High fashion comes to Carbondale

Brandon Augsburg

High fashion — once exclusive to the runways of such cities as Paris and New York — has found a new home on the Strip.

Two Boutique, located at 400 S. Illinois Ave., opened its doors last week and owner Abe Traverso and Julianne Ogliari said the clothing store offers hip, fashionable apparel usually reserved for places other than Carbondale.

“We felt that we could bring New York boutique flavor to Carbondale and keep it on a Carbondale budget,” Traverso said. “And bring a new vibe, a new atmosphere and kind of rejuvenate some of the Strip on this end.”

Traverso, a New York native, said the store carries vintage and hard-to-find articles of clothing, most of which come from independent designers. Despite the high fashion attitude, most of the street wear 7-shirts are reasonably priced between $26 and $35, he said.

Because the store features items from independent designers, Traverso said much of the clothing is available on a limited basis.

“If we have five shirts, once they’re gone, they’re gone,” Traverso said. “We don’t want it to be where there is somebody else you’re going to run into wearing the same thing as you.”

Traverso and Ogliari also said they hope to carry clothing designed by students from the university.

See BOUTIQUE, Page 11

Mayoral candidates propose fees for rental inspection program

Andrea Zimmermann

The city’s fractured rental inspection system has become an issue in the race with incumbent Brad Cole proposing their own plans to help Carbondale’s nearly 9,000 rentals be inspected on time.

Incumbent Brad Cole and challenger Sheila Simon both believe fees should be attached to the city’s mandatory rental inspection process, but the question is how much?

Mayor Brad Cole said the rental inspectors have never reached their quota for inspected properties. Along with the new inspector proposed in the upcoming budget, Cole said the Building and Neighborhood Services department needs more people to do their jobs adequately.

In a March memo to City Manager Jeff Doherty, Cole proposed a $25 fee for the mandatory rental inspection process, proposing their own plan to help Carbondale’s nearly 9,000 rentals be inspected on time.

Incumbent Brad Cole and challenger Sheila Simon both believe fees should be attached to the city’s mandatory rental inspection process, but the question is how much?

Mayor Brad Cole said the rental inspectors have never reached their quota for inspected properties. Along with the new inspector proposed in the upcoming budget, Cole said the Building and Neighborhood Services department needs more people to do their jobs adequately.

In a March memo to City Manager Jeff Doherty, Cole proposed a $25 fee for the first time a unit is inspected and follow-up visits would be $75. The memo stated that about two-thirds of all units require an average of 1.4 follow-up inspections, bringing the projected charge to about $130.

Cole said the fee generated from these fees would allow the city to hire six more inspectors. If the City Council approves the proposal, the changes take effect on May 1, 2008, according to the memo.

“If we are going to do this right, then we need to hire multiple inspectors,” he said. “It seems like Ms. Simon thinks that one more inspector will solve the problem.”

In December, Councilwoman Sheila Simon called for a $5 fee such as Cole’s proposed charge is fee for the mandatory inspection. Simon said her proposed fee applies to the first inspection and not follow-up visits. She said her fee would help supplement the cost of one inspector, besides the one proposed in the pending budget.

“T’m glad that Mayor Cole liked my idea,” Simon said.

During a forum in February, Cole warned attendees, who were mostly students, a fee such as Simon’s would be passed onto the renters. The Daily Egyptian, Undergraduate Student Government and Black Affairs Council sponsored the forum.

On Monday, Cole said while he did not want to charge landlords for the inspections, there is no better choice.

“If it’s going to get passed onto the tenant,” he said. “I don’t like it, but it’s a fact of the matter.”

Cole also said Simon’s smaller fee came nowhere close to paying for one inspector’s salary. Simon said she is open to raising the fee, but a large fee such as Cole’s proposed charge is too high.

See INSPECTIONS, Page 9

Official: No parking problem on campus

Sean McGahan

Those strolling into classes late armed with the excuse that they could not find a spot to park should come up with a more viable reason for their tardiness.

There are an ample number of spaces for students with the appropriate decals to park on campus, said Brian Mager, administrator for the parking division.

The problem is one of availability, Mager said.

It is one of convenience.

“Do we have a parking problem on campus? No. We have enough available spaces for those desiring to park on campus,” he said.

According to Mager’s statistics for the 2006 fiscal year, there were 7,785 spaces available for vehicles with red commuter parking decals, those designated for students parking on campus.

He said there were 7,598 decals sold for those desiring to park on campus.

Mager said the numbers for FY06 were the most recent numbers available.

He said there are certain congested areas around campus at certain times of the day, but that comes with the territory.

“You’ll hear students say, ‘Well, I have to arrive early in order to find a parking spot,’

That’s the nature of parking on university campuses everywhere,” Mager said.

