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March 2011

Daily Egyptian 2011

3-31-2011

The Daily Egyptian, March 31, 2011

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Volume 96, Issue 129

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Daily Egyptian

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Students with disabilities find resources on campus

JULIE SWENSON
Daily Egyptian

Students with disabilities should know they aren't alone and can succeed, Douglas Berger said.

Berger, an associate professor of philosophy who is legally blind, said he uses his own experiences as a student to teach to all students' learning styles.

"The most important thing that I do is to be very open about my own circumstances about having had a learning disability, to make them aware that I have experienced those kinds of things and, regardless of the disability, I was able to get through school, graduate school and do a lot of other things, so it doesn't have to hinder me in any way," he said.

Since he was unable to read chalkboards, Berger said he emphasizes the auditory learning style for blind students and makes sure students can hear him and ask him questions if they don't understand the material. He uses Microsoft PowerPoint slides with detailed information in class and online so students can access information in and out of the classroom, he said, as well as encourages students to approach him about their needs.

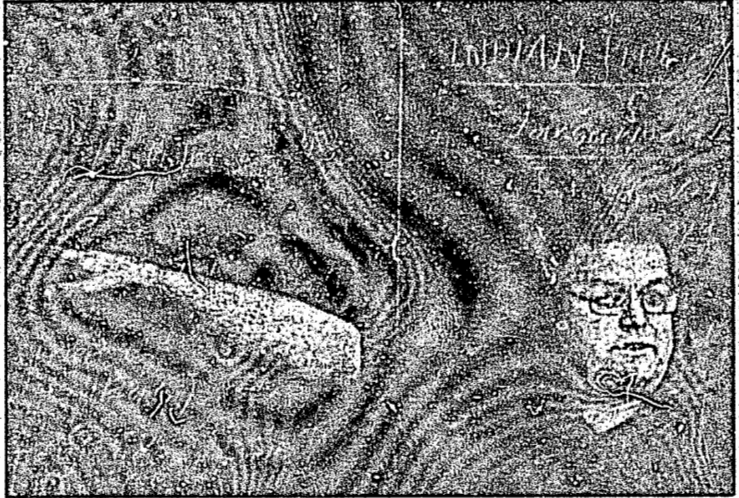
Whether a school can provide resources for students, faculty and staff with disabilities depends on how much money the school receives, Berger said. He said the public elementary school he attended received public money for disability support services, but the private Catholic junior and high schools he attended did not receive state money and lacked those resources.

"The circumstances vary. The best that schools can do is to try to be sensitive to these things and provide as much help, assistance and accommodations as necessary to students with special needs," Berger said.

New York University and Northwestern were served civil-rights complaints March 15 that alleged the universities violated the Americans With Disabilities Act by using free software services in Google Apps for Education that were discriminatory, according to an article from the Chronicle of Higher Education.

The National Federation of the Blind laid out problems with Gmail, which lacks clear labels in its reading software for what information should be put into text fields of the subject line or the recipient's e-mail address when Web pages are read aloud, the article said. Alan Eustace, Google's senior vice president for engineering and research, told The Associated Press the company had a conversation with the NFB's president, and it has a strong commitment to improving its products.

Kathleen Plesko, director of Disability Support Services, said she and her coworkers serve 521 students who need accommodations in the classroom and are registered with the office. The number of students who are disabled is larger than the number of students registered with the office because some disabled students do not need the kind of classroom accommodations that registered students need, she said. For instance, the office doesn't have any students in



STEVE BERCZYNSKI | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Associate professor Douglas Berger teaches philosophy Wednesday in Faner Hall. Berger, who is legally blind, earned his doctorate from Temple University and has taught at SIUC since

2006. In December, The Chronicle of Higher Education ranked www.siuc.edu among the top 20 best college websites for blind students in the country.

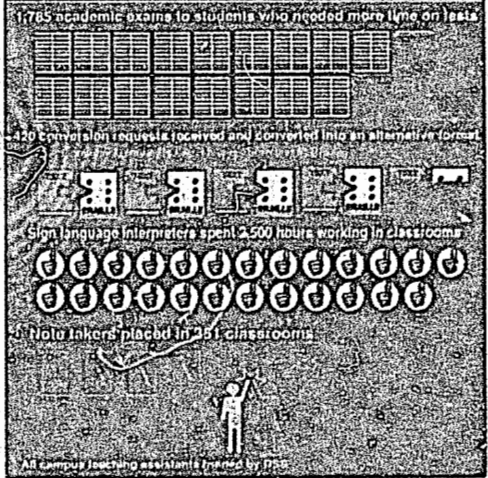
wheelchairs registered because they did not need accommodations in the classroom, Plesko said.

