The Daily Egyptian, October 22, 2009

Daily Egyptian Staff

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One step at a time

Dancers determined to save auditorium

Madeleine Leroux | Daily Egyptian
On most weeknights, Furr Auditorium is filled with dancers working to perfect their routines. But now, those dancers plan on perfecting more than just their technique; they want to perfect their performance space, too. The dancers of the Southern Illinois Dance Company rehearse five nights a week in Furr Auditorium in Pulliam Hall, amid peeling paint, broken seats and old, faulty lighting.
Sarah Fader, a junior from Arlington Heights studying marketing and public relations, said the company, which has 18 active members and nine apprentices, is working toward a long-range goal of renovating the auditorium, one step at a time. The stage floor, which was replaced two years ago through private donations and fundraisers, has been the only upgrade the auditorium has received in some time, Fader said.
Pulliam Hall was constructed in the early 1950s, originally designed as a training school for student teachers to get hands-on experience teaching kindergarten through 12th grade. Scott Weber, a supervising architect and engineer at the Physical Plant, said Furr has had minor renovations in recent years, such as air conditioning upgrades in the early 1990s and cosmetic changes such as fresh coats of paint. “Outside of that, nothing significant,” Weber said.
In a letter dated March 1970 to the then Physical Plant director Anthony Bliss, several problems were described in Furr Auditorium, including moisture penetration, flooring in poor condition and defective joints. It is unclear whether these changes were ever made to the auditorium. Donna Wilson, faculty adviser to the Southern Illinois Dance Company, said she has been working with the company for 23 years, and in that time, no significant renovations have been made in the auditorium. Wilson said the auditorium suffers from normal wear and tear, but no one is willing to fund a necessary renovation.
“When I came in 1986, it was scheduled to be renovated,” Wilson said. “And then it wasn’t.”
Pulliam Hall was closed for two years in the late 1980s for renovation and asbestos removal, and Phil Gattuso, Physical Plant director, said Furr was part of that renovation. Gattuso said he was not sure if the auditorium was on the deferred maintenance list of the university.
Wilson said the audience area has been somewhat updated with cosmetic changes, but the stage, lighting and backstage areas have not been touched. “What we have up there (on the stage) is original to the building,” Wilson said.
Wilson said for the short term, the group needs $25,000 to take care of the lighting above the stage, which is unsafe and unpredictable. She said part of the project has been approved, but her long-range goal would cost around $120,000 in repairs and renovations.

MAP efforts to resume for permanent funding
Stille T. Smith | Daily Egyptian
Students across the state of Illinois achieved a major victory in Springfield Oct. 15 when they successfully rallied to restore funding to the Monetary Award Program grant for the spring semester.
But the battle to keep funding the grant is not complete, as the decision has not been made to continue support in the fall semester. With the state projected to be $32 billion in debt for the next fiscal year, some students are concerned MAP support will not continue. Student Trustee Nate Brown said the only logical way to find a more permanent funding source for the grant is an increase to the income tax.
Brown said it could prove difficult to convince students that an increase in the income tax is in their best interest. “I think a lot of students feel that the MAP grant is important to them, but going that next step further and to say, ‘and we want you to increase the income tax,’ would be a little bit harder to sell,” Brown said.

Voters want cuts in budget, not services
Poll respondents favor no tax increase
Christina Spakovsky | Daily Egyptian
Illinois voters think the state should make large cuts in the budget, but do not want to lose any services, a recent survey released by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute found.
Charles Leonard, a visiting professor at the institute, said most people want more for less, which is an irrational way to build the state budget.
“It’s certainly a collision course,” Leonard said. “People want to keep money to waste it. People want to keep money to waste it.”
The institute created, financed and directed the annual public opinion survey of 800 registered voters across Illinois. Results from the sample had a statistical margin of error of less than 4 percent, according to the institute’s report.
The poll was created to help Illinois leaders, policymakers and academic researchers better understand public opinion.
Michelle Restivo, a senior from Energy studying speech communication, said increasing taxes could be a big problem, but the loss of more jobs would be even worse.
“Illinois is in bad shape, and it is starting to affect everyone,” Restivo said.
According to the survey, 65.5 percent of respondents are against raising the income tax from 5 to 4.5 percent — a proposal made by Gov. Pat Quinn. Nearly 76 percent of voters disagree with raising the state sales tax at all, however they don’t want any public programs cut, such as services for low-income families, public safety and education. Almost 65 percent oppose cutting spending on state universities, such as the Monetary Award Program grant.
“People who think there’s a lot of waste and fraud in state government ought to walk around SIUC and see a lot of things our university has had to defer maintenance on,” Leonard said. “There’s not a lot of money sloshing around SIUC.”
John Jackson, visiting professor, said people do not want to increase taxes to cover the budget deficit, but at the same time they want to keep the goods and services.

