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OpenSIUC

September 2003

Daily Egyptian 2003

9-25-2003

The Daily Egyptian, September 25, 2003

Daily Egyptian Staff

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Volume 89, Issue 28

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A kayak trip for two



AMBER ARNOLD - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Jane Reh of Cobden and Cass Vandermeer of Du Quoin carry their kayaks into Cedar Lake Wednesday afternoon. 'We are out here every week,' Vandermeer said.

DCFS Union workers protest

State posts job listings; employees may be on the way

Nicole Sack
 Daily Egyptian

A group of union workers picketed two regional offices of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to protest the Department's failure to fill vacant positions in the Southern Illinois region.

Union workers represented by Council 31 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees held two pickets Wednesday in front of the DCFS regional office buildings in Marion and East St. Louis.

Staff representatives for AFSCME Council 31. Debby Lippincott said the picket was organized to protest the Department's failure to fill 90 field staff positions left vacant by early retirement and attrition.

"The purpose of the picket was to send a strong message to the

governor's office that we need help in the field, and we need help as soon as possible," Lippincott said.

The positions that need to be filled, according to Lippincott, are direct service workers, particularly child protection specialists that investigate suspected child abuse, as well as a need for child welfare specialists that followup on families to make sure the children are protected.

Because the numbers of field staff positions have not been filled, the workload for existing DCFS staff has increased.

"When you work in this field, you don't work 35 to 45 hours a week, go home and forget about it. You are working with the most vulnerable of our society," Lippincott said. "These guys are working themselves to death to make sure these kids are safe."

While the AFSCME Council 31 has been meeting with management on a regular basis to try to identify problems in the system to get positions filled, Wednesday's picket occurred because the process was not happening fast enough.

"We've been trying to be patient

and understanding. We recognize that there is a financial problem in the state, and we all need to work together toward a solution. But there comes a point when the solution isn't coming fast enough," Lippincott said.

Since the union group planned to picket, the state posted openings for new positions.

Bill Peyton, regional administrator for Illinois Department of Child and Family Services — Southern Region, said DCFS might receive some relief soon. Peyton sent the governor's office a request for 35 direct service positions, 25 of which were approved last Friday.

Of those 25 new job postings, 10 are for follow-up workers, and 10 more are for investigators across the Southern Illinois region.

"I'm very optimistic about what has happened in the last five working days," Peyton said. "Hopefully that is a good sign of things to come."

Reporter Nicole Sack can be reached at nsack@dailyegyptian.com

Two appeals filed for one case

Governor files motion to dismiss today in Sangamon County

Jackie Keane
 Daily Egyptian

Gov. Rod Blagojevich's appeal for the 27 reinstated jobs was heard Wednesday by a Cook County judge who ruled in his favor, but it may have come too late.

"The judge ruled in our favor and said that he agreed with us on the merits of the case and granted the stay we requested," said Abby Ottenhoff, spokeswoman for the governor.

The Circuit Court Cook County judge granted a stay, which would result in the employees who were reinstated to their jobs to not return to jobs until the case is resolved.

But when the judge returned from a break, he learned an appeal had already been filed in Sangamon County by the employees reinstated by the Civil Service Commission.

Blagojevich fired Carbondale Mayor Brad Cole and 62 other former Gov. George Ryan later-term appointees in his first week as governor.

All of the individuals were hired on term appointments. Traditionally, this would mean after a six-month probationary period they could not be fired for four years.

On Sept. 21, the Civil Service Commission made a decision to reinstate the jobs of 27 employees fighting for their jobs.

"They found the discharge was not valid," said Dan Stralla, acting executive of the director of the Civil Service Commission. "Their certifications and statutes are presumed to be valid, and therefore they are to be returned to work."

According to Ottenhoff, after the judge learned of the appeal in Sangamon, he reiterated he agreed with the governor, but there were two cases pending in two courts. The question that needed to be answered is who has jurisdiction and can move forward.

"They really have no reason to file

an appeal," Ottenhoff said. "Now there's a question over jurisdiction — which court should rule."

Today, Blagojevich will file motion to dismiss in Sangamon County, according to Ottenhoff.

"We believe the employees won the case in the civil service, so they have no grounds for them to appeal 'cause they got what they were seeking from the civil service," Ottenhoff said.

Blagojevich said in January, former Gov. George Ryan should not have had the power to appoint some employees to four-year terms before leaving office, a move that would prevent Blagojevich from firing them.

Cole was fired in January after the newly sworn-in governor charged by the rules requiring a six-month probationary period had been inappropriately reduced to 30 days, and the appointees were not hired from the eligibility list, a list that is part of the states' personnel code and acts like a law.

Cole and others worked under Ryan as his deputy chief of staff in the Southern Illinois office in Marion until November 2002, at which point he accepted the new appointment to senior public service administrator for the Illinois Department of Central Management Services for Southern Illinois.

Cole declined to comment on Blagojevich's appeal, but he did say if he is to move into his state position, his job as mayor will not be affected.

"I don't think you will notice a difference," Cole said.

Reporter Jackie Keane can be reached at jkeane@dailyegyptian.com

"We believe the employees won the case in the civil service, so they have no grounds for them to appeal 'cause they got what they were seeking from the civil service."

— Abby Ottenhoff
 spokeswoman for governor

Wendler discusses proposed tuition increase at GPSC meeting

Resolution opposing USA Today readership program passed Tuesday

Leah Williams
 Daily Egyptian

In order to release some of the concerns members had regarding next year's tuition increase, the Graduate and Professional Student Council invited Chancellor Walter Wendler to its Tuesday night meeting to discuss the issue with the council.

Wendler responded to questions and suggested amendments to the original tuition increase for graduate students proposed earlier

this year, which GPSC had previously opposed. In the new plan, tuition would increase over the next two years by the original percentage. However, tuition would increase significantly during the following two school years.

The tuition plan proposed earlier this year called for a 16.2-percent increase in tuition next fall for graduate students. Before, the chancellor had initially promised a 7- or 8-percent increase.

GPSC had previously approved a resolution opposing the original tuition increase. Council members argued the increase does not give graduate students enough time to gather the necessary funds.

Wendler addressed those concerns of GPSC. He said that as much as he wants to keep his promises, the costs are necessary because of the state and national economies.

"This is the time the need is real," he said.

He proposed a "working" second tuition increase plan to the council. In the new plan, the tuition increase for 2004 and 2005 would be 7 percent but would raise in 2006 and 2007 by 16.5 percent and 16.1 percent, respectively. The plan would increase stipends and assistantships for graduate students.

GPSC plans to table the chancellor's proposal for further discussion at the next meeting.

A resolution opposing USA Today's Collegiate Readership program was unanimously passed during the meeting.

The resolution said USA Today failed to prove its program increases readership and lacked evidence of the educational benefit the program may have on students.

President Amy Sileven contested USA

Today engaged in deceptive sales practices by misrepresenting its cost. This is in regards to the discrepancy in the price of the program. USA Today said in an e-mail to the DAILY EGYPTIAN a student fee for the program would be \$5 a year. GPSC stated representatives from the paper told the council the cost would be \$5 a semester.

"Our tapes and our memories demonstrate quite clearly that was not the case," Sileven said. "I would consider that deceptive sales practices and misrepresenting cost."

The resolution also recommended the administration to also reject the readership program.


Leah Williams can be reached at williams@dailyegyptian.com

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NATIONAL NEWS

Bush addresses U.N. seeking more help in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (KRT) — President Bush on Tuesday asked for the world's help in rebuilding Iraq. But he made no concessions to get it, and there was little indication from other leaders that they were in a hurry to grant it.

In a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, Bush was unapologetic for going to war without a U.N. endorsement. "Let us move forward," he said. "The nation of Iraq needs and deserves our aid, and all nations of goodwill should step forward and provide that support." It was clear that bitterness still lingered over Bush's Iraq policy a year after he told the U.N. that it risked irrelevancy if it failed to authorize the war. U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan criticized the U.S.-led invasion for encouraging "the lawless use of force" by other nations, while France and Germany repeated their demands for more U.N. involvement.

Response to Bush's 26-minute speech was polite but unenthusiastic. The welcome for French President Jacques Chirac, who criticized U.S. policy, was far warmer.

The United States is seeking a Security Council resolution that would encourage more international aid to Iraq.

Approval rating for Bush hits lowest point

ORLANDO (KRT) — President Bush now has the lowest public-approval rating of his presidency as growing doubts about the war in Iraq weigh on Americans already troubled by how Bush is handling the economy.

Now at 50 percent in the latest Gallup Poll, the president's job-approval rating has plunged 9 points in the last month alone.

Both Bush's decline and a notable increase in public dissatisfaction with the war occurred as the president openly confronted the staggering cost of a continuing conflict.

Persisting anxiety over a struggling economy and spreading perception that the war in Iraq was not worth the effort have combined to abruptly end a long ride of strong public support for Bush since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

While the 2004 election remains a year away, Bush's sliding ratings make him vulnerable to credible challengers. Indeed, Gallup shows the newest Democratic rival, retired Gen. Wesley Clark, has entered the race on a virtual par with the president.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

MSN to close chat rooms

LONDON, England (CNN) — Microsoft says it will drop chat room services in 28 countries next month, in a move it says will ward off pedophiles and junk e-mailers.

But tech analysts said the changes would help the software giant get rid of users who don't pay and are not contributing to the company's bottom line.

In a statement, the Redmond, Washington-based Microsoft said it made the decision following the growing abuse of the Internet, particularly in unsupervised, anonymous chat rooms.

The company pointed to a rise in the use of junk mail known as spam and "unsolicited and inappropriate material, particularly with regards to children."

Online chat rooms are one of the most popular tools on the Internet and one of the most frequently abused. There have been a series of cases where pedophiles have used chat rooms to "groom" youngsters for sexual abuse.

But Microsoft's decision to close unsupervised chat rooms has triggered a heated debate among free speech advocates, children's rights groups and Microsoft rivals.

Apology sought for Algerian 'missing'

ALGIERS, Algeria (CNN) — The man appointed by Algeria to shed light on thousands of disappearances during a decade-long struggle with Islamic militants said Monday the aim should be an official apology, not prosecutions.

Algeria plunged into near civil war when rebels took up arms after the cancellation of parliamentary elections in 1992 that the radical Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was poised to win.


Well over 100,000 people are estimated to have died, many at the hands of the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), as it targeted officials, intellectuals, religious leaders and civilians.

Farouk Ksentini, appointed by President Abdelaziz Bouteflika to investigate the emotive issue of those still missing, believes 7,200 people disappeared.

Many are believed to have been kidnapped by members of the armed forces or police acting alone, or by Islamic extremists, Ksentini said. Human rights groups believe most were killed.

Today

High 70
Low 42



Mostly sunny.

Five-day Forecast	
Friday	Partly cloudy 75/56
Saturday	Chance of rain 70/47
Sunday	Sunny 72/43
Monday	Partly cloudy 67/40
Tuesday	Partly cloudy 69/42

Almanac	
Average high:	77
Average low:	52
Thursday's hi/low:	95/32

CALENDAR

Today

College Democrats
Presentation: Kuzinich for President
6:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Corinth Room in the Student Center

POLICE REPORTS

University

A window was reportedly broken between 5 p.m. Monday and 6:48 a.m. Tuesday at the Life Science II building. There are no suspects at this time.

Criminal damage to a vehicle occurred between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Tuesday at the intersection of Point Drive and Lentz Drive. There are no suspects at this time.

Carbondale

A residential burglary occurred between 10 p.m. Friday and noon Saturday in the 200 block of South Hanseman Street. The victim reported someone entered the residence through a window and stole \$180 cash. There are no suspects at this time.

An auto burglary occurred between 9 a.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday in the 1000 block of East Park Street. The victim reported someone entered an unlocked vehicle and stole an envelope containing U.S. currency, checks and \$200 worth of sorority raffle tickets. Total loss is estimated at \$375. The investigation continues.

CORRECTIONS

In the Tuesday, Sept. 23 article "Beyond the bench," it should have stated that Circuit Judge David Watt will retire at the end of November.

In the Thursday, Sept. 11 article "Amtrak commuters learn more about Southern Illinois," Sara Berkbigler's name was misspelled.

The DAILY EGYPTIAN regrets the error.

Readers who spot an error should contact the DAILY EGYPTIAN accuracy desk at 536-3311 ext. 253.

DAILY EGYPTIAN is published Monday through Friday during the fall semester and spring semesters and four times a week during the summer semester except during vacations and exam weeks by the students of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

The DAILY EGYPTIAN has a fall and spring circulations of 20,000. Copies are distributed on campus and in the Carbondale, Murphysboro, and Carterville communities.

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DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by Southern Illinois University. Offices are in the Communications Building, Room 1219 at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901. Waterbury, local delivery. Free copy is given each additional copy 50 cents. Mail subscription information available.

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

Bill considers placing juvenile offenders in community plans

Redeploy Illinois would give counties financial incentives

Lindsey J. Mastis
Daily Egyptian

Redeploy Illinois is a program that allows counties to get money for placing juvenile offenders in community-based programs rather than into incarceration.

The program, introduced by Rep. Barbara Flynn Curry, D-Chicago, could be implemented by next summer. The bill would give counties money for evaluations and implement programs for juveniles as an incentive for placing them in the Department of Corrections.

