Advisers question success of potential GradTrac program

BURKE SPEAKER
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

SIUC academic advisers are skeptical while students are responding favorably to the possibility of implementing a program that ensures students graduate within four years or the remainder of the coursework tuition is free.

Jean Kelly, academic adviser for SIUC's Department of Radio-Television, is skeptical of the program, called GradTrac, and said that if a student fails to graduate within four years, it could create conflict between the student and the University in determining who is at fault.

"There would be a degree of blame," Kelly said. "And sometimes situations could occur when no blame can be placed - you can't blame the student, adviser, or the administration."

Implementing GradTrac is being considered by a planning committee of the Campus Council for the Undergraduate Experience. In the program, students must declare a major and follow all course requirements maintaining 15 hours per semester. Students also are required to meet with their academic advisers and maintain a certain grade-point average.

If a student fails to graduate within four years having followed the stipulations, the University pays for further coursework to complete the degree.

Some students argue that at least GradTrac offers some compensation for the prolonged graduation date.

Pat Kelly, a junior in philosophy from Carbondale, and GradTrac guarantor, said the University will be accountable for ensuring a four-year graduation. "SIU should take a lead on programs such as this," Kelly said. "It makes the University shine, and I am confident it's going to work."

Others are not as sure. Wanda Taylor, executive assistant for the College of Liberal Arts, said the large number of adult and part-time and full-time workers are unable to graduate within four years, even with a program such as GradTrac.

"It would be very difficult to keep track of the infinite possible situations in which a student would need assistance during four years," Oakesy said. "I would want this program to give students an opportunity to graduate on time.

Oakesy added that it would be a difficult program to integrate and would take a great deal of time to perfect.

Kelley agreed and said the program would work only on a selected group of traditional freshmen - students who will profit from their intended majors.

Police chief decision delayed

DAVID FERRARA
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Carbondale City Manager Jeff Doherty said Monday that he has asked SIUC to consider the new Carbondale Police Chief position but said an appointment will be pushed back to April.

"We have gone through a very thorough process of screening," Doherty said. "It took longer to do a thorough review than I originally thought."

Doherty said a national search list was compiled and reviewed, and a number of candidates were interviewed, including the final set of applications. He needed to have a candidate in office by early to mid-April.

But Doherty said Monday that early April is a more realistic deadline.

Doherty would not comment on the number of finalists that have been selected by a board of five fire and police commissioners, but said numbers will be released when the remaining process is completed during the first week of March.
SIUC students need to make their voices heard

Today is the municipal primary election, and we should all get out and vote. Primary elections in general have notoriously low voter turnout numbers because they just aren't seen as being a "real" election. Nonetheless, they hold importance.

A primary election is conducted before the "real" election, so political parties can choose their candidates for public office through a vote, or polling if you will, of their party members. Basically, the primary election decides who gets "the real" election. In determining who will make the ballot. So the importance in voting today is in keeping your particular candidate's election hopes alive by casting a vote in his or her favor. True, your vote today won't make the mayor or give them a seat on the City Council, but it puts them in the hunt. Candidates will be out lobbying for your support all around Carbondale and on the SIUC campus in particular. If you missed the candidates open forums, this is another chance for you to find out what promises are being made by individual candidates.

Diligent campaign workers will be posting and distributing flyers and other promotional materials in hopes you'll remember their name when you go to punch a ballot. Don't just vote for a name. Vote for the candidate that best represents your values of Carbondale.

This year, primary voters get to more directly state their vision of Carbondale. An additional option has been placed on the ballot. In fact, it's a $16 million question.

In addition to voting for your candidate, a trip to the polls gives you a chance to vote for the Carbondale Community High School referendum. By voting "yes," your property taxes will go up slightly on the current 7.5 percent rate. It also will allow for the construction of a new high school on the east campus and the sale of $2 million in bonds to cover the costs. A four-year study on the much-needed high school will have to find another way to be built.

No, the primary election won't decide who the mayor or City Council members will be. It will cut the field of choices in half. If you don't vote in the primary, there's a chance the candidate you support won't even make the final ballot. Perhaps more importantly, this year's focus is on the high school referendum.

Even if this isn't the final "real" election, all those with a vested interest in the education of the youth of Carbondale should go to the polls. The new high school is a critical matter on which all Carbondale residents should formulate an opinion. The high school, as well as the election candidates, will be a part of the future of this city. As such we urge everyone to show their support for their candidate and Carbondale's youth by casting a vote at their local polling place.