He said he has found students wandering the rows of busy lots — such as Lot 44 adjacent from Lawson Hall and the Communications Building — and has shown them available spaces nearby, including Lot 0478 on the west side of Elizabeth Street.

Mager said additional options for students include getting a free yellow parking sticker and parking by the SIU Arena, where shuttle buses that come every 20 minutes travel across campus.

He said a committee made up of various constituency groups meets regularly to discuss parking issues. He said the committee focused its time on issues relating to future campus plans, including Saluki Way and the Land Use Master Plan, which were consumed last year to extract much of the campus.

The plans would call for a number of considerations about parking, said Cathy Hugler, executive director of administration.

She said the group has addressed considerations on building a large-scale parking garage that would hold more cars than the one by the Student Center and Farmer Hall, but it would have to be self-sufficient.

See PARKING, Page 11

PULSE, page 10: Gus Bode says Neil Young is still rockin’ in the free world

Brandon Augsburg

Neil Young is still rockin’ in the free world.

PULSE
Officer appears in court on battery charges

CHICAGO (AP) — Prosecutors dropped a misdemeanor court Tuesday against a police officer accused of beating a female bartender in an attack videotaped by a surveillance camera, leaving him still facing a felony charge.

Twelve-year police veteran Anthony Abbate — clean-shaven and wearing a charcoal-gray suit — appeared before a judge for about 30 seconds as prosecutors dropped the charge of simple battery.

That count was filed after the 250-pound officer’s arrest in the Feb. 19 beating of a 115-pound bartender at Jesus’ Short Stop Inn on Chicago’s northwest side while he was off duty. Prosecutors later upgraded the charges to felony aggravated battery.

“We reviewed it and we think this was a felony,” said John Gorman, spokesman for the Cook County state’s attorney’s Office.

An April 27 hearing was scheduled on the felony charge.

Abbate, 36, faces up to five years in prison if convicted, said Gorman.

The videotape, shown repeatedly around the country, shows a large man that police said was Abbate punching, kicking and throwing 24-year-old Karstina Obydra to the floor after she allegedly refused to continue serving him drinks.

Obydra, who immigrated to Chicago from Poland four years ago and has a 16-month-old son, suffered bruises to her head, neck, back and lower body, said her attorney, Terry Ekl.

One victim of homicide had a murder conviction

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — One of three people shot to death Sunday morning at a Danville duplex was previously convicted of murder, authorities said Tuesday.

Police had made an arrest Tuesday in the shootings of Rodney Pepper, 30, who was found just after 10 a.m. Sunday outside the Main Street duplex where he lived, and two women — Madam Leverend, 19, and Talibee McNugil, 21 — whose bodies were found inside.

Leverend was the mother of a toddler, though police said the child was not in the dwelling during the shooting.

Man charged for looting panties, brassieris

FULLERTON, Ill. (AP) — A man was charged with theft and burglary after police said they found 91 pairs of women’s panties, brassieres and other underwear at his home.

Police said they searched below Garth M. Fisher, 24, as many as 1,000 undergrounds from apartment complex laundry rooms before he was caught, police Cmdr. Chris Tennant said.

A man was seen taking underwear from two laundry rooms Saturday, a witness recorded his license number, and Fisher was identified from photographs, Tennant said.

Police found enough underwear in his bedroom to fill five garbage bags, Tennant said.

“He said he had a problem,” Tennant said.

Therapy has been piled on 12 courts of second-degree burglary and one of first-degree theft.

Police had previously received 12 reports of underwear thefts in the northeast part of town, where Washington State University is located.

“We were kind of concerned about how to match up bras and panties with victims,” Tennant said.

“Based on the unique descriptions from a couple of women, we can tie him to those thefts.”
Public works director named

Alicia Wade

The city of Carbondale has named Beth Ponce as its new public works director.

Ponce, the former development director for the city, has been involved in various community initiatives. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a degree in civil engineering.

Ponce's new appointment is a lateral move, and she has continued to be active in other social issues. She said her opposition to the Vietnam War and the unfair treatment of people stems partly from her parents.

Field said she has known Field as a graduate student, and she has held a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. She is also president of The Stage Company.

Field teaches an introduction to sociology class and is working on her doctorate at SIU. She is a professor emeritus in sociology, and she has known Field for about 10 years. Hendrix said she has known Field as a graduate student, and she has held a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

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Field pushes her students to think about various social issues. She said she began protesting during the Vietnam War, and she rallied with the community on various social issues.

Field said she was drawn to teaching because of its engineering background.