"I think that this bill is about making sure that kids have a good chance to straighten out and improve their lot, and I think that should be the goal of the criminal justice system," Curry said. "All we're trying to do here is say that for youngsters who might be better served in the community, let's reverse the incentive so the county doesn't automatically send them off to the state slammer just because that relieves them of financial responsibility."

The bill was approved by lawmakers in May, but Gov. Rod Blagojevich used his amendatory veto to request changes funding for program.

"It didn't go to the heart of the bill at all," Curry said. "They were just not sure that the way we established the funding mechanism was consistent with the other ways we fund programs, so he wanted us to take that out, which is fine with us."

The bill is in planning stages now and will take another year's planning after it is passed.

Redeploy Illinois is modeled after a program in Ohio called Reasoned and Equitable Community and Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors. RECLAIM began in the mid-1990s when Ohio's juvenile department was overcrowded and was modified in June because of budget cuts. Ann Liotta, chief of the office of policy, communications and legislation said the program has worked well for the state.

"The basic concept is that the money follows the youth, and the idea is that the judge is the one making the disposition on the youth and what needs to be done for his or her offense patterns," Liotta said.

"The reason this works very well is that it can serve the juvenile offenders who have committed much more serious offenses."

Like the Ohio program, Redeploy Illinois will give counties an incentive to place juveniles in community-based programs. Illinois currently spends \$59,231 per incarcerated juvenile a year. Paula Wolff, senior executive for Chicago Metropolitan 2020, a youth advocacy program, said that instead of the state picking up that cost as it does now, the money will be given to the county to evaluate and place juveniles in programs.

"The way that Redeploy Illinois operates is that there will be a series of pilot counties that will be selected to demonstrate whether it changes behavior," Wolff said. "Some jurisdictions have very good assessment and evaluation programs. Others have none, and a lot of the downstate counties tend to send youth to the Department of Corrections for court evaluations, which could be more inexpensively and conveniently done at the local level if they had the money to be able to hire people to do those evaluations."

But with fewer juveniles in the system, the overall need for juvenile facilities and staff could be affected. In Ohio, two facilities were shut down in three years, Liotta said.

"We're getting a smaller proportion of the overall juvenile offender population and, as a result of that, we restructured the program to cover some more of our fixed cost," Liotta said. "But what we still allow is a lot of the resources still go to the local level to let the judges decide how they want to allocate those resources."

But if there happens to be a shortage of offenders in the system, the state could allow younger offenders to enter the juvenile facilities, Wolff said.

"It depends on where one draws the line on juvenile," she said. "One of the things that has been happening around the country is that other states have increased the age limit of how they define a juvenile. Right now the 18- and 19-year-olds are in the adult facilities. When people are still 17, 18, 19 years old, you can actually change their life patterns and hope that they won't become lifelong or adult criminals."

Reporter Lindsey J. Mastis can be reached at ljmastis@dailyegyptian.com

Organization seeks to improve graduation rates among black males

Program pushes students to academic success

Drew Stevens
Daily Egyptian

Only 17.2 percent of the U.S. black population holds a college degree, and only 42 percent of those are male.

Assistant professor Kevin Cokley and associate professor Harold Bardo brought this issue to the surface Tuesday night in the first of a series of meetings designed to bring black males together in search of a common goal.

Last Tuesday's workshop, "Negotiating the Challenges of Being a Black Male Student," encouraged students to strive for academic success in spite of obstacles.

The workshop, the first of the African American Male Town Hall Meetings, provided an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to discuss challenges students face in regards to academic performance and possible solutions.

Georin L. Grant, a junior in finance and marketing from St. Louis, said the town hall meetings provide a place for young black men to get to know each other.

"It's a way to find people who actually care about you — that care that you succeed because they don't have to do this," LaGrant said. "They take the time out of their busy schedules to come help us to become better people."

The goal of the town hall meetings is to increase the retention and graduation rates of black males.

Cokley and Bardo conducted the workshop.

"I am extremely impressed with these young, black men," Cokley said. "Contrary to popular belief, black males do care about their education."

Students acknowledged the lack of black male role models who are good students, lack of institutional support and lack of motivation as the biggest challenges of being successful academically.

Thomas Harris, assistant housing program coordinator for diversity, said it is important for students to have perseverance

and remain focused. "If you have any obstacles or adversity (you have) to just deal with it and overcome it," Harris said. "Everybody is capable; you just need to have your head on straight." Many students who attended learned how valuable members of the faculty are and how willing they are to help any student who needs assistance.

Chidi Okonmah, a senior in speech communications from Maywood, said it was great to see black men together and would like to see more meetings during the month.

"I feel at home in here," Okonmah said. "There are actually people here who love us." The African American Town Hall Meetings were designed to provide cohesion and unity among the black male population at SIU.

Michael Sankey, a graduate student in the College of Education, said he is thankful for the opportunity the sessions provide for black males to come together.

"I think it is a great thing," Sankey said. "As African-American [males] on this campus, we really don't have anything to get us organized."

"It's not like everybody here [faculty] who has their Ph.D or their master's started out as 'A' students," Sankey said. "They started out struggling and went through a lot, and they worked hard ... and before you knew it, all those guys now have their master's and Ph.D's."

Damion Campbell, a senior in political science from East St. Louis, said the sessions let students know there is someone they can talk to and get assistance from.

"Seeing that they [faculty] had some downfalls and that they overcame them really helps me out a lot," Campbell said. "For them to stand up there and share their experiences with everybody meant a lot."

Reporter Drew Stevens can be reached at dstevens@dailyegyptian.com

The next African American Male Town Hall Meeting will be at 6 p.m. Oct. 14, in the lower level of Grinnell. The program will be about learning how to live together.

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Students consume more alcohol when prices are cheaper

Leah Williams
Daily Egyptian

Ninety-nine bottles of beer on the wall. Ninety-nine bottles of beer. A new study is showing cheap beer lures college students to take one down and pass it around, leaving 98 bottles of beer on the wall for others to consume.

Since the dawn of time, college life outside the classroom has been associated with kegs, toga parties and other alcohol-related activities. However, a new study by the director

Gus Bode



Gus says:
It's about quantity,
not quality;
that's why I drink
Keystone.

of alcohol-related studies at the Harvard School of Public Health points the finger at retail stores for purposely bottoming out prices just to appeal to the shallow pockets of college students. According to the study, the lower the price, the more students are enticed to down additional drinks.

HealthDay reporter Adam Marcus wrote an article for the online publication Sept. 12, citing information from a study conducted by Henry Weschler. Weschler, the director of college alcohol studies at Harvard School of Public Health, observed the drinking levels of 10,000 students from 118 colleges during his study and compared the data with the cost of beer in town.

They found the cheaper the beer, the larger the volume consumed by students. They also discovered when retail outlets sold discounted beer, the average number students drink increased.

Weschler blamed the binge drinking on retailers lowering prices to pocket more cash from students, including those who are not old enough to consume. He also said underage drinkers consume nearly half of all alcohol on college campuses.

"No wonder when beer is cheaper than soda or bottled water, and getting drunk costs less than going to a movie," Weschler stated in the article.

Some local liquor establishments refused for comment while others could not be reached. Representatives from the American Beverage Institute were also unable to comment on the study.

In particular, the article condemns liquor stores, bars and beer and alcohol companies using the argument that a lot of their revenue is used for programs to combat different drinking problems.

According to their website, Anheuser-Busch is an industry leader in the fight against alcohol abuse. Over the past few decades, the company has invested more than \$430 million in community-based programs and advertising campaigns to promote responsible drinking.

The website also said the company has seen a dramatic decline in underage drinking and drunk driving during the past 20 years, thanks to combined efforts of retailers, parents and law enforcement authorities.

Reporter Leah Williams can be reached at lwilliams@dailyegyptian.com



ANNIE DENTAMARO - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Matt Baughman, a development officer for the Public Policy Institute, speaks to the College Democrats at the Student Center Tuesday evening while President Tyjuan Cratic and Vice President Nate O'Brown look on. Baughman discussed upcoming Public Policy Institute sponsored events.

SIUC College Democrats plan upcoming events

Jennifer Rios
Daily Egyptian

The SIUC College Democrats are starting off the year with new goals, ideas and members. Both the president and vice president are freshmen who hope to bring new ideas to the club.

Although the College Democrats' president is a newcomer to SIUC, Tyjuan Cratic is familiar with Democratic politics. Cratic has performed the duty of deputy clerk for Cook County in addition to an internship for Lisa Madigan, the first female ever to be elected as Illinois attorney general. With his past experience and the input of the members, the club plans to stay involved with the campus, community and national politics.

The club met Tuesday in the Thebes Room of the Student Center to discuss upcoming plans and previous business. The meeting featured a guest speaker from the Public Policy Institute who provided the club with information on political and current events taking place on campus. The meetings are open to all interested students, although Cratic, a political science major from Chicago, jokingly said he would not encourage or discourage Republicans to attend.

Matt Baughman, a representative of the Public Policy Institute, spoke about several well-known politicians who will speak on campus. The most recent affair sponsored by the institute is Youth Government Day, which

will take place Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lisa Madigan will speak to students as well as to State Rep. Brandon Phelps, D-Ill, and Linda Baker, a legislative liaison. The event, which is free to students, will include breakfast and lunch.

"Youth Government Day is an opportunity for students to come and learn from people who have been in politics either as an elected official or staff member," Baughman said. "And to hear from them and to talk to them one on one about getting involved."

The Public Policy Institute will sponsor several other well-known political or nationally acclaimed figures throughout the year, including Julie Nixon Eisenhower, Walter Cronkite and Judy Baar Topinka. Baughman encouraged college Democrats to attend these events because they are informative to those interested in political and worldwide issues.

"Julie Nixon Eisenhower is the chair of the White House Fellowship, which is an extremely elite program," Baughman said. "She is someone good to make contacts with because she knows the process of internships and fellowships."

The College Democrats are also hosting their own events, which include a democratic senate debate, voting promotions and a picnic with U.S. Senate candidate Blair Hull.

Hull is working with the club to host a picnic in the fields by University Park. The senate candidate is kicking off his college tour at SIUC, and the

event will offer food, T-shirts and the chance to speak to Hull about political issues and possibly become a part of his campaign.

"He will be selling shirts for a dollar that say 'Bush Bush' or 'Bush is misleading our country in the wrong direction,' or something to that effect," Cratic said.

The political debate sponsored by the organization is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 20 with U.S. Democratic candidates Blair Hull, Gery Chincio, Dan Hynes, Barack Obama, Nancy Skinner and Joyce Washington invited to attend. Cratic said the event is open to the public, and students are welcome to present their questions and concerns to the candidates.

The main issue the club focused on is helping students to get registered to vote. The organization plans to set up voting registration booths on campus along with at local high schools.

USG Vice President Tequia Hicks encouraged College Democrats to push high school and college students to vote.

"A study showed most people who do not vote would have voted democratic," she said.

Reporter Jennifer Rios can be reached at jrios@dailyegyptian.com

The next meeting will take place 5:30 to 7 p.m. Oct. 7 in Activities Room A on the third floor of the Student Center. For more information visit www.siu.democrat.com.



ANNIE DENTAMARO - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Signs advertising beer prices nearly cover the refrigerator doors at ABC Liquor. Studies have shown that lowered beer prices are related to binge drinking in college students.

SPC film festival offers alternative to mainstream blockbusters

Free showing of 'The Shining' Friday at Cult Film Festival

Valerie N. Donnals
Daily Egyptian

Movies starring Mel Gibson, Jack Nicholson and Steve Martin as well as many other stars will headline the latest film festival this week sponsored by the Student Programming Council, but moviegoers should not anticipate the stars' latest blockbusters.

Instead, the films committee is screening five lesser-known movies during its first Cult Film Festival, which ends Saturday.

Movies that have been shown this week in the Student Center include "Shaft" Monday, "Pink Floyd: The Wall," shown Tuesday and

Wednesday, and Thursday will be "Mad Max: Beyond Thunderdome" at 7 p.m.

The weekend line-up will include two showings of "Little Shop of Horrors" Saturday at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. and a special showing of "The Shining" at 8 p.m. outdoors on the hill in front of Pulliam Hall.

SPC Films Director Marty Davis said the movies were chosen primarily through student surveys, but there were no strict guidelines designating a movie as a cult classic.

"It doesn't have to come from any specific genre," Davis said. "It is just something that has caused a lot of people to come together and provide a subculture around it."

"They are generally older movies that give

people a time to associate themselves with the movie. Like when somebody says 'Here's Johnny!' everyone knows what you're talking about."

"The Shining" will be shown on a rented screen at the south side of Pulliam Hall, the first time SPC has shown a movie outside.

"That's a really good idea," said Debbie Climo, a freshman in theater from Nashville, Tenn. "It reminds me of movies in the park."

Climo said she has seen most of the movies several times since she was young but was still eager to attend the showing of "Pink Floyd: The Wall," despite the fact she had a paper due the following day.

Her friend Marina Smelyarsky, a freshman in theater from Buffalo Grove, said she had never seen any of the movies before but would have attended had she known about the festival. She said the outdoor viewing of "The Shining" sounded different and would

provide a good climate for watching the scary movie.

Davis said it will probably be cold and urged students to bring blankets and dress for the weather.

He said the festival, if successful, might become an annual event, depending on student reaction, as part of an initiative to offer alternatives to the blockbuster films shown in major theaters.

"It's just a week of cult movies geared toward giving the students and the people of Carbondale a way to see movies that they never would usually see in a theater," he said.