Overheard

"We really feel like we got a legitimate shot of getting to Monday. I don't think that's a pipe dream right now."

— SIUC Student Basketball Coach Rodney Wiggins when asked about the chances of playing in the NCAA Championship game.

Polling schmolling: Can't always trust public opinions

Sixty-two percent of people think there's nothing wrong with having an extra marital affair and thirty-eight half of that is due to a prove. The doesn't bother you. Seven percent have flossed their teeth with their hands.

There has been a lot of talk about opinion polls lately and I'm getting tired of all the bad news about them. It's making the politicians listen.

The truth is, your everyday American has bigger and better things to do than to bother with educating themselves about the going on of the 106th Congress. Thus, when the polls show the majority doesn't care, it doesn't have a whole lot to say about proportion '03 and its potential effects on Congress. As the yardstick that won't stop them from answering a multiple choice question.

For example, according to the Human Rights Campaign, 56 percent of Americans support the Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

Well, sure. It sounds great. We don't think there is anything wrong with having an extra marital affair and thirty-eight half of that is due to a prove. The doesn't bother you. Seven percent have flossed their teeth with their hands.
Field trip takes students to Dallas

Eleven Minority Aviation Council members are preparing to take flight Wednesday morning on Southwest Airlines in hopes of establishing an internship program at SIUC and gaining knowledge of internal operations.

The flight trip to the main headquarters of Southwest Airlines in Dallas will allow students to view the intimate workings of the facility. Members of the club are planning to establish a prospective internship program with the company in conjunction with the Aviation Department of SIUC.

If the club's plans are successful, Southwest Airlines will be the seventh company to establish an internship program with the Aviation Department, following in a succession of major airlines.

Other airlines SIUC collaborates with are United, Delta, United Parcel Service, Trans World, American and Northwest.

The idea for the Southwest Airlines flight trip and tour was first introduced to Minority Aviation Council members after Vice President Cordell Menzie attended an annual convention for the Organization of Black Airline Pilots and spoke with the Chief Pilot of Southwest Airlines Lou Freeman.

"He was curious about SIU and how the flight training worked, and I just came up with the idea and asked him. Can it be possible that they could fly us down there and we could set up a field trip," said Menzie, a junior from Chicago in aviation flight and management. "He said it couldn't be arranged.

The club decided an itinerary for the trip and accepted 11 members along with club advisor David Newmyer to participate in the tour.

Leaving campus at 4 a.m., the students will commute to St. Louis, where they will fly to Dallas. Airline tickets for students have been donated by Southwest Airlines.

Newmyer, associate professor in and chairmen of aviation management and flight, said interaction with airline professionals and, more importantly, with one of the top 10 airlines in the world, will benefit the students greatly.

"They are really quick a bit different from the typical airline in terms of how they do business, mainly because of the characteristics," Newmyer said. "Instead of having foreseeable issues, if things come up, we're here to support the in this effort and say 'Yes, we want to help with the internship connections.' It would be really wonderful because there is only one other University working with them right now.

Aerial Tours, a local in aviation, flight, maintenance and engagement from Springfield, said the trip is "a motivational tool for him, and he hopes to learn more about the field and Southwest Airlines.

"This will be educational as far as the industry goes and what they are looking for," said Menzie, president of the Minority Aviation Council. "We would like to establish an internship program with them, but really we just want to learn more about it.

The aircraft is expected to arrive in Dallas around 10 a.m. on Wednesday and the trip is set to return to SIU the next day.

"It's a very colorful trip, but as I intern there and see the facilities, the people, and the way they operate, it's really good reasons to do it," Newmyer said.

Foul-mouthed professor fights suspension

WARREN, Mich. — An English professor who served a three-day suspension for his profanity in class and who is now been suspended indefinitely from Macomb Community College for his potty talk in class and he's now been suspended indefinitely from Macomb Community College by his administration after his recent suspension.

Bonnell said his language was deemed complaint against him, charging he said. During the school's regular meeting on Feb. 16, "It was nothing different and less offensive than R-rated movies or the (Ken) Starr report. I've been taught that Shakespeare is not so Anglo-Saxon, and the Bible.

School administrators said they suspended Bonnell because he encouraged students to stay away from classes during his three-day suspension and even threatened to discipline them if they showed up. But he still had charges.