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New York

Officers charged with beating tourist

WASHINGTON (AP) — The acting police chief and three officers in a small resort town on Fire Island were indicted Tuesday in the beating of a vacationer who had been picked up for littering. The victim was beaten so severely he suffered severe internal injuries, including a ruptured bladder that required 10 days in a hospital, Assistant District Attorney Bob Biancavilla said.

A former radio and TV commentator, suspended upside down from the ceiling by chains, urinated on, threw out a lawsuit brought on behalf of a British navy crew was in Iraqi waters, where it was captured by Iran said the prime minister was not hinting at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible expulsion of Iranian diplomats or military either at the possible 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The online face of SIUC is scheduled for a makeover.

On Tuesday, Janet Douglas, Web services leader of University Communications, said SIUC will launch its new Web site during the week of April 9.

Douglas said the goal of the revamping is to make the Web site’s main page and the pages directly linked to it more simple and concise.

She said the fact that the Web site — siuc.edu — is old and hard to use inspired the redesign.

“In fact, it doesn’t look anything like this Web site at all,” Douglas said.

She said the design of individual department sites would be left up to the departments, but the university requires the top of each page to say “Southern Illinois University Carbondale” and be composed of school colors.

The pages also must have privacy policies and a place for comments to the Web master, she said.

Douglas said a committee conducted research to get a perspective on what attracts new students and parents to the Web site.

She said University Communications wants to ensure that the Web site has the information needed to make a decision to attend SIUC.

The research was conducted through a series of focus groups with faculty, staff, students, other Web masters and other schools in the area and one in Chicago, she said.

Douglas said the design is different than the current one, but is still based on the same principles.

“We’re still going to have somewhat of a consistent look,” Douglas said.

Other facets of SIUC’s identity are also looking for more consistency.

Jay Bruce, supervisor of graphic design, heads a committee to create guidelines for the consistent use of the SIUC logo.

“We consider ourselves more of an identity standards committee,” Bruce said.

The committee, made up of faculty throughout campus, will field suggestions and concern from colleagues and formulate a set of guidelines to present to the chancellor, Bruce said.

He said the committee is still in its infancy, but hopes to have some guidelines in place by the fall semester.

“IT’s just important that the university community understand ways that we can project ourselves and be consistent.”

— Jay Bruce, supervisor of graphic design

SIUC to launch new Web site

Sarah Lohman
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Airline’s unions call executive pay unfair

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — A coalition of unionized workers Tuesday called on United Airlines’ parent company to increase compensation for employees and move up collective bargaining dates.

The statement from a leaders of five unions, representing about half of the airline’s 55,000 employees, came one day after the carrier’s parent company disclosed in a regulatory filing that its chief executive received compensation valued at $39.7 million in 2006.

Elk Grove Village-based UAL Corp. emerged from bankruptcy in February 2006.

“Management continues lining its pockets with millions of dollars while its employees still struggle under the same working agreements and wages implemented during United’s bankruptcy,” the group, called “Union Coalition at United Airlines,” said in a signed statement. “It is not unreasonable to demand our fair share in the financial rewards that management currently enjoys.”

The coalition represents the Association of Flight Attendants, the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association, the Professional Airline Flight Control Association and the Air Line Pilots Association.

The unions said employees accepted nearly $5.5 billion in wage concessions while United was under federal bankruptcy protection.
Elizabeth keeps a brave face

THEIR WORD

McClatchy-Tribune

The announcement by Democratic presidential hopeful John Edwards that his wife, Elizabeth, has suffered an incurable recurrence of breast cancer, thrust an intensely personal medical and family matter onto the public stage. The couple handled it with aplomb.

Together, they said that Edwards would continue to campaign, with his wife declaring, “I’m absolutely ready for this. I mean, I don’t look sickly, I don’t feel sickly. And I’m as ready as any person can be for that.” Good for her. Good for them.

Millions of Americans fight cancer every day, forging on to the best of their abilities. While the death toll is still far too high, many sufferers are benefiting from life-extending therapies that were unimaginable just a decade ago. That Elizabeth Edwards is determined to become one in the midst of a presidential campaign speaks volumes about how far the country has come in a short time.

When first lady Betty Ford openly discussed her mastectomy in 1974, she gave millions of women the courage to talk about their own battles with the deadly disease, replacing speculation with information and fear with fact. Elizabeth Edwards

Bush digs in heels; Congress needs answers

McClatchy-Tribune

The president is digging in his heels again. After being fed erroneous information, Congress wants clarification about the firing of U.S. attorneys, and Bush wants to sprinkle the answers like salt – to his taste.

Though committees in both the U.S. House and Senate last week authorized subpoenas of White House officials, none were issued yet. If they are, the president says he’ll withdraw his offer to make senior staff available in a private meeting without transcripts and not under oath.