"In order to better service everybody, we should try to encompass people's interests and work toward bringing things everybody wants to see."

Reporter Valerie N. Donnals can be reached at vdonnals@dailyegyptian.com

Fraternity removed from Northwestern

Elaine Helm
& Jennifer Leopoldt
Daily Northwestern (Northwestern U.)

EVANSTON (U-WIRE) — Kappa Sigma fraternity, Northwestern University's largest fraternity chapter, was suspended by the university and Interfraternity Council June 23 for improprieties at a spring formal at the Shedd Aquarium.

The fraternity's national organization also revoked its charter after the university cited Kappa Sig for vandalism, alcohol use, safety issues, animal endangerment and reckless behavior.

Incidents at the formal violated a probation agreement resulting from a February 2002 "pledge dad hunt" that landed an intoxicated freshman pledge in the hospital. The probation was scheduled to end in spring 2004. Now the fraternity cannot re-charter on campus until January 2007, after all current members graduate.

Weinberg junior Bryan Tolles, who attended the formal, said the fraternity had to pay about \$300 in damages for missing signs and broken glasses and plates.

He said he thought the animal endangerment charge stemmed from a fraternity member dropping a closed flask in the beluga whale tank. The

whole then brought the flask to its trainer, who returned it to the fraternity member.

"Compared to other forms that I've been to, this was relatively tame," said Tolles, the fraternity's secretary and recruitment chairman and Associated Student Government executive vice president.

But NU officials and Kappa Sig alumni said they do not take the fraternity's actions so lightly. "The Shedd is one of Chicago's cultural jewels, but it was treated like a cheap beer hall by a bunch of arrogant drunks," NU alumnus Jim Kratz wrote in an e-mail to The Daily. "To imply that this was no big deal was to deny the action that ended over 60 years of our chapter's history and significant contribution to the university."

IFC President Jeremy Esposito said although it sets bad precedent to suspend a fraternity, he was glad administrators let the IFC Judicial Board take a crucial role in the decision.

"It's showing you can make your own decisions to make a healthier greek system the university holds in higher regard," said Esposito, a Medill senior.

Kappa Sig is not the first fraternity to receive harsh university sanctions in the past few years. Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity was suspended in 2001 for an alcohol-related incident at an

off-campus party.

In 2000 NU's chapter of Sigma Chi was kicked off campus after its charter was suspended by the national organization.

Sigma Chi is planning to return to campus this year.

"Overall there are good men and strong leaders in (Kappa Sig)," said Kyle Pendleton, associate director of Greek Affairs. "But the undergraduate chapter as a whole has exhibited an unwillingness to uphold the standards of the university and the fraternity."

Members were told June 20 to be out of the fraternity house at 2251 Sheridan Road in two days. Although NU said it would provide interim housing for the summer, some members couldn't find rooms.

"A lot of us really panicked because we're looking at 48 hours and then we're homeless," said Weinberg junior Doug Ruch, who was able to spend a week in the Foster-Walker Complex.

Though fraternity members will be scattered, they have been talking about holding unofficial events. Still, it will be more difficult to get everyone together without having an on-campus house, Rusch said.

"Anybody who expects it to be the same is fooling themselves," he said.

Students advocate higher limits on school loans

Gil Song
Daily Texan (U. Texas-Austin)

AUSTIN, Texas (U-WIRE) — Lobbyists from universities across the nation are pushing Congress to increase limits on federal student loans.

In a survey released last Wednesday that was conducted by an independent research firm for the Coalition for Better Student Loans, 91 percent of students said they wanted Congress to increase the amount students and their families can borrow in federal student loans each year. Eighty-four percent said if government has limited resources to fund student loans, it should offer greater financial assistance to current and

future students, rather than adjusting rates for graduates paying off loans.

"With the rising cost of education, we're just out there to help as many students as we can," said Robin Cook, a spokesman for the Associated Students of the University of Missouri.

"More and more families are dependent upon financial aid to cover the expenses of college, and unfortunately, the definition of middle class is getting blurrier and blurrier."

Cook's group is one of many that compose the Coalition for Better Student Loans, which sent a proposal to Congress earlier this month advocating increased limits on federal Stafford and Perkins loans.

Jim Boyle, a spokesman for College Parents

of America, said federal loans make sense for students because of their low interest rate.

"Students really have only three options if they can't procure student loans. They can find a job, which takes away from study time; they can go to private lenders, such as credit card companies; or they can drop out of school," Boyle said.

"None of those options are what students want and [are] costly in their own ways."

"There's sympathy for an increase [in financial aid] all across the board," said Rep. John Carter, R-Texas, who is the chairman of the House Education Committee.

"Unfortunately there is no money to increase all across the board."

NEWS BRIEFS

CARBONDALE

Karaoke Night opens at Newman Center

The Newman Student Organization presents a karaoke night Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Newman Catholic Student Center. The Newman Center is located at the intersection of Grand Avenue and Washington Street.

Boat ramp at Refuge closed for Midwest Bass Classic

The Greenbriar boat ramp at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge will be temporarily closed to the public due to the Midwest Bass Classic, which is part of the Southern Illinois Hunting and Fishing Days. The boat ramp will be closed beginning at sunset Friday until dawn Sunday. For more information, please contact the Refuge at (618) 997-3344.

Volunteers needed for the Litter Clean-up Day

The Beauty Southern Illinois Campaign presents a Litter Clean-up Day Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to noon. The campaign will be picking up trash in Marion Cannon Park and Route 13 in Carversville, the SIU campus, the streets in Carbondale and the Kincaid Lake. Volunteers are needed to register by Sept. 29. To register, please contact Tiffany at (618) 453-7180 or at beauty@cehs.siu.edu.

UNIVERSITY

University Museum to have discussions on exhibit

The current exhibit at the University Museum, "They Still Draw Pictures: Children's Art in Wartime from the Spanish Civil War to Kosovo," is still on display until Oct. 19. The Museum is also having three special events about children and war to coincide with the display.

Historians' Perspective: A Panel Discussion with Professors Holly Hurlburt and Jonathan Wiesen of the Department of History will be from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday. At 5 p.m. Thursday, there will be a panel discussion on children's expression of traumatic memories through art with Professors Joseph Brown of Black American Studies and Dennis Taylor of the Department of Art and Design.

The Apologetics Club Presents

"The Nicene Fathers and the Canonicity of Scripture"

Friday September 26th 7:30 p.m.
Mackinaw room SIU Student Center

Career Services Presents

Fall Career Fairs



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Looking for a Job or an Internship?
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Come to the Fall 2003 Campus-Wide Career Fair

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Admission is Free

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From 8 am October 2, and running until 12 noon October 10, apply for jobs from the convenience of your computer.

*Job seekers must be registered with Career Services (requires a \$5 annual fee) & have their resumes uploaded and posted in applicable resume books on Saluki Recruiting

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THEIR WORD

It could have been any one of us

The Bradley Scout (Bradley U.)

PEORIA, Ill. (U-WIRE) — In the course of one Sunday afternoon, the tenor of life on campus went from one of its highest points to one of its lowest, as the euphoria of Calling Out was replaced by the shock of the death of Robert Schmalz.

Local and national media began to focus on Bradley for all the wrong reasons, and, in many cases, to craft the wrong story — a story filled with alcohol and the supposed mystique of greek life. And while that may sell more newspapers and garner more viewers, we know that story is not the true story.

The truth is all too obvious to everyone who lives the Bradley experience day to day, but less obvious to people on the outside, who don't have the sense of perspective we do.

So much has been skewed in the last week that a few things have to be set straight.

Alcohol is a fact of life at Bradley. Calling Out is a fact of life at Bradley. But Calling Out itself did not cause this death. What killed Bobby Schmalz was excessive alcohol consumption. It could have happened to anyone at any time.

Drinking is not just a greek problem; it's a college problem. And this cannot be stereotyped as just a problem, or just a loss, within the greek community. For most of us, if we didn't know Bobby, we know someone else who could have been him. All it takes is a look around campus to see the hundreds of tribute ribbons in Phi Tau colors being worn by greeks and non-greeks alike to realize this. And any conversation you enter inevitably turns to the loss we've all suffered.

Those conversations are happening within the administration as well. And administrators have promised a thorough review of Calling Out. But to pretend alcohol is a problem on just one day, that entered the life of just one man, doesn't do anything more than address the immediate problem, sadly too late for Schmalz.

Calling Out's excesses are readily apparent in the aftermath of this tragedy, but it's not enough to change the culture of that one event. Any awareness campaign about the problems of alcohol abuse cannot just be targeted at greek students. Greeks are equally guilty of drinking in excess as non-greek students in residence halls or in off-campus houses.

If the university is serious about the national alcohol-awareness award it just won, it will educate everyone and not blindly seek easy solutions to the problem. Solutions that can be implemented quickly and look good to a now-watching press are not those we need.

At the same time, we students have to take seriously what has happened. This weekend's long-anticipated Calling Out parties won't be happening. Instead, it will be a time to remember and to consider our lives as we mourn the loss of one of our own. The reflections of this weekend are Bobby's legacy to us. Do not forget Bobby. He could have been any one of us.

Drinking is not a greek problem; it is a college problem



GUEST COLUMNIST

Both parents, teachers wrong

Angela Jones
The Daily Athenaeum (West Virginia U.)

MORGANTOWN, W. Va. (U-WIRE) — When I write my columns, I try to avoid the three most controversial topics: politics, sports and religion.

I don't cover politics because I feel there are people here who are more educated in the subject than I am.

I don't cover sports because my opinions are completely biased (as I have my own favorite teams) and because we have a whole panel of sports experts on staff.

That leaves me with religion. I have a policy on religion: I won't force-feed you mine if you don't force-feed me yours.

I came across an article online from the Seattle Post-Intelligencer titled "Teacher promised girl a miracle, lawsuit says."

Apparently, a substitute middle school teacher promised a girl who is bald as a result of a rare disease that Jesus would cause her hair to grow while she was in the shower that night.

If this didn't happen, the teacher said she'd shave her head.

The miracle did not happen, but the teacher actually shaved her head.

The parents of the girl have filed a lawsuit against the teacher, the school and the school district for \$750,000 on charges of "violation of their daughter's civil rights, intentional infliction of emotional distress and negligent infliction of emotional distress."

I agree and disagree with all parties involved on

this issue. First of all, I can understand the teacher's point of view. As a religious person, she's inclined to believe Jesus will heal the sick, including this girl. She's also inclined to wish such blessings on people.

However, she pushed the envelope a little too far. You can't tell a sick young girl her hair is going to grow back if you can't make it happen.

Yes, the teacher did come through as promised by shaving her head, but I seriously doubt it made up for the head of hair the girl was hoping for.

On the other side of the card, I understand the parents' anger with the teacher. I can understand being furious with the teacher. But \$750,000 worth of anger at the teacher, the school and the school district? That's \$2.25 million worth of anger.

How can you put a price tag on something like this? What powers do these parents possess that let them say, "Well, the teacher got our daughter's hopes up and let her down; I think that's worth three-quarters of a million dollars."

As if it isn't bad enough this happened, the parents are forcing the daughter to go through the process of a lawsuit. She'll probably end up having to testify in court and be subjected to tons of media coverage.

When is filing a lawsuit a necessity, and when is it going too far? Shoot, we've tried to sue McDonald's because our kids got fat and because we dumped hot coffee in our laps.

An ex-boyfriend of mine promised me that he'd never break my heart. Since he did, does that mean I can sue him?

When will we just forgive and forget?

These views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure, which is: Try to please everybody.”

Herbert Bayard Swope
Pulitzer Prize Winner - 1917

WORDS OVERHEARD

“Academics are underrated here. Also I've found that the town is very supportive of the college, and I think that's underrated, too.”

Molly Shubert
sophomore, photography,
describing SIU's "most underrated school" rating

COLUMNISTS

The myth of the best medical care system in the world

Americans are conditioned to believe they have the best medical care system in the world. While a considerable part of the global medical research is done in this country and the medical industry is involving billions of dollars, the problem is a significant part of the population does not have access to this system.

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that from a population of 282 million people, 41 million, only 15 percent, have no health care coverage for the whole year. From the 32 million poor people, 10 million are without health insurance, as well as 11.7 percent or 8 million of the children.

Someone tried to dispel my concern, claiming the uninsured Americans were young and strong and they did not need health care. Unfortunately, they turned out to be almost equally distributed among all age groups with the exception of individuals over 65 who are covered by Medicare.

Another objection I can make against this argument is it seems impossible to me that so many people, no matter how young and strong, would reasonably believe they would never need medical help. Obviously, they must be forced by the circumstances not to have an insurance.

If so many people lack any coverage, then even more must have only partial or insufficient insurance plans. Nobody knows the exact number of these people.

Are you covered? Are you sure? I thought so, and so did three of my friends. We are all students and have the standard insurance all SIU students have. Guess what? These three, strong young people, well-covered, suddenly needed to use their insurance, two of them for kidney and one for stomach examinations. Once in the emergency room, they found out they had to pay an exorbitant amount of money of their student budget to take advantage of the care offered.

Unable to afford this, two of them left for their respective countries to get treatment: one for the liberal France and the other for the satellite poor Bulgaria. The third one, an American guy, didn't feel the pain any more. He couldn't afford to feel it. I cross my fingers he won't feel it again!

