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DNA test rules out suspect in 20-year-old murder

Phil Beckman
Daily Egyptian

Convicted murderer John Paul Phillips was eliminated as a suspect in the 1981 murder of an SIUC student after a test showed that his DNA did not match DNA found at the scene, Carbondale police said Monday.

On Oct. 30, 2001, Carbondale police officers supervised the exhumation of Phillips' body at the Rose Hill Cemetery in Marion. A portion of Phillips' leg bone was taken from the remains and was sent to the Illinois State Police DNA Lab in Springfield.

"From the police department's standpoint, since his genetic code does not match the evidence, and we strongly feel the evidence was left by the suspect, this eliminates him as a suspect," said Carbondale Police Sgt. Paul Echols.

Susan K. Schumake was raped and murdered

on Aug. 17, 1981. Her body was found by two SIUC police officers in a wooded area east of the Physical Plant, between U.S. 51 and the Illinois Central Gulf railroad tracks, near a trail the students at the time called the "Ho Chi Minh Trail." Schumake was 21 and a senior in radio-television.

Now, Echols said, police will research the case file to look for other possible suspects from the original investigation.

Carbondale Police Chief R.T. Finney said if leads are developed, the police department will dedicate manpower to them.

"We will do that on murder cases," Finney said. "That's never a question. We'll do what we have to to get them solved."

Among the possible suspects was a man who was a drifter at the time and was questioned by police in connection with the Schumake murder. Echols said Carbondale police have kept an eye on him during the years and know where he is.



Schumake

Echols declined to give his name since the man remains a possible suspect.

The DNA sample left at the crime scene was also tested against others in the database and no match was found. Echols said now that it is known that the person who left the genetic material at the crime scene is not in the database, this eliminates many potential suspects.

Phillips' DNA will also become part of the Illinois DNA database and will be accessible by law enforcement agencies across the nation.

With the expansion of the DNA database to include all felons, as the years go by, the DNA

profile from the crime scene will be compared to other samples that are added.

Phillips was convicted of the 1981 murder of Joan Wetherall and sentenced to death in 1986. He was charged after confessing to a cellmate in 1983 that he had murdered Theresa Clark, Kathleen McSharry and Wetherall.

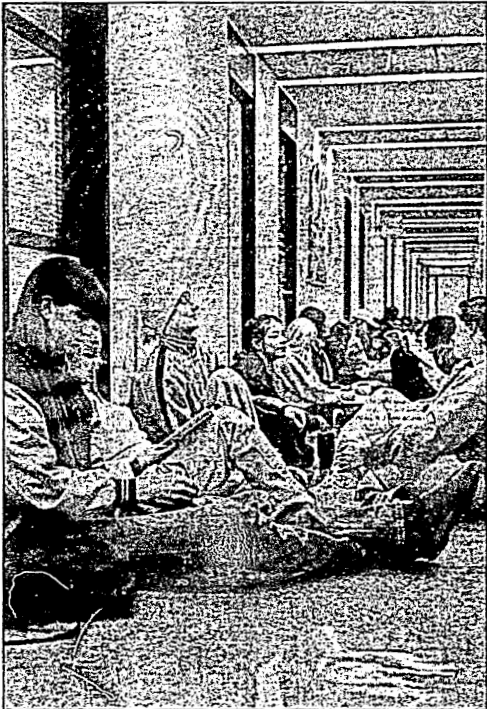
Phillips died of a heart attack in 1993 while on death row and was never charged in the Schumake case.

Police said evidence collected from the 1976 McSharry murder was insufficient for DNA profiling and thus were not able to determine if Phillips was connected to the murder. Finney said Phillips remains a suspect.

Reporter Greg Cima contributed to this story.

Reporter Phil Beckman can be reached at pbeckman@dailyegyptian.com

The early bird gets the class



AMANDA WHITLOCK - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Honors students slumped against the walls of Faner Hall early Tuesday morning anticipating Honors class registration at 8 a.m. From left: Jodi Miller, a junior in Ag Business, and Stephanie Nahm, a sophomore in political science and Spanish, were first in line this morning at 5:30 a.m. Students get up hours before registration to make sure they get into the classes they want. Honors classes have limited registration; they only allow 15 students per class.

West Nile cases in Illinois top 500

Jackson County holds steady at five

Greg Cima
Daily Egyptian

The number of West Nile virus cases has leaped by 119 since reported Sept. 17 and has been found in 518 Illinois residences since the end of July.

But even as the weather cools, health department officials expect cases of and deaths from the virus to continue until November.

Illinois has almost double the human West Nile cases of any other state, although Jackson County remains free from West Nile deaths.

But the latest figures from the Center for Disease Control place Louisiana in second with more than 260 cases and Michigan in third with more than 250 cases. The same set of figures show Illinois has more deaths than any two other states combined. The virus has been found in 98 of Illinois' 102 counties.

The first West Nile case in Illinois was discovered in a 22-year-old student from Maryland who was living in Cook County. Eleven men and 16 women from Illinois have died from the virus since Aug. 10, when a 67-year-old DuPage County man died from West Nile encephalitis. He was hospitalized Aug. 4 after experiencing fever, stiff neck, and changes in consciousness.

Because those with weakened immune systems are more susceptible to contracting the virus, the average age of Illinois residents who have died from the virus is 78. The youngest person to die from the virus was 64.

West Nile is not the first virus to

hit Illinois hard. St. Louis encephalitis, a close relative to West Nile encephalitis, hit Illinois worse than any other state in the nation in 1975. Illinois had 578 cases of the virus and 48 deaths resulting from infection. The nation had about 2,000 cases of St. Louis encephalitis that year.

West Nile virus has similar figures. The state is 60 cases short of the 1975 level and has 19 fewer deaths. There have been about 2,000 West Nile virus cases in the nation.

Tom Schafer, a spokesman for the Illinois Department of Public Health, is uncertain why the Midwest has seen so many cases. He said the department was anticipating human cases this year but had no idea there would be so many.

The West Nile virus is carried by mosquitoes and causes West Nile encephalitis, inflammation of the brain, and meningitis; inflammation of central nervous system membranes. Symptoms can be mild or severe and include headache, fever, stiff neck, stupor, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis and, in a person who is older or has a weakened immune system, neurological damage or death. Antibiotics are not effective against the viral infection, and a specific treatment has not been developed. Most people infected with the virus will experience little or no symptoms.

The virus is typically spread by the Northern House Mosquito, but other mosquitoes can still carry it. The Northern House Mosquito is prevalent in all areas of Illinois and is one of the most common types.

Schafer said the health department is seeing decreased mosquito activity. He said the decrease could be a combination of mosquito con-

trol efforts and colder weather.

"When it starts getting colder, rather than feeding on humans and mammals for blood, they start gathering sugar for hibernation," Schafer said.

Schafer said it is a misconception that more rain leads to more mosquitoes. He said the insects can breed in small pools of water, especially pools that are stagnant for a week or more. Mosquitoes usually require a week to 10 days to hatch into adults, and more rain can keep water moving and wash away breeding areas. Temperatures below 50 degrees can extend the growth period to several weeks.

Schafer said rain can still have an impact in the mosquito population that carries West Nile, but other "nuisance" mosquitoes that do not tend to carry the virus hatch about a week after rains.

Miriam Link-Mullison, administrator for the Jackson County Health Department, said recent rains are a need for increased diligence because pools of stagnant water are not being flushed out during the drought.

Mosquito activity is not expected to decrease until after the first hard frost.

"We expect the activity to continue for the next month and a half or so," said Link-Mullison.

The Jackson County Health Department will continue work on mosquito control through the winter by collecting used tires, a common breeding ground for mosquitoes, finding breeding grounds and preparing for next summer.

The county has focused on eliminating collections of used tires in

See WEST NILE, page 10

Faculty Association asks for 21 percent salary increase in three years

Ben Botkin
Daily Egyptian

The Faculty Association has asked for a 21 percent increase in compensation, but the University's Administration says that current economic conditions make the request unrealistic.

The faculty union completed a round of negotiations with the Administration on Tuesday, when they voiced their concerns about salaries.

The request for a 21 percent increase during the next three years is reasonable, said James Kelly, an associate professor of journalism and chair of the union's public information committee.

"Both the president and the chancellor have

admitted that faculty salaries are too low and must be raised," he said. "Our proposal will cost the university about \$8 million over the next three years. Let's put that figure in perspective."

"The latest Illinois Board of Higher Education Normative Cost Study showed that the central administration at SIUC last year was spending \$8 million above the state norm. You do the math."

And the value of faculty should also be considered, Kelly said.

"If they can find that much money to pay for an administration that teaches virtually no classes and conducts almost no research, they can damn well find enough money to pay the folks who do the real work around here," Kelly said.

But Worthen Hunsaker, the lead negotiator for the Administration, said that most SIUC employees will not get a salary increase for the current fiscal period, noting that the University laid off about 30 employees to cut costs.

Earlier this year, state aid to the University was cut by \$23 million. In preparation for the decrease in state funding, SIUC Chancellor Wendler asked departments to look for ways to make budget cuts that could be as high as 5 percent to 10 percent.

"The final settlement has to be grounded in economic reality," Hunsaker said.

But Kelly said the administration should also look at its own budget.

"They can surely also find enough in that

above-average administration budget to bring those 30 workers back to their jobs mowing lawns, repairing the buildings, and keeping the campus safe," he said.

The Administration and faculty union will meet four times in October.

Morteza Daneshdoost, president of the Faculty Association, recently said that he wants to see a contract for faculty by the end of October, so that the University will have good news to announce, as opposed to the negative publicity generated in the past during Halloween.

Reporter Ben Botkin can be reached at bbotkin@dailyegyptian.com

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NOW THAT'S GOOD NEWS!

NATIONAL NEWS

Bush scales back threat alert

WASHINGTON — Citing disruptions in the al Qaeda terrorist network, the Bush administration Tuesday scaled back the government's terrorist threat assessment to "elevated" from its previous level of "high."

The decision, approved by President Bush, means the country's color-coded alert status will drop from orange back to yellow, the midpoint of the scale, after two weeks of the higher threat alert that kicked in around the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

The decision, according to Attorney General John Ashcroft and Homeland Security Adviser Tom Ridge, was "based on a review of intelligence and an assessment of threats by the intelligence community, as well as the passing of the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the disruption of potential terrorist operations in the United States and abroad."

Contributing to this decision were the recent arrests of six men in suburban Buffalo who are alleged to have provided material support to al Qaeda, they said. "In addition, senior al Qaeda operatives have been captured in Pakistan and other al Qaeda members have been apprehended in Singapore and Yemen. These actions have disrupted terrorist operations by neutralizing certain senior al Qaeda leadership and removing other terrorist planners and operatives."

Bush signed off on a recommendation to go to yellow alert status after receiving his morning intelligence briefing, administration officials said.

Administration sources stressed that even at yellow alert, the government believes there is an elevated or significant risk of terrorist attack.

Wildfire near L.A. forces evacuations

LA VERNE, Calif. — Seventy homes in an upscale suburb east of Los Angeles were evacuated as an 8,000-acre wildfire raged out of control in the rugged terrain of the Angeles National Forest.

The fire has destroyed 44 structures near La Verne, but it was not immediately known how many of them were homes. U.S. Forest Service fire dispatcher Tony Heinan said early Tuesday, the fire was about 12 percent contained.

Residents of La Verne, about 40 miles from Los Angeles, were evacuated as flames grew dangerously close to the town, fire officials said.

"I had maybe an hour's sleep," said Ross Snow, who loaded her car with pictures, jewelry and clothing. "We're fortunate we have such wonderful fire departments in the area."

Nearly 2,000 firefighters were battling the fire, assisted by water-dropping helicopters and airplanes. One firefighter suffered a minor injury, authorities said.

A ceiling of brown smoke draped Glendora, San Dimas and other suburbs in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. Highway 39 into San Gabriel Canyon remained closed early Tuesday because of the flames.

The wildfire erupted Sunday evening near two privately owned camps. Winds fanned the fire, which at one point forced 300 residents and 2,000 campers to flee. The cause was not yet known.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. forces to protect Americans in Ivory Coast

WASHINGTON — With about 200 schoolchildren and staffers trapped in the crossfire of a military rebellion, U.S. Special Forces were headed to the Ivory Coast to help protect Americans there, U.S. military officials said Tuesday.

The military contingent would be made up of about 200 heavily armed U.S. Special Forces troops who are expected to land either outside Abidjan, the capital of the West African nation, or in neighboring Ghana, officials said.

Ivory Coast government forces are cooperating with the deployment, officials said, and French troops already in the region have agreed to back up the U.S. troops.

The French troops in recent days secured an airport about 40 miles from the school and moved in on a road near the campus. The American troops could escort U.S. nationals to safer locations within the Ivory Coast.

"The U.S. is committed to ensuring the safety of its citizens and U.S. forces in the Ivory Coast region and remains ready for all contingencies," said a statement from the military. "We are monitoring the situation in the Ivory Coast and will be available to ensure safety."

Indian commandos storm Hindu temple

NEW DELHI, India — Crack commandos have reportedly stormed an Indian Hindu temple to try to flush out several gunmen who have so far killed 29 people and wounded more than 70 in a murderous attack.

Witnesses reported a long exchange of fire in the early hours between the elite National Security Guard commandos and the gunmen, followed by two big explosions, Reuters reports Wednesday.

A senior police official said the temple area had been cordoned off and "the situation is under control."

The gunmen attacked the temple in western Gujarat last on Tuesday, spraying those inside with bullets and hurling grenades.

Gujarat was racked by India's deadliest religious violence in a decade earlier this year and there are already fears this latest action could further stoke tensions between Muslims and Hindus and spark fresh unrest.