In arguing for the subpoena authorization Wednesday, Senate Chairman Patrick Leahy dismissed Bush’s offer as “nothing, nothing, nothing.”

We should not be surprised. This is a secretive president who believes he knows best and doesn’t need to explain his decisions or mistakes. This pattern dates back to his 2001 refusal to divulge who was advising on his energy policies.

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On the odd firing of eight U.S. attorneys, the White House’s stance is dis- appointing, especially considering some earlier Justice Department testimony to Congress was refuted and had to be corrected. White House-provided e-mails show the U.S. attorney firings were vetted through the president’s offices.

The obfuscation has fueled speculation the firings were for political reasons, rather than for “performance reasons.” Especially in the case of Seattle-based John McKay who months earlier got a glowing comprehensive review, such an allegation is suspect.

Better for Bush to work against his pattern and be transparent on this point. He should make the subpoenas unnes- sary and agree to make his senior staff available to Congress to testify publicly. Under oath or not and limiting the scope of questioning are points of negotiation.

Though the administration has a point that executive privilege applies, much would be gained by demonstrating public accountability and little would be lost.

This editorial appeared in the Seattle Times on Monday.
A heated dispute

Jonathan M. Gray

I found Jonathan Last’s guest column on March 19, “A Closer Look at Al Gore’s Truth,” more than a little problematic. I appreciate that Last attempts to avoid ad hominem circumstantial arguments against Gore based on his domestic energy use, but I believe Last does so only in a “reasonably” superior. He then proceeds to do the work of most global warming denials to obfuscate the issue by emphasizing scientific disagreement.

Political consultant Frank Luntz, who first recommended such tactics in a famous and well-circulated memo to the GOP, notably no longer believes such tactics are appropriate with global warming. Last’s analysis of the Gore film “An Inconvenient Truth” contains several tactics pulled straight from denialists’ talking points. For example, he reminds us that a mere 30 years ago scientists were predicting global cooling, indicating the supposed fickleness of scientific “opinion.”

The problem with this argument is that this prediction was made by a handful of scientists, most of whom were not publishing such speculative peer reviewed journals or, if so, carefully qualified these predictions. Yes, global cooling was sensationalized quite a bit in the 1970s, but the overwhelming scientific consensus is that it is not one of the causes of the climate change warming currently occurring.

I was anxious to see poisonous snakes behind glass, but the idea of seeing gorillas and polar bears was to the St. Louis Zoo. I was a student and I forgot there was a barrier between us. So did the crota. The snake snapped to attention, flared its hood and showed its fangs. I ran away, frantically frightened for my own life.

When a peer asked me what it was like, adrenaline still intensifying my young brain, I said, “That was really cool.” Obviously I had not learned my lesson.

The reason for telling this story is because Americans, whether they know it or not, may have had a similar experience. Media gazes have utilized a perfect opportunity to make Americans feel ignoring their own classrooms. They fly away safely while a plane full of dead terrorists is accomplished. They fly away safely while a plane full of dead terrorists is accomplished. They fly away safely while a plane full of dead terrorists is accomplished. They fly away safely while a plane full of dead terrorists is accomplished.

After an elaborate series of events, an international public forum. Student editors have expressed in columns and letters to the读者的 Southern Illinois University community. Viewpoints are welcome and content to this sort of work, the DE hoped to help him appear even more reasonable. This past winter was, on average, the warmest on record for the northern hemisphere since the 1980s. Six of the 10 warmest winters have occurred in the last 30 years.

Yes, there is some debate on some of the details of global warming, but the overwhelming scientific consensus is that it is not one of the causes of the climate change warming currently occurring. It is time to move beyond these self-serving attempts to block action by fabricating or overstating controversy. Gray is an associate professor of speech communication. I was anxious to see poisonous snakes behind glass, but the idea of seeing gorillas and polar bears was to the St. Louis Zoo. I was a student and I forgot there was a barrier between us. So did the crota.

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It is time to move beyond these self-serving attempts to block action by fabricating or overstating controversy.
INSPECTIONS

Conflict of Interest Page 1

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"North American Scum." Murphy at My House," it would have to be wildness of "Daft Punk Is Playing – with a continuous strum. His vocals in a dark electronic way. Cop," drums pound out a head-nod–like the theme song to "Beverly Hills all the cards on the table right from of this world.