Somebody would say now, "Ana Velitchkova must just have sick friends. It's too bad for her." However, I do not believe this to be a random coincidence. Anybody could be in my friends' places.

Anyway, if you happen to be so sick you cannot bear it any more, an oath binds doctors to treat you even if you cannot pay, right? At least, that's what the 1986 Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) provides: medical providers are obliged to conduct an assessment and to provide treatment in case of an



Eye on Earth

BY ANA VELITCHKOVA
ana_vel@siu.edu

emergency.

Unconditional treatment is not what you experience when you go to a hospital. The first thing you are asked for is your insurance, and even before your treatment gives any results you are sent the bill.

Insurance companies — because they have to make some profit — often argue your treatment or illness is not actually covered. This is what you are left with: your unhealed symptoms, the choice not to continue the expensive treatment, huge bills the insurance company refuses to pay, frustration and distrust in the system and hope that you'll never need its services again.

On Sept. 9, the Department of Health and Human Services approved improvements to the EMTALA. Along with necessary changes, however, it allowed hospitals and doctors to escape their duty to act.

Starting Nov. 8, patients might find it difficult to receive the emergency care they might need.

If a medical facility is not registered as an emergency room — like a nursing home, a cosmetic surgery clinic or even a doctor's office — forget about getting help from there. By law, they have no obligations.

Even if it is registered as an emergency room, the 24-hour service from the past is over. It is permitted to be understaffed. Also, doctors on call can serve in several emergency rooms at the same time and make appointments for other procedures, again at the same time.

Please explain to me how a surgeon doing an operation by appointment can leave the patient at that moment to take care of an emergency case!

My simple logic tells me when you classify something as "the best," you must be comparing it to all the similar things in existence. In the case of the health care system, to my knowledge, there are a few better solutions than leaving so many people uncovered or partially covered. What I don't understand then is how people in this country consent to this situation.

Eye on Earth appears every Thursday. Ana's graduate student in foreign languages and literature from Bulgaria. Her views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

Reasons for smoking are stupid



Sorry Charlie!

BY CHARLES MADDEN
charlesmadden@mac.com

much of you feeble-minded people. Now, let me tell you of some of the reasons against smoking. First, let's face it. I did, and you should too. We all started in the first place because we thought we'd look cool doing it.

Secondly, although there are probably a couple hundred ashtrays and 50-gallon garbage cans spread out around school, you morons can't even throw away your garbage. The worst part about that is it's a tiny piece of paper, but yet it probably accounts for the majority of litter on campus. And yet you wonder how your rights are being stricken from you. Thirdly, people shouldn't have to breathe it in if they don't want to.

Someone else's decision to smoke shouldn't come before another's to not smoke, but it does.

Lastly, if a person or group of people can't handle the responsibility of their actions, like cleaning up after themselves or being considerate of their neighbor, for example, then they should not be allowed to have responsibility in the first place.

But so long as you choose to act like irresponsible children, then we will have to go out of our way, which we don't want to in the first place, to treat you like the irresponsible children that you all are. So next year, if you are planning on living in the dorms, get used to hearing this — "Sorry Charlie."

Sorry Charlie appears every Thursday. Charles is a sophomore in cinema. His views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

For those of you don't live on this planet, SIU is finally enacting a smoking policy, which means that people won't be able to smoke in the dorms and people will have to walk 25 feet away from entrances and exits to slowly kill themselves.

It never ceases to amaze me how ignorant people really are when the topic of smoking comes up. I had the pleasure of debating it in my English class today, and let me tell you, I was both enlightened and stimulated at the same time.

First, let me say, I used to smoke. Unfortunately, I smoked for about eight years, but thank God I quit and was able to stay clean. So, before all you nicotine junkies out there get into a chain smoking frenzy, thinking I don't know what I'm talking about, I can assure you that I'm no stranger to the completely ridiculous line of reasoning that smokers possess.

Moving right along, let me inform all those unaware of the extremely intelligent arguments brought to the table by some of the my fellow classmates. In terms of the dorm restrictions, one person said something like, "Well then, like the R.A.'s will have to, like, work harder."

Yeah, I was speechless too! Then, one person said, "For people that live on the second floor, going outside might not be that big of a deal, but for people that live on the 15th floor..."

Again, I was in complete awe of the sheer stupidity. And still, believe it or not, the smokers had more intelligence to spread to the audience with the last kid saying, "I mean, dude, that would be, like, a total violation of our rights." And at that point, I could take it no more.

Why do people who smoke think they have more rights than people who don't? When did it become that way? How the hell did our backward society allow it to come to that?

And don't we, the non-smokers, have the right just as much, if not more, to breathe clean air as opposed to breathing in someone's second-hand smoke? Why should we cater to your needs?

We aren't trying to say you can't do it. God knows the chaos that would ensue from that. But rather, we're asking simply not to have smoke blown in our faces. I know, I know, we ask too

LETTER

Sarcastic reader confronts columnist viewpoint

DEAR EDITOR:

Brad Rhymer's guest column ("What does it mean to be un-American?") questioning the prevailing notion of patriotism has me concerned.

His kind of free thinking, while quaint, only gets in the way of our modern quest to guarantee every citizen a life of absolute mental and physical security.

I blame the educational system for allowing young Rhymer to become such a loose cannon. I'm willing to bet he grew up without reciting the Pledge of Allegiance every morning and singing the national anthem before every public event.

When he was young and impressionable, some degenerate teacher probably asked him some questions for which there were no simple answers. It doesn't take much.

Rhymer needs to learn that all of us in education are working hard to help all students develop three important skills: one, to show up for meetings on time; two, to appear interested while sitting through such meetings; and three, to become adept at passing standardized multiple-choice tests.

How many more Rhymeres are out there questioning authority? I don't know, but as long as there is even one, our noble mission remains unaccomplished.

Jim Glover
associate professor
in Health Education and Recreation

READER COMMENTARY

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• Bring letters and guest columns to the DAILY EGYPTIAN newsroom, Communications Building Room 1247.

• The DAILY EGYPTIAN welcomes all content suggestions.

• Letters and columns do not necessarily reflect the views of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

Freshman stress prompts universities to offer more help

Linda K. Wertheimer
The Dallas Morning News

IRVING, Texas (KRT) — The young woman in the prom dress scrubbed her clothes repeatedly in the dorm laundry room, mumbering to herself about finishing a master's thesis.

But the 18-year-old had neither a prompt to attend nor a master's thesis to write. She was a University of Dallas freshman who had two weeks left before finals.

She was experiencing freshman stress to the extreme, a problem that's not new but getting more attention than ever. Universities everywhere are taking steps to identify and help troubled students and to teach all students how to cope emotionally and physically so the pressure of college doesn't drive them out of school or into mental illness.

The University of Dallas in Irving this year started training resident assistants to help students. Other universities have added counselors and nutritionists.

"A lot of colleges used to have the attitude with students, 'If you don't do it, that's your problem,'" said

Karen Levin Coburn, an assistant vice chancellor for students at Washington University in St. Louis and author of "Letting Go: A Parents' Guide to Today's College Experience."

"Now, there's much more of an attitude, 'We've brought you here, and we know you can succeed here, and we're going to give you the support,'" Coburn said.

The newest addition to prevent stress at Washington University is an office on health promotion and wellness. The medical school runs lectures for students to show them what happens when they don't get enough sleep. A nutritionist warns about how too many cookies and pizza can affect the psyche, too.

"It's really the basics," Coburn said. "One major issue for college students is sleep deprivation. When you don't get enough sleep, you feel stressed."

The University of Dallas last school year referred more than 40 students, a record high, for counseling. Most of them were among the school's 300 freshmen; UD has about 1,200 undergraduates. Eight to 10 students went to hospitals for psychiatric treatment.

In the past, three or four UD stu-

dents were hospitalized per year, said Fred Zuker, the school's vice president and dean of student services. Many students came to school with diagnosed mental illnesses, but others simply succumbed to more stress than they could handle.

Freshmen tend to be in the worst straits, and college seniors, who worry about what's next after graduation, come in second on the stress scale, Zuker said.

Christina Dammen, an 18-year-old University of Dallas freshman from San Francisco, is working six hours a week. After about a month of college, she said she's already stressed and short on sleep from juggling fun, work and classes. She goes to bed about 2 or 3 a.m. and then must get up for an 8 a.m. class.

"There's a lot of reading, plus there's the fact that it's one big sleepover," Dammen said. "People are coming into your room constantly."

Colleges have long needed to do more to respond to freshman stress, said Linda Sax, an associate professor of education at the University of California at Los Angeles. Sax conducts an annual survey of freshmen. A recent study of 3,680 students from about 50

colleges indicated that students' sense of emotional well-being declined through the freshman year.

"Absolutely, we need to pay more attention to students' psychological well-being and stress. Students tend not to turn to the campus for help," Sax said. "They tend not to use advisers or counselors. They turn to their friends. The effect of those friends can sometimes be positive or negative."

At the University of Dallas, part of the solution now is to turn resident assistants, usually upperclassmen who live in and help supervise dormitories, into troubleshooters.

Suzanne Burgess said she felt helpless last year as she dealt with several stressed-out students. It was Burgess' first year as a resident assistant, and two of her charges talked about suicide.

"I didn't expect to deal with so many different psychological disorders and stress problems. When you're in it yourself as a freshman, you're sort of oblivious to a lot of that," said Burgess, now a 21-year-old senior in her second year as a resident assistant.

Burgess related the story about the freshman in the prom dress. The student's problems had been mount-

ing through the school year. Other students would report that she said strange things.

Rut Burgess, who knew to look out for alcohol and drug abuse but not stress or depression, didn't become alarmed until the laundry room incident and calls of concern from the student's parents. The freshman eventually was hospitalized and never returned to UD.

Shortly before school started in late August, Laurie DeKat, UD's first full-time doctor, trained Burgess and the other resident assistants. She jotted down symptoms of depression and stress on a chalkboard for the students gathered in a residence hall lounge.

James Cannici, director of the student counseling center at the University of Texas at Dallas, said he's not so sure students are any more stressed now than they were in past decades.

"Young people throughout history have always had a great deal to deal with," Cannici said. "Becoming a young adult is challenging for any one at any time period. Are there more stresses now? You could make a case for it with terrorism, more broken families, more alcoholism."



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White House lowers expectations for U.N. resolution on Iraq

Ron Hutcheson & William Douglas Knight Ridder Newspapers

UNITED NATIONS (KRT) — President Bush came home empty-handed Wednesday from his two-day push at the United Nations to begin getting foreign troops and financial help in Iraq.

White House officials started lowering expectations that a U.N. resolution to encourage other nations to donate military and monetary help was on the horizon. They indicated that it could be weeks before a draft resolution is presented and months before international help is on the way, if ever.

The Pentagon's second-ranking general said thousands more National Guard and Reserve troops might have to be called up by early November if it wasn't clear by then that other countries would send more forces. Some 170,000 National Guard and Reserve troops are already on active duty — 120,000 of them on duty related to Iraq — and officials fear the strain on America's part-time warriors may lead to massive refusals to re-enlist.

Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace, who is vice chairman of the military's Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the admin-

istration still hoped that Turkey, India, Pakistan or South Korea would contribute thousands of troops, but "hope is not a plan." Pace spoke to a group of defense correspondents in Washington.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld reinforced Bush's down-scaled expectations Wednesday, saying he didn't expect much help from other countries.

"We're not going to get a lot of international troops, with or without a U.N. resolution," he said in Senate testimony. "I think somewhere between zero and 10,000 or 15,000 is probably the ballpark. It's not going to change the drill dramatically."

The failure to secure foreign help in Iraq comes as polls show growing concern among the public and lawmakers of both parties in Congress that the U.S.-led effort to pacify and rebuild Iraq costs too much, kills too many U.S. soldiers and may be inflaming terrorists more than defusing them.

One day after Bush spoke to the General Assembly, calling on the world to lend the United States a hand in Iraq, senior administration officials said the president, in a series of meetings with world leaders, didn't ask for specific assistance.

"The president didn't come here to ask people for troops," said a senior administration official spokesperson on the condition of anonymity. "The president came here to lay out a call to the international community to join together in whatever way people can in supporting reconstruction of Afghanistan and Iraq, and in building a stable Iraq."

Bush's call went unanswered. Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf left a meeting with Bush doubting that his country would provide Muslim troops — highly desired by the White House — to Iraq. Musharraf said he would reserve final judgment until he saw a final draft of the U.S.-sponsored resolution, but he said the thought of sending Pakistani troops to Iraq was highly unpopular at home.

"As far as Pakistan is concerned, the domestic environment under the present circumstances is totally opposed to sending troops to Iraq," he said. To change Pakistani opinion, he said, a U.N. resolution must call for a multinational force drawing Muslim troops from several nations.

In one of the few encouraging signs for U.S. officials, Bush and German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder agreed to put past differences behind them.

But Schröder's offer to help train Iraqi police and military personnel fell far short of Bush's goals.

Bush, who spent most of the day meeting with potential donors in his suite at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, took a conciliatory tone in his first sit-down meeting with Schröder in 16 months. Tensions between them escalated last year when Schröder campaigned for re-election with an anti-American message, then opposed the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

"Look, we've had differences and they're over," Bush said he told the German leader at the start of their closed-door meeting. "We're going to work together."

Schröder responded in kind, saying their past disputes "have been left

behind and put aside."

Even so, he declined to provide troops or money for Iraq. And in a speech later to the General Assembly, he said Bush should give the organization control over Iraq's reconstruction.