At least 29 people, including four children, were killed when gunmen stormed a Hindu temple in India's western state of Gujarat and opened fire, a top Indian official said.

Today	Five-day Forecast	Almanac
High 80 Low 50	Thursday Showers 77/59 Friday Sunny 71/52 Saturday Sunny 75/44 Sunday Sunny 72/42 Monday Sunny 75/46	Average high: 77 Average low: 51 Monday's precip: 0.00 in Tuesday's hi/low: 74/43

CORRECTIONS

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

TODAY'S CALENDAR

- Seluki Rainbow Network
Weekly meeting
Student Center, Troy/ Corinth Rooms
6 p.m.
Today
- SIUC National Association of Black Journalists
Weekly meeting
Communications 1214
6 p.m.
Today
- Student Orientation Committee
Meeting — new members welcome
Student Center, 3rd floor, Student Development Office
7 p.m.
Tonight
- Fashion Design and Merchandising Association
Model Call
Quigley Hall, rm. 310
4 to 7 p.m.
Today
- American Marketing Association
General meeting
Student Center, 2nd floor, Kaskaskia Room
7 p.m.
Tonight

POLICE REPORTS

- University**
- Jamal Salah Shehadeh, 19, and Evan A. Ragan, 18, were arrested for allegedly stealing a license plate from a vehicle in an overnight parking lot at Oakland Avenue and Douglas Drive between Sept. 5 and Sept. 21. Both were released on personal recognition bonds and the license plate was recovered.
 - Aaron Keith Williams, 18, was arrested for criminal trespass to property and disorderly conduct in Schneider Hall at 1:45 a.m. Sept. 21. Williams posted \$100 bond and was released.
 - Aaron David Tysk, 18, was arrested for aggravated battery and criminal damage to state supported property in Abbot Hall at 5:09 p.m. Sunday. He was transported to Jackson County Jail.

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Some of the dogs at the Humane Society of Southern Illinois try desperately to catch the attention of future owners. The Humane Society gets as many as 7,000 pets donated a year, with room for only 30 to 40 dogs. Signs around the Humane Society building warn of the importance of spaying or neutering pets to help slow pet overcrowding.

Finding a Four-legged Friend

A reporter's search for a dog leads to dog-seeking suggestions, pet playtime and a sharing of dog lovers' stories during National Dog Appreciation Week

STORY BY KRISTINA DAILING • PHOTOS BY ALEX HAGLUND

Dumped, unclaimed stray, dropped off and abandoned were the words on tags that hung on kennels to identify why each dog ended up at the Humane Society.

As I walked up and down the cement corridor, I could not help but want to take home every furry face that yipped and whined for my attention behind the chain links of the kennels.

But my search was to find and claim only one dog as my four-legged friend, and what better time to look than during National Dog Appreciation Week, Sept. 23 through 29.

My house is too big for just my roommate and I, and I miss the comfort I feel when a dog greets me at the door after a long, tedious day.

Both my roommate and I are ready to fill our home with hair and the sounds of barking and whining that is not caused by either of us.

Searching
the bulletin



Do you look like your dog, we want to know!!

In recognition of National Dog Appreciation Week (Sept. 23 through Sept. 29), The Daily Egyptian Student Life Desk wants to see how many students are dog lovers. If you have an uncanny resemblance to your dog, submit a picture of you and your canine to our "Owner-dog look-a-like contest."

The grand prize winner will receive a \$10 gift certificate to a local pet store. Pictures must be submitted to Samantha Edmondson's mailbox in Communications Building Room 1247 by Wednesday Oct. 2. The top five finalists, along with the grand prize winner, will appear in the Daily Egyptian before the end of next week.

For more information call Samantha Edmondson at 536-3311 ext. 267. Happy Dog Appreciation Week!

JOHN MISKINIS - DAILY EGYPTIAN

board at Wal-Mart for pets to be adopted, I was pointed to the Humane Society of Southern Illinois.

The friendly human faces that greeted me as I walked through the door were comforting and welcoming. But the faces of the homeless dogs were heartbreaking.

A nameless, 12-week-old lab mix puppy frolicked with her cage mate, "Trixie." I could not help but be drawn to the small, black, bundle of energy who tormented her smaller companion.

I took the nameless puppy outside to see how she acted away from the other dogs.

The once jumpy, rambunctious furball turned scared and unsure as she dragged her small rear-end when I tried to walk her out of her kennel.

Outside she was curious, loving and calm, a winning combination for a softhearted college student.

But my major concern was how big she would eventually become when she was fully grown.

A big dog equals a big appetite, and that means a big chunk of my small paycheck.

Scorpio, a 1-year-old beagle-terrier mix, was the next dog that I took outside to frolic with in the yard. But he was not as interested in charming me like the puppy. He wanted to go do what dogs do — sniff and explore.

After he wrapped his leash around my legs two or three times, I realized he was a little too rambunctious for me.

Jason and Amanda Varner from Carbondale walked up and down the same concrete aisles,



DAILY EGYPTIAN reporter and would-be dog adopter Kristina Dailing gets wrapped while playing with a rambunctious puppy named Scorpio outside of the Humane Society of Southern Illinois. Sept. 23 through Sept. 29 is National Dog Appreciation Week, and the Humane Society is a good place to start on the search for a dog.

looking through the metal fences into the furry faces of homeless animals.

The couple recently moved from Champaign to Carbondale so Jason could attend SIU and get his teaching certificate.

"Trax," the Varner's 3-year-old cocker spaniel and beagle mix, spends much of his time alone at home while Jason attends class and Amanda works at a pharmacy.

See DOG, page 8

Last year's parking stickers expire soon

Students, faculty need to purchase new sticker to avoid \$35 ticket

Brian Peach
Daily Egyptian

If you've been swamped with schoolwork or just have serious problems with procrastination, you may have overlooked the fact that your old parking sticker expires in less than a week.

And after midnight on Tuesday, those who park on campus and haven't made a trip over to the SIUC Parking Division this fall may end up paying a \$35 fine.

"We hope everyone has purchased their new decals by then," said Brian Mager, SIUC Parking Division administrator, who added that most students get their new stickers in time each year and an increase in parking tickets after Tuesday will be unlikely.

Mager said the busiest time of the year for the Parking Division is at the beginning of the semester when students first come down and try to get a parking sticker as soon as possible.

The expiration for old stickers was at the end of August a few years ago, but changed to allow students more time to buy a new decal.

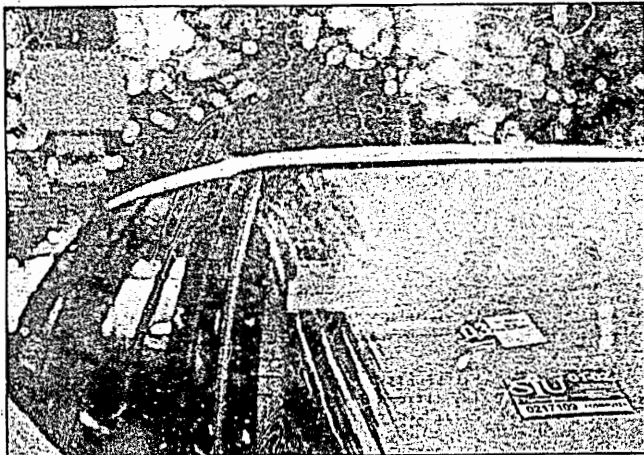
"That's why [the expiration date] is staggered like this," Mager said. "Instead of having a spike in students coming in, it evens out the registration process."

Amber-Golden Smallwood, a graduate student in rehabilitation administration from Kirkwood, Mo., waited until Tuesday to get her new sticker because she didn't have time to get it earlier. She said it was helpful to be able to wait until later to get her red commuter decal.

"I made the mistake of coming [to the Parking Division] the first day I was down here in 1999," Smallwood said. "I had to wait in line 35 to 40 minutes."

Parking stickers are sold at the Parking Division's main office in Washington Square B from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and at the Satellite Office on the first floor of the Student Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The stickers are good through next September and cost \$35 for students, unless they buy a sticker later in the year, in which case the



STEVE JAHNKE - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Parking stickers issued last year will expire this coming Tuesday at midnight. Although the new decals cost \$5 more than last year's, they are still comparatively cheaper than other state schools.

cost gradually decreases. Juniors, seniors and students older than 21 can buy a parking sticker anytime throughout the year, while only a limited number are issued to freshmen and sophomores.

With about 11,400 parking spaces on campus, Mager said more than 10,300 will be issued to students, while the rest go to faculty and staff.

Freshman and sophomore commuters under 21 are required to park in lot 18 or 56 near the SIU Arena. The yellow stickers issued are free of charge, and Saluki Express runs a shuttle service from those lots four times an hour and loops around Lincoln Drive from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Students with red, yellow or white stickers can park in any student parking lot between 4 p.m. and 2 a.m.

Though the price of the student parking stickers increased by \$5 this year, Mager said the price of parking at SIUC is still less than the average of other Illinois universities.

Smallwood said she doesn't mind paying the

fee to park on campus.

"The \$35 doesn't hurt too much," she said. "I know some schools are paying upward of a hundred dollars."

Brad Franks, a senior in English from Carmi, waited until Tuesday to get his new commuter decal because he wanted to avoid the "hassle of waiting in line" at the beginning of the semester.

He said the \$35 price tag on the stickers doesn't bother him either, but finding a place to park proves to be a frustrating task.

"I complain about parking everyday," Franks said. "They really need more spots."

Reporter Brian Peach
can be reached at
bpeach@dailyegyptian.com

For more information on parking
at SIUC, go online to www.dps.siu.edu/parking

NEWS BRIEFS

ON CAMPUS

Payroll employee reception today

There will be a farewell reception for Jan Ivin of payroll today from 2 to 3:30 p.m. for 34 years of service at SIUC. The reception will be in the conference room in the basement of Miles Hall, room 108. Light refreshments will be served.

African newspaper editor to speak tonight

Sarah Namulondo, a veteran newspaper editor for the Monitor in Kampala, Uganda, is speaking at 6 tonight in room 1032 of the Communications Building. Namulondo works for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and founded a web-based newspaper that develops stories about African women and women's issues. You can access the site at www.african-woman.net. Tonight she will report on gender issues and journalism in Africa. Everyone is welcome and there will be refreshments.

Creative writing graduate student receives honor

Benjamin Percy, a graduate student in creative writing from Oregon, is one of three runners-up in the Chicago Tribune's annual Nelson Algren Award competition. Percy will receive \$1,500 and have his story published in the Chicago Tribune and on its website. Algren is the author of "The Man With the Golden Arm" (winner of the first National Book Award ever presented) and "A Walk on the Wild Side," both of which became Hollywood films. The award has been given annually since 1982. Percy earned his undergraduate degree in 2001 from Brown University.

Hispanic Legislators visits SIUC today

The Hispanic Legislators will visit the SIUC campus today, beginning at 7:30 a.m. SIUC Senators del Valle and Munoz will be here, along with Representatives Acvezdo, Delgado, Mendoza and Soto to help commemorate Hispanic Awareness Month.

Illinois politics up in smoke?

Students say it doesn't matter when candidates admit to using marijuana

Arin Thompson
Daily Egyptian

To toké or not to toké, that is the question. And two gubernatorial candidates have answered "yes" to smoking — and eating — marijuana. Will this new-found information affect how they fare in the November election?

An SIUC political science professor and several students say no.

"It used to be a big taboo," said political science Professor Scott McClurg. "With Clinton getting elected with the famous 'I didn't inhale' quote, my guess is that in this election it's not going to be a big deal."

Gubernatorial candidates Rep. Rod Blagojevich, D-Chicago, and Libertarian Cal Skinner have both admitted to using marijuana. In a Sun-Times article, Skinner said he ate marijuana brownies without realizing it until the experience was over.

Blagojevich said he smoked pot twice while in his late teens or early 20s but does not know whether he inhaled. Republican candidate Jim Ryan said he never smoked pot.

McClurg said that voters are more concerned with scandals such as the license-for-bribes issue.

GUS BODE



Gus says: Dude, those weren't your Mama's brownies.

"In light of that corruption smoking pot seems kind of unimportant," McClurg said.

Donald Snowden, an employee at the Student Center and 42-year veteran of Carbondale, agrees and doesn't think it should change a thing.

"There's a lot more that has smoked marijuana and are not admitting it," Snowden said. "At least they're being honest about it."

Susie McDougal, a 21-year-old majoring in bioscience, says it makes politicians more real.

"It makes it seem like they're more legitimate people," McDougal said. "Not like they're goody-two-shoes people who have led a sheltered life. They've experienced real life. It's good; they have a better understanding of what's going on."

Robert Frett, a major in business, said he would probably vote for someone who smoked marijuana before he would vote for someone who hadn't.

"Because if they say they didn't, they're probably lying anyway," Frett said. "It doesn't make me lose confidence in their ability. It doesn't matter to me — good for them."

Another student, Ariande Chambers, majoring in real estate, agrees and thinks that truth is the most important aspect of public figures.

"I go with the person who tells the truth," Chambers said. "Everybody does wrong. That was in their past but they don't do it now. I'm all for it."

McClurg said the issue of smoking marijuana isn't the kind of thing that's going to change the election.

"Voters care more about scandals involving money than scandals involving morals," McClurg said. "They have a bigger impact on the issues."

Reporter Arin Thompson
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Hispanic representation increasing at SIUC, nation

Students express ways campus can be more aware of Latino presence

Samantha Edmondson
Daily Egyptian

Elizabeth Valencia's parents did not limit their daughter from pursuing any career she wanted. And she wanted to enroll in one of the top MD/JD, or dual medical and law graduate degree programs, in the country at SIUC.