Please see CURRENTS | 6, 7
Please see MAP | 2
Please see Cuts | 2
A business owner in Carbondale believes he was almost a victim Tuesday of the same suspect who robbed a Jimmy John's delivery driver Monday.

Sang Lee, who owns Chicago Hot Dog and delivers food orders himself, said he received a call from a private number around 9:30 p.m. The caller identified himself as "Josh" and requested Lee have change for $100 upon delivery, he said.

The request was similar to the call Jimmy John's received Monday night before its driver was robbed of the order and change on delivery.

Lee said he was asked to deliver to 1008 West Cherry Street, just one block from where the Jimmy John's driver was robbed.

Lee told the caller he doesn't deliver to private numbers, so the caller provided him with a disconnected number and then the number to his girlfriend's cell phone, he said.

The phone took him straight to voicemail when Lee tried to call back, and when he arrived at 1008 West Cherry, he said he knocked on the door but the house was empty. Lee said nobody appeared.

Lee called the police department Wednesday to report the incident, he said.

Carbondale Police said it is not ready to release details on the incident.

Incident similar to Jimmy John's robbery reported

Forecast

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Calendar

Student Life

Correction

"I think a lot of people feel as if the MAP issue is behind them, that they're done with this whole thing, they're won and they can now move on," Brown said. "That's not the case. It's great news what happened, but I don't think anyone wants to continue doing this over and over again.

Brown said students cannot continue to fight for short-term solutions, and they must fight for a stable funding source.

"This is the great conundrum that the people of Illinois (now) face," Yeppen said.

Christina Speakhady can be reached at 536-3312 ext. 259.

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Do you agree with the state's decision to temporarily fund the MAP grant?

A: Yes, we need the grant now and any and we can wait for more permanent solutions later.
B: No, the program to fund the state's needs is a great way to start the priority.
C: Yes, the budget crisis in the program is unrelated to the amount the legislature was providing.

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Hovercraft helps recruit students

Travis Bean
DAILY EGYPTIAN
travisb@siu.edu

Do not worry if there is a strange machine floating across Thompson Lake; it is probably just a hovercraft.

David Allabastro said Hoverclub has built hovercrafts at SIUC for 14 years. Allabastro, staff adviser for the club, oversees the construction of the machines.

Allabastro started the club with Gary Barton, a professor in civil engineering, as a recruiting tool for high school students. Since then, they have competed in national competitions and turned the club into a Registered Student Organization.

Barton said the beginning stages were difficult and the club had to learn from its mistakes. He said he taught the basics to newcomers and challenged the experienced engineering students.

“We wanted them to build a hovercraft that met certain requirements and would qualify us for entry-level racing in the Hoverclub of America,” he said.

Allabastro said competitions feature various categories, such as piloting, design and technical innovation. SIUC has won technical innovation two years in a row and took third place last year at nationals, he said.

“A hovercraft competition is pretty much like an auto competition in the 1950s,” he said. “We will compete with anybody that has a machine. We will see people from pretty much all over the country and, in some cases, all over the globe.”

SIUC participates in the entry-level category of competitions. Allabastro said, which limits it to a 15 horsepower motor. He said the machines can get up to 35 mph on water and 25 mph on floating machines at competitions can reach up to 110 mph.

Because the machines are hard to operate, Allabastro said it is difficult to keep pilots.

“A hovercraft flies like a motorcycle on ice. Just because you point it in any given direction doesn’t mean it’s going to go there,” he said. “It takes skill and seat time, just like an airplane, to be able to pilot it properly.”