"Only the United Nations can guarantee the legitimacy that is needed to enable the Iraqi population to rapidly rebuild their country under an independent, representative government," he said, echoing other leaders' comments.

Schröder also met with French President Jacques Chirac and Russian President Vladimir Putin, two other critics of the war, to discuss their strategy for dealing with Bush's plan to get a U.N. resolution clearing the way for international help in Iraq.

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"He loves it. He didn't admit it at first, but then he watched it."

Eric Winter, who plays Rex on the soap opera 'Days of Our Lives,' gives the audience a show as he takes off his shirt to put on another t-shirt they were auctioning off Saturday at Salem Days Fest. The auction was held to raise money for Salem Days Fest.



Soaping up Salem

story by ANDREA ZIMMERMANN • photos by MEREDITH MERCIER

The lawn in front of the Marion County Courthouse was dotted with small tarps. Crafters were putting the finishing touches on their makeshift shops that consisted of a couple tables and goods ranging from beaded jewelry to hand-painted lawn signs to ceramic figurines.

People milled around the miniature shops. Just beyond the tents, an enormous group huddled onto the sidewalk — all of them waiting anxiously for an autograph ticket of the stars of their choice.

Salem was celebrating its eighth annual Days Fest, and people had traveled from all parts of the nation just to attend.

Some had been waiting since 8:30 a.m. Some earlier.

Anticipation

Returning for their fifth consecutive year, Jenny Potaska and her client, Katherine

Hardy, were the first in line. By 10 a.m., the duo had already been through the line once.

"I've got Jim already. I am going to get Rex and then Alexis," Potaska said, referring to stars Jim Reynolds, who plays Abe Carver, Eric Winter, whose character is an alien named Rex, and Alexis Thorpe, who plays Rex's alien sister, Cassie. These stars, along with four other cast members, were taking part in the weekend festivities.

She and Hardy traveled 10 hours from Minnesota to see the stars of the NBC soap opera *Days of Our Lives*. She and Hardy had painted T-shirts especially for this event.

Days Fest 2003 was the third for Shannon Becker and her husband. They traveled six and a half hours from Manitowoc, Wis., for the festival. It is a part of Becker's birthday present every year.

"This always falls about a week before



A sign blocking off fans from the stars of the soap opera 'Days of Our Lives' is posted by the stage. Salem Days Fest took place September 19, 20, and 21 in Salem.

my birthday. So, he always brings me as my birthday gift because he knows how much I love *Days*," she said.

Back in 1989, Becker had stayed home from work because she was sick when she discovered *Days*.

"I was flipping through the channels. I got hooked when I saw Peter Reckel, who plays Bo Brady," she said with a sheepish giggle.

She is admittedly so obsessed she will watch the first half of *Days* on her lunch break and then finish watching it on tape when she gets home from work.

"I'm a junkie," she said. Becker said her husband does truly enjoy watching *Days*, too.

"He loves it. He didn't admit it at first, but then he watched it. It's more of a thrill for him to watch me because I get so excited," she said.

Many people came to see certain stars. Seven cast members participated in the weekend-long event. Reynolds and Matthew Ashford, who plays Jack, added a special touch to the weekend because it may be the last time they are a part of *Days* Fest. At the end of the Sept. 19 show, an unnamed gunman shot Reynolds' character. His last airdate is Sept. 29, and Ashford's character is also scheduled to leave the show sometime in October.

"I was really glad to see Jim Reynolds last night because he is leaving the show," Becker said. "But the guy who plays Rex, Eric Winter, well, I really want to see him because he is a cutie. My goal is to meet

everybody in the cast."

During the afternoon question-and-answer session with Winter, Thorpe and Farah Fath, who plays Mimi, Becker posed a question to Winter.

"How do you expect a woman to go back to work if you take your shirt off in every episode?" she asked.

Winter merely shrugged and gave a blinding smile that made more than one female in the audience giggle.

Also waiting in line was Tim Rost of Naperville. He was wearing a *Days* T-shirt and carried an official *Days* book with him that has been signed by some cast members already.

"Truthfully, I got myself into it," he said. "I saw a commercial for it — when Marlena was possessed by the devil. Yes, Marlena floating on the ceiling got me hooked."

Mark and Linda Melvin of Pontiac have been attending *Days* Fest for six years.

"[*Days* Fest] is actually the same every year, but it is a getaway for us along with meeting the stars, of course," Linda said.

She said she could remember going to her aunt's house and having lunch while watching *Days*.

Her husband Mark loathed to admit he watches the soap too. But wife Linda wasn't afraid to spill.

"He listens to me. He'll ask, 'So which one is that one? What's he doing now?'" she said as she nudged him playfully.

Even King Arthur came out for *Days* Fest. The pedigree border collie pup traveled with his owners from Louisville, Ky., just for the event.

"He's been an avid fan his whole life — all seven weeks of it," his owner Lury Caplan said.

The line finally began to wane, and fans wandered over to a stage area in the back corner of the square. An announcer from a local radio station was the master of ceremonies.

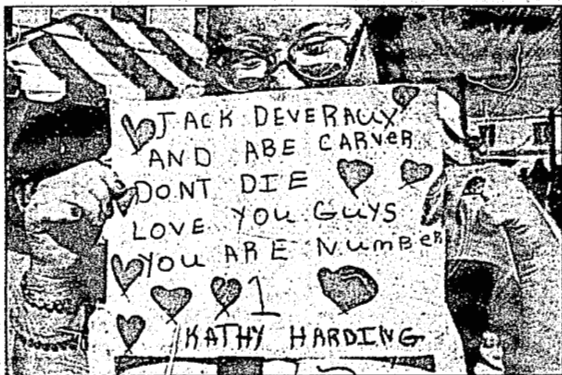
"I've taken a lot of heat for being in *Days* Fest, but I don't care because I watch the show," he paused dramatically. "And I like the show!"

He went on to try to get the most recent happenings on the show. He probed the crowd with questions and they responded, feverently answering every question.

"Everybody has a gun, right? Does Belle have a gun?" he asked.

The crowd rowdily responded, "No!"

Kathryn Harding of Champlin, Minn., holds up a sign she made for James Reynolds (Abe Carver) and Matt Ashford (Jack Deveraux) on the soap opera 'Days of Our Lives.' They are both leaving the show this month. Harding started waiting in line at 8 a.m. to receive Carver's autograph.



It's more of a thrill for him to watch me because I get so excited," Shannon Becker, referring to her husband



A large group of fans at the Salem Days Fest anxiously awaits the arrival of the younger cast members of 'Days of Our Lives' Eric Winter, Farah Fath and Alexis Thorpe. They were lined up for an hour waiting with cameras for the cast members' arrival in a yellow Hummer.

The arrival
Soon enough, the emcee announced the stars were on their way as the crowd roared. The crowd anxiously waited for Reynolds and Wildman to appear. After several minutes, a yellow Hummer came into view, and with it a plethora of camera flashes.

One elderly woman, very distraught about Reynolds' departure, asked him "Why did the gunman have to go and kill Abe?"

Reynolds, whose role is the longest running of any African American on television, smiled at that question, but it was obvious he was sad. Reynolds has portrayed Abe Carver for 30 years on *Days*.

"I've always had a lot of things going on, so that doesn't change much. Luckily for me, the phone has rang," he said. He and his wife own a film studio and theater.

Even though he will be leaving the *Days* cast, he is planning some USO tours over Christmas. He hopes to take a group over to perform in Afghanistan and possibly Iraq.

Later in the afternoon, the crowd that had gathered for the veteran stars morphed into a rambunctious, screaming female crowd. Once again, the yellow Hummer appeared. This time the flashes were accompanied by shrieks from teenage girls and middle-aged women. Winter, Fath and Thorpe emerged from the Hummer. Winter looking slightly embarrassed by the attention he was receiving.

The trio took their places in chairs on the stage. Winter looked the crowd over, leaned forward and with a lazy smile said, "Let's talk." This, of course, only led to more shrieks and giggles.

The questions raised in the afternoon session mainly focused on the light-hearted side of the young stars' jobs.

One overzealous fan asked Fath, Winter's girlfriend on the show, what it was like to do love scenes with him.

At first, she became a little embarrassed. She peered out in the crowd looking for someone and said, "Dad! Don't listen to this." She paused thoughtfully and then addressed the fan and said, "He is very lucky."

Eleven-year-old Marissa Whipple of Laclade had only one request — a hug from Winter.

"I have been watching [*Days*] since I was like five," she nervously giggled. "I like Eric because he is hilarious, umm, fun and really cute."

Many others asked more personal questions. The girls let out makeup secrets, such as usually the female stars do their own makeup for the shows. Thorpe admitted when they wanted it to look good, they went to the professionals. They also splurged

about some bad eating habits.

"[Farah and I] eat McDonald's and pizza all the time, and Eric only eats lettuce, power bars and protein shakes," said Thorpe with a disgusted scowl.

They continued to joke about pranks they played on each other, but then the session turned solemn when the subject of layoffs came up. Many fans speculate the return of head writer Jim Reilly is the driving force behind the cuts.

"There is a master plan for everything that is going on," Winter said. "I'm sure that everything will work out for the best of the show. It is hard for many people to understand right now, but Jim Reilly is a really creative person. You just got to kind of roll with the punches and do your best."

Thorpe tried to share the actors' viewpoint.

"As a cast, we all know that everything happens for a reason. And whether we are here on the show or someplace else, we are just happy to be actors. So, for as long as we are here, we love being here. And we hope that you guys like to us to be here, too."

Greg Fath traveled from Lexington, Ky., to see his daughter, Farah, who plays Mimi.

Fath explained his daughter technically broke into the business as a model at age five. When she was 11, she was crowned Miss Kentucky Pre-teen. "When she won that, I think she got a lot of confidence," he said.

The summer of her sophomore year in high school, Farah told her parents she wanted to become an actress.

"I told her to do that you have to be in New York or L.A. I said, 'Your dad is not moving,'" Greg said. "But she would hear nothing of it."

Farah's mother found her a place to stay in Burbank, Calif., for two weeks. Farah had to look after the son of the woman she stayed with while at the same time look for work. Accompanied by her agent, Farah headed out to California two weeks before school was scheduled to start.

"The day before she was supposed to come back to go to school to start her sophomore year, they did a recast on *Days of Our Lives*," Greg said. "She auditioned, and they basically gave her the part right then and there."

See SALEM DAYS, page 14



Barbra Shackelford of Waterloo awaits the arrival of Valerie Wildman and James Reynolds who play Fay Walker and Abe Carver on 'Days of Our Lives.' Shackelford has been a fan of the show for 38 years. "I've raised my son on 'Days' since he was in a playpen," she said.



Eric Winter, Farah Fath and Alexis Thorpe who play Rex, Mimi Lockhart and Cassie on 'Days of Our Lives,' sit through a question and answer session at Salem Days Fest. Fath shoots Thorpe a look as they divulge on the secrets of their diets.

SALEM DAYS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Greg was working with a customer at a Cadillac and Hummer dealership in Lexington when he got the call from his daughter.

"I get this phone call, and I'm about to say that I am with a customer, but it was Farah. So, I said, 'Farah, you know, you have got to get back here to school.' Then she said, 'Daddy, I got a job.' I said, 'You got a WHAT?'"

Greg was so stunned by her statement he had to ask the customer to wait a minute.

"So, I said, 'Tell me about this job,'" he said, chuckling at the memory.

Being only 15 years old posed some immediate obstacles for the Faths. In California, no one under 17 years of age can live alone.

"So, her mother quit her job of 17 years and moved out there with her," he said. Since she was also still in school, NBC had to provide a tutor for her as well as for Kirsten Storms. Farah now has the equivalent of a G.E.D.

Once stars have gotten their first big jobs, many times they begin to look for larger projects such as movies. However, this is not the case with Farah. Not only does her contract not allow for that type of outside work, but also she is very busy, appearing in nearly every episode.

"At first, she would be on maybe once every two weeks, but she's very well received now," Greg said.

The soap opera business has its

perks as well. "I told her, it is a steady paycheck being on a soap opera. When you are done making a movie, you get back in line looking for work."

Greg claimed he reads the magazines like everyone else and reads nothing but positive comments.

"I think she has the safest job out of the whole show, I really do. If they got rid of her, fans would throw a fit," he said.

He describes his daughter as extremely mature for her age.

"I mean, at 15 she was out there on her own, you know, a little girl, already driving on the L.A. freeway, and that freaked me out," he admitted. "She hasn't gotten into any trouble. I haven't gotten a phone call yet. I'm very proud of her."

Even now, four years later, Greg can see Farah likes her job and the success.

"Well, let me put it this way: she's 19, and she just bought a Cadillac Escalade. So, figure that out," he said with a smirk.

Wish granted

At the end of January, Amanda Joyce of Fillmore was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma Stage II. Over the following months, Joyce, a dedicated fan since age 13, underwent chemotherapy at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis.

Joyce, now 21 years old, underwent 20 chemotherapy treatments over three months during her therapy sessions.

"My mom was waiting for me to get done with chemotherapy treatment in the waiting room in Barnes-

Jewish, and she came across a coping magazine for cancer patients," she said.

"There was an ad in there about this..." she said, pulling out a large button from her purse. "The Special Wish foundation. [My mom] called them up and got the paperwork and applied for it."