However, he doesn't deny using four-letter words and risqué language in class. It's a childish habit that prompted a female student to file a sexual harassment complaint against him, charging that his crude language was "dehumanizing, degrading and sexually explicit."
It's time of a position to fill in rush into Juddlick said. "I'd like to see Jeff appoint a city advisory committee made up of several assistant people to the community, I think the process we go through to find a new chief is good one. It should be tackled gradually as well.

City council candidate Brett Cole spread. "I think that they show they have more than they can handle for the moment. "I'm not condemning what Doherty has done, and I'm not condoning what they don't have."

Incumbent Mayor Neil Doherty added. "I'm absolutely the only way to do it under city council form of the management."

Pat Kelly, City Council committee candidate, had a different viewpoint. "The mayor council hire all city employees" Kelly said.

Applications from 52 candidates were received for the position, according to Doherty, but he could not comment on the number of internal candidates to external candidates to preserve fairness for the finalists. Hayman said he would like the council to have more input and believes that an external candidate should fill the position next, not internally. "I would say that you probably do better with an external candidate," Hayman said. "I think that at this point against the Fire and Public Safety Department, it needs to have some new blood." With primary decisions being made, the result of any hiring of mayoral positions, the process of selecting a new police or fire chief needs to be done. The current form of government allows Donaldson to make the final decision.

In the end it doesn't matter—"the city council is the mayor," Hayman states. "Doherty's a candidate should be able to fill that position for at least two years."

"I'm not looking for a commitment beyond two to three years," Hayman says. "That would make all those that one would expect of anyone coming into the position."
GPSC continued from page 3

students can vote on the same referendum items, although a fee, if passed, would affect them differently from one program to another.

Speck said that since the needs might differ among the graduate, undergraduate, law and medicine programs, the fees and distribution of the fees might be structured individually for each program.

Undergraduate Student Government Vice President Brian Atchison said although he was not aware of any pending USG citation on the issue, USG saw a referendum as an excellent way to gauge student support on the issue.

Both USG and GPSC have said they would fully support a majority on the fee control board for a technology fee. This would allow students to have some control as to what a fee would be allocated.

The student government units have been discussing the possibility of a technology fee since last semester, and学生 said the University administration, student government had been reluctant to either support or oppose a fee for technology, as it comes from expenditures from the administration.

“HOUSING

continued from page 3

“The city does not enforce ordinances,” Redmond said. “Students with disputes should go to the student legal assistance office.”

Steve Rogers, staff attorney with the Student’s Legal Assistance Office, said that some situations can only be resolved by going to court. However, he finds that most landlords are reasonable.

Robinson’s landlord was not reasonable. She tried mediation through the state’s attorney’s office, but the landlord would not respond. Her only remaining course was to take her landlord to circuit court.

Rogers helps many disputes between students and landlords and said the most frequent problems were security deposits, repair complaints and evictions by the landlord without notification.

He recommends students take the time to understand their lease and ask questions to current and former tenants about the property and list.

“What you don’t know could cost you a lot of money,” Rogers said. “Take the time you spend will be well-invested.”

Rogers recommends researching everything in a lease including issues like late charges, pets and responsibilities for repairs.

“I’d rather students read their lease carefully,” Atchison said.

However, according to a GPSC housing survey conducted last fall, more than 90 percent of the 228 respondents said they understood the lease agreement.

Rogers is skeptical on that figure.

“They may be speaking generally,” Rogers said. “It doesn’t mean they have read the lease carefully.”

Atchison said although he was not aware of any pending State Senate bills, he thought it would be helpful that one of his students be on the committee that makes the decisions concerning any new fees or increases that were approved earlier this year.

Other items GPSC will be looking for is a change in the approval of fee commissioners for the GPSC and Student Trustee elections, a fee for ownership of the landlord/tenant proposal and presentations regarding fees from the Illinois Chancellors for Student Affairs Larry Juhlin and University Housing Director Ed Jones.

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University Park, 106 Troubled Hall

Wednesday, February 24, 1999

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Lauren’s Room, Student Center

Thursday, February 25, 1999

Body Myth: Exploring the Pressure to be Thin
Discover the social pressures experienced by both men and women regarding body image. Discussion focuses on health, culture, media, and our body environment affects our body image.

6:00 p.m.