Valencia's mother and father were both immigrants from Mexico, moving into the San Diego area and working in the fields, raising as much money as they could for their family.

However, Valencia, now a first-year student in the program, said the strength and support from her Hispanic parents and her roots had helped her go for her dream and become the first member of her family to attend college.

"They are very encouraging," she said. "They told me the sky is the limit."

Like Valencia, many SIUC Hispanic students have marched forward to receive their education, increasing the recorded Hispanic population to 630 students this fall from 586 students last year. But Hispanic representation across the country and at SIUC is increasing and making notable marks in several different areas.

According to the U.S. 2000 Census, about 10.1 percent of Latino-American high school graduates of all ages were enrolled in some form of college from 1997 to 2000. This percentage is more than the national average and

other ethnic or racial groups.

In fact, the Latino-Americans were second only to Asian-Americans in that category, whose enrollment rate was 11.3 percent. Non-Hispanic blacks were third, at 9.3 percent, and non-Hispanic whites were fourth at 6.7 percent.

Overall, the Hispanic population has risen 58 percent from the last census, noting 35.3 million Latino individuals living in America.

Although more Hispanic students have advanced to post-secondary education and enrolled in college, there is still a large percent of Hispanic individuals joining the workforce after high school.

Eighty percent of Hispanic men moved into the labor force by age 16 in 2000, with 41 percent of Hispanic workers employed in service occupations, according to the U.S. census.

However, there are 1.2 million Hispanic-owned businesses in the United States, with 28 percent of Hispanic-owned firms headed by women.

Within SIUC, a 3 percent representation of Hispanic students has continued strong during the last few years. But Amanda Cortes, president of the Hispanic Student Council, hopes that number will change.

She said many Hispanic high school students do not know where to start when looking for a college. They often are not supported with a smooth transition into a university and higher education.

"Many are smart kids in high school that don't have direction," Cortes said. "They finished high school and then take a break."

But she said those students who do come to SIUC are close knit and often encourage more Hispanic students to come to SIUC.

Mask workshop canceled because of low turnout

Kristina Dailing
Daily Egyptian

Handmade masks sit behind glass under the bright lights of Art Alley in the Student Center, but none of the masks are new.

The masks were made in recent years by women and adolescent survivors of sexual assault in a workshop offered through Women's Services.

The mask workshop for this year, scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 21, was canceled after only one woman signed up to participate.

Jennifer Harris-Forbes, campus safety representative for Women's Services, was not sure why the turnout was low but thinks that personal schedules could have conflicted with people being able to attend.

"I don't know if it was a bad time, if people were not interested or they had other obligations," Harris-Forbes said.

She is hoping that the workshop can be rescheduled for sometime next month so women who wanted to participate have another opportunity.

"I felt that it was important to keep things going for the students and faculty that participate in the workshop."

She is encouraged that a rescheduled workshop will be successful because of the participation in the past and because of positive feedback from former participants.

"It is a very therapeutic process for individuals in a safe environment to express themselves," Harris-Forbes said.

The workshops are very bonding and the participants feel a real sense of accomplishment after they have created their mask.

The masks from previous years will be displayed in Art Alley from Sept. 19 until Oct. 10.

Starting on Oct. 16 through 22, the masks, with personal statements and poems from the creators, will be displayed in the display cases across from McDonald's in the Student Center to help advocate women's safety week.

Reporter Kristina Dailing can be reached at kdailing@dailyegyptian.com

Prawn farms popping up in Southern Illinois

Brad Brondsema
Daily Egyptian

They appear to be otherworldly. Long arms with pincers on the ends protrude from their body and their eyes bug out like those of an insect.

We are talking about prawn, a relatively new farming sensation in Southern Illinois. Their close relative, the saltwater shrimp, has been a delicacy of seafood lovers for years.

But that may soon change.

"Prawn taste sweeter than saltwater shrimp," said Linda Brison, a graduate student in the aquaculture program. "And Southern Illinois has an optimal growth temperature for them."

The great air temperatures, coupled with a high demand for the bottom-dwelling crustaceans, have sparked a farming boom in the region, according to Brison, who is researching 12 ponds near Touch of Nature.

"Prawn farming has been around in Southern Illinois for about five years," she said. "There are about 35 growers in the area now."

Most prawn farms average between one to five acres, Brison said, and a one-acre pond could hold about 20,000 prawns.

A farmer with one acre of prawn can make anywhere from \$160,000 to \$320,000 with a good harvest.

Brison said about 15 prawn make up a pound, and the current going rate for one pound of prawn with heads attached is \$8. Detaching the heads requires a license from the state, but those with licenses can sell their prawn

for up to \$16 a pound. And the demand is high, according to Brison. "A grower I know who sells to a riverboat told him that they go through 10,000 pounds of prawn a day," she said. "Right now it has the best economic turnout for the people."

Eve Poynter, a graduate student in aquaculture from Springfield, said even though prawn are not her specialty, she still wants to learn the processes of farming them in case she has to work with them in the future.

"Aquaculture is growing and the more I know, the better," she said.

Even though the prawn farming industry sounds lucrative, there are downsides, according to Brison. A drought can cause the receding waters to lower the survival rate of prawns due to other predators. Like other living organisms, bacteria and disease are a problem with farmers. Brison said oysters could disrupt the prawn's growth by using up all the oxygen. And this year they've had to adjust their harvest time because of low air temperatures.

Catching the prawn is also difficult. At Brison's ponds, a large net, called a seine, is used to trap the prawn. To catch the creatures, two people wade through 60-degree water, making sure the seine is dragging along the bottom.

Ruins with snakes and snapping turtles are common, and there is no guarantee of a large catch.

"The prawn will jump or slip under the net, so it can be tough to catch them," Brison said.

Chris Kohler, director of



RONDA YEAGER - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Chris Kohler, director of Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center, holds a prawn that is housed in an aquarium on the desk of graduate student Linda Brison. "He was holding onto me as tightly as I was holding onto him," said Kohler, shaking his pinched finger as he released the prawn back into the water.

Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture, said researching prawn is not cheap, and that funding from the Council for Food and Agriculture Research has helped make it possible for the aquaculture program to do research.

He said research of prawn at SIUC started in the early 1980s and later died down for a few years. The last five years, though, have seen a renewed interest in prawns.

"It's been very awarding," he said. "The economics of it has really turned around. There are a lot of things that are starting to occur."

Kohler said he believes the prawn industry will continue to grow in Southern Illinois.

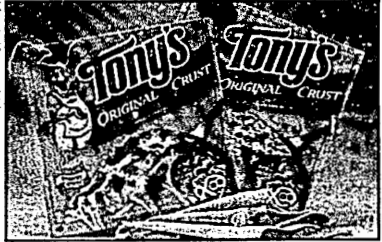
"Eventually it might be like the vineyards in this region," he said.

Reporter Brad Brondsema can be reached at bbrondsema@dailyegyptian.com

Food prawns will be sold this Thursday and Friday on Aquaculture's Market, near Touch of Nature from 10 am to 6 pm. Procedures are recommended and can be placed by calling 618-243-7786.

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OUR WORD

Student voices can make a difference

Attention all students: The big day is almost here. No, not Homecoming — it's the other big day in October. The deadline to register to vote in the 2002 Illinois general elections.

Year after year, students walk past the many organizations on campus, ignoring their efforts to get people registered to vote. SIUC students, let's make this year different and register to vote, or, if already registered, make sure we go to the polls.

If the organizations on campus are only out during inopportune times, there are other places in Carbondale that can get people registered. The County Clerk's office, schools, public libraries, and military recruitment offices are just a few places people can go and register.

Registration is open year-round, except for a 28-day period prior to an election and two days after such election. This year's elections will take place Nov. 5, so you have until Oct. 8 to register to be eligible to vote.

We encourage all students 18 or older to register to vote, if they have not already. This election will see Illinois get a new governor, attorney general, comptroller, state house representative, state judiciary, and new members in the U.S. House and Senate.

It is no longer acceptable for us, as college students, to push off the election and not vote. There is no better time to get involved with politics and make sure that someone is in office looking out for the better of the future of not only us, but also our younger brothers and sisters and our children.

Instead of saying that you are too busy to worry about politics, take a few minutes out of your day to read information about the candidates and their platforms and vote on Nov. 5.

If you are not comfortable with determining a party affiliation, there is nothing in writing that says you have to. If you decide to vote for one party during a specific election, it is okay if, during the next election, you vote for a different party.

The DAILY EGYPTIAN wants to encourage everyone to utilize his or her power and help elect the candidates you think will best do the jobs.

Once the election is over and someone is sworn into office, that is it. There is no turning back, and whatever the main focus of their platform is, it will be executed. Although you are able to write letters, it will then be too late to truly complain about what type of job they are doing when you had the power to keep them out of office.

If the deadline for the upcoming election is missed, students can still go register when the closed period is over. There will be other elections for local and state offices, as well as the next presidential election.

Those who are not permanent residents can still vote by applying for an absentee ballot from their home county. This is done year-round, as well, but also has a deadline before the actual election.

Our commitment to voting does not only extend to the state political positions, but on campus as well. Whenever there are elections for USC and other campus-wide student organizations, it should be top priority to vote, because the students put into office are the voices of all SIUC students and should be put into office because they hold the same views as the majority of the student body.

Whether it is a primary, state or national election, we need to get out and make our voices heard in support or against issues that directly affect us. So after all of the Homecoming festivities are complete and everyone is finished partying, get up on Nov. 5 and vote for the candidate that would best represent Illinois and its students.



GUEST COLUMNIST

Proliferation can not be controlled

Mark Mills
110101of@hotmail.com

Concerning the ongoing debate about the seemingly imminent invasion of Iraq, I feel compelled to participate and offer a rebuttal to those who support the campaign to create a "regime change" within said state. The arguments for invasion given by our president and his supporters are as thus: Iraq possesses weapons of mass destruction in the form of chemical and biological agents. Iraq is pursuing the acquisition of nuclear weapons and long-range delivery systems. Saddam Hussein has been a menace to the Middle East since time out of mind (or so they would have us believe). Lastly, Washington and London have, as yet, an unsubstantiated suspicion that Iraq has in some way given aid to bin Laden's terrorist organization and/or the Taliban.

To the first and second of these arguments I would say this: It is unrealistic to expect, especially given the international political climate since the fall of the Soviet Union, the United States or any other significant nuclear power in the world to control proliferation of WMD and punish "rogues" seeking to acquire the strength of those who chastise them for an endeavor that is wholly within international strategic interest.

WMD exist poorly guarded in some states, and the information needed to build them is readily available to anyone with a computer and an ISP. In addition, their attempts to wipe out an illegal trade in fissile materials executed by highly mobile and elusive kin-oriented networks are similar to trying to kill a flea with a cannon.

To the third and last of the arguments above, I must credit a professor, Robert Clinton, for making me aware of a fact that stood right before my eyes. Despots or tyrants have a peculiar penchant for paranoia. However, this paranoia does not rise from a vacuum. It comes both from a particular worldview and a resultant pragmatism. People pre-occupied with the gain and retention of power and glory are blinded to all but these interests.

Being as such, they will do whatever they can to

fulfill their ambition. Yet this requires a certain distrust of those closest to you. History proves this distrust is justified. Reference the assassination attempt of Hitler and, to nod to Professor Ed Schatz, who wrote of a religiously intolerant despot in Uzbekistan, the attempt on Karimov's life in 1999. In the plainest speech possible: The cabinet of tyrants will take care of the tyrant.

If you ask me how much time will pass before Hussein is done away with by his closest, I must say that I do not know. However I do know this: It is better for the U.S. and U.K. to stay out of Iraq and let Iraq take care of itself. Given how quickly and surgically the NATO alliance pushed Hussein out of Kuwait in the early nineties, I find it improbable that a tyrant addicted to power would risk the loss of everything he values for the sake of "nuking" Israel, a U.S. embassy, ally or the United States.

Saddam prefers to advance his agenda more indirectly; the tribute he pays to families of Palestinian bombers is case in point. Instead of addressing Iraq in terms of invasion and regime change, perhaps we would do better to research exactly what creates an angry and anti-American constituency, and act in accord to our findings.

Let my last point be this: If you take the United States at its word, then you must acknowledge that a "sterile" war is an improbability. Note the bombing of a wedding party in Afghanistan that killed numerous civilians. If this was truly an accident, then may it be evident of our arrogance in assuming we can control every factor in a situation constantly in flux.

There is nothing to say that similar events will not transpire in Iraq. These "accidents" combined with the altogether hasty vernacular of our President (among other factors too numerous to mention here) only serve to indict us on a charge of proliferation. That is to say, we will proliferate terrorists as we seek to destroy them.

Mark is a junior in political science. His views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I know God will not give me anything I can't handle. I just wish that He didn't trust me so much."

Mother Teresa
humanitarian

WORDS OVERHEARD

"We are just hoping to avoid abuses of power by the Administration by making the language more explicit."

Erik Wlatz
COLA senator, on the student conduct code

COLUMNISTS

Illinois is Chicago

Last Wednesday, I was driving to school and I heard an interesting remark from a caller on a local talk show stating that there is more to Illinois than Chicago. I almost choked from laughing so hard.

Since I have been a student here in Carbondale, I have heard many people from this region pass judgment, rebuke and criticize Chicago. I have kept quiet for a year, and I cannot hold my tongue any longer.

I will be the first to admit that Chicago is not a perfect city. Like most large metropolitan cities, Chicago has crime and corruption. This is only natural when you have millions of people living in one area.

However, I would be remiss in my duties as a Chicagoan to allow this continuous condemnation of Chicago to go unchallenged. Chicago is a fantastic city to live in and visit. It has been voted by non-Chicagoans as one of the top 10 cities to visit in America.