After extensive paperwork filled out by both Joyce and her doctor, her wish was submitted. Originally, Joyce had wanted to be an extra on *Days*.

"I couldn't do that because of scheduling difficulties. So they gave me a tour of the set. And I got to meet some people and hang out for an hour or two. I was fortunate enough to do that," she said.

On the set she met many of the characters, including Winter. "When I went up there [to ask the stars a question], I showed Eric my pin so he would remember me and he did," she said smiling.

Her trip to California was a trip she was fortunate to take. The Special Wish Foundation gave her an all-expenses paid vacation. She recently made the trip in August.

"I was so in awe during the whole trip. I felt like I was in a dream really because I had wanted to go to California for so long. It was weird because I was a small-town girl getting to go to California," she said. "This was my first time flying on a plane. Also while I was there we got to go to Universal Studios and Disneyland and Santa Monica pier to see the ocean."

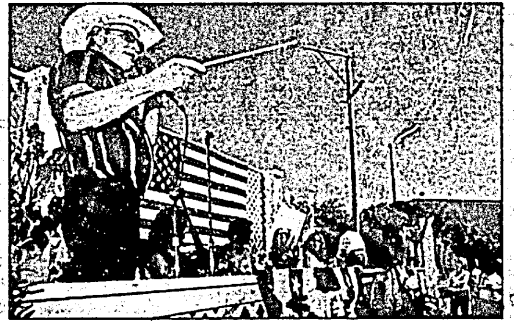
Joyce sees herself as a different person now that she is a cancer survivor. She shudders to think of the girl she used to be.

"I had long blonde hair. I was so vain," she said, scoffing at the memory. "My hair had to be a certain color and cut every month. Now I am not like that. I care about my appearance but not as much as I did before. You know, it's whatever you can do to get out of bed some mornings with chemo. You're just too sick really."

But Joyce persevered. She went to school fulltime last spring at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield. Looking back, she still wonders how she managed to get A's and B's while going through chemotherapy.

The Special Wish Foundation made a huge positive impact on Joyce's life. Currently, she is going through a transition period, trying to discover the new Amanda Joyce. She is thankful such a program exists.

"It makes an impression on their lives that they will never forget," she said. "It gives them an opportunity that they would never have if they didn't have cancer. It is horrible that it



Joe Woomer, owner of Woomer Auction Services of Flora, auctions off an autographed picture of the cast of 'Days of Our Lives.' Autographed pictures, towels, T-shirts, hour glasses and other items were auctioned off at the event to raise money for next year's Salem Days Fest.

has to be under those circumstances, but I think that if good comes out of it then it is a positive thing."

Website worship

A couple women stood patiently in the long line for autograph tickets. The taller of the two stood holding a denim jacket draped over her arm. There were scribbled messages haphazardly strewn all over it. The messages were those of *Days* actors past and present.

"I won the jacket in a raffle at another *Days* event three years ago," Linda Rose of Los Angeles said.

She and her friend Mae Manuel of Chicago have been attending Salem Days Fest for two years. Each year they attend, on average, about seven to 10 *Days* events each year, including the *Days* Fest in L.A.

While they may be borderline fanatics, they mainly attend the events to update their *Days* website, www.jayjohnsononline.com. Rose and Manuel, along with three other women from across the United States, maintain a website devoted to Jay Johnson.

Manuel, who bears most of the responsibility of the website maintenance, is a senior teller at a credit union.

"I probably spend about two hours a day updating the site," she said.

Johnson portrayed Phillip Kiriakis in *Days* but recently fell victim to downsizing. Even though Johnson is no longer a part of the show, Manuel says the site still remains loyal to *Days*.

Manuel recently met the actor who took over for Johnson. Is there a preference?

"No question — it's Jay," she said.

"We opened [the website] to talk about Jay but also to talk about the

show," Manuel said. "*Days* fans are always loyal and outspoken. Even after an actor leaves the show, we still remain."

The recent cuts in the cast have left many viewers speculating. Manuel believes it is for the ratings.

"It's a sad thing. Everybody in the studio is on pins and needles because nobody knows what is going on," she said. "Nobody knows who is going to be let go next."

There are eight characters being written off. Half of them have already been let go.

"We think [cuts] are happening because if you hire a new actor, he won't cost as much compared to the veteran actors," she said.

Many fans have been writing into NBC protesting many of the character cuts.

"When [fans] write to the show, they do read them and take it up to production and say this is the reaction out there," said Manuel. "Most of the time, it does help."

For years, soap operas were the butt of many jokes. Manuel used to be one of them making the jokes.

"Years ago, I never used to watch them," Manuel said chuckling. "It is fun watching a soap opera. It is an hour away from reality."

For Manuel and Rose, the trip didn't end in Salem. Next, the pair was heading to Greenville where some *Days* stars were participating in a celebrity softball game. In coming months, there are more events and more stars. For them, the trip is never-ending. Like sand in the hourglass, every event, festival or conference are the days of their lives.

Reporter Andrea Zimmermann can be reached at voices@dailyegyptian.com



Jenny Potaska of Champlin, Minn., receives an autograph on her homemade T-shirt from James Reynolds, who plays Abe Carver on 'Days of Our Lives.' Reynolds, who will be written off the show this week, has had the longest-running career on a television show for an African American.

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Robert Manor & Kathy Bergen
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO (KRT) — Just days before Americans could expect to eat dinner without interruptions from an unwanted telephone pitch, a federal judge handed a reprieve to telemarketers.

U.S. District Court Judge Lee West of Oklahoma ruled that the Federal Trade Commission had overstepped its authority in setting up a do-not-call list to protect consumers from unwanted phone solicitations. The FTC said it will appeal the decision and asked the court to hold off implementing its ruling.

The registry was to go into effect next Wednesday, and West's decision appears to block that. But legal experts said the ruling confused them, noting that West did not order the FTC to do or not do anything, thus clouding the significance of his decision.

Approximately 50 million telephone numbers have been entered into the congressionally authorized do-not-call list. Telemarketers contacting those on the list are subject to a fine of \$11,000 for each violation.

The do-not-call list has bipartisan support and is highly popular with the public. State and federal officials, along with consumer groups, reacted angrily to the court's decision, issued late Tuesday. "What has been lost is a fundamental right to be left alone in our own homes," said Robert Bulmash, president of Private Citizen, a Chicago-area consumer advocacy group.

U.S. Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., and U.S. Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., ignored party divisions to issue a joint statement promising they would "take whatever legislative action is necessary to ensure consumers can stop intrusive calls from unwanted telemarketers."

But the Direct Marketing Association, a plaintiff in the lawsuit, said the federal court had shown it "understood and upheld industry's belief that the FTC does not have authority to implement and enforce

a national do-not-call list."

The FTC regulations are under fire in other jurisdictions, too. The American Teleservices Association is awaiting a judge's ruling in its own legal challenge filed in U.S. District Court in Denver. The association estimates the regulations could lead to the elimination of 2 million of the nation's 6.5 million telemarketing jobs.

The Oklahoma court's decision has infuriated some whose phone numbers are on the do-not-call list.

"I thought I should write my congressional representative and say, 'Help!'" said Elaine Waxman, a University of Chicago researcher who lives in East Rogers Park with her husband and their two young daughters. "I hope whatever they need to do from a legislative standpoint to fix it, they hurry up and do."

While irate consumers may be breathing fire, companies that use telemarketing are breathing sighs of relief, at least for now.

"It's very good news ... because you can actually go about business freely," said Bryan McDonald, assistant to the president of Windy City Mortgage, Inc., a mortgage brokerage in west suburban Forest Park.

Part of McDonald's job is to call former clients to see if they are interested in further services, such as a refinancing or a home-equity loan.

In anticipation of the Oct. 1 start date for do-not-call, he had been checking the list of former clients, and lists of other sales leads, against the registry.

This not only slows operations, he said, but also limits the company's sales opportunities.

Some privacy advocates were optimistic that the ruling would be overturned.

"I see this as a delay more than anything else," said Chris Hooftagle, associate director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center, a Washington consumer advocacy group. He said the registry has overwhelming political support.

The have the FTC, the Federal Communications Commission, Congress and the president are all aligned in favor of the do-not-call list, Hooftagle said.

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QUIET SETTING, 2 bdrm, \$350/mo, call 529-2432 or 549-2831.

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2 BDRM, PLEASANT Hill Rd, a/c, 1 bath, ref, required, country setting, call 457-8924.

2, 3, & 4 BDRM, large rooms, 2 bdrm, c/a, w/d, no pets, 549-4808 (9am-7pm), rental list at 503 S Ash.

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COUNTRY SETTING, 2 bdrm, carpet, gas appl, c/a, pets ok, \$350 & \$475/mo, after 5pm call 684-5214 or 521-0258 avail now.

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DICKIE ROBERTS: FORMER CHILD STAR (PG-13)
4.10 7:10 9:40

JEEPERS CREEPERS II (R)
4.15 7:15 9:45

MATCHSTICK MEN (PG-13)
4.45 7:20 9:50

ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO (R)
4.30 5:15 7:50 7:40 9:20 10:00

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN (PG-13)
4.20 7:30

UNDERWORLD (R)
4.00 5:00 8:45 7:45 9:30 10:15

STARTS FRIDAY

UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN (PG-13)
THE RUNDOWN (PG-13)
SATURDAY SNEAK PEAK
SCHOOL OF ROCK (PG-13)

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CABIN FEVER (R)
5.30 7:45 9:55

COLD CREEK MANOR (R)
4.35 7:15 9:50

FREAKY FRIDAY (PG)
4.25 6:50 9:15

NORTH FORK (PG-13)
5.00 7:30 10:05

OPEN RANGE (R)
5.15 8:15

S.W.A.T. (PG-13)
4.45 7:25 10:10

SECOND HAND LIONS (R)
4.00 6:40 9:20

THE FIGHTING TEMPTATIONS (PG-13)
4.15 7:00 9:40

STARTS FRIDAY
DUPEX (PG-13)

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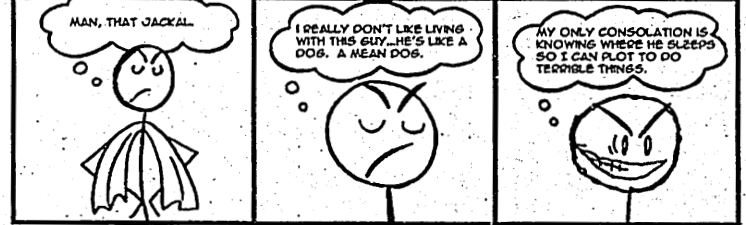
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We're in the Band by Thomas Shaner



Daily Horoscope

By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday (Sept. 23). The more things you check off your to-do lists this year, the stronger you'll become. Not everything is easy, but getting these things done is good for you. You'll get tough.

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 - A mistake isn't the end of the world; it's just another mess to clean up. The good news is that your life is getting easier, and not a moment too soon.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - Don't abandon hope if you've suffered financial losses. You can recover (eventually) by developing your creative talents.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - You don't need to use words to express your feelings. A loved one can read your mind. Trust your imagination and your vision of how things can be.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - Take on a project to make your home more beautiful, more comfortable or somehow more perfect. You may not think you know how, but you'll learn as you go along.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 7 - Knowledge isn't everything. Money is nice, but it won't buy you satisfaction, either. Luckily, there are no limits on imagination and love. The more you spend, the more you get.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - You're naturally meticulous, and that's an advantage now. Don't trust your friends to do the job as carefully as you would - not until you've taught them how.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 7 - You should be getting more confident. Don't get cocky or arrogant, though. That would be counterproductive.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 7 - Your compassion is harder to express if you perceive rejection. Forgive one who's been hurt for being unable to be as gracious as you are.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - You may have to tell friends that you can't go along on an expensive excursion. You'd better protect your own savings' account, because nobody else will do it for you.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 6 - Get a partner to help you with a tricky negotiation. Something's complex about travel, too. Get help, and proceed with caution.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 7 - By tomorrow, conditions will be right for travel and deepening love. Meanwhile, continue to make the necessary preparations.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 6 - Pool your resources with those of a practical person. Don't rush into a big purchase, though. Do your homework first.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argillon

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

MONED

BOTOR

DACROW

TIPOLE



Yesterday's Jumbles: BATON WOMEN MOSQUE OBJECT
Answer: What Junior's promise turned out to be when the driveway wasn't cleared - A "SHOW" JOB

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HELLO DAVE
\$1.75 CORONA, HEINEKEN, AMSTEL LIGHT
\$1.50 RAILS
\$2 STOLI FLAVORS & SAILOR JERRY'S

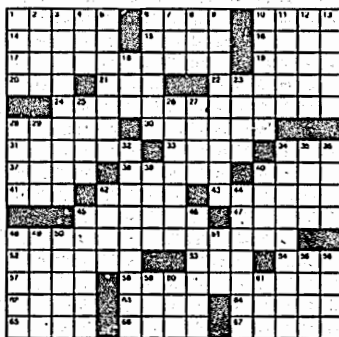
FRIDAY
Live music with...
K.S.G.
\$2 CAPTAIN & JACK
\$1.75 ALL MICHELOB BOTTLES
\$1.50 COPPER DRAFTS

SATURDAY
Live music with...
Nation
\$2.50 LONG ISLANDS
\$1.75 COORS LIGHT
\$2 ALL BACARDI FLAVORS