dance music to sweeping ballads, and would make, but it's so well done, but it's so well done, as the song adds more layers as it progresses, pulling in a bounding baseline and propert synths – the track is more than worth the wait. It sounds like something The Killers would make, but it's so well done, there is no way The Killers could craft something so perfectly paced and entrancing. Layering is something that LCD Soundystem does the best. Someone Great is a lovely slow groove that warps and bends at every turn. Small intricacies in each song make each listen a real journey. The whirling bass in the background, the pristine keys shimmering like stars in the sky and Murphy's faded voice make Someone Great something great. Other songs are equally as

tons to it dance until they pass out. In mind: To make everyone who lis-

"Sounds of Silver," has one mission LCD, has created an album

does not end for more than seven

minutes. Patience is a virtue, though,

though the lyrics aren't the

pool where I'd happily drown" There's a ton of the twist/

The depth of each song's keyboard, to get excited about. The producer's

reason than the heavy bass. RJD2 is more romantic lyrics. As quick as

bounces off the walls as he wails, ‘for

the heavier rap beat of "The Bad

three long tracks only four minutes

JUNO agricultural week Mie, and</value>
Owners of Two Boutique, Juliana Ogliari, left, and Abe Traverso, install a light fixture Tuesday afternoon in their shop located on South Illinois Avenue.

Jane Workman, a professor in the fashion design and merchandising program, said Traverso has expressed interest in carrying student-designed clothing and hiring fashion students to work in the store.

Workman said the situation is unique and noted the possible benefits for budding fashion designers.

"The obvious benefits, of course, are that the students' clothing will be there for customers to take a look at and try on," Workman said. "They'll get exposure for their original designs that way and possibly some clientele.

But clothing isn't the only way Traverso and Ogliari hope to stand out. Both are passionate about the arts, which include music, paintings and fashion. Traverso said he hopes the store becomes a headquarters for artistic and cultural events in Carbondale.

A grand opening is scheduled for April 25, and Brad Buehler, a friend of Traverso and Ogliari who handles promotions for the store, said a large event is planned. He said they are working out the details, but hope to have a silent auction, live music and art. The event will be held both inside the store and on the parking lot behind the building.

Traverso said the store has a concept that he and Ogliari could stand behind because it is something they believe in. Ogliari said the boutique is really an extension of their passions.

"This has everything to do with both of us," Ogliari said. "I love fashion, that's why we tried to bring fun and one-of-a-kind items."

Brandon Augsburg

We felt that we could bring New York boutique flavor to Carbondale and keep it on a Carbondale budget.

--- Abe Traverso
co-owner of Two Boutique

Anthony Fox, a senior from Connecticut studying finance, said he often finds himself a victim of limited parking. He said he is skeptical that there is actually ample parking for students.

"I don't know where it is if they do. If they have parking way out there, that's not where the buildings are," he said.

Fox said he is willing to pay increased fees to help fix the problem. "It's not something frivolous," he said. "They should have parking spaces for everybody."

Even so, Fox said he had no idea of how to combat the problem. "I don't know man. There's got to be some space around here that's going to waste," he said.

Hagler said she is sympathetic to students' concerns, but also has to maintain parking in a busy university. "I'm sympathetic, but I was a student here and I knew if I couldn't find (a parking space) close, I could find one several lots away, but I had to walk,"

Sean McGahan
Past associations could return to haunt Giuliani

**Devlin Barrett**
**The Associated Press**

WASHINGTON — Plenty of people — politicians included — have skeletons in their closets. In the case of presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani, that closet is a walk-in.

The former Republican mayor of New York City won widespread respect in his handling of the Sept. 11 attacks, and it is largely that collective memory that accounts for his current popularity in polls and makes him the early front-runner for his party’s nomination.

But as more New Yorkers could tell you, there are plenty of episodes in Giuliani’s past that could come back to haunt him — scenes that played out like a booming, angry opera.

“Rudy is a tough guy. Nobody has ever said he was Mt. Congeniality. It’s not always pretty to look at, but he got the job done,” said Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., who backed Giuliani to head the Homeland Security Department.

But if Giuliani ever “stumbles,” as King said, “he could really be off the map.”

Early in the crisis, deputies rushed to Room 201 and Morrison to drop a handgun he was holding to a student’s head. Morrison ordered a teacher to leave the room, and threatened to blow up the building, investigators later found in a final report that investigators later found.

“I’m not one that ever got into smoke or violence,” said Sharpton. “I’m not a bunch of Black musicians that got the smoke in their hands. I think they’re trying to make it work. It’s not ideal, but I think a lot of people will sympathize.”

The Rev. Al Sharpton — a civil rights activist, former presidential candidate and longtime Giuliani foe — said he does not think his fellow Democrats will attack Giuliani’s personal foibles, but fellow Republicans might.

“I’m not one that ever got into his personal life, but clearly I think that when you run for president it would be examined,” said Sharpton. “Especially since the Republicans raised it so much with Bill Clinton.”
The Best Rentals in Town  
Available Spring 2007

### One Bedroom

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### Three Bedroom

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### See Our Show Apartment!