Unfortunately, there were not any cities in Southern Illinois that made this most prestigious list. I suppose Sparta, Ill., was over-looked. I admit I am a bit prejudiced, because I am a native Chicagoan and proud of my city.

A friend of mine recently stated "Illinois without Chicago would be Wyoming"

However, to say that there's more to Illinois than Chicago is like saying there's more to chocolate cake than chocolate. That's true, but that's why you eat chocolate cake — for the chocolate, not for the boring flour and eggs.

Most people who visit Illinois for the first or the one-hundredth time want to see Chicago, and they go to Chicago. They go for the jazz clubs or the Chicago Symphony. They go for the theater and the Taste of Chicago festival held every year, or to see the Cubs lose.

Visitors to Illinois don't want to go to Du Quoin or Elkhart or some other small town in Illinois where the most exciting thing is hanging out at the Dairy Queen.

It is true that there is more to Illinois than Chicago, but whether anyone wants to accept this fact or not, Chicago is one of the best parts of Illinois. I would feel this way even if I were from Pinckneyville or another small town.

The fact is that Chicago has thousands of attractive features, such as the Museum of Science and Industry, the University of Chicago, the Art Institute, the Planetarium, the Goodman Theater and more that are too numerous for this column.

We also have a diverse population with several ethnic groups and fantastic restaura-



Having My Say

BY LENIE ADOLPHSON
lenieadolphson@hotmail.com

rants that feature superior cuisine. All major musical performers entertain in Chicago, not in De Soto.

As a friend of mine recently stated "Illinois without Chicago would be Wyoming." For those of you who think I am misguided, you are wrong. I have been all over this great state via car, train and bus and believe me, I have seen it all. I have seen Freeport, Galena, Murphysboro, Champaign, Elkhart, Du Quoin, Rockford, Anna, Cobden, Peoria and Springfield, I could go on and on, and none — I mean none of them — hold a candle to Chicago.

The caller who said that there is more to Illinois than Chicago was akin to me saying there is more to Carbondale than SIU, and we all know what would happen if SIU were to disappear. The city would become a ghost town, which is what would happen to Illinois if Chicago didn't exist.

Notwithstanding, the small towns in Illinois are quaint and have their aesthetic value. There is something to be said for the county fairs and the friendliness and nosiness that permeates small towns like oil in butter.

However, the people in Southern Illinois should not denounce and degrade Chicago. It is petty and ridiculous, and the bashing appears to be due to jealousy.

Southern Illinoisans, be proud of the fact that you live in a state that has such a terrific city from which most of us are within a few hours drive of or an Amtrak ride away.

Go to a show and a ball game and enjoy the jazz clubs or go to one of the museums in the city. You will find that Chicago isn't that bad. Above all, you may actually enjoy yourself.

Finally, this column is not a condemnation of small towns. It is a vindication of my hometown.

Chicago isn't for everyone, but the city of Chicago can be enjoyed by everyone.

Having My Say appears on Wednesdays.

LeNie is a junior in history. Her views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

Pudding in a can and life after the Rapture

There are two kinds of people in this world: Those who read for pleasure, and those who don't. I have spent the last several years as the latter of this equation. Somewhere between my spite about \$200 college texts and my failing English 101 book report on the Karma Sutra, I swore off literature altogether. I survived the many following semesters scavenging syllabus outlines and Cliff's Notes alone.

Recently, however, I have found myself at the end of the day craving a nice, peaceful way to relax. And living in Murphysboro, the choices for this type of recreation are pretty slim. I can:

- 1) Throw stuff of the railroad overpass and watch it splatter.
- 2) Watch my roommate, Kevin, inhale a seven-pound can of artificially flavored chocolate pudding in one sitting, or
- 3) Read a book.

And while the first two options are tempting enough, I have lately taken to resigning into my bedroom every evening, novel in hand and roommates pounding on the door.

"C'mon, Gracey, stay and watch! He's already halfway through the pudding! You're missing the best part!"

I have to admit that at three bucks a can, the entertainment practically pays for itself, but at the moment, I have a larger problem. The series of books a friend loaned me to take my mind off the world has alternately taken OVER my world.

The novels, commonly known as the Left Behind series, offer two author's impressions on life after the Rapture. Now while I've never really taken an interest in any kind of spiritual reading before, this time I couldn't help myself. The premise was just too intriguing, and Sci-Fi dork that I am, this fantasy account of the Apocalypse seemed almost too good to be true.

Why hadn't anyone ever thought of this before? And from the first book, I was hooked.

Since then, my literary travels have taken me from America to Greece to the Middle East, where the Anti-Christ takes over the world's free will and gradually destroys every quality of life we've come to know and cherish.

Now the ironic thing about these



Not Just Another Priddy Face

BY GRACE PRIDDY
vulcanlog81@hotmail.com

books is how poorly written, yet hugely successful, they really are. The characters are excruciatingly flat, and the timeline jumps around more often than my hair color; yet something about the whole idea keeps me coming back for more, and I hate them for that.

Part of me enjoys the horror-esque mood of the series. Lately, even in real life, I get

chills when something reminds me of the story. Last week's thunderstorms were almost more than I could take. Every time the sky clouded over, all I could think was, "Oh, God—it's the locusts!"

And I even kind of resent the authors for that which aspect, too. While I've never really believed in the idea of scaring people into finding religion, I have to admit it's pretty effective nonetheless.

And with the series writers still cranking out more of these thrillers all the time, I can't seem to find a rational solution. It seems as though I will spend the rest of my life trudging diligently through these crummy novels, in endless search of these answers: Will the Antichrist succeed in his world takeover? Will anyone be spared from the Wrath of the Lamb? Did Kevin ever finish that giant tub of pudding?

Alas, perhaps at least some of these questions are best left unanswered. But until I can work up the nerve to swear off these books once and for all, I'll have to be content just taking a break for a while.

Maybe I am ready for the world Rapture, but I'm not leaving without chocolate pudding on my breath.

Not Just Another Priddy Face appears on Wednesdays.

Grace is a senior in architecture. Her views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

LETTERS

Professors need to show more interest in their students

DEAR EDITOR:

I would like to commend Beth Hendrickson on her comment about professors not caring enough about their students. I noticed how awful some professors were when I transferred to SIUC from an HBCU—Jackson State University, Jackson, Miss.

My transition to SIU was difficult because the professors

weren't in their offices during scheduled office hours, and they seemed to have office hours during the busiest class block (8 to 12 MWF).

At J-State, the professors cared so much that they would call you parents if you slipped up too much. When I first heard about professors calling home to parents, I thought it was a little much. But then, I appreciated it because it would be an embarrassment for a college professor to call a parent and ask them (the parent) to talk to a student about working harder in their classes. I guess the professors there felt that if a student were wasting his/her

parent's money (or even the government's money) that it was worth calling home.

The professors here seem to only want to collect a paycheck! It may sound a little high schoolish for a professor to call home, but at least it kept students in check, for the most part.

Now, I'm not saying that ALL of the professors are unavailable because there are some that care. I COMMENT all of those who have helped me and others through difficult times in their academic careers. If you are a professor and you are NOT there for your students, I say this: TRY TO

TAKE MORE INTEREST IN YOUR STUDENTS, the rewards do outweigh the negatives!

Melissa Q. Daniels
senior, biological science

TV breaks down consequences of Iraq

DEAR EDITOR:

Television is often criticized, but it can be very instructive sometimes. For example, I saw a show this morning in which the

potential economic consequences of our upcoming invasion of Iraq were broken down and presented very clearly. Various estimates of changes in the market and the federal budget were presented.

Impressed, I went looking for a similar show analyzing what we might call the moral and ethical questions associated with the invasion. I thought that it would be harder to present charts showing, say, that we would be willing to kill so many Iraqi children for every percentage point that we decrease the probability of another 9/11. Or how many of our own soldiers we would be willing to have get Gulf War Syndrome.

from the depleted uranium in our own weapons in the process of securing peace. (Evidence now points increasingly toward the depleted uranium used in Tomahawk missiles, tank shells, and "armor piercing projectiles" as the most likely culprit in GWWS.)

So, like I said, even though I knew that such questions do not lend themselves to computation, I figured I would just find a show that gave equal time to plain old discussion of such questions.

I didn't find any, though.

Jim Glover,
associate professor, recreation

READER COMMENTARY

• LETTERS AND COLUMNS must be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted with author's photo ID. All letters are limited to 300 words and guest columns to 500 words. Any topics are accepted. All are subject to editing.

• We reserve the right to not publish any letter or column.



• LETTERS taken by e-mail (editor@siu.edu) and fax (453-8244).

• Phone number needed (not for publication) to verify authorship. STUDENTS must include year and major. FACULTY must include rank and department. NON-ACADEMIC STAFF include position and department. OTHERS include author's hometown.



• 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.

Two competitions remain for Kill's RSO Football Challenge

Katie A. Davis
Daily Egyptian

As the Saluki football team boosted its record to 2-2 Saturday in their game against West Virginia Tech, the National Student Speech/Language/Hearing Association (NSSLHA) took the lead in Coach Jerry Kill's first ever RSO Football Challenge.

Throughout the season, Registered Student Organizations are awarded points based on attendance and competitions during SIU home games.

The RSO to receive the most points will be awarded a \$3,000 check

during the last home football game Saturday, Nov. 16 against Western Kentucky.

Mike Trude, director of marketing for SIU Athletics, said the competition is very tight right now. NSSLHA only has a five-point lead with Saturday's attendance points being calculated. Student Theater Guild and Southern Illinois Repertory Theater are tied for third while at least six other RSOs in close contention behind.

"It could still be anyone's game," he said. "The only groups that don't really have a chance are those who haven't attended any of the three games or didn't participate in the contest."

Although Saturday's best-dressed competition was cancelled due to confusion among groups, attendance points were still being calculated and RSO members can participate in the two remaining contests: the egg toss and Jerry Kill look alike contest.

Trude said not all RSOs received information about the contest, and only one group signed-in at the designated time. But there is still a lot in store for the groups during the RSO Football Challenge.

NSSLH took the lead after winning the poster contest in the Sept. 7 game against Southeast Missouri State, while the SIU chapter of the NAACP came in second, putting

them in contention for the crown and the money.

However, Kourtney Grey, NAACP SIU chapter president, said the group participated for the exposure. Grey, a junior in agriculture education from Chicago, said the organization's banner, which featured a football stadium with white and black players, was designed to recruit as well as win.

"We want to let the campus know we're back and active on the campus and show school spirit for the team," Grey said.

He said the group is not competing for the money, but they will participate in the egg toss competition during the

Northern Iowa game Oct. 12.

Trude said the RSO Football Challenge has been a large influence on attendance at this year's home games. Although Saturday's overall attendance was discouraging, attendance was still good for students.

However, he said the RSOs also benefit from the experience.

"It provides a way for groups to not only get together for a meeting, but to a football game where they can relax and have fun," he said. "People always enjoy an event more when they have someone with them."

Reporter Katie A. Davis can be reached at kdavis@dailylegyptian.com.

Dog

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Since their new place has more room and a small fenced-in backyard, the couple has decided to get their dog a four-legged companion.

"Trax is part of our family and we want him to be happy," Amanda said. "We want him to have another dog to play with when we are gone."

The Varners stopped to look in the kennels, remembering that there were certain things that they are looking for in their new dog.

Personality is important, because they want a dog that can be compatible with their dog at home. They also worry about the size of the animal because of the amount of room they have in their backyard, their home and their bed.

"We need a semi-small dog, because our dog at home sleeps in our bed with us," Amanda said. "Our new dog will probably sleep with us too."

After a lot of holding, cooing and talking, the couple decided on a 3-month-old beagle mix named "Trixie." The couple began the adoption process and will bring their dog to meet his new companion today.

The Humane Society was their first stop of the day in their pet search and they were excited to find their dog here.

"It was very important for us to go through the Humane Society because it is such an admirable place," Jason said.

The happy end to the Varners' search for a new addition made me realize that if I was serious about becoming a dog owner, I needed to get down to business and ask serious questions.

Karen Mullins, manager of the

Humane Society, was willing to answer questions I had about what it takes to be a devoted dog owner.

"A lot of people compare their pet to a disposable diaper that can be tossed aside when they are done with it," Mullins said.

She suggested asking myself several questions before I committed to adopting a pet.

Do I have the time? Can I afford costs involved? Do I have allergies? Do I leave town a lot? Do I have the space?

"This is a life you are taking home with you," she said.

She has found this to be fact, after witnessing people bring in their old and sick pets.

The Humane Society can get up to 7,000 pets donated a year with space for only 30 to 40 dogs. The summer has the highest euthanasia rate, ranging from 80 to 90 percent. Often times, students move back home or across town and cannot keep their dog.

But my buddy and I will be together for life, so I want to make sure I know what I am getting into. I have to try to scrounge up the \$50 adoption fee and about \$40 more to cover shots and vaccinations. And I guess I have to break the news to my landlord.

And even though the little black puppy and "Scorpio" will not work for me, my roommate and I plan to visit the dogs at the shelter again today to see what other furry creatures can win our hearts.

And we hope we will be able to open up two places at the kennel for two more dumped, unclaimed stray, dropped off, and abandoned dogs.

Reporter Kristina Dailing can be reached at kdailing@dailylegyptian.com

Poverty levels up for the first time since '93

Tony Pugh
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON (KRT) - The number of Americans living in poverty increased for the first time in eight years in 2001, and the nation's median household income declined, the U.S. Census Bureau reported Tuesday.

Both bits of bad news stemmed from the recent recession. The last time both measures sank simultaneously was 1993, when the economy was also recovering from recession.

Nationally, the number of poor people jumped from 31.6 million in 2000, or 11.3 percent of the U.S. population, to 32.9 million in 2001, or 11.7 percent.