Allabastro said Hoverclub has been a great recruiting tool. He said it visits high schools, grade schools and community colleges.

“In some cases, we’ll go into a grade school,” he said. “We’ll just go in and say, ‘We’re from SIU, isn’t that neat!’ And everyone goes out and watches the hovercraft.”

David Williams, another staff adviser for Hoverclub, said the hovercraft draws a lot of interest from high school students.

“What’s common to everybody is it goes fast, and it makes a lot of noise. Some and kids like that,” he said. “I’m not sure what the hovercraft’s mystery is, but everybody loves it.”

Allabastro said he believes the club has recruited between 2,000 to 3,000 students to SIUC during its 14-year tenure.

“The idea of the hovercraft is just getting people interested, not necessarily the college of engineering but to get people interested in engineering period,” he said.

Mandora Savage, chairman of the Department of Technology, said the club is important for engineering students to get hands-on experience.

“Students actually get down and they cut the metal, they cut the wood, they glue the wood — you know, they do all of those things related to building a hovercraft,” he said. “For them, it’s a very worthwhile effort because they can see the actual vehicles from beginning to end.”

Williams said the club gives hands-on experience that will help students in the job market.

“If you come to a university and just get a four-year degree, you’ve cut yourself short of the experiences you could’ve had,” he said. “The type of experience you get when you work with something like this, you can’t put a dollar value on it.”

Travis Bean can be reached at 536-3111 ext. 275.

Isaac Smith | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Bryan Snow, a graduate student in technology and member of the Hoverclub, reaffinthes a skirt to one of the hovercrafts in the club’s workshop located in the Engineering Building Wednesday. The group builds hovercrafts for competition and uses them for recruiting students to the School of Engineering. David Williams, a staff adviser for the club, said the hovercrafts are a big draw for the department.

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

Luke McCormick: Flight of the Conchords’ tales off ‘The Very Best’ is nearly that

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SIU Alumni Association
Vatican creates new structure for Anglicans

Nicole Winfield
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI has created a new church structure for Anglicans who want to join the Catholic Church, responding to the disillusionment of some Anglicans over the ordination of women and the election of openly gay bishops.

The new provision will allow Anglicans to join the Catholic Church while maintaining their Anglican identity and many of their liturgical traditions, Cardinal William Levada, the Vatican's chief doctrinal official, told a news conference.

The new structure, called Personal Ordinariates, will be units of faithfulness within the local Catholic Church headed by former Anglican prelates who will provide spiritual care for Anglicans who wish to become Catholic.

"Those Anglicans who have approached the Holy See have made clear their desire for full, visible unity in the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church," Levada said. "At the same time, they have told us of the importance of their Anglican traditions of spirituality and worship for their faith journey."

Levada said the new canonical structure is a response to the many requests that have come to the Vatican over the years from Anglicans who have become increasingly disillusioned with the ordination of women, the election of openly gay bishops and the blessing of same-sex unions in the 77-million strong Anglican Communion.

He declined to give figures on the number of requests that have come to the Vatican, or on the anticipated number of Anglicans who might take advantage of the new structure.

The new canonical provision allows married Anglican priests to become ordained Catholic priests — much the same way that Eastern rite priests who are in communion with Rome are allowed to be married. However, married Anglicans could not become Catholic bishops.

The Vatican announcement immediately raised questions about how it would be received within the Anglican Communion and the prospects for continued ecumenical talks between the Vatican and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Noticably, no one from the Vatican's office on relations with Anglicans and other Christians attended the news conference; Levada said he had invited representatives to attend but they said they were all away from Rome.

However, the Vatican's archbishop of Westminster and Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury and spiritual head of the global Anglican church, issued a joint statement, saying the decision "brings an end to a period of uncertainty" for Anglicans wishing to join the Catholic Church. The statement said the decision in fact could not have happened had there not been such fruitful dialogue between the two.