Kayser Room, Student Center

*Sex, Beauty & Manipulation

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3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

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Taco Bell keeps Chihuahua on short leash

By Greg Johnson
Los Angeles Times

In a commercial world where fads come and go, a bunny puppet is probably no surprise to most industry executives who created the quirky campaign designed to keep Taco Bell's ads popular. The campaign, which uses the real-life puppet of a bunny, has been a hit for the fast-food chain. When the campaign launched last year, it was designed to appeal to children and adults alike. Since then, the campaign has been extended to include a variety of products, such as school supplies and baby clothes. The campaign has also been featured in print and on TV. It has been a huge success, with sales rising by more than 20% in the first year. While the campaign is still in its early stages, it has already exceeded expectations and is expected to continue to grow. The company plans to expand the campaign to include more products and to target a wider audience.

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Application Deadline: March 5 (Friday)
Call 536-2361 or stop by WDB's on the 4th floor of the Student Center to pick up an application.

Kweisi has visited universities and spoken with students at UCLA in Los Angeles, Howard in Washington, D.C., and others.

He educates people on the African American experience during a period when African people were teachers of the world.

"I enjoy exposing information to them that they may have thought was retained, but when it was part of their ancestral culture," he said. "It gives them an awareness of their existence, their past, and knowledge of where they're coming from."

Kweisi takes a delight in teaching African-American students about their origins, which may be unfamiliar to them.

"This is a benefit in understanding that African-American history is more than 28 days — the shortest month of the year," he said. "It's 3,605 days plus."
Police blotter: a look at campus crime

PETER LEONE
COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

ITHACA, N.Y. — When one of their prank-boosted, Car Pel motley pliers of Cornell University didn’t do themselves any favors with the brothers of the house.

According to the Cornell Sun, Ithaca firefighters and campus police responded to a fire alarm that went off in the house shortly before 4 a.m. on Feb. 2. What they found prompted city building inspectors to temporarily lock out residents and declare the house unfit until it could be cleaned up. An 45 of the fraternity members living in the house were allowed to return a few days later.

Chapter President George Bell explained that the parrots were released after the fire alarm had been turned off and that the parrots had been sleeping in the building on earlier days.

Bell declined to say why the parrots engaged in such an elaborate prank, but he did say they worked alongside the entire brotherhood to clean the house.

The pledges are expected to formally apologize to the Cornell Fire Department, officers at the campus police department and officials at the university’s department of environmental health and safety.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, Ill. — "Police at the University of Illinois are looking for a couple of men who, in recent weeks, have walked around campus exposing themselves to students.

According to the Daily Illini, one of the men is reported to be a student at a university where he is reported to have a history of exposing himself in public places.

Another man was seen exposing himself and touching women in the lobby of the university’s education building. The charges are similar to those of the man who was last seen in the lobby of the building.

The university has put measures in place to prevent future incidents, including increased security and patrols.

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Monday continued from page 5

Cooch Weber is a player — stay or leave. He had a few high school coaching offers following Rick Herrin's firing last April. Mulisy for the sake of the veteran players, he took those offers.

"When I met Coach Weber for the first time, I understood that he wanted to bring in some new players," Watson said. "But I felt a responsibility to show up and be here to help Coach Weber in the transition period. I loved it 100%.

Newcomers to the program have benefited from his decision to stay. "He knows the ins and outs of the University and the athletic department," Weber said. "He can tell you how to get to the gym, the Woody, Hurl and I think we've learned from him."

Watson has also served as the link between old and new. At the start of the season, including coaches, there were only seven new faces in the program. Assistants Alan Major and Alan Painter joined the coaching staff.

"It takes about half of a season to get to know the players," Weber said. "He's (Watson) been kind of that bridge between us and the players. He didn't have anything but to help anybody when we came here."

Watson likes his responsibilities as assistant hallman. "Whether preparing the floor, cheering the floor on, promoting Saluki basketball or recruiting, he always reports for duty."

Your job is a lot of things that don't necessarily show up in the box score. He seems to know that the players have to be done in and out of basketball," was one. Giving Weber directions to John Hall Hill is also. So is introducing Major and Painter to the players.

But Watson's private duties show up less as to what he calls "the Barney Stinson," he does. Watson's private duties show up less in what we call the "Winston's fuzzy bus."

His 20-30 hours a week spent with other coaches, planning against Kansas State and other schools is invaluable. If a team has a tendency to play zone defense later a time out, "He knows it," an example of his film expertise. Jan. 13, at Wichita State University.

"Shooker, forward / Maurice Evans, the MVC's top scorer, comes to Sal's in the 20th. Film and more than gives Watson the light touch to place the seniors, Alonzo Officer and Evans instead of defensive stopper Maurice Jernigan."