A family of four was considered to live in poverty in 2001 under federal guidelines if its annual income was less than \$18,104. Comparable figures were \$14,128 for a family of three, \$11,569 for a family of two and \$9,039 for unrelated individuals.

Children under 18, who make up only 26 percent of the population, accounted for 36 percent of the nation's poor, said Daniel Weinberg of the Census Bureau.

The median household income - half of all U.S. households earn more and half less - dropped \$900, or 2.2 percent, to \$42,228 in 2001. It was the second straight year that the earnings measure has declined.

All regions of the country experienced declining income except the Northeast, where income was unchanged. The findings are estimates based on a Census Bureau survey of 78,000 households conducted in March.

Perhaps surprisingly, last year's economic downturn hit non-Hispanic whites the hardest. Their poverty rate, while it remains the lowest among all racial groups, nevertheless rose the

Incomes decline, poverty rises

Living below poverty level	
BY RACE:	
White non-hispanic	7.8 %
African-American	22.7 %
Hispanic	21.4 %
Asian/Pacific Isl.	10.2 %
BY GENDER:	
Male	\$38,200
Female	\$29,200

SOURCES: KRT, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

There were 32.9 million Americans living in poverty last year, and median income fell by \$900 between 2001 and 2001.

Poverty level, 2001	
Individual	\$9,039
Two-person household	\$14,128
Two-person household	\$14,128

• Women now earn 76 cents for every dollar men earn

DAVID MEESEKMAA - DAILY EGYPTIAN

most, from 7.4 percent to 7.8 percent or 15.3 million people.

The recession's disproportionate impact on non-Hispanic whites is "a little bit unusual historically," Weinberg said. "But because they're the largest (racial) group, you're more likely to be able to find a statistically significant change for them than for other groups."

Poverty remained highest for blacks at 22.7 percent, up slightly from a historic low of 22.5 percent in 2000. The Hispanic poverty rate of 21.4 percent last year was an all-time low.

Poverty among Asians and Pacific Islanders jumped from 9.9 percent in 2000 to 10.2 percent last year.

Median income for women increased 3.5 percent to \$29,215, while men saw no change in earnings at \$38,275. It was the fifth straight year that women's earnings have increased, and pushed the female-to-male earnings ratio to an all-time high of 76 percent.

Martha Burk, chairwoman of the National Council of Women's Organizations, a bipartisan network of more than 100 national women's groups, said the numbers were encouraging, but "the fact we still have such a huge pay gap is wrong in the richest country in the world. Women ought to

be making wages on par with men."

The Northeast was the only region where median household income was unchanged at \$45,700. The Midwest median income fell the most, down 3.7 percent to \$43,800. The West fell 2.3 percent to \$45,100. The South fell only 1.4 percent, but retained the lowest regional median income at \$38,900.

For non-Hispanic whites, median household income declined 1.3 percent to \$46,305 in 2001. Median income for blacks dropped 3.4 percent to \$29,470, the largest decline in 19 years. Income for Asians and Pacific Islanders fell 6.4 percent to \$53,635 in 2001. Hispanics' median income dipped 1.6 percent to \$33,565.

From 1999-2001, the median household income increased in Arizona, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. It decreased in Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin over the same period. There was no significant change in the remaining states.

The poverty rate over the same three-year period increased in South Carolina and Utah, while it decreased in California, Delaware, Massachusetts and Nevada. Other states registered no significant change.



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Classifieds
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SIU tuition increase pays off for students who qualify

Merit-based scholarships up 300 percent

Jane Huh
Daily Egyptian

Funding for merit-based scholarships went up almost 300 percent this fall, something that Chancellor Walter Wendler attributes to the tuition increase that took effect this semester.

Last fall, \$350,000 was committed to merit-based scholarships. This year, there is \$1,350,000 set aside for them.

At the SIU Board of Trustees meeting in May, Wendler's 18 percent tuition increase proposal was approved. In that proposal, \$1 million of the nearly \$10 million generated from the increase was earmarked for merit-based scholarships.

"We laid out a plan and went exactly through the plan. It's not a surprise to me, but evidently it's a sur-

prise to some people," Wendler said.

The chancellor's scholarships were awarded to 20 freshman students, an increase of 17 recipients.

Each recipient received close to \$5,000, which covers this year's in-state tuition and fees.

The four-year scholarship requires recipients to maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.

The Dean's Scholarship was awarded to 249 freshmen, each receiving \$2,000. This award is renewable for a year.

The 45 Provost scholarship recipients received \$3,000. Transfer scholarships amount to \$1,000 for the 95 non-freshmen community college transfer students.

Dan Mann, director of the Financial Aid Office, said the tuition increase helped spawn additional merit-based scholarship programs.

This year, the new President's scholarship distributed \$5,000 to 19 qualified freshmen.

The award is renewable for the next three years, provided that the recipients maintain a 3.0 GPA.

This fall's freshman class includes 36 former valedictorians or salutatorians from local high schools and 15 from non-local high schools.

These qualified students received non-renewable awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Mann said the tuition increase went a long way to attract more qualified students and, in essence, add more value to the University.

"The tuition increase allowed us to make more money available in terms of the number of awards and be much more competitive," he said.

Wendler said the University hopes to increase scholarship funding. He said action is taking place to ensure more merit-based scholarships will be distributed.

"We're starting the process right now, talking to people, high school seniors right now who will have an even better response to all this," he said.

Reporter Jane Huh
can be reached at
jhuh@dailyegyptian.com

Illinois faces teacher shortage

Michael Klaas
Northern Star

(U-WIRE) DEKALB, Ill. — The decreasing amount of teachers in Illinois' public universities is becoming a growing concern.

With university budgets tight and student enrollment up, an Illinois instructors union is concerned that public universities spend too much money on administration and not enough on education.

In a report released this month, the University Professionals of Illinois, the union that organizes instructors at Northern Illinois University, announced that throughout Illinois, universities have hired more non-teaching personnel than they have teaching staff.

According to the report, administrative staff positions have increased 10 times faster than academic positions in the last decade.

"It just puts up a flag to me and says, 'hey we'd better look at this again,'" UPI President Sue Kaufman said. "We'd better look at where our universities are placing their priorities."

"And the priorities, in our view, need to be on providing quality teaching staff and support staff that students need to get the quality education that they deserve."

Steve Cunningham, associate vice president of administration and human resources, believes that the report may be misleading because of when the numbers were gathered.

He said many of the numbers in the report were taken in the summer when far fewer instructors are working. This matter of timing makes the numbers for NIU look damning. There also is a concern about who's being counted as an administrator.

"There's been an increase in tech-related specialized professionals," Cunningham said. "All of the universities have added a lot of staff in those areas in the last decade. Also, advising positions have grown."

When these discrepancies are

considered, the staff numbers at NIU, specifically, have seen little change over the last decade. This may not be so for Illinois in general, however.

"We're considered fully employed," Cunningham said.

Despite this, the faculty-to-student ratio is up slightly because of NIU's high student enrollment. Some colleges and departments may be feeling this more than others.

"[Liberal Arts and Sciences] is stretched because we have a lot of new students," Cunningham said, "and many of them must go to the college for their gen-ed and core competencies."

Tensions are high among faculty regarding this. If many teachers retire, or the state hands down more budget cuts, the whole university will feel the pinch. A heavy restriction on the hiring of new teachers adds to the stress as well.

"We're not being indiscriminate about [hiring]," said Ivan Legg, NIU's executive vice president and provost. "We're being careful because we don't know what is in store for the state budget over the next year."

Because of these financial concerns, university administrators try to keep teaching costs down by hiring lower-paid staff.

"In general, what has happened is that universities across the country have begun to increase the number of, what we call, instructors," Legg said. "And that helps up to a point."

Still, UPI believes that the budget crisis provides a great opportunity for universities to review their budgets and cut back on "administrative waste."

"It's time for the universities to take a long look at this again," Kaufman said. "We have to pay attention to this in the decades to come."

The UPI report is the first of its kind in Illinois and was prepared by the Chicago-based Center on Work and Community Development.

"The priorities, in our view, need to be on providing quality teaching staff and support staff that students need to get the quality education they deserve."

Sue Kaufman
University Professionals of Illinois

Goober peas, myths and culture to be served at Morris Library

Historian to speak about peanuts Thursday

Lindsey J. Mastis
Daily Egyptian

Ketchup goes on hamburgers, tomatoes go in salad, popcorn is served in the theater ... but peanuts in Morris Library?

Andrew F. Smith, a historian of food, will speak in the American Heritage room Thursday at 4 p.m.

His lecture will highlight the subject of his new book titled "Peanuts: The Illustrious History of the Goober Pea."

With 12 books under his belt, Smith is more than qualified for his appearances on the History Channel, HBO and A&E, as well as a new series on PBS dealing with culinary history.

He is also working on a food ency-

clopedia with Bruce Kraig, senior editor.

The talk is open to everyone, said Cristy Stuepegia, constituency development officer for Morris, and may include samples of Smith's famed foods.

"Whether they're a gourmet cook or just like to eat, I think there is going to be a little something for everyone," she said.

Food is important to understanding American culture because it can show what kinds of people were in a certain area. And there is a distinct food culture in Southern Illinois, according to Kraig.

"It has to do with immigration into this area," said Kraig. "Food cultures became mixed and it tells us what was important to the people by the food traditions that they brought with them and what [traditions] they kept."

In addition to speaking about food culture, Smith will address food myths.

Kraig urges anyone curious about a myth to ask Smith during the question

and answer session after his speech.

"He has exploded many food myths; things like, George Washington Carver did not invent peanut butter," he said.

The talk is sponsored by the Friends of Morris Library. Nancy Ealing, president of the organization, said the Friends are excited to be taking an active role in organizing activities for Morris.

"This is one of several events we hope to sponsor and be a part of. I really hope that people decide to come out," she said. "He's written a variety of books and a variety of culinary history, and I think that his talk on Thursday will be really interesting."

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

Historian Andrew Smith will speak at 4 p.m. Thursday, in the American Heritage room on the 3rd floor of Morris Library.

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INS to meet deadline for tracking students

Ben Finley
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON (KRT) — The Immigration and Naturalization Service told Congress on Tuesday that its system for tracking foreign students will be operational by its January deadline. However, members of Congress and university leaders are concerned about the system's effectiveness.

The Student Exchange and Visitor Information System will have difficulty preventing student visa fraud and can't account for the international students who have overstayed their visas, an INS official acknowledged.

Universities contend the INS won't be able to process the information that SEVIS will collect every semester on more than 500,000 international students studying in this country.

"No system is completely fraud-proof," said INS spokeswoman Janis Sposato. She said it would be difficult to detect fraud by a school official who was using legitimate documents.

Congress created SEVIS in 1996 in response to the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. One of the terrorists

involved in the bombing had come to the United States on a student visa. A January 2003 deadline was set to have the system operating.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, in which three hijackers used student visas, Congress appropriated \$37 million to ensure that SEVIS met that deadline.

The INS is expected to oversee the system's implementation at more than 7,000 higher education institutions with a staff of 1,500 contracted workers, Sposato said. Nearly 1,000 schools currently are compliant with SEVIS, she said.

But university officials worry that the deadline is too near and the resources too slim.

"We are somewhat concerned about how much remains to be done in a rapidly shrinking amount of time," testified David Ward, president of the American Council on Education.

"The track record with such innovations is not one that encourages confidence," Johnson said.

Johnson said SEVIS would be a vast improvement over the present situation if the INS had enough resources and universities and colleges got assistance.

Birth control patch negates trouble of having to remember daily pill

Amanda Van Fleit
The Georgia State University
Signal (Georgia State U.)

ATLANTA (U-WIRE) — A new method of women's birth control, in the form of a patch, provides a feasible alternative to the once-a-day pill.

The patch, known as Ortho-Evra, is just as safe and effective as the pill, but also offers the advantage of only remembering to change it once a week as opposed to the pill, which must be taken every 24 hours.

The patch works in a similar way as the birth control pill by preventing ovulation and makes it more difficult for sperm to enter the uterus by causing changes to the cervical mucus.

"It is much like the pill," said Dr. Sherri Lewis-Stevenson, attending family physician.

The side effects associated with Ortho-Evra include swelling of the breasts, abdominal cramping, nausea and possible weight gain. The most serious of the risks is an

increased risk of blood clotting for cigarette smokers or women over age 35.

The 1.75-inch square patch can be applied to the buttocks, abdomen, upper outer arm or upper back torso. The patch must be worn in a different location each week for three consecutive weeks, but it is possible to place the patch in different areas of the same location. On the fourth week the woman does not wear the patch and menstruates, much like taking the sugar pills associated with the birth control pill.

"The locations where you can put it are really convenient," said Valerie Grambo of Stone Mountain after starting the patch for the first time this week.

"I've had it on for four days, and I've showered with it on," Grambo said. "It is as sticky as the first day I originally put it on. You don't have to be cautious of the area around it."

The FDA cites the patch as a more reliable method of contraception than the pill where 90 percent of patch users remember to replace it weekly as opposed to only 80 per-

cent of birth control pill users who remember to take the pill daily.


"We push it more for patients who have difficulty remembering. It is more fool-proof and there are less slip-ups associated with the patch than the pill," said Dr. Lewis-Stevenson.

A national survey released by Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical found that more than 75 percent of women say there is a need for birth control methods that are more adaptable to their lifestyles.

"People will be a lot more compliant. It empowers women, and women now have a lot more choices," said Dr. Lewis-Stevenson.

Women weighing 198 pounds or more may want to reconsider using the patch and use an alternative contraceptive method. In clinical trials, 3,319 wore the patch for varying amounts of time and five out of the 15 that became pregnant weighed 198 pounds or more.