The Anglican church

The Vatican announced a plan to make it easier for displaced Anglicans to convert to Catholicism. A look at the history of the Anglican church:

History

1534 King Henry VIII (pictured), who wanted an annulment that the pope would not approve, made himself head of the Church of England

1549 First version of the Book of Common Prayer written; organizes Anglican practice

1550 Queen Mary I restores Catholicism in England

1559-1603 Anglicans take shape under Queen Elizabeth I; Book of Common Prayer revised

17th century Anglicans form English Church, simple devotion, moral living in reaction to strict Catholics

18th century Evangelicals push for more spiritual fervor; John Wesley's Methodists break with Church of England

- Anglicans in post-revolutionary United States call themselves Episcopalians to be separate from Church of England

19th century Church expands to former colonies; many Anglican churches in the former colonies are now members of the Anglican Communion

21st century issues of women bishops, an openly gay U.S. bishop, blessing of same-sex unions divide Anglicans

Anglicans worldwide

- 77 million members

- The Episcopal Church of the United States and the Scottish Episcopal Church are two of 44 self-governing regional churches in the Anglican Communion

- Worship service is liturgical; authorized by Book of Common Prayer

- Called the middle way between Catholics and Protestants; not subject to the pope as Ecumenical Patriarch; most doctrine, but retain Catholic forms of worship, including a hierarchy based on bishops

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Vatican creates new structure for Anglicans

Nicolle Winfield
The Associated Press

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**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

“In short, our nation’s child-welfare system is stretched to its beyond capacity.”

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Mess up priorities**

Dear Editor:

In response to the article “Cole offers Salisbury Way funds for MAP,” I think it is a wonderful idea and gesture Mayor Cole made to help the students out. I think the reaction of SLE President Glenn Pohland shows students just how much value the student population. He values and holds the Salisbury Way project so high that he doesn’t want to sacrifice the project to help the students out.

After all, if you don’t have students at the university, you don’t have anything.

Enrollment has been such an issue at this school and, with the economy, it has put a freeze on hiring the needed faculty this university needs. Just getting some of that money would help students out.

But instead, he would rather enrollment numbers plummet even more because the students do not have the need to attend this university.

It baffles me that he would rather fund the Salisbury Way project than to help out the population that makes sure he has a job here at SLE. Why build a brand new football stadium when we can barely fill the one we have now? I honestly think your priorities are extremely messed up, Mr. Pohland.

Christine Tarpley
Senior studying dental hygiene

---

**Has humanitarianship left Carbondale?**

Dear Editor:

On Oct. 17, my buddies and I went to Garfield’s Restaurant to grab a bite and watch the Salisbury football game. We thought it would be nice to take a break from dorm food.

It was around 3 p.m. and the restaurant was not crowded. Being a ‘quokkepiego’, I ordered a nice juicy bacon cheeseburger and asked the waitresses to have my burger cut in the kitchen since I am unable to do so myself. She refused.

I was surprised at her refusal, as I have never been denied this request at other local restaurants. In the time she argued with me, my burger could have been cut and all would have been well.

Instead, I had to order chicken fingers like the other 3-year-olds in the restaurant. Shame on you, Garfield’s!

T.J. Zweidinger
Senior in political science

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**THE SANITY CORNER**

**Kittens and free speech**

Who could have guessed there would be a Supreme Court case involving kittens and free speech? The case U.S. v. Stevens involves both.

The case involves the commercial selling of videos of dogfights and crush videos. Crush videos are films of women in dresses stepping on small animals.

The court case, which was heard in the first week of October, deals with different issues concerning the selling of videos that depict cruelty of animals.

What kinds of videos cruelty can be allowed? The line of what is legal and illegal for these videos is not clear.

In the New York Times and the L.A. Times, it was reported Justice Antonin Scalia was skeptical about banning all videos of animal cruelty. Justice Scalia, an avid hunter, said he is afraid video of legal hunting activities would be banned. The law is meant to stop the sale of “crush” videos. Justice Scalia said there is unfair protection of one kind of speech instead of another. Speech condemning fighting is allowed, but speech promoting fighting is not protected.

Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. said if the videos of animal cruelty were protected under the First Amendment, hypothetically it would be legal to have a “human sacrifice” channel. This brings up an interesting point.

If videos of animal cruelty are protected under the First Amendment, then the videos of cruelty to humans could also have protection under the First Amendment.

One argument is people will engage in the illegal activities, even if these videos cannot be sold. This is true, illegal acts will always be committed.