"I have to give credit to Coach Vissell for this one," Weber said when Evans was held to just one point in Sal's 67-52 win. "He just told, 'Let's try it.'"

"There is a little more to it than that."

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"I notice (Evans) is not really good at putting the ball on the floor. Evans is a bigger point specialist in size, but we were always playing great position defense."

Just Watson using the train he inherited from 10 years under men's, Rick Herrin. Unfortunately, Watson was forced to watch a close friend not give the opportunity to "50% of his own team."

The whole handling of Herrin's removal from the University continues to anger Watson.

"I hated that he had to go out the way he went out," Watson said. "I hated it. Many times coaches don't get to go out the way they deserve to."

"He was like a father to me. He taught me good in my 12 years with him. I will always be grateful to him for that."

The downfall during the final three years of the Herrin era was still a mystery to Watson. Herrin's plug were our top teams with talented players like, Shane Hawkins, Rashad Tucker and Tony Hudson fell on hard times.

"I don't know why," Watson said. "I know we had really good players. We all wanted to do well. Without making excuses. I just seemed like we were always missing a key link."

"The story of adding a Ricky Collins to last year's team that lacked a point guard Or Derrick Thomas's inside presence to complement the outside shooting of Hudson and Hawkins in 1996."

But Watson still has the memories of the good old days. He keeps in constant contact with the players from his early years — Murell Timmons, Paul Lust, Ashley Ainsley are just a few.

He talks to Chris Carr (Mississippi Timberwolves) about once a week, Carr, whose role has diminished in Minnesota this sea- son, phoned him from Los Angeles recently to ask for advice.

"There's so much that goes on in coaching. To just what happens on Saturday night from seven o'clock to nine o'clock," Watson said. So much does has to do with how you're going to get them through their lives. We really kept good contact with the guys. When guys call back, I think it's a testimony to the program."

Weber, Watson's former assistant, recently says has left coast with a Freddie McSwain (1980-90)."

"He was very talented, but he struggled," Watson said. "I don't know where he is."

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"It'll be a sad day if that ever happens," Watson said. "I don't look forward to the day."

A number of coaches have moved on to other schools, but Watson's loyalty to Herrin and the University continues. He has been an assistant coach under Herrin and Watson.
Surprising weekend in Florida

Baseball team all fired up after winning two out of three in opening series

MIKE BIDROBOND
DAILY LEAFLET REPORTER

SIUC baseball coach Dan Calhoun didn't know what to expect from his baseball team entering its weekend's season-opener series against Eastern. Tending, pitching, defense — he had no idea.

After taking two out of three games from Seton University in Indiana, Fla., maybe the not knowing was the best way to approach the 1999 season. Calhoun figured scoring runs might be a problem for the rest of the season. He was mistaken.

The Salukis (2-1) outscored the Huskies 31-21, including a 23-hit barrage in a 10-7 win Saturday afternoon at机关 Field.

Senior catcher Steve Ruggieri, who went 5-for-9 with two RBIs, seven Salukis had multiples hits as the offense cracked out four doubles.

"We were flat," Ruggieri said. "That's the way baseball should be played. We showed a lot of confidence out there."

The Salukis took the earlier games of the series and forced Seton to doubleheader in a 3-7 mark.

"The most impressive thing I felt was when we lost Friday in that nine-inning run plus five runs in two innings — it was devastating," Calhoun said. "But the guys did a tremendous job coming back the next two days. They could have given up, but they didn't."

A "one-question" mark Calhoun did not have to report back to him in this season's starting pitching. Senior Dave Piazza (1-1) and junior Hunter Hoisington (0-1) both earned victories over the weekend.

"They did good," Calhoun said. "To see them in this form this early in the season is great. We tried to watch from the other side of the mound, and I was just easily pleased with their performances."

Piazza, who pitched in Saturday's 10-7 win, allowed four earned runs and six hits in five innings pitched. Friday afternoon, Hoisington allowed only two earned runs and six hits in an inning. Other Saluki senior Jason Frazier had the best performance of the three despite not earning a victory.

"There were times through a certain spot of his lineup he was overpowering," Calhoun said.

After Friday, only allowing one run in a run while walking none and striking out five in his return from an elbow injury. "Friday felt really good and loose," Frazier said. "I had a decent fastball, and I spotted a lot of my pitches." Freshman closer Jake Alley allowed one hit after giving up a two-run home run to Seton's Riggins in the ninth-inning Friday by walking out twice in an inning of that game Saturday afternoon.