Manufacturer Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceuticals received FDA approval for sale in the United States on November 20 of last year.




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Iowa State University experts disagree on merits of legalizing marijuana

Stefanie Peterson
Iowa State Daily (Iowa State U.)

AMES, Iowa (U-WIRE) — Iowa State University experts believe emerging trend of marijuana legalization may have a big impact on campus.

The state of Nevada is considering legalizing the possession of up to three ounces of marijuana for residents over 21 years of age. Nevada voters will decide in November.

Demick Grimmer, scientist at Iowa State's Microelectronics Research Center, believes prohibiting drug use is a method the government uses to control citizens.

He said the United States treats drugs differently than many countries. "Various states have tried to liberalize the access for medical use, but these efforts always run up against federal law," Grimmer said.

If marijuana were legalized in Iowa, safety concerns would be a serious problem on campus, said Denise Denton, lecturer on health and human performance.

Marijuana is "not worse or better than cigarettes, but different," she said.

But marijuana is typically taken in more deeply and held in the lungs longer, and has no filter, Denton said.

"The half-life for marijuana is seven days, meaning half of it is still in your system seven days [after consumption]," she said. "One marijuana joint is equal to about 10 cigarettes in terms of cancer-causing properties."

Grimmer said Nevada's efforts to legalize the drug are reasonable.

"Nevada is trying to come up with some sanity to this problem," he said. "We need to look at the problems due to any substance, then look at the problems due to the prohibition of that substance and try to maintain a balance between the two."

Prohibition, Grimmer said, has produced negative outcomes.

"The iron laws of prohibition are the source of organized crime, street crime, alteration of substances, refinement of substances, involvement of children in the drug trade and disrespect for the law," he said.

He said drug use is a personal decision and can be handled responsibly.

"At worst, [people] are only hurting themselves," he said.

WEST NILE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the past because they collect water and are commonly overlooked as a mosquito breeding site. Link-Mullison said there has been a primary concern for the last several years because of mosquito carried illnesses other than West Nile. The last collection by the county took place in September 2001.

The most effective method to control the mosquito population is to kill the insects before they develop into adults. Reducing standing water and applying larvicides are more effective than spraying or fogging for mosquitoes, which kill the adults of the species.

Local municipalities have mosquito abatement departments and the Jackson County Health Department is focusing its efforts on unincorporated areas of the county.

The weather patterns of the past year closely resemble those of 1975, when St. Louis encephalitis was at its

worst: Both years had a mild winter and a summer drought and very similar case counts.

"The numbers are going to come out very close," Link-Mullison said.

Link-Mullison said people should not quest testing for the virus for mild flu-like symptoms. She said there is no advantage to knowing if an illness is West Nile in mild cases. Symptoms should be treated the same as a flu.

"If you're seriously ill and hospitalized, they will probably test you," Link-Mullison said.

The cooling weather will not likely immediately halt the virus. Link-Mullison said there will still be cases and deaths from the virus into November.

The West Nile virus has an incubation period of three to 14 days, meaning a person may not experience symptoms for two weeks after being infected.

Reporter Greg Cima can be reached at gcima@dailyegyptian.com

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Course synopsis sore topic at Berkeley

Controversial pro-Palestine language strikes nerve

Recky Bartindale
San Jose Mercury News

(KRT) — Months after a controversial course description thrust UC-Berkeley into the national spotlight, the president of the University of California system has asked the statewide academic senate to review both the facts of the case and the process for creating course descriptions.

Language used in the course description struck a nerve among some regents and members of the public, leading to a wave of angry, anguished letters and calls proposing steps ranging from a major rewrite to canceling the class.

The description was for "The Politics and Poetics of Palestinian Resistance," one section of a basic English writing course taught by a graduate student who is a leader in a pro-Palestinian group on the

Berkeley campus. The controversial description said the class would take as its starting point "the right of Palestinians to fight for their own self-determination." Then it said: "Conservative thinkers are encouraged to seek other sections."

That last sentence should not have made it through the review process, a spokeswoman for Berkeley said. Excluding or discouraging students for any reason besides lack of academic preparation violates the faculty code of conduct.

The description "set a tone no one thought was appropriate" and it has since been revised, said spokeswoman Marie Felde. The Berkeley academic senate concluded the revised statement met the university's standards.

The course "takes as its point of departure the Palestinian literature that has developed since the creation of the state of Israel in 1948, which has displaced, maimed, and killed many Palestinian people," according to the new description.

In addition to requesting the aca-

demnic senate review, UC President Richard Atkinson said he intends to appoint a task force made up of regents, faculty members and administrators. The task force will review the senate's report as well as the university's policies governing academic freedom and responsibility with respect to course descriptions.

Regent Norman Pattiz, who asked Atkinson to create the task force, said he still is troubled by the revised course description, though he has no problem with the course being taught. "To me the inflammatory language was unnecessary. I think I would feel the same way if the course were called 'The Politics and Poetics of Israel.'"

The request for a review comes at a time of increasing concern in universities about academic freedom. The American Association of University Professors has formed a committee to analyze post-Sept. 11 incidents that appear to limit academic freedom.

Gayle Binion, a UC-Santa Barbara political science professor and chairwoman of the statewide academic senate, said she welcomes the review.

"I think it's appropriate, though it would be nicer if it happened away from a public controversy," she said.

Hispanic Representation in different areas at SIUC and across state

- 35.3 million people of Hispanic origin live in United States
- Over 1 million Hispanic individuals live in Illinois
- 358 Hispanic students attend SIUC
- 573,000 Hispanics 15 and over have advanced degree
- 57 percent of Hispanics 25 and over have a high school education
- 11 percent of Hispanics 25 and over have bachelor's degree
- 80 percent of Hispanic men age 16 and over joined the labor force
- 41 percent of Hispanic workers are employed in service occupations or as operators
- 14 percent of Hispanic workers employed in managerial and professional occupations

(Information gathered from U.S. 2000 Census and SIUC Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Office)

HISPANICS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

"We represent ourselves and each other, and are being represented in other organizations," Cortes said. "We know who to go to and talk to about things."

Cortes noted retention as the largest issue facing Hispanic students at SIUC. However, many Latino students on campus, such as those involved in the Hispanic American Law Student Association and the Latino organizations, have helped encourage those students to get involved and finish their degrees at SIUC.

Valencia is a member of HALSA and said her organizations' largest goal is to increase efforts of recruitment and retention of the Latino student population. Often the group will set up information tables at law forums and lectures to get the word out about their

organization and Hispanic representation on campus.

She said more programs should be established on campus to help recruit and inform students that SIUC has programs for Hispanic students, such as the academic medical and law degree program she is involved in.

"The Hispanic Student Council is amazing," Valencia said. "I found out a lot during the meetings and it is all-inclusive — Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban and others."

She will always remember the strength her parents gave her and her Mexican roots that make herself.

"They always instilled in me that education was important, a right that I had," Valencia said. "But I had that right from a lot of sacrifice from my family."

Reporter Samantha Edmondson can be reached at sedmondson@dailyegyptian.com

“Conservative thinkers are encouraged to seek other sections.”

from course description "The Poetics and Politics of Palestinian Resistance"

Minorities on screen

Mike Duffy
Knight Ridder Newspapers

When fall TV schedules were announced in 1999, the major networks didn't have a single minority actor in a lead role, which led to intense scrutiny and criticism. How things have — or haven't — changed since then:

African-Americans

Still the highest profile among minority performers. Most notable fall season additions include Cedric the Entertainer ("Cedric the Entertainer Presents," Fox), Bill Bellamy ("Fastlane," Fox) and Andre Braugher ("Hack," CBS).

Asian-Americans

Miniscule improvement. The last series built around an Asian-American star was "All-American Girl" (ABC), a 1994-95 sitcom starring Korean-American comic Margaret Cho.

American-Indians

Insulting. Almost completely ignored by TV. No prominent American Indian star since Jay Silverheels' rigidly stereotypical Tonto on "The Lone Ranger" in the 1950s.

Hispanics

This group shows the most significant improvement with a tiny boomlet of Latino-themed series including "The George Lopez Show" (ABC), "Greetings from Tucson" (WB), "An American Family" (PBS) and "Resurrection Boulevard" (Showtime).

Behind the scenes

Network executives: The most notable additions have been minority executives named as vice presidents of diversity. Otherwise, there still are only a smattering of minority executives at the middle and upper levels.

Writers, producers: With 8,500 members, the Writers Guild of America, West, has increased minority membership from 5 percent to an estimated 8-10 percent in recent years, including approximately 350 African-American, 150 Latino, 90 Asian-American, 18 American-Indian and five Eskimo writers.

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Weblogs help people to share with the world

Robyn Busch
Knight Ridder Newspapers

(KRT) — Sunday, August 25, 9:22 a.m.: "Last night I went to see 'the good girl,' the entry begins. "I really wanted to go by myself. I knew it would be busy and I like the camaraderie people share when they're forced to spend two hours touching arms with those they don't know, and also, I had a feeling it was going to be a movie that I wouldn't want to talk about at the end, but my dad wanted to tag along..."

Not a drop of ink had to dry when Katie King, 17, of Merriam, Kan., wrote what strikingly resembles an ad-fashioned hand-written diary.

But when King finished typing her thoughts on a computer, she tapped a key that sent her journaling onto the Internet, where it could be read instantly by friends and loyal strangers who are interested in her thoughts.

And she joined the world of live journaling, also known as webloging.

Weblogging or "blogging," the online publication of personal thoughts and responses on personal sites and Internet communities, has grown tremendously since it began in 1998.

Every day, thousands of people log onto Internet diaries to gush about their days, their newest infatuation, a bad joke they heard, the freshest gossip, their favorite band. Secrets are disclosed, and Internet-based anonymity becomes the shield for anyone with thoughts to share and an Internet connection.

According to Cameron Marlow, of Blogdex, a Web site that tracks the development of weblogs, there were about 30,000 weblogs in 1998. Today experts estimate there are more than 500,000 weblog rings (multiple blogs united by one theme) about all kinds of topics worldwide, with many still undocumented.

The numbers are strong. It definitely points to the popularity and exponential growth of these," said Richard Hanley, professor of e-media at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn. "I would not necessarily say these are the next big thing, but they are a thing. It's in many ways a fad in this stage, but there is growing evidence this is more than a fad."

Hanley compares Internet journaling to instant messaging and said this tendency to journal regularly and communicate blog style is primarily an American activity. Eatonweb Portal, a weblog directory, lists Canada and the United Kingdom as locations with the second- and third-highest number of weblogs. More than two-thirds of users on Web journal host Livejournal.com list the United States as home.

"It's that uniquely American propensity to tell people what we think," Hanley said. "Americans aren't ashamed to let the world know of their personal doubts and fears."

Personal bloggers usually have a button on a toolbar that links directly to a "new post" window. This allows users to post entries instantly without having to log onto the Web site. On many Internet journal hosts, users can subscribe to a journal and receive e-mails every time a new post is up or commented on.

The sometimes fully customizable sites allow users to change the look and feel of their journal pages with one click. From a black background to forest green with yearbook photos and graphics, the look of King's blog can be altered as often as Britney Spears updates her style.

"Weblogs are very elegant," Hanley said. "They're set in a way making it easier to just get your message out there, easier to archive, easier to use. You take technology out of the way, you make it as easy, as possible, and people will jump on it."

And jump on it, they have. Xanga.com reports about 2 million page views a day.

Livejournal.com estimates at least 150,000 users update their journals once weekly, with more than 50,000 posting within a 24-hour period.

"The key to any weblog community is the feedback cycle," John Hiler, CEO of xanga.com, said. "They come back for lots of reasons but feedback is a big one. (Blogs) funnel feedback at the writer. You have something that's important to share, you want someone to listen, instantly someone can respond."

More than a third of users on major personal blog host sites are adolescent females. Livejournal.com lists females as more than 60 percent of all users.

"They host the core demographic of what instant messaging was in the mid-'90s: adolescent girls wanting a way to communicate," Hanley said. "The majority of the population doesn't have time for these things."

King says she updates her month-old Xanga journal three to four times a week.

"I wanted to comment on other people's journals, so I got my own," King said. "Now I find myself spending an hour or more lots of times just reading and posting."

Livejournal.com is host to more than 682,000 personal blogs. Brad Whitaker, 19, who works on livejournal, said the site was getting so busy it stopped letting just anyone join and began making access by invitation-only.

"The servers just couldn't handle the demand after a while," Whitaker said. "The site was growing so quickly, we had to do something or no one would be able to maintain their blogs."

Whitaker said the surge sometimes made the site inaccessible for minutes at a time.

"It's a very addictive format," Hiler said. "Some people spend 15 to 16 hours in a row clicking away."

Personal bloggers use their weblogs for everything from daily observations to minute-by-minute commentaries on their lives. Within minutes of publishing an entry, readers can receive feedback, reading updates on the site as time progresses.

"If I have a thought, if I have something to say, if I like something, if I didn't, I post," said Rob Tong, a 32-year-old quality assurance analyst in Chicago. "It's kind of like a rant-and-rave page for me."

Sometimes blogging shapes thinking.

"Sometimes I've gotten the xanga mind," all my thoughts come in xanga form," said King, the teen from Merriam. "Punctuation, grammar and how I would write it. If something sticks with me for more than one day I'll be like, 'Wow, that's good xanga material.'"

But not every thought is worth publishing.

"It's hard to be completely honest," King said. "I hate that. I want it to be like a real diary sometimes, but it's impossible to treat it like that. I know there are some things I've definitely edited."

"There's a lot of people talking to themselves here," said Hanley, the professor. "There's a little narcissism: 'Here's what I did today, check it out.'"