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**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

There are two categories not protected under the First Amendment: obscenity and profanity.

There are always will be someone with a weird fetish or horrible idea for cruelty to animals. There is a justice system to go after them. The apprehension and prosecution of such activities is another problem for a different time.

The real issue this case is dealing with is the freedom to sell videos of these cruel actions. If the law is overturned and such videos are protected under the First Amendment, then people with these horrible practices could make a profit with the commercial selling of the films.

People should not be allowed to make a profit from something cruel and illegal. Legalizing it could promote the activity because people could make money on the films. This is not what the First Amendment wants to promote.

There are two categories not protected under the First Amendment: obscenity and profanity.

The marketing of these videos would be as bad as selling child pornography, which is considered obscene.

There is one easy line the Supreme Court could draw for future reference: If the record is recorded, it is not being legal to sell the videos.

This would protect hunting videos, because hunting is a legal action. Therefore, the videos of it would be legal, and the law could not be used against hunters, as Justice Scalia feared.

There are many levels to this court case, but kittens should be protected by the Constitution — they are too cute for the First Amendment to want to hurt them.

Thomas is a senior studying journalism.
The stage lighting at the auditorium is more than 50 years old, and some dancers said they feel unsafe dancing under it.

Leah Zulz, a senior from Peoria studying fashion merchandising, gets music ready Monday at the Furr Auditorium for a lyrical ballet dance she choreographed.

The Southern Illinois Dance Company raised $5,000 in 2007 to replace the old wooden stage floor in Furr Auditorium.

The Southern Illinois Dance Company raised $5,000 in 2007 to replace the old wooden stage floor in Furr Auditorium.

Eric Oleson, a junior from Plano studying architecture and treasurer of the SI Dance Company.

Lauryn Fisherkeller, a junior from LaGrange studying public relations, the group modern steps Oct. 15 at the Furr Auditorium.

“If you look around the rest of the place, you kind of get depressed.”

— Shawna Wagner
a junior from Schaumburg studying zoology
Wilson said she would like to transform the auditorium into a professional performance space, with lighting fixtures on the walls and a light board for shows. "Just simple, basic theater stuff," Wilson said. "(Furr Auditorium) is not really set up for performances, and we don't have a staff (for shows)."

Fader said the company has not requested funds from Undergraduate Student Government in several years because it has not had much luck in the past. Fader said she has spoken with Pacifico Faberson, USG president, about the possibility of funding in the future.

Fader said USG is responsible for funding so many groups that she understands there are others who might need to come first, but she also does not want the company to be seen as just another student group. "We actually feel like we're a part of something that's bigger than that," Fader said.

Wilson said the company receives donations and also saves money into a foundation account for renovation. She said she hopes to get some money for renovations through donations from company alumni and possibly receive aid through the Capital Development Board's school construction program. The program was appropriated $1.5 billion for school construction grants to provide new facilities, additions and renovations.

Leah Zult, a senior from Washburn studying fashion design merchandising, said she has been involved in the company for five semesters. Zult said the auditorium lighting system is in most need of upgrades. "It's hard to put on a professional-looking show with the lights that we have," Zult said. "We have a lighting board that's really old and sometimes it doesn't work, but we need it to work all the time."

Zult said the company has about $1,000 in its foundation account so far. It's going to take a lot more to get there, she said, but the group wants to look as good as they do in performances. "I think we're all motivated to get it done," Zult said.

Shawna Wagner, a junior from Schuylkill County studying zoology, said she has been in the company for five semesters and aside from the new stage, the place looks bleak. "If you look around the rest of the place, you kind of get depressed," Wagner said.

Wagner said she doesn't think the university sees the group as a priority for funding, even though the space is deteriorating. Half the seats in the front row are broken, she said, and the paint on the walls is peeling off in large chunks. It's used for lecture classes as well, Wagner said, and many students probably do not respect the area as a performance space.

Wagner said most of the existing lights go out unpredictably and are incredibly difficult to work with, even for professionals. There are times when bulbs will suddenly blow out during rehearsals, Wagner said, making many unsure while on stage. "Sometimes even the lighting designer doesn't know what to do," Wagner said. "We don't feel completely safe under the lights most of the time."