The office administered 1,785 exams in fiscal year 2010 for students who needed more time to take tests, placed notetakers in 351 classrooms, received and translated 420 conversion requests of texts into alternative formats students can read or have read to them. Sign language interpreters from DSS spent 2,500 hours working in classrooms, according to an office status report. The report also said 76.3 percent of DSS students were generally satisfied with the university, and 83.8 percent said they would recommend SIUC to other students with disabilities.

Plesko said DSS has the ability to scan textbooks and create both electronic and Braille versions for students. DSS has to teach freshman students how to use alternate reading software, which can read text on a computer to blind students, she said.

Please see RESOURCES | 4

Assistance provided by Disability Support Services



JUSTIN SKARIN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

SOURCE: KATHLEEN PLESKO, DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Candidates offer visions for community programs

KAYLA KEARNS
Daily Egyptian

Since the release of the proposed fiscal year 2012 budget, community members have raised concerns about the money charitable organizations would receive.

Mayoral candidates George Maroney, Sam Goldman, Joel Fritzier and Steven Haynes all individually spoke on their vision for future funding of social service programs in the city. Examples

of such nonprofit programs that currently rely on city money to cover a portion of their budgets include the Boys and Girls Club of Carbondale, the Women's Center and Carbondale Community Arts.

Maroney said he would cut funding to the programs entirely and let the community support the programs it wants. Goldman said he may reduce money, but he would never cut off a program. Fritzier said the method the city currently uses works well, and he would not

increase funding to those programs. Haynes said he would continue to provide money to the programs and has ideas to increase funding for them in the future.

The candidates are running to replace Mayor Brad Cole. The general election will be held April 5, and the mayor-elect will take office May 3. If City Council member Fritzier is elected, his council seat will also have to be filled.

Maroney, a former hospital administrator for Memorial Hospital

of Carbondale, said the city cannot afford to support nonprofits. It is the community's responsibility to donate to those programs, he said.

He said he would use the money taken from the programs to help solve Carbondale's infrastructure and pension problems. Maroney said he would also look into a lowered property tax if elected.

"You go in other communities, and those organizations are very active in raising funds, applying for grants, and soliciting donors and

foundations," Maroney said. "It's part of their responsibility, and we need to assume that responsibility. If they do, and they can prove their merit in the community, the individuals in the community will support them."

Goldman, former SIUC chancellor, said he does not agree with Maroney. If he had to reduce the budget for an organization, Goldman said he would never lower it to the point where the group could not function.

Please see COMMUNITY | 4

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The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 20,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Friday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intercession editions will run on Wednesdays. Spring break and Thanksgiving editions are distributed on Mondays of the pertaining weeks. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale, Murphysboro and Carterville communities. The DAILY EGYPTIAN online publication can be found at www.dailyegyptian.com.

Mission Statement

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

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Publishing Information

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Offices are in the Communications Building, Room 1259, at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901. Bill Freivogel, fiscal officer.

Reaching Us

Phone: (618) 536-3311
Fax: (618) 453-3248

E-mail: editor@dailyegyptian.com

Editor-in-Chief: Nick Johnson ext. 252

Managing Editor: Jacob Mayer ext. 253

Campus Editor: Julie Swenson ext. 254

City Desk: ext. 263

Sports Editor: Jacob Mayer ext. 256

A/E Editor: Ryan Voytes ext. 273

Voices Editor: Kathleen Hector ext. 281

Photo Editor: Isaac Smith ext. 251

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DAILY

Daily Deals

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Corrections

In the Wednesday edition of the DAILY EGYPTIAN, the story titled "Unions weigh options" should have said, "The Illinois Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council is also in contract negotiations with the university administration." The DAILY EGYPTIAN regrets the error.

In the Wednesday edition of the DAILY EGYPTIAN, the story "Council split on summer school program," should have said "The city attempted to hide a funding proposal for School District 95 from the general budget so no questions would be asked, Don Monty said Tuesday." The DAILY EGYPTIAN regrets the error.

Calendar Events

Family Matters Parent Training

• 5:30-7:30 p.m. April 28 at Thomas Elementary School, 1025 N. Wall St.

• Training for parents of students receiving special education services

• Free to public

• For more information, or to register contact Family Matter at 866-436-7842 ext. 107.

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• For more information, contact 529-52772.

Woodblock Woodstock

• Throughout the month of April at Morris Library

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• Sponsored by The Friends of Morris Library and SIU's School of Art and Design

• For more information, contact Megan Lotts at mlotts@lib.siu.edu.