"Did you really have to commit electricity to those thoughts? But that's how many of them are, 'Check me out, yo, how bad am I?'"

King said she can see this in some blogs.

"Maybe I enjoy the thought of other people reading my thoughts more than I originally did," King said. "It depends on what you make of it, but it's good for people to say what they want if they can't in day-to-day life. It's a great way to just get it out here."

Group petitions to reform national financial aid eligibility

Nathan Dayani
University Daily Kansan

LAWRENCE, Kan. (U-WIRE) — Although Hal Beckerman could use the money, he hasn't applied for federal financial aid since his freshman year after being convicted of a drug-related crime.

"I haven't applied for it since because I knew I would get rejected," said Beckerman, Prairie Village, senior at the University of Kansas.

However, the KU branch of Students for Sensible Drug Policy, an organization new to campus this fall, wants to help students like Beckerman and others who are ineligible for financial aid because of prior drug convictions.

Chase Cookson, president of the KU branch of the organization, said the group is trying to get 10,000 students — roughly one-third of the student body — to sign a petition against 1998 amendments to the Higher Education Act. The amendments effectively make students ineligible for financial aid if previously convicted

of a drug-related crime.

The KU branch of the organization will send copies of the petition to Kansas senators and representatives in Washington after meeting its signature quota, said Cookson, Wichita, junior. Although Cookson said he did not expect the petitions to radically influence Congressional policy, he said the petition would send a powerful message.

"It will let them know that the students of the University of Kansas disagree with any law that is discriminatory," he said.

Cookson said the amendments to the Higher Education Act had a disparate impact on students who came from low-income families and could not afford a college education without financial aid.

Cookson also said he hoped the petition would influence Kansas representatives to co-sponsor or support H.R. 786, a bill to overturn current drug provisions in the Higher Education Act.

Chris Johnson, associate director of student financial aid, said since January,

seven KU students who applied for federal financial aid were rejected because of prior drug convictions. Johnson said those students were also ineligible for state-sponsored financial aid because that aid was dependent on federal eligibility. He also said students convicted of violent, but not drug-related crimes could be eligible for financial aid.

According to the organization's Web site, the Department of Education said about 43,000 would-be students have lost financial aid eligibility in the 2001-2002 school year because of drug-related convictions. SSDP's site also estimated many more students, such as Beckerman, chose not to apply for financial aid because of their ineligibility.

The first public meeting of the KU chapter will be held Oct. 6 at the Big 12 Room in the Kansas Union. Cookson said he encouraged anyone interested in the organization to attend the meeting.

But until Congress changes its amendment to the Higher Education Act, students like Beckerman will have to survive college without financial aid.



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CHECK! SWALLOW THIS SCALE AND YOU'LL BE FUR!
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HAI! DO THE WATER WERE JUST GET FARMER?

Dormant Life

by Shane Pangburn
THE SCOUTS LED US RIGHT TO MILK... Dirty Naked...
ISN'T THIS A NUDE BAR?
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EXCUSE ME, MASTER PERVERTED... DID I SAY STD... HAVE YOU SEEN MILK?
NO... HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?
I CAN'T FIND HIM... I'M ON THE LOOK OUT BUT NO SIGN YET...
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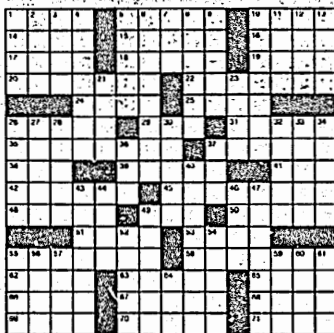
The Quigmans

by Buddy Hickerson
Daily Horoscope
by Linda C. Black
Today's Birthday (Sept. 25): There's not quite as much as you'd hoped there would be, perhaps not as much as they said. Learning to get by on less is the trick. Master it, and you'll have more.
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 - Turn down an invitation to play. Your work is most important now. Don't worry that friends won't understand. If they're really worth keeping, they will.
Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - Your conflict with authority isn't verbal. You're more the silent resistant type who causes slowdowns and delays. Those tactics could produce the desired result.
Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - It's not a good time to launch a project. Wait until Friday for that. It's a better time for building a foundation for that project.
Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - Stick with the familiar and resist change. It's not a good day to take risks. Go with the same old, same old. There'll be plenty of change later on.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 23) - Today is a 6 - Continue to view things with suspicion. A crazy idea is just that - crazy. Don't gamble away your money or pull crazy stunts. Stunts aren't likely to go as rehearsed.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - You may be planning a getaway, but you probably won't get far now. Things nearby will keep you occupied. Provide service quickly.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 7 - Even though you're excellent with words, silence might work better now. Somebody important doesn't want to hear any more of your stories, just facts.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 7 - If you and your partner can't agree, postpone the decision. There may be another alternative that neither of you has proposed.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 6 - Get all the figures to line up. And allow some extra time for mechanical malfunctions.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - It's almost impossible to convince anybody to do anything. Save your breath, your money and your energy.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - It may be necessary to dig into savings for something you want for your home. Just make sure that you get something of the highest possible quality. Better invest in the longer warranty, too.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - You may have been let-ting out a misconception. Something that you thought was one way could turn out to be very different. Get nosy and find out before making a commitment.
I've been meaning to ask you ...
Why do they call you 'Patches'?

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Arginton
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.
KLOYE
DAULT
CADDEE
LEZZUP
Everybody looks at this so wonderful...
WHEN THEY ATTENDED THE CRUISE SHIP DANCE THEY WERE...
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.
Yesterday's Jumbles: FRAUD BELIE JOCKEY ENCAWP
Answer: What the postman brought to the salvage yard - "JUNK" MAIL
Answers tomorrow

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Tactless monk
 - Trains to box
 - Oppose
 - Former wives
 - Test
 - Force's foil
 - ...it the truth?
 - Eagle's nest
 - Legal claim
 - Multiple nouns
 - Takes away
 - Carrier's partner
 - Scrapod (by)
 - Digging tool
 - G.A. Nasser's short-lived nation
 - Narrow strips of land
 - Party workers
 - Make certain
 - Formerly
 - Turn back
 - Emulate
 - Bandhead All
 - Bank, at times
 - Chorish as sacred
 - Joyless
 - Really
 - Phone post
 - Jobs
 - Shopping complex
 - Divine word
 - City near Bath, England
 - More flavorful
 - Pasta base
 - Dominion
 - O'Brien or Forber
 - Graven image
 - Come to terms
 - Cincinnati
 - baseball team
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08/25/02

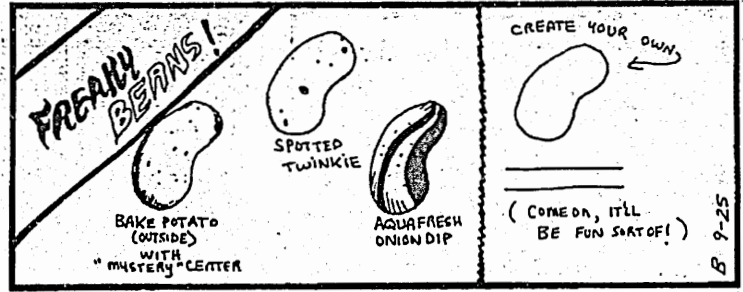
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 - Exist!

No Apparent Reason

by Brian Eliot Holloway



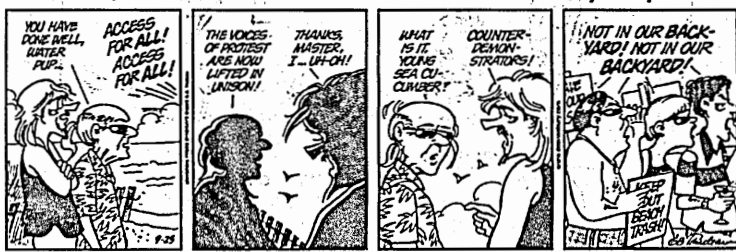
Girls and Sports

by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



Doonesbury

by Garry Trudeau



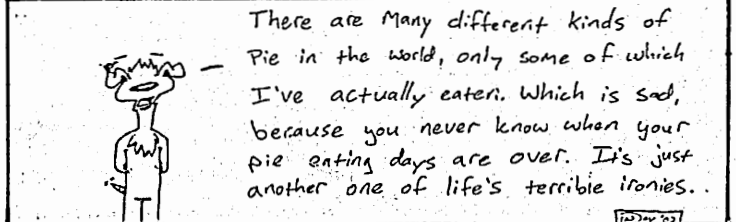
Non Sequitur

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Greystone Inn

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“He loved the students. He could motivate students to do the best of their abilities.”

LaVerne O'Brien
widow of former SIU football coach

Home at Last

SIU legend, Renaissance man
immortalized with locker room

STORY BY ETHAN ERICKSON
PHOTO BY ALEX HAGLUND



O'Brien

Bill O'Brien always wanted to come home to SIU. Now he's home for good.

The Bill O'Brien Memorial Football Locker Room will assure that Saluki players and coaches for generations to come will remember the legacy left by this athlete, coach, educator, administrator and Marine.

Thanks to a gift from O'Brien's wife, LaVerne, the football locker room received a \$50,000 facelift during the summer.

"Bill cut quite a path at this institution and represented this institution well," said Athletic Director Paul Kowalczyk.

O'Brien, who died in December 2000 at the age of 77, came to the University from nearby Zeigler to be a student-athlete and he wound up leaving a very large impression on the world around him.

He would not stay at SIU for long, as World War II compelled him to join the Marines to fight for his country. He would later serve in the Korean War as a colonel.

Upon returning from war in 1946, O'Brien continued his education at SIUC, where he lettered in football and baseball. He was named the baseball team's most valuable player in 1947, the same year he received a degree in recreation.

O'Brien coached high school football for one year before returning to the University as a coach.

He was an assistant baseball, basketball and football coach at Southern before being named head coach of the struggling football program prior to the 1952 season.

O'Brien didn't bring glory to the football program, but he did teach young men valuable lessons.

Richard Kelley played football during O'Brien's entire three-year tenure.

"You can't say enough about that man," Kelley said. "He was one of the most outstanding guys I've ever been around."

After leaving his post at SIU, O'Brien began officiating high school games and it was at one of these contests that he met Don Beggs, a football player at Harrisburg High School.

"He genuinely cared for students, whether it was in athletics or in the classroom," said Beggs, who went on to be named chancellor at Southern and is now president of Wichita State University.

O'Brien later became a college football official, but he did not forget the University that educated him. He frequently volunteered his time as an official for SIUC intra-squad games.

"He contributed a lot of his time when it related to officiating," Beggs said.

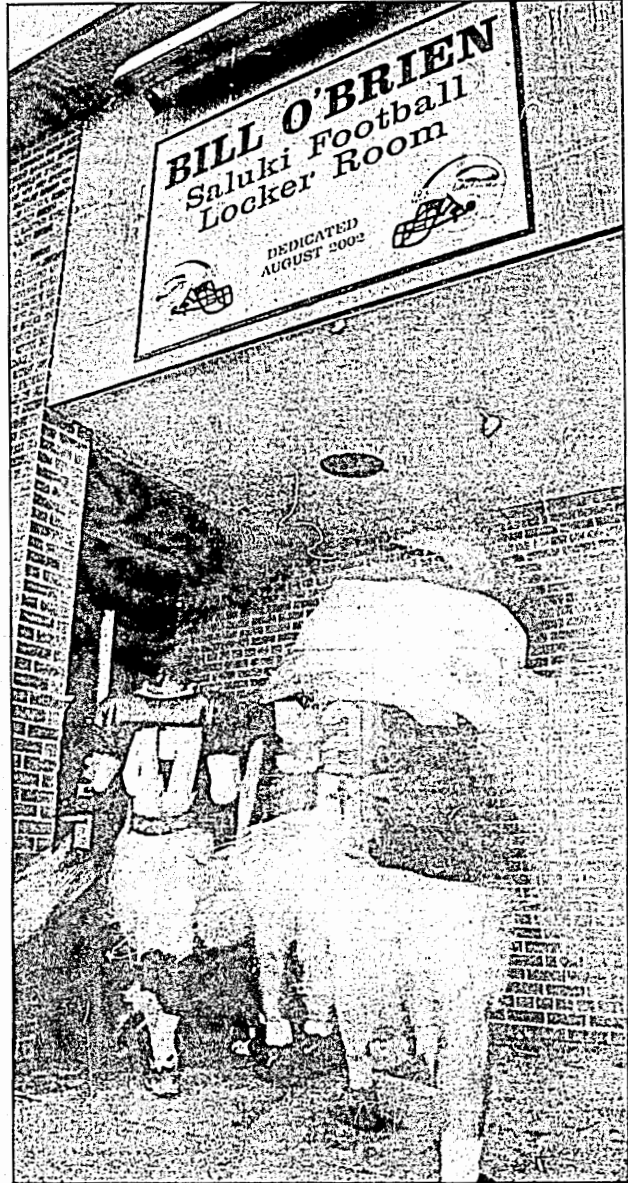
Officiating also gave him the chance of a lifetime.

O'Brien worked both games of a doubleheader at Ole Miss and was not overly tired, thanks mainly to his Marine background.

LaVerne O'Brien remembers the call she received after that game. An NFL representative called and said, "If he can run like that for two games and not be winded, we need him in the NFL."

O'Brien became one of the elite officials in the NFL and worked in the pros for 17 years. He officiated Super Bowl X, three Pro Bowls and the first NFL game in London.

No matter how far he traveled, however, O'Brien



The Bill O'Brien Memorial Football Locker Room is the result of a \$50,000 renovation to the old locker room. O'Brien was an SIUC alum, and coached the football team before becoming an NFL official. O'Brien died in 2000, and his widow, LaVerne O'Brien, donated the money for the renovation.

