Schirmer finished 25th place overall with a time of 30 minutes, 0.8 seconds at the meet. If Schirmer finishes in the top 40, he will become the first two-time cross country All-American in SIU history.

Schirmer said he plans to improve last season's finish by making it into the top 10.

SIU head cross country coach Matt Sparks said Schirmer is a realist about what he is capable of achieving.

"If Jeff were to make it in the top 10, that would be a huge accomplishment," Sparks said.

Schirmer said going to nationals this year is different because he is not as nervous.

"I am more excited because it is my last cross country meet of my college career," Schirmer said. "Also, I know what to expect going into the meet this year, and I know I deserve to be there."

Sparks said the entire team — while disappointed it did not make it to the championships — is doing its part to keep Schirmer focused on the prize.

"Jeff is such a team player, and nobody wanted the team to go to nationals more than Jeff," Sparks said. "Our main goal this week is trying to make sure Jeff is refocused so he can come out and race for the rest of the team that couldn't be there."

Senior runner Jason Onway said Schirmer is a gifted runner who has made everything look easy.

"You never know what he can do," Onway said. "He is a whole different kind of breed."

Onway said the team is excited for Schirmer because anytime a team member does well, it reflects on everybody on the team.

"We are all really proud of Jeff," Onway said. "The only thing we all wish for more is to be there with him."



EDITH BLASZCZYK | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Senior Jeff Schirmer practices Thursday at McAndrew Stadium. Schirmer qualified for nationals on Saturday at the NCAA Midwest Regional by taking second place. This is Schirmer's final year competing with the Salukis and his second consecutive qualification for nationals.

*I am more excited because it is my last cross country meet of my college career.*

— Jeff Schirmer  
cross country runner

## FOOTBALL

# No. 1 Salukis compete for playoff positioning

SIU ends season at Southeast Missouri State Saturday

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Even with a guaranteed playoff spot, a No. 1 ranking in the Football Championship Subdivision and the Missouri Valley Football Conference Championship trophy, there is still one obstacle in front of the Salukis before they head into the postseason.

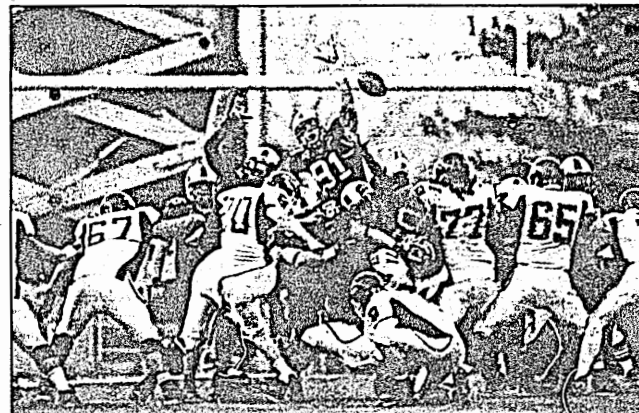
An old rival with nothing to lose.

The No. 1 Salukis (9-1) will conclude their season at 1 p.m. Saturday with a non-conference game against Southeast Missouri State in Cape Girardeau, Mo. It will be the 75th meeting between the programs, but the first since the 2005 season.

Southeast Missouri State comes into the game having snapped its eight-game losing streak, beating Murray State 49-13 Saturday. It was the Redhawks' first victory since their season-opening 72-3 win over Division II Quincy on Sept. 3.

SIU head coach Dale Lennon said the Redhawks are better than their record shows.

"(SEMO) been a real hard-luck team this season, you look at their scores — especially in the conference,"



EDITH BLASZCZYK | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Defensive end Jason Seaman attempts to block a field goal during the Nov. 14 Missouri State game at McAndrew Stadium. The Salukis will play their last regular-season game Saturday at Southeast Missouri State.

Lennon said. "There was never a time when they were out of the game."

Southeast Missouri State has already faced two-ranked teams this season — with lopsided results. It lost to Football Bowl Subdivision Cincinnati, who was ranked No. 23 at the time, 70-3 on Sept. 12, and

also to FCS No. 15 Jacksonville State 24-3 on Nov. 7.

Southeast Missouri State head coach Tony Samuel said he is looking forward to the challenge for his team.

"It's a rivalry game. I mean, they're the No. 1 football team in the country, and they're a very good football team,"

Samuel said. "I'm looking forward to how our kids handle them, first of all. I want to see how they handle themselves in practice, because there is going to be a lot of pressure and interest in this game."

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## VOLLEYBALL

# Season on the line in final match

SIU plays Evansville for shot at MVC tournament

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It is make or break time for the SIU volleyball team.

The Salukis end their regular season with a must-win match against Evansville at 7 p.m. today in Evansville, Ind.

SIU sits one loss behind sixth-place Illinois State and is one match ahead of eighth-place Evansville. The top six teams in the league qualify for the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament in Omaha, Neb. The other schools go home.

Illinois State plays the second and third place teams in conference this weekend, Wichita State and Missouri State. If SIU wins today, it would have a good chance to qualify for the tournament.

Junior outside hitter Jennifer Berwanger said this is what the team has worked towards all season.

"I think we have what it takes to succeed in the tournament," Berwanger said. "We just have to get there first, and I think we can do that."

SIU has already defeated Evansville once this season. On Sept. 19, SIU beat Evansville 3-1 in Carbondale to improve its winning streak at the time to 11 games and gave the Salukis their first conference victory of the season.

In the first match of the season between the teams, Berwanger hit a double-double with 16 kills and 10 digs. Junior right side hitter Alicia Johnson also contributed with a double-double.

Johnson recorded 15 kills and 13 digs. In its victory, SIU hit .415 to Evansville's .234. Evansville also had 12 more errors than SIU with 22.

SIU head coach Brenda Winkler said the team has played inconsistent in recent weeks and has committed more errors.

"We need to play good as a team," Winkler said. "We cannot afford to have errors kill us."

On its current two-match losing streak, SIU has 54 errors compared to its opponents who only had 36 — 26 of those were by Drake, while Creighton had only 10 errors.

Winkler said practice this week has focused on consistency and eliminating errors.

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