Madeline Levasseur can be reached at 536-3313 ext. 214.
Thursday, October 22, 2009

Saluki Insider

Washington Redskins head coach Jim Zorn is rumored to be quitting after owner Daniel Snyder decided Zorn would no longer call Washington’s plays. Do you think Zorn should leave?

Ryan Voyles
rvoyles
@siu.edu

Dear Ryan,

Coach Snyder has decided that he does not want Zorn to call the plays any longer, thus Zorn is likely to resign. Zorn was not given a contract extension following last year’s 2-14 season, so many believe this was his last year with the team. Snyder has not had a winning season since 2001 and won’t win his first playoff game until 2018. Teamowner Snyder has been trying to take over the Redskins to give them credibility. His plan is to hire a high-profile coach and pay large amounts of money to free agents. I believe the Redskins will struggle and Zorn will soon resign.

Sincerely,
Ryan

Story continued from 12

“We have a lot to stop, but I believe as we prepare this week that we can do it,” cornerback Brandian Ross said.

Ross is part of one of the best secondaries in the nation as the Penguins rank No. 1 in the conference in pass defense. Even as Youngstown State faces down the toughest stretch of its season, Heacock said he is prepared for the challenge.

“It’s exciting. This is what you come here for,” Heacock said. “This is the whole deal. You go play the best teams and see where you are. If you’re still standing at the end, then you play in the playoffs.”

Ryan Voyles can be reached at 536-3312 ext. 256.

ENEMY

Ray McGillis
ray102jr
@siu.edu

Stripping a head coach of their play-calling duties in the NFL is probably the most indelible method of saying, “We trust you to lead our team... but never mind that, no, we don’t!” After being the first coach to lose to the Detroit Lions in what seems like a decade, he should already be a foot out the door. Will he quit? Not a chance. All he has to do now is wait for his pink slip and collect the loot of his guaranteed money.

Online Robbins’ Nest: I may hate the Patriots, but the Titans got what they deserved.

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Join us at our tailgate for FAMILY WEEKEND 2009

October 24, 2009
12pm - 3pm
Saluki Family Tent, Saluki Row
(north side of SIUC Arena, near the Troutt-Wittman Center)

Enjoy FREE food, games & prizes!

Watch with us after the tailgate as the Salukis take on Youngstown State - kickoff is at 3pm.

Saluki Family Tent tailgate sponsored by: University Housing, Undergraduate Admissions & Saluki Family Association.

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Saluki men’s tennis player Chikara Kidera, an undecided freshman from St. Louis, hits the ball back to his teammate during practice Monday. Kidera will play in the No. 2 singles spot in the ITA Regional Championships hosted in Tulsa, Okla., Thursday.

Salukis prepare for ITA Regional Championships

When you play at higher levels, it brings out the best in you. It’s why I came to college.

— Brandon Florez
men’s tennis player

Derek Robbins  Daily Egyptian

The new-look SIU men’s tennis team faces a national test this week.

The Salukis will compete in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Regional Championships starting Thursday in Tulsa, Okla.

Because of injuries to seniors Anton Leonenko and Lucas Waked, the top two players for SIU going into the tournament are freshmen Brandon Florez and Chikara Kidera.

Nelson said he is interested to see how the team compares to national competition.

“The field is much stronger than it was last year,” Nelson said. “We’re hoping that we can compete and belong in a field like that.”

At the ITA Regional Championships, players compete in two different fields — the qualification bracket and the main draw.

The main draw is where a team’s top two players play. Winners in the qualification bracket advance to the main draw. Kidera and Florez represent the Salukis in the main bracket while freshmen Pavlo Buryi and Orhan Spahic are in the qualification bracket.

Nelson said he is happy to get his freshmen playing against strong competition and thinks it will help them get ready for conference opponents in the spring.

Nelson has sent freshmen to ITA competition in the past.

Last season, Eric West — now a sophomore at Oklahoma State University — made it to the semifinals of the ITA Central Regional consolation bracket. West lost to Nebraska’s David Bendheim 6-7 (4), 6-1, 6-3.