400 W. College #1  
Monday thru Friday  
2:00pm to 6:00pm  
Saturday  
11:00am to 2:30pm
By Linda Black

Today's Birthday (03-28-07). You and your loved ones will make plans for the future this year that will come true. Get serious about figuring out what you want to be, do, have and give. Starting now.

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 7 - You have the enthusiasm, but do you have the self-discipline? How about your team - can you get them to stay on course? Having fun isn't all there is. 

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 5 - Practice and review what you're learning, in a private setting. Don't make a public presentation until you know this stuff by heart.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 6 - Once you learn the rules to the game, you'll discover a natural talent. Don't be impatient, keep watching and listening. Don't react, strategize.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 9 - Simplify your procedures. Re-arrange your workspace, you can increase your production, and your profits, noticeably. You love it when this happens.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 6 - You're getting the support you need from important people. They believe you can do this job, so let them convince you.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - Dipping through your closets could reveal amazing treasures. There's a connection between your stacks of stuff and your savings account, if that's any help.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 5 - Several more aggressive types are vying for your attention. As you know instinctively, it's best not to make a choice yet.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 10 - You have gained favor with royalty, or what passes for that in your business. Maintain this position and your future is secure.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - You have the right assistant, he or she knows what you need done and goes ahead and does it. Admittedly, some training is required in the beginning.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is an 8 - Make sure you know what you're buying when you invest your money. Whether the surprise is good or not depends on the veracity of your data.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - It's time for action, not words. You don't have time to talk, anyway. You're too busy having fun. Delegate, so your work doesn't suffer. Watch your reputation, too.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 10 - Opportunities are abundant. Money is coming in. Yours is not to reason why, yours is just to do, and win.

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Minor league team signs former Little Leaguer

MARTIN — Pitcher Danny Almonte, who gained notoriety for playing in the 2001 Little League championship at the age of 14, has signed a deal with the Southern Illinois Miners, the minor league team announced Tuesday. Almonte, 20, is the ninth pitcher to join the Miners pitching staff.

"There are not too many young lefthanders with his quality of stuff sitting out there," Southern Illinois Miners Manager Mike Pinto said in a statement. "He has a 90+ mph fastball and an excellent slider. From our conversations, Danny is a quiet and shy young man who just wants a chance to showcase his talents."

Almonte, a native of the Dominican Republic, made headlines in 2001 when he threw the first no-hitter in Little League World Series history, recording 46 strikeouts and three hits in three starts to lead the Rolando Paulino All Stars to a third-place finish. Although the shoes are inexpensive, Marbury said: "It's not that they're cheap, they're just affordable. Now, as we begin to sign more players, kids won't feel that burden."

Wallace acknowledged he had doubts, but they went away once he tried a few pairs. "They last just as long, as any other pair," he said. "I hope people do realize that regardless of how much you do pay for a pair of sneakers, eventually they are going to wear out (out) somewhere."

But Almonte's performance was erased from the record books after it was discovered that he was 14 at the time, two years older than what rules allowed. Almonte's father was accused of falsifying his son's birth certificate and banned for life from Little League baseball.

Bulls player lends name to affordable clothing line started by Marbury

Andrew Seligman

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOUNT PROSPECT — Stephon Marbury started it. Now, Ben Wallace is joining the cause.

Wallace is lending his name to the Starbury Movement, endorsing an affordable line of sneakers and apparel started by the New York Knicks’ star. Wallace will begin wearing the Starbury II basketball shoe Thursday when the Chicago Bulls play his former team, the Detroit Pistons.

And his own sneaker — Big Ben — is expected to hit the market in late August or the fall.

"Kids don’t really understand what it takes to go out and buy a pair of $300 pair of shoes," Wallace said at a news conference on Tuesday. "We don’t understand the pressure we put on our parents when we’re growing up. This is one of the things where I think the parents will appreciate it a lot more than the kids right now because it eliminates so much stress from the parents. All parents want to see their kids have nice things."

Launched a year ago, the Starbury line is expanding from 50 products to 200 — nearly all available for $14.98 or less at Steve & Barry’s. So he wore "everything. No specific brands. So he wore "everything. No specific brands."

But Almonte’s performance was erased from the record books after it was discovered that he was 14 at the time, two years older than what rules allowed. Almonte’s father was accused of falsifying his son’s birth certificate and banned for life from Little League baseball.

Although the shoes are inexpensive, Marbury said: "It’s not that they’re cheap, they’re just affordable. Now, as we begin to sign more players, kids won’t feel that burden."