“He had a great love for [SIU]. No matter where he went, he always wanted to come home.”

LaVerne O'Brien
widow

always had a special place in his heart for Carbondale.

"He had a great love for [SIU]," LaVerne said. "No matter where he went, he always wanted to come home."

O'Brien also played an integral role in the formation of SIU's Little Grassy campus, now known as Touch of Nature.

He, along with Bill Freeberg, was a pioneer in programs for the disabled. O'Brien was involved in the planning stages of the Little Grassy campus and Camp Little Giant.

Little Giant, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary next summer, was designed to give disabled children the chance to enjoy the summer camp experience.

O'Brien and Freeberg were involved in starting the National Special Olympics as well.

"He cared deeply about the disabled, both children and adults," LaVerne said.

In addition to the concern he had for the disabled, O'Brien also cared deeply about his students.

"He loved teaching," LaVerne said. "He loved the students. He could motivate students to do the best of their abilities."

O'Brien taught and presided over the thesis committee of Bill McMinn, who is now the director of the recreation center.

"He was an excellent teacher," McMinn said. "The reason that he was such a good teacher was that he had a willingness to listen to the student."

Education was very important to O'Brien. He earned five graduate degrees and was chairman of SIU's recreation and outdoor education program from 1974 until his retirement in 1983.

He was also named teacher of the year in 1974. "He was the proudest of his teaching and ability to reach inside of people," LaVerne said.

O'Brien also profoundly affected Mike Reis, who does sports broadcasts for SIU games and is known as the voice of the Salukis.

"Just being around him you wanted to earn his respect," Reis said.

He also taught Reis, who at the time was just beginning in broadcast journalism, the importance of ethics.

"One of the things that he instilled in me was that I could still be ethical but do my job," Reis said. "Bill felt there was a professional way to go about his job ... we all benefited from that."

These qualities live on in a scholarship awarded in his name to a graduate student in recreation "who most reflects O'Brien's qualities of honesty, integrity and professionalism."

O'Brien left a great legacy behind, and now he'll be better remembered by all associated with Saluki athletics.

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

Saluki volleyball slips by Western Illinois

Volleyball overcomes nine point deficit, sweeps non-conference

Michael Brenner
Daily Egyptian

Western Illinois may be 0-15, but no one would know it by watching them play on Tuesday.

The Westervinds turned what was supposed to be a blowout into a decent match at Davies Gymnasium, but SIU still prevailed in three games 30-19, 30-28 and 30-25.

After crushing Western in game one, the Salukis received a scare when Western Illinois was able to keep the game tied as late as 27-27. A side-out and two Kristie Kemner kills later, SIU was off the hook.

"After we had a solid first game, we stepped back," said junior setter Britten Follett. "We needed to manage our side of the court better."

The Salukis didn't commit any hitting errors in game one and had four in game two.

Things got worse in game three. Western crashed out of the gates with four straight points and found itself up 14-5 halfway through the contest, fueled by 10 SIU hitting errors.

Kemner took full blame for the slow start.

"It was my fault," Kemner said. "I could not pass for, like, 12 points, and then I could pass again. I don't know if it was a mental lapse or what, but it's out of my system and it's gone now."

Or more accurately, it was gone when Kemner took the ball with her team down 5-14 and pumped out eight straight points off her serves. The Salukis appeared invincible after that and went on to win the match.

Despite the win, SIU said it didn't play as well as it could have, and the team seems divided on the reason. Kemner and the other players said the team was trying out new

plays, which accounted for the unexpectedly close scores.

"We started doing things we weren't used to doing, just to try some new plays and feel it out before we start playing another game," Kemner said. "I think that's what we were doing tonight."

Head coach Sonya Locke said the team's level of desire never did it in.

"I'm a little disappointed in our level of competitiveness," Locke said. "Look at how we played on Friday and Saturday, then look at [tonight]. That was not the team that played on Friday and Saturday."

Regardless of the effort, or lack thereof, the team was happy with a win, even if it was a non-conference game against a team that will not help its RPI.

Follett put it very bluntly. "9-5 sounds a lot better than 8-6," she said.

SIU was also happy to play its final mid-week match of the season. From now on, the Salukis only play on Fridays and Saturdays.

Kemner seemed more pleased than anyone to put Tuesday games in the



Lindsey Schultz goes for a kill against the Westervinds of WIU during volleyball action Tuesday evening at Davies Gymnasium. The Salukis won the match 3-0 and improve to 9-5 for the season.

WILLIAM A. RICE • DAILY EGYPTIAN

history books.

"Now we're going to have a lot more energy for the weekends," Kemner said. "I don't know about anyone else, but I'm dead when it comes to Tuesdays. I'm dead. I won't have legs tomorrow."

Reporter Michael Brenner can be reached at mbrenner@dailyegyptian.com

SPORTS FLASH

Abdulqadir named National Player of the Week

SIU junior running back Muhammad Abdulqadir was named the National Player of the Week Tuesday by a pair of media organizations — The College Sporting News and Don Hansen's National Weekly Football Gazette.

Abdulqadir, who was named the Gateway Conference's Co-Offensive Player of the Week, racked up 264 yards

and five rushing touchdowns in the Salukis 76-21 victory over Division II West Virginia Tech on Saturday.

He also caught a pass for 67 yards and another touchdown and ended up with 331 all-purpose yards in the first start of his SIU career.

The 6 touchdowns made a new Gateway record and tied him with Andrea Herrera for most in a game. The rushing and all-purpose totals were the second highest in conference history.

After only two games at SIU, Abdulqadir is leading all of Division I-AA with 146.3 rushing yards per game.

Gophers must shore up defense for a chance at derailing Boilermakers

Brian Stensaas
Minnesota Daily (U. Minnesota)

MINNEAPOLIS (U-WIRE) — With the Big Ten conference season opener at Purdue less than a week away, it's no big secret Minnesota's football team is using this week to fine tune.

And the passing defense is one in a handful of areas being looked at under the microscope.

The Gophers are coming off a 41-17 win at the expense of Buffalo. Though the victory pushed Minnesota's nonconference record to an unscathed 4-0, it didn't come

without some reoccurring setbacks.

In the past two weeks, Toledo and Buffalo both benefited from quick passing patterns and poor tackling by the Gophers to gain yardage.

Versus the Rockets, missed tackles were the mishap of the game. Mason estimated Toledo gained over 120 yards after the initial tackle should have been made.

"We're going to have to play much better football against Purdue," he said. "It's going to take a maximum effort from our offense, defense and the kicking game to have a chance there. We need to get better in a hurry."

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Koutsos' future is still unclear

Injured running back must decide between redshirt and pros

Todd Merchant
Daily Egyptian

When Tom Koutsos leaves SIU for good, there will be a lot of things said about him.

"He was the most prolific rusher at this school."

"He rushed for more yards, had more touchdowns and scored more points than any other Saluki in history."

"He was arguably one of the greatest football players SIU has ever seen."

One thing, however, that will not be said is that he never tried his hardest on every play.

In the Salukis' 42-24 loss at Murray State two weeks ago, the senior running back sustained a season-ending injury to his right arm on SIU's second play from scrimmage.

A Racers' defender accidentally fell on Koutsos' arm when he was attempting to stretch for a couple more yards after he was tackled. "I tried to get as many yards on my last carry as possible," Koutsos said at a press conference Tuesday evening.

That attempt at another yard cost Koutsos dearly.

"It was pretty painful," he said. "It was like a freak accident. I was in severe pain ... I heard my arm snap and I knew pretty much that my arm was broken. I didn't know the extent of the break."

The extent of Koutsos' injury turned out

to be a broken wrist and radius in his right arm. He underwent a successful surgery Sept. 16 at St. Francis Medical Center in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Koutsos had a metal plate placed in his arm and will have his arm in a sling for about six weeks. He will go through rehab and should hopefully be fully healed well before next season.

Now Koutsos must decide whether to try for a medical redshirt and come back next season or try to move directly to the professional level, which is his lifelong dream.

"Obviously my goal is to play at the next level," he said. "I'm going to pursue that. I don't know if it's gonna be after this year or, if I take the medical, probably another year."

"I don't want to go out as an injured player. People don't remember injured players."

While Koutsos mulls over his options, the Salukis must continue the season with a new starting running back. Junior college transfer Muhammad Abdulqadir has taken over the reins of the offense and has turned heads doing it.

Abdulqadir recently tied a school record by scoring six touchdowns against West Virginia Tech on Saturday. He compiled 331 all-purpose yards and was named National Player of the Week for his efforts.

Koutsos is in no way bitter about his current status on the team and has become the Dawgs' biggest cheerleader. He was in a similar situation in 1999 when he was thrust into the starting role after the top two backs were sidelined.

"When you get your opportunity you've

got to take advantage of it. I'm happy for [Abdulqadir]," Koutsos said. "I want these guys to win. Even though I can't help them on the field, maybe I can help them on the sidelines."

If Koutsos does decide to come back for another year, SIU head coach Jerry Kill will have to make a tough decision of his own — who's going to start? Koutsos or Abdulqadir?

"We'd try to find a way to use both of them, I'm sure," Kill said. "But those things are all premature right now. We don't know how that write is gonna come out, don't know if he's gonna be here next year or not."

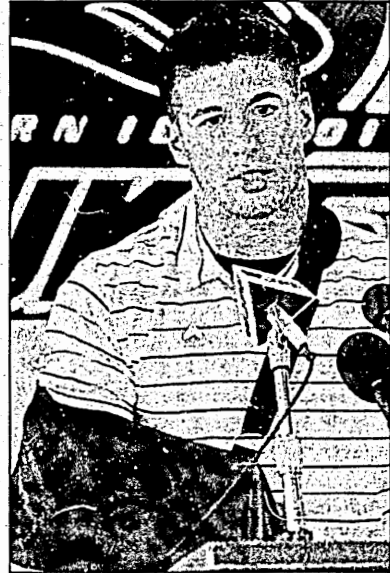
"That's something we can't worry about right now."

Koutsos, who said he hadn't missed a game due to an injury since sixth grade, has other factors to consider when he makes a decision on his future. He is only 485 yards shy of the Gateway Conference rushing record.

He has admitted in the past that the record was important to him. On Tuesday, however, he did not put quite as much stock in numbers.

"All that stuff is great, but when you're not on the field playing you don't think about that much," Koutsos said. "I'm just looking forward to my arm healing to 100 percent and a speedy recovery."

"My dream and my goal is to play in the professional football league, and that's what I'm gonna do."



AKER HAGLUND - DAILY EGYPTIAN

Saluki running back Tommy Koutsos addresses a question at a press conference on Tuesday afternoon. After sustaining an injury to his right arm, Koutsos will stay out of action for the remainder of the season.

Reporter Todd Merchant can be reached at tmerchant@dailyegyptian.com

COMMENTARY

I like football the way it ought to be — blue collared

Football is a grand old sport, but it shouldn't stray too far from its roots as a workingman's game.

At this University, head coach Jerry Kill keeps the game relatively true to its upbringing.

Kill plays the game the way it was meant to be played, running the ball down the opponent's throat. The West Coast offense has taken root in many places, but luckily Coach Kill doesn't subscribe to this abomination of the game.

Running the ball should be the primary offense. No matter how many points the West Coast game can put on the board, defense should be a team's focus and its strength.

Football is a rough-and-tumble, smash-mouth game that is best personified by a great running back like Tom Koutsos.

Though there are many good wide receivers, their play usually doesn't capture the true spirit of this brutal

game. The game is best represented in players who like to use their bodies as weapons and receivers usually aren't this type of player. Big, lumbering tight ends are usually the only receivers who embody the spirit of the game.

The best offensive representatives of the game are the hard-nosed linemen who do their jobs like many of society's greatest — consistently and without accolades.

Football is greatest on a cool, crisp autumn afternoon. When I hear the band playing the school fight song as I approach the stadium, it puts me in the perfect state of mind to watch opposing teams run the ball at each other without relent.

Because it's played in the fall, football is also meant to be played outside. The idea to build a domed stadium here was an incredibly stupid one. Luckily, the current stadium plans call for an outside one. To build a domed



Ethan Erickson

eerickson@dailyegyptian.com

stadium would rip out the heart and soul of football at SIU.

The game should be played outside because that's what makes it great. There are no rain delays and that plays right into football's blue-collar roots. A construction worker doesn't get to take the day off because he's not satisfied with the weather.

Without outdoor football, some of football's greatest chapters would have never happened. Lambeau Field would never have been called the Frozen Tundra. The Bears and Eagles would have never had to deal with the

blinding fog in their famous playoff game. True fans would never be separated from fair-weather fans by snow or rain.

Fans at the games should be local rowdies, not suit-wearing businessmen like you see at Madison Square Garden.

Rain, fog or bitter cold just add another level of difficulty to the game and make it much more intriguing.

Football should always be played on grass. Players can't get dirty on the artificial surface, and we all know the common workingman isn't afraid to get dirty.

The smell of grass is another nuance that is a part of the football experience. SIU's new stadium should be built with a grass playing surface.

What makes college football so great is that it's a week-long celebration where old friends meet up and remember their college days. Even though the Salukis aren't having a

stellar season, Homecoming will still bring back alumni from distant corners who'll join in celebration of their university.

Football is about rivalries, like SIU's with Southeast Missouri State or Western Illinois. Watching two teams that have exchanged unpleasanties with each other for years is one of the best ways to spend a Saturday.

The best stadiums in football are not the ones with the newest gizmos and the most diverse concessions. The best ones are named after a person who exemplified his school, not after a big corporation. These stadiums serve standard stadium fare with no frills. After all, football is and should continue to be a blue-collar workingman's game, and there's no place for celery or shrimp.

Ethan is a senior in journalism. His views do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

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