West defeated then-teammate Leonenko 6-2, 6-4 and James McArthur of St. Louis University 6-3, 6-3 to enter the semifinal round where he lost to Nebraska’s Maar Aumuller 6-1, 6-0.

Graduate assistant coach Hugo Vidal also competed in the tournament, winning his first round match in the main draw against Nebraska’s Taylor Boney 6-2, 6-0 before losing to Drake’s Max Zirkle 6-1, 6-0.

Florez said he is excited to play against national competition and try to replicate the success that West had in the tournament last year.

“We should all play better tennis than what we have been playing,” Florez said. “When you play at higher level, it brings out the best in you. It’s why I came to college.”

In the last tournament, the Steve Baras Fall Classic in Chatanooga, Tenn., Florez and Kidera were the only two Salukis to win a match.

Florez said the key to his success has been his ability to stay calm.

“The big thing is the spring, right now we are just getting used to playing and getting better,” Florez said. “When spring hits, that’s when everything falls into place.”

To help the team get ready for the tournament, Nelson said he tried to get the team to practice outside in the windy conditions.

“I am from Oklahoma, and normally it’s kind of windy,” Nelson said. “It can be nice in the morning, but terrible in the afternoon. I’m just trying to help replicate the conditions so we can do our best.”

Nelson said the first two rounds are usually played outdoors, and then the tournament is moved indoors.

While the fall serves as a warm up to the spring, Kidera still expects the team to play as hard as it can.

“I hope everyone plays well and takes care of business,” Kidera said. “If we play hard and fight for every point, we should be able to win some matches.”

The tournament begins Thursday and lasts until Monday.

Dave Robbins can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 269.
Penguins look to surprise surging Salukis

Ryan Voyle
DAILY EGYPTIAN
POULTNEY, Vt. –

The next three weeks will determine whether the Penguins are contenders or pretenders.

Youngstown State (4-2, 2-1 Missouri Valley Football Conference) will face SIU Northern Iowa and South Dakota State — the top three teams in the conference — over the next three weeks.

But head coach Jon Heacock said his team’s focus is squarely on the Salukis as it heads to McAnrendra Stadium for a 3 p.m. kickoff Saturday.

“They play like a veteran squad, and that’s credit to (head coach) Dale Lennon and his squad. They just don’t make mistakes,” Heacock said. “We’ll need to keep our focus on the game on Saturday and worry about the rest of the season afterward.”

Youngstown State will come into Saturday’s game at No. 3 SIU (5-1, 4-0 MVFC) well rested after last week’s bye, which may give an advantage to the Penguins — who have won their last six games after a bye.

The Penguins will also enter Saturday’s game with revenge on their mind after last season’s 33-0 defeat to SIU in Youngstown, Ohio.

“Last year was embarrassing,” right guard Brian Mellett said. “It was humiliating for this town. As a local, Youngstown native, it was the most embarrassing thing that’s happened to me at Youngstown State.”

Brandon Summers is capable of dishing out the payback.

The senior quarterback did not play in last year’s loss because of a sprained knee, but Summers will look to beat the Salukis with his arm and legs.

He has 139 net-gain yards on the ground, including a 73-yard run. Summers is only the second Youngstown State quarterback since 1990 to rush for three touchdowns in a season.

“We just got to keep pressure on a quarterback that can run like that,” SIU senior linebacker Brandin Jordan said. “You stop him from running and you make him beat you with the pass. Summers’ passing may prove to be the best offense for the Salukis as he has struggled with interceptions.”

Summers has completed 100 of 166 pass attempts for 1,083 yards, 10 touchdowns and nine interceptions on the season. SIU leads the MVFC with 12 interceptions on the year.

But Summers is not alone in the Penguins’ offensive attack. Donald Jones and Dominique Barnes are two of the top receivers in the conference, both averaging more than 60 yards receiving per game. Jones and Barnes both have four touchdown receptions on the year.

Behind Summers are running backs Kevin Smith and Jahbar Scott, who both have passed the 1,000-yard mark in their careers. Smith has plowed ahead for 526 yards on the season and is tied with Summers with three rushing touchdowns.

On the defensive side, two preseason all-conference defensive tackles will look to do what no team has done yet this season — slow down the nation’s leading rusher Deji Karim.

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