Wallace acknowledged he had doubts, but they went away once he tried a few pairs. "They last just as long, as any other pair," he said. "I hope people do realize that regardless of how much you do pay for a pair of sneakers, eventually they are going to wear out (out) somewhere."

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Bulls player lends name to affordable clothing line started by Marbury

Andrew Seligman

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOUNT PROSPECT — Stephon Marbury started it. Now, Ben Wallace is joining the cause.

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**BASEBALL**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

“The pitching has been the toughest part because it’s so much different than high school,” Roberts said. “As far as defense goes, I played center field in high school, but I figure to get some time in right as well. Koskie is a great player so we’ll see where I move when he gets back.”

Not far behind Roberts is Finigan, whose .325 average is third best on SIU’s roster. In addition, his .464 on base percentage is second on the team largely due to his plate discipline — Finigan leads the Salukis with 19 walks this season.

While Roberts bats second and Finigan bats ninth, the two have plenty in common.

Both played in a summer baseball league and room together in Mac Smith.

SIU coach Dan Callahan said the coaching staff expected all the players to contribute immediately.

“We don’t guarantee these guys anything, but they proved themselves this season,” Callahan said. “It doesn’t really matter where Aaron is playing because he’s a good outfielder, period. We don’t lose much with him out there in center because speed wise, he’s only a step or two behind Koskie and he also has a very strong arm.”

On the mound, the Salukis have a duo that has been essential to their early season success.

Weekday starting pitcher Choute, who also doubles as a first baseman on the weekend, has made his presence felt both offensively and defensively.

In limited playing time at first, Choute has nine runs scored, 10 walks and eight RBI.

On the mound, he has been even better.

Among starting pitchers, Choute’s 1.76 ERA is the second best at SIU. Along with his 2-1 record, he also has one save and 11 strikeouts.

While Choute’s numbers have shown the adjustment to college baseball has been easy, numbers don’t begin to tell George’s story.

When the majority of his teammates were trying to prove themselves in a season in which George’s baseball career was nearly brought to a halt, he was diagnosed with Crohn’s disease when he came to SIU.

George said the disease caused him to lose a considerable amount of weight in addition to starting the offseason training process over again.

“It was tough on me mentally and physically because I felt like I had to redo everything I did,” he said. “But when I’m up on that mound, it’s all behind me.”

In his first season as the Salukis’ closer, George has put up dominating numbers.

In 11 appearances, he has 15 strikeouts, five saves and an ERA of 1.69. George also holds opponents to a .175 batting average.

At a shade under 6 feet tall and only 170 pounds, George doesn’t scare anyone until his frame unloads a 93 mph fastball past them.

SIU pitching coach Tim Dixon said despite feeling like he let his teammates down in the fall, George realizes his teammates understood the circumstances.

“He’s put everything behind him and it shows now,” Dixon said. “It’s still a learning process but nothing is going to fake him.”

**SOFTBALL**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

season, appearing in the top 10 in seven offensive categories in the Missouri Valley Conference. Her 10 doubles are the second most in the MVC.

The second baseman brought her lightheartedness because games can be serious at times and they give me a little diversion,” Garza said. “I will read up on their lightheartedness because games can be serious at times and they give me a little diversion.”

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**They honestly loosen me up a little bit. It’s nice to have their lightheartedness because games can be serious at times and they give me a little diversion.**

— Kerri Blaylock

SIU coach

Garza and Wilson did not know each other coming into the year but both said they have become great friends with each other.

“They both laugh a lot and ease up the tension,” Blaylock said. “Garza is one of the funnier people you will meet, but when she’s in the game she knows how to get down to business.”

Wilson has been a part of Garza’s antics, whether it was in the dorms, where she mooped the floor at a basketball game or at the beach in Florida, where she is said to have shown up to a team swim session covered in sunscreen with floaty wings and a floating waist duck.

“Coming here I didn’t know Alicia or Allie (Hanson) but now they are some of my favorite people to hang out with,” Wilson said. “We all get along and click together, we are like a family.”

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536-3311 ext. 238
The NFL league owners voted on Tuesday to make instant replay a permanent tool for coaches and officials to use. Instant replay has been in debate about effectiveness ever since the “Snow Bowl” in New England is instant replay good for the sport of football?

“Sure. And I think America got a good thing going here with instant replay. It’s not in baseball, which is good, and the NFL and that one other league have a good system going with it.”

“I think instant replay is good for the NFL. The officials miss calls and need to be able to see the play again to make sure they get it right. Sometimes they still miss it, but at least there is a good chance they will get the call right. I hope it is completely eliminated from college football, though, because it seems out of place.”

“It has got to be a component of a football game though it stinks to sit and watch it because it does slow down the game, but it makes the difference in the world when the get the calls right. In fact, the replay should apply to garbage penalties that run a game.”