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Crossword

- ACROSS**
 1 Citrus fruits
 6 Olympus queen
 10 Lawsuit
 14 Get out of bed
 15 Wax-coated cheese
 16 Track shape
 17 World's largest inland body of water
 19 Short skirt
 20 USNA grad
 21 Galah's sire
 22 Emiliano's mustache
 24 "Man in Black" star
 26 Vixen maker of note
 30 Lagerlof and Diamond
 31 Become aware of
 33 German chief
 34 Ub. inventory
 37 Very in Vichy
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 41 For what work



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- 42 Switch tail?
 43 Innate ability
 45 At a snail's pace
 47 Adventure
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- DOWN**
 1 Decorative border
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 3 Says wrong
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Solutions



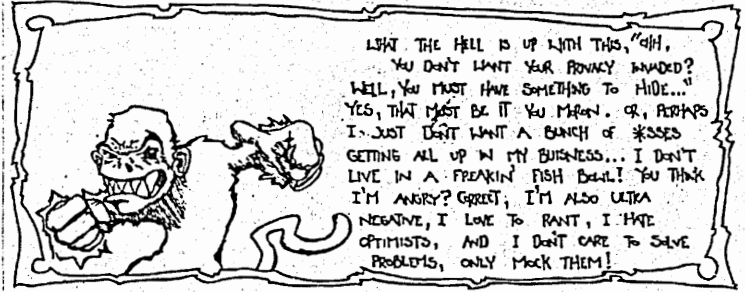
- 35 Daily Planet reporter
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Adam

by J. Tierney

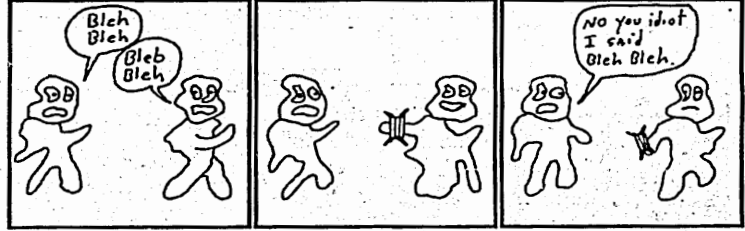


When nature calls. Alex Ayala.



Sherbert

by Ryan Wiggins



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Water Dawg's head westward to face big-name foe

Kansas welcomes Saluki women's swimming squad

Ethan Erickson
Daily Egyptian

Despite a bevy of obstacles standing in its way, the SIU women's swimming and diving team is optimistic heading into its first meet of the season Friday and Saturday at Kansas.

The traditional season opening meet between the two schools will take place in Lawrence, Kan., with pool events Friday evening and the NCAA's only open-water competition the following morning in a local lake.

Kansas has owned the Salukis, winning 22 of the 23 meetings between the two schools.

Another factor standing in the way of Saluki success is the fact that SIU sports a team dominated by freshmen and sophomores that will be heading into the lair of a Big 12 program.

"The older kids are good leaders; they're taking care of helping keep the younger kids in line," head coach Jeff Goelz said.

"The younger ones are fresh, and you never know when you go in with freshmen. Some of the freshmen will probably get a little scared. Most of them, I think, will step up and get excited and have a great first college meet."

In addition to Kansas' tradition of excellence, Robinson Natatorium, home of the Jayhawks, should also add another layer of difficulty for the Salukis.

"It's gonna be exciting,"

Goelz said.

"It's a small environment. It's like a Davies Gym where everyone is piled in and it's gonna be loud, and that's what makes it exciting."

The event will use a high school format, which means shorter events, something that could help the young Salukis.

The Salukis will leave Carbondale Friday morning via bus, and they'll have little time to acclimate themselves to their surroundings before facing Kansas, something that won't help — especially after the long lapse in competition.

"We're gonna be very rusty, and we're gonna be very sore," Goelz said.

"We haven't raced most of these kids since last February. They swam over the summer. Most of them don't race a whole lot, and so it's been six months of training or hanging out. We're not really in shape."

One person who should already be in good shape is sophomore Briley Bergen, who finished ninth in the open-water world championships during the summer.

But for the benefit of the Salukis, an intense training regimen involving swimming both morning and afternoon in addition to lifting has been employed to get the team in shape quickly.

"That training regimen has been punishing at times."

"Last year was hard; this year's been worse," sophomore Liz McGowan said.

"As much as we hate it when we're training, we know it's better for us. For the long run, I think we're gonna do a lot better this year because we've been training so hard."



MEREDITH MERCER - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Junior Natalie Kenny swims hard during practice at Edward Shea Natatorium Wednesday afternoon to prepare for their first meet against Kansas State. There has been a 23-year rivalry with Kansas State, and the Water Dawgs feel confident they can come out on top.

But facing the early obstacles will only aid the team as the season progresses.

"If you're gonna get better and you're gonna improve, you're gonna have to swim teams that are higher up the food chain than you are," Goelz said.

"We're swimming very tough programs, so that can only make us better."

Reporter Ethan Erickson
can be reached at
erickson@dailyegyptian.com

Swimming and Diving Schedule

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Sept. 26	Kansas (Women only)	Lawrence, Kan.
Sept. 27	Kansas Open Water (Women only)	Lawrence, Kan.
Oct. 25	Nebraska	Lincoln, Neb.
Nov. 1	Illinois w/ Iowa State	Carbondale
Nov. 7	Missouri (Men only)	Carbondale
Nov. 15	Drury	Carbondale
Nov. 20-22	Northwestern Invite (Women only)	Evanston
Nov. 20-22	Purple Invitational (Men Only)	West Lafayette, Ind.
Jan. 10	Indiana w/ Ohio State	Bloomington, Ind.
Feb. 11-13	Western Kentucky	Bowling Green, Ky.
Jan. 24	Southwest Missouri State	Springfield, Mo.
Feb. 17-19	Missouri Valley Invite (Men only)	Carbondale
Feb. 19-21	MVC Championships (Women only)	Carbondale
Feb. 19-21	Missouri Valley Invite (Men only)	Carbondale

FRANK SOLARES - DAILY EGYPTIAN

SPORTS FLASH

SIU men's cross country cracks poll

The SIU men's cross country team earned a spot among the top squads in the region when it was tabbed No. 11 in this week's Midwest poll, which is voted on by the United States Cross Country Coaches Association.

Iowa sat atop the region while Missouri Valley Conference schools Northern Iowa and Drake ended up behind the Salukis at Nos. 12 and 15, respectively.

SIU won its first meet of the season, the Bradley Open, Sept. 12 and placed second at last weekend's Crimson Classic.

The team's next meet is Oct.

11 when it plays host to the Saluki Invitational.

Wagner named athlete of the week

SIU freshman cross country runner Lindsay Wagner was named the Missouri Valley Conference cross country athlete of the week Tuesday.

Wagner, a native of Mount Vernon, led the Salukis to a first-place finish at last weekend's Panther Open in Charleston.

She took second place overall in the five-kilometer race.

The team returns to competition Oct. 4 when it heads to Terre Haute, Ind., for the Indiana State Invitational.

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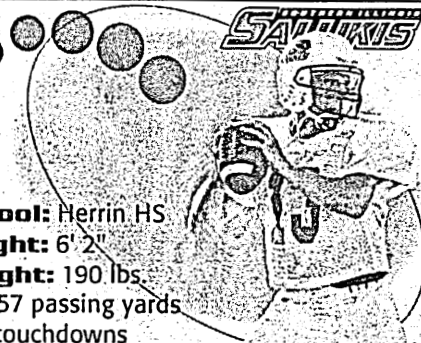
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DAILY EGYPTIAN
Pulse

BRAD WALKER

Prep Stats



School: Herrin HS
Height: 6' 2"
Weight: 190 lbs.
 • 2,857 passing yards
 • 45 touchdowns

FRANK SOLARES - DAILY EGYPTIAN

with Walker.

He told Walker, SIU was swamped with quarterbacks and he couldn't take another on scholarship, but Kill promised if Walker worked hard, he would get one.

"It made the whole decision of me going there or not going there," Walker said. "[Murray State] lied to me, and Coach Kill told me that he was very sorry but they couldn't offer. He was very straightforward."

It looks like Kill didn't only make a smart public relations move but also a good one for the future of his football team.

Of the quarterbacks on the SIU squad, Walker arguably has the strongest arm and is very adept at running the option, which was Herrin's offense his senior season.

He has time to acquaint himself with SIU's offense and the speed of college football compared to 4A IHSA football.

At the moment, SIU's starting quarterback Joel Sambursky is just a sophomore and his backup, Curtis Holley, is a redshirt freshman.

Walker knows he has got a long way to go before he stands under center for SIU, but that doesn't mean it won't happen.

Don't forget the name Brad Walker — someday it may be the name of SIU's starting quarterback.

And the whole town of Herrin will make sure you know it.

Reporter Zack Creglow can be reached at zcreglow@dailyegyptian.com



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HERO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

plays," Cravens said. "Many people would like to see more hometown boys at SIU."

Last season, that day looked like it would never happen.

Despite his accomplishments, Walker was being recruited by mainly smaller schools.

"I never really thought my name would get out," Walker said.

His name eventually did, but the team that started calling and showing interest was hated rival — Murray State.

According to the Walkers, Murray State promised him a scholarship over the phone. When they did, he started telling the smaller schools he was going to Murray State to be a Racer so the schools could concentrate on other players.

The problem was the scholarship offer was never made tangible, and Walker was left with little options.

The smaller schools he told to avert their attentions had filled up those grants.

That was when SIU head coach Jerry Kill touched base

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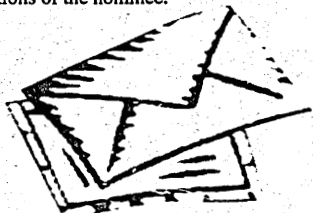
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Freshman football player Brad Walker attends his previous school, Herrin High School, to watch his old football team play. Walker, who was an all-star at Herrin, came to support his younger brother Kyle Walker, who is still playing on the team. Walker has only missed one of Herrin's football games this season.

MEREDITH MERCIER
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Herrin's hometown HERO

Despite being a walk-on at SIU, Brad Walker knows he has fans at home

story by ZACK CREGLOW

Brad Walker has no problems walking across the SIU campus without people flocking to him. Only friends and football players know him, and to the student population he is just another faceless person.

On gamedays, no eyes are on him. There is no pressure. At the moment, he is just No. 13, just a walk-on quarterback.

Here, his name is said and quickly forgotten.

Just 14 miles away in Herrin, that name embodies everything good about the town.

There, Brad Walker is a name everyone knows, and it is said with reverence.

That name is a sign of hope to a town that saw a high school athlete handle the town's hopes and dreams as a point guard on the 2002 basketball team that fought all the way to the state championship.

That name was the quarterback who juked and jived defenders on the 2002 Sweet 16 football team while he shattered all of Herrin's passing records.

"I've been watching Herrin football for 30 years," said Roger Craven, a hardcore Herrin fan. "Brad is one of the top three players I've seen. He is an inspiration."

There, Brad Walker is the name that put Herrin athletics back on the map.

Herrin is still home for Walker.

He still sleeps in the same bed he did as a

senior and eats at the same table. He still comes home from practice like he always has, but now he is driving back from Carbondale.

"It makes it a lot easier," Walker said. "A lot of people have financial problems, and I am lucky not to have any. And my mom is one of the best cooks around."

The family didn't worry about him in the college world, though. They didn't worry about the temptations college freshmen are subjected and sometimes fold to.

The Walkers are a close-knit family, and their children were taught to be above that.

"I am very lucky; both of my sons, I've never had any problems out of them," said Darrell Walker, Brad's father.

Walker still attends Herrin Tiger football games. Last Friday he watched his brother Kyle and the Tiger football team battle conference rival Massac County.

He was astute, not breaking his attention away from the game. When a Tiger player broke loose on a big gain or when the sound of a Massac County player being crushed reverberated, he was the loudest among a packed grandstand.

Old friends from high school and parents walked up to him at halftime to ask questions like, "How is football going?" and "So what are they doing with you?"

Walker would meekly reply that things are going well and the coaches are planning on redshirting him before averting the conversation elsewhere. The folks from Herrin understand.

"People love him there," said SIU sophomore linebacker Anthony Rinella, who attended the game with Walker. "There were a lot of people flocking to him. The short time I was with him, about 20 people went to talk to him."

Walker shies away from talking about himself. The laurels of his school career are credited to his team, not himself.

"He doesn't get caught up in all of that, being famous in this town," Darrell said. "He is very down to earth. He takes that kind of stuff in stride. He doesn't need a bunch of people telling him how good he is."

Walker's joy came from knowing he made a positive impact on Herrin children who still adorn themselves at Herrin games with Walker's replicated Tiger jersey.

"It is nice to know that all these people got joy out of seeing me play," Walker said.

The townsfolk hope there will be a day in the next five years when they can drive 14 miles and see Walker scramble out of the pocket and throw

a pass from his rifle arm to an SIU receiver.

They know he has the makings. They have seen his arm throw 60-plus-yard passes before, and they have seen him use it to carry a team and town's dreams.

"I think he will be starting," Darrell said. "I know Brad. He won't settle for anything less. He will be a team player. He will do what they need him to do to help him, but he will fight to start."

If and when that day comes, it would be an unofficial holiday in Herrin.

"The whole town would be there when he

See HERO, page 21



MEREDITH MERCIER - DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU quarterbacks coach Patrick Poore runs through plays Tuesday afternoon at McAndrew Stadium while freshman Brad Walker watches his teammates practice.

HOLLEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

talented teammates.

"Curtis is a stud," SIU starting quarterback Joel Sambursky said. "He's a great athlete and he's got a rocket arm and I know without a doubt that if something happens to me, there's a lot of confidence in him to continue to lead the offense."

Lead is something Holley has proven he can do.

He threw for 4,403 yards and 55 touchdowns his final two seasons at high school and never lost a game until falling in the state playoffs to eventual champion Rockledge his senior year. The loss snapped the state's second-longest win streak at 47, with 42 of the wins coming under Holley's watch.

For his efforts, Holley finished third in the voting for Mr. Football in the state of Florida. The two players ahead of him, Leon Washington and Catriek Fason, went on to play college ball at Florida State and Florida, respectively.

"It's one of the highest awards that a player can get, being the best football player in Florida, and I was proud that I was voted for it," Holley said.

This begs the question — how did the state schools allow Holley to leave the swampland of Florida for the farmlands of Illinois?

That is something Holley does not have an answer for.

Florida and Florida State sent assistant coaches to recruit Holley, but in the end, nothing materialized. He said only Troy State and a few community colleges were serious about bringing him on.

Then there was SIU.

Holley knew the program was not known for winning, and that is what attracted him to Carbondale.

"I wanted to come in and see what could I do to change that," Holley said.

Upon arriving on campus, Holley encountered that losing.

He watched from the sidelines a year ago as the Salukis lost their final five games of the season on the way to a 4-8 record.

Despite knowing about SIU's struggles, it was still something he was not fully ready for.

"The feeling of losing really wasn't known to me," Holley said. "But then when it came my first year in college, it was kind of heartbreaking to me to see us lose like that."

Despite his difficulty in adjusting to losing, as well as the colder weather, Holley is happy with his choice.

The Salukis are also glad with his decision, as he has provided the Salukis with a solid backup to Sambursky, last year's Gateway Conference Freshman of the Year.

In his limited mop-up duty, Holley has completed 3-of-6 passes for 43 yards and a touchdown. But it is his running that has caught the eyes of those who have seen him play.

Holley scampered for a 56-yard touchdown run in SIU's opening night victory over Quincy. On the year, he has three rushing attempts for 72 yards.

The scary thing is running is not Holley's strength.

"He's probably a lot better throwing the ball than he is running it," Kill said. "He hasn't had a chance to throw it as much, but he can really throw the ball."

Kill said another strength is just his knowledge of the game and ability to react when things go astray.

"He plays on instinct," Kill said. "He sees the field; he's just got a knack."

30th more wide receiver Brent Little said another of Holley's attributes is that he simply oozes confidence, and that helps the team also feel confident in him.

"He brings a little swagger to the team, a little cockiness," Little said. "He brings that Florida swagger."

Now Holley just wants to bring that Florida tradition of winning.

Reporter Jeni Deju can be reached at jdeju@dailyegyptian.com

BRENNER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

how much your letter, as well as your words of encouragement during basketball season, meant to me. You are a great broadcaster and an even better person.

Congratulations on 25 amazing years in Southern Illinois. You have impacted and influenced the lives of many of us at the DAILY EGYPTIAN sports desk, and I asked two of our sportswriters to share some of their Mike Reis-related memories with you as well as our readers.

Ethan Erickson

Mike Reis is synonymous with Saluki Athletics in the minds of many. As a lifelong Southern Illinoisan and Saluki fan, I am no exception.

Of course, some of the best memories involve Saluki successes, the biggest of which was SIU's advancing into the Sweet 16 in 2002. As would any loyal Saluki fan, I chose to listen to Reis' call of the game rather than the national television announcers who spend half their time explaining what a Saluki is.

When Reis told the Saluki faithful

their team was headed for the Sweet 16, those were by far the sweetest words I've ever heard roll off his tongue.

But I imagine it's much harder to broadcast a losing team than a winner, and the breadth of Reis' radio mastery really hit me during the 22 years of Saluki basketball in the late 1990s. When SIU was shooting itself in the foot, Reis would address the audience by calling them "friends" and then telling them the honest truth about the team's problems.

Mike Reis is like the ringer on the company softball team or the minor-leaguer that doesn't want to get called up, and let's hope he finishes out his career as SIU's best broadcaster.

Jens Deju

I guess to me Mike Reis is more or less just another member of the media.

I see him just about every day at either football or basketball practice and, while he does carry a bit of an aura about him, he is just like one of the guys.

He cracks jokes about players. He talks about story ideas. He talks about making it to Tres Hombres in time to throw some back.

But there are a few Mike Reis memories that stick out.

Before the Salukis embarrassed themselves against Creighton in March, Reis noticed I wore a tie to the game for the first time ever. He looked at me, smiled and joked that I would not make it the whole game before taking it off.

Then the massacre began, and afterwards as we walked toward the media room I tore the tie off, and Mike looked at me and sarcastically said, "I bet you'll never wear a [bleeping] tie again."

To this day, I have not. Another comes from a pick-up game this past summer at the SIU Arena.

It was the first time either of us had seen the basketball team play since the NCAA tournament, and as the players started taking the court, Reis smiled and began to speak out of the side of his mouth.

"It looks like Josh Warren lost a little weight, and no, he didn't give it to Brad Korn."

It is moments like these that I remember most about Reis, not his on-the-air calls.




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SIU backup
 quarterback Curtis
 Holley brings
 winning tradition up
 from swamps
 of Florida

story by JENS DEJU

Glance at a map of Florida, and you are likely to miss it.

Just to the north is Lake Okeechobee. For those not up on your Florida geography, this is the big circular body of water that looks like an eye near the bottom of the state.

About 40 miles south sits Alligator Alley, otherwise known as Interstate 75. The highway flows east to west and is dotted by canals that are filled with alligators.

And then you see it, Belle Glade, the biggest city in the 2.9 million-acre swampland otherwise known as the Everglades.

While it is the biggest city in the swamp, it is not a large place. Belle Glade takes up a scant 4.5 square miles and houses just 14,000 people.

This is the hometown of Curtis Holley, a redshirt freshman quarterback on the SIU football team. Holley is expected to see plenty of playing time Saturday when the Salukis take on Division II St. Joseph's (Ind.) at McAndrew Stadium.

Despite now living more than a thousand miles away from his home, Holley has a constant reminder of where he is from — his Cajun-like accent.

"I'm from what my town calls the muck," Holley said with a laugh. "They call me muck boy because they say I talk like a muckish style."

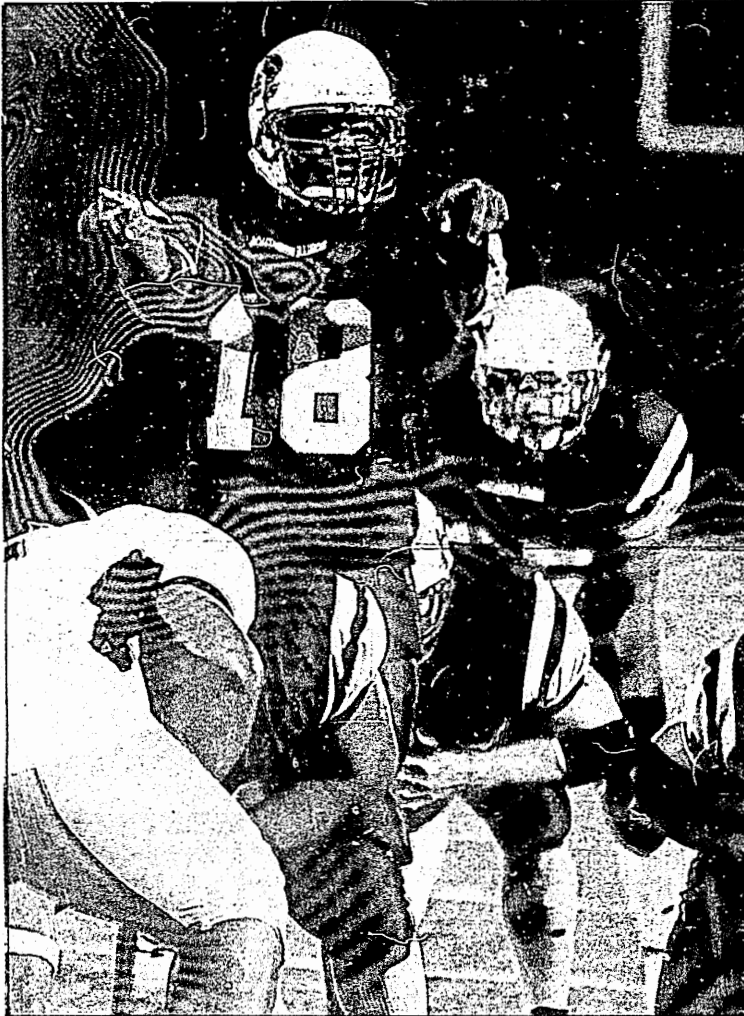
He said muck is just slang talk and said his teammates sometimes joke he is stuttering because of the way he talks.

But there is much more to Holley than his hometown and his speaking style.

"Curtis is a young man who won a heck of a lot of football games and comes from a high school that's turned out a ton of players," SIU head coach Jerry Kill said.

Glades Central High School, a Class 3A powerhouse, currently has seven former players in the NFL — the most of any school in the nation.

Holley's senior class carried on the



ROBERT LYONS - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Redshirt freshman quarterback Curtis Holley makes a call at the line during the game against Murray State Sept. 13 at McAndrew Stadium. Holley finished the game 0-2 in passing and had one rush for 13 yards as the Salukis dominated Murray State with a score of 32-7.

tradition of producing talent, sending a school-record number of players on to college programs.

"We had a media day where everybody signed, and we had our schools come out and watch us sign," Holley

said. "It was just great having 13 or 14 players sign to go to D-I colleges."

Most notable among those signing were defensive end Ray McDonald Jr. and wide receiver Antonio Holmes, who went to national powerhouses

Florida and Ohio State, respectively.

But just because Holley is at a Division I-AA school does not mean he is not as good as his

See HOLLEY, page 23

Waterloo
 and other
 great losses

BY MICHAEL BRENNER
 editor@siu.edu

Happy 25th, Mike Reis

It was a dismal and depressing day, to say the least.

I was sitting at the sports desk at the State Journal-Register in Springfield late this summer, contemplating the disaster that could become my career. I had screwed up, and I had screwed up badly.

In a story about an American Legion baseball tournament, I had not only misidentified a coach, I had talked to the wrong one. Obviously, the newspaper was not too pleased with me.

I felt I had blown an entire summer of great work and was close to hanging myself from the nearest backstop.

But I had forced myself into the newsroom for some reason, refusing to quit and stand tall and face my editors. Waiting for the sports editor, who is a saint in my book and was at a meeting defending me to the editor-in-chief, I logged onto my Journal-Register e-mail and saw a familiar name in my inbox.

It was Mike Reis, who most of you know as the legendary voice of the Salukis, who will celebrate 25 years on the air this Saturday.

He e-mailed to let me know he loved my story, which was the same one I screwed up on. He complimented my lead and told me it made him read a story he would not have otherwise read. Reis wished me luck with my internship and said he was looking forward to seeing me in Carbondale again.

His timing could not have been better. Honestly, I was choked up. Suddenly, the confidence in me that had just been shattered came flooding back. I remembered SIU, remembered how well I had covered the Salukis during basketball season and, most importantly, remembered the compliments Reis had given me during the past year.

On several occasions, Reis said he was impressed with my work and thought I had a bright future, which meant the world to me because I have always held him in the highest regard.

If not for Reis, I don't know if I would have ever regained my marbles, and if you're reading this, Mike, thanks. You have no idea

See BRENNER, page 23

Saluki basketball closes in on two big men

Shaw, O'Bryant may
 come to SIU

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 Daily Egyptian

The SIU men's basketball team could be getting a much-needed infusion of height soon as Centralia star Matt Shaw is closer to choosing SIU, and Minnesota prep star Patrick O'Bryant has kept the Salukis on his short list.

"They're in pretty big need of a guy in my position, so that attracts me pretty much," said Shaw, a 6-foot-6 forward.

"Just being kind of close to home, the tradition, the past couple years how good they've been doing, I like Coach [Matt] Painter a lot. He's really cool. I just feel like it's a pretty good fit for me."

Shaw visited the Saint Louis University campus last weekend and will go to Stanford this weekend

before taking an official visit to SIU the following weekend. He plans on making his decision following the three visits.

Shaw, a versatile workhorse who can play with finesse and with power, is probably the biggest local recruit since Kent Williams of Mount Vernon, a close rival of Centralia's, chose SIU prior to Bruce Weber's first year as coach at SIU in 1998.

Shaw averaged more than 17 points a game last season and 14

the season before, when Centralia finished third in the state.

O'Bryant, a center from Blaine, Minn., also recently visited SIU, according to Hoopmasters.com. The 6-foot-11 high school senior has narrowed his choices to Fresno State, Bradley, Nebraska, Wyoming and SIU.

O'Bryant averaged 14 points, 10 rebounds and four blocks per game last season.

SIU will lose three seniors follow-

ing the 2003-2004 season and has an open scholarship due to the departure of guard Blake Schoen during the summer. Indianapolis guard Wesley Clemmons has already given the Salukis a verbal commitment, and Belleville product Mike Dale is on campus hoping to earn his eligibility in time for next fall.

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