"I feel bad for Alley," Calhoun said. "It's a shame what bad luck happened to him. We are going to be able to be in some situations and catch thesave's showed a lot of confidence."

Another concern for the Salukis might be their relief pitching after Alley.

"There isn't always consistency," Calhoun said. "Some things is that they have to prove they have command. Someone has to come out and throw they can throw strikes and be big."

Questions still remain in the infield where freshmen third baseman Jeff Stadek and shortstop Lake McPherson have earned the starting jobs, while the only infielder that had fewer errors was junior first baseman Jeff Houston, who only had one.

"I still feel better defensively than all of last year," Calhoun said. "Maybe we just got a little away from technique."

The Salukis were not excluded from the traditional in-game rituals. Marty Worley, Brian Potter, Piazza and Frazier all were included in the error department.

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TENNIS

Men's team comes home with one win

After starting off the 1999 spring season with a 6-1 victory over Eastern Illinois University, the Salukis' (1-1) fell in the second match of the day to Iona College (4-6) in Bloomington, Ind.

Grigor Chamchishvili, Jack Dolan, Valentine Epure, Dave Santa Cruz and Alix Pouzoulis were all victorious in singles competition against Eastern Kentucky.

Chamchishvili was the lone winner for the Salukis in the loss to the Iona's, picking up his second of the season in the No. 4 flight.

The Salukis take on Murray State University Saturday, March 3, at the University Courts.

Women fall in opener

The Salukis (0-2) dropped a 5-4 decision in its season-opener against the University of Central Missouri Saturday. It then fell to Eastern Michigan University by the identical score Sunday in Louisville, Ky.

Freshman Stephanie Penmali, the Salukis' top singles player, earned the singles victory by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association. She won 6-3, 6-1 win over Iris Karabatin.

Freshman Pamela Flores won at the No. 2 spot with a 6-3, 6-2 win over Darleth Gricen, which was the Salukis only other singles victory. Flores was now 1-2 in ITA.

In doubles competition, Penmali and Flores earned a 6-3, 6-0 win at the top-doubles spot.

The Salukis travel to the University of Evansville for an 11 a.m. showdown Saturday.
Comeback effort falls just short

Men's basketball team takes a tough loss after making a strong run in the second half

Rodney Watson simply refers to it as "Monday." Don't let the ordinary reference be misleading. This is not your typical weekend-ending Monday. Actually, the Monday he speaks of is only the beginning.

"You've got to get to Monday," says Watson, now in his 11th season as SIUC men's basketball assistant coach. "You don't want to play on Monday. You've got to take care of things on Saturday first. And then you've just got to see what happens on Sunday. Then, when you get to Monday, anything can happen."

Monday of course is Big Monday — the day the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament championship is played every year. The semifinals begin Friday at the Kiel Center in St. Louis.

Watson has coached on "Monday" five times. Three times he had to celebrate about on Monday. SIUC won three consecutive titles from 1993-95.

But in the other three years, Watson has not come close. Last year, he made it to Saturday. The year before that — Friday, and in 1996, he didn't even make it to the weekend. So it always seems to be up and down.

"Now it is really for his first real chance of making it back to Monday," Watson said. "They really feel like we've got a legitimate shot of getting into Monday."

Watson almost missed it. Today, he is partly responsible for the Salukis' rising in a different direction. And just think. Watson almost missed.

He really feels like we've got a legitimate shot of getting into Monday," Watson said. "I don't think that's a pipe dream now.

Watson's renewed enthusiasm is all part of his well-rebui'd youth. The resurrection of Saluki basketball and the presence of a new coaching staff is like a fountain of youth.

Watson's fifth seed for the MVC tournament will rather play Bradley or Creighton University Saturday in the first round. Tipoff is scheduled for 2:05 p.m. at the Kiel Center in St. Louis.

Senior guard Monte Jenkins led the Salukis with 12 points, surpassing Chris Lowery for 14th place on the school's all-time scoring list. Guard Rob Dyce went for 23 points to pace the Braves.

"Next year it is really for his first real chance of making it back to Monday," Watson said. "We really feel like we've got a legitimate shot of getting into Monday."

"But we've got to get to it to do it," Watson says. "You want to play on Sunday. You want to make it there."

"Today, he is partly responsible for the Salukis rising in a different direction." And just think.

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