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

SPORTS BRIEFS

BASEBALL

SIU adopts no-pet policy at Abe Martin Field
The SIU Athletics Department added a no-pet policy rule for all baseball games at Abe Martin Field effective immediately.

Assistant Director of Athletics Jason King commented on the new policy. “In an effort to provide the safest and most friendly environment for our fans, we feel it is best to not allow pets at Abe Martin Field and on the hill.”

The existing rules include no bottles or glass containers allowed on the hill, no music, no profanity or expletives that ruin a game. “Sometimes they still miss it, but at least there is a member of SIU’s 1983 national champions and unveils another banner.

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Football

Saluki makes transitions

Freshman switches from pro baseball to college gridiron as tight end

Scott Mieszala
DAILY EDITION

For eight years, Byron Gettis was a professional baseball player, appearing in 28 games with the Kansas City Royals in 2004 and most recently playing in the Detroit Tigers’ system. Gettis now attends SIU and plays tight end for the Salukis, partaking in spring practices after not playing last season. He will replace the departed Braden Jones, whose 32 receptions and seven touchdowns last season led the Salukis.

“I got to watch him and I watch a lot of film,” Gettis said. “I study myself and I guess as a midnight that’s what you supposed to do. You’re supposed to observe a lot.”

Gettis was a quarterback for Cahokia High School before jumping straight to professional baseball in 1998. Converted by the Salukis to tight end, Gettis said he has come a long way since he arrived, getting faster and stronger with the help of coach Jerry Kill, tight ends coach Carl Mauck and strength coach Eric Klein.

“When I first got here this summer I was soft,” Gettis said. “I was a cake-eater when I first got here, but like I said, coach Mauck and coach Kill get on you enough, you got to push tough.”

At 27, Gettis is the oldest player on the Salukis, making him a team leader despite his freshman status.

Kill said SIU would do the same thing in the tight end position. Getting a first-year player on a team that has struggled at tight end in the past is a tremendous amount,” Kill said. “How can you not respect him?”

Gettis said he has to fix some mental errors, but he’s happy to practice with his teammates.

He was named AA player of the year in 2003, but hit .179 with 14 strikeouts and eight walks in 39 at-bats during his call-up with the Royals in 2004. There are similarities between playing professional baseball and college football, Gettis said, which have helped him with the Salukis.

“When you travel on a bus in the minors and you get off the bus and have to play a nine-inning game, all you think about is getting rest and it’s the same with being in class,” Gettis said. “When you go to class all day, come to football, you got to get your work done but you need rest. That’s the thing I could kind of take over from the minors and just being a leader. When someone’s tired and stuff, you got to push them. In competition, most of the time it’s against yourself, pushing yourself to the limit.”

Gettis is a special education major and hopes to become a teacher and coach after he graduates. He doesn’t use one of SIU’s football scholarships because the Royals pay for his tuition.

See TRANSITIONS, Page 17

SIU freshmen carry the load on diamonds

Good attitudes make impact on softball team

Jeff Engelhardt
DAILY EDITION

SIU softball freshmen Katie Wilson and Alicia Garza have smiles as big as their swings.

Garza, a second baseman, and Wilson, an outfielder, have made an immediate impact on the field for the Salukis as they have combined for 58 hits, 10 home runs and 37 RBIs. But their attitudes off the field have been as valuable to the No. 19 Salukis.

SIU softball coach Ken Blaylock said they bring a lot of fun to the team when they need it the most.

“They are really great kids, they are very fun loving and fun to be around,” Blaylock said. “They honestly loosen me up a little bit. It’s nice to have their light-heartedness because games can be serious at times and they give me a little diversion.”

Garza has been dominant at the plate this season. Wilson has been a valuable contributor.

Baseball’s fantastic four contributes immediately

Matt Hartwig
DAILY EDITION

The SIU baseball team needed players to step up this season and fill the void left by graduated seniors Hunter Harrigan, Matt Brewer and Grant Gerrard.

Starting pitcher Tyler Choute, closer Bryant George, center fielder Aaron Roberts and shortstop Michael Finigan all should have an impact on today’s home game against Tennessee-Martin at 3 p.m. at Abe Martin Field.

Each of these dynamic freshmen has played a key role in the Salukis’ 19-6 start. Roberts, filling in for injured senior Kevin Koskin, is second on SIU to sophomore Mark Kelly with a .396 batting average. He is also tied with sophomore third baseman Scott Elsmendorf with 23 runs scored.

Roberts said the adjustment to college baseball was tough at first, but the tightly knit team has made the transition much easier.

See BASEBALL, Page 18