Imagining the Origins of Society and Politics in 'Where the Wild Things Are' and 'Lost'

• 1 p.m. April 6 at the Communications Building, Room 1032

• Free event - all welcome

• Sponsored by the Global Media Research Center

• For more information, contact Laura Germana at 618-453-6876, felix@siu.edu, or visit <http://gmr.siu.edu>.

Hummingbirds: Magic in the Air

• 7-9 p.m. April 9 at Cache River Wetlands Center

• This month's featured flick is "Nature: Hummingbirds, Magic in the Air." Discover the extraordinary abilities of the world's smallest warm-blooded animal.

• Free to the general public

• For more information, contact Cache River Wetlands Center at 657-2064.

Living Downstream of the Factory Farm

• 7:30 p.m. April 14 at 217 E. Main Street

• Presentation by Stacey James on the environmental and social impacts of factory farms in Illinois

• Showing the film: "Living a Nightmare"

• For more information, contact 684-2196.

Redistricting hearings deaf to southern Illinois voters

JUSTIN KABBEES
Daily Egyptian

Members of the Illinois Senate Redistricting Committee aren't really listening to voters' concerns in public hearings, state Rep. Mike Bost says.

"I do not believe these are anything more than a show," said Bost, R-Murphysboro.

Illinois will redraw its legislative districts map this General Assembly. The committee held a redistricting public forum Monday in Chicago and will host four more in Springfield, Kankakee, Peoria and Cicero to hear public feedback.

The committee came to SIUC in October 2009 to discuss redistricting at an event hosted by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. John Jackson, a political analyst at the institute, said the committee is making a mistake by not talking to southern Illinoisans now.

District maps are redrawn after every census to even the representation of each legislative district. The redistricting laws are structured in a way that allows one party to override the other.

Bost said the forums will not influence the map because Democrats control the General Assembly and executive branch. The majority party will only try to keep itself in power, he said.

State Sen. Dave Luechtefeld, R-Oakville, a member of the redistricting committee, said the committee has not informed him how the new map will be drawn.

He said it's because Democrats aren't including Republicans in

the redistricting process.

"They will take every advantage they possibly can," he said.

Jackson said though Democrats have control of the map, they can't do whatever they want. Constitutional laws and the fact that some districts will inevitably favor Republicans will prevent them, he said.

"They can't just run amok," Jackson said. "There's lots of court decisions, for example."

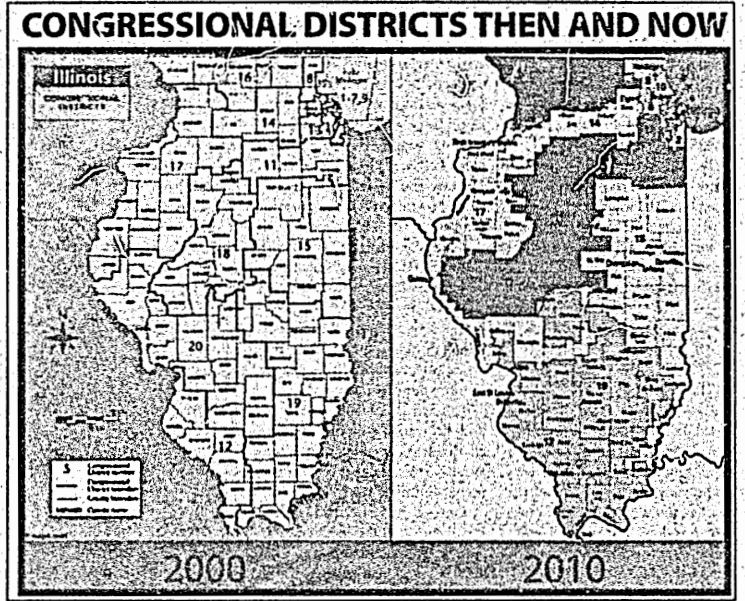
Maggie Flanagan, president of the Jackson County League of Women Voters, said the forums won't spur any change in the redistricting process until Illinois passes more transparent legislation.

Flanagan said she helped lead the league in an effort to place a referendum on the last election ballot for a state constitutional amendment to make the redistricting process more objective. The league needed 350,000 signatures for the petition but only got 250,000, she said.

Jackson said the league failed because it didn't know how to play the political game.

"Illinois politics is complicated," Jackson said. "They didn't seem to understand what it took to get something of the magnitude of a constitutional amendment on the ballot."

Flanagan said districts such as that of U.S. Rep. John Shimkus, R-Carlinville, which spans from the southeastern tip of Illinois to part of the Metro East area of St. Louis and the southern part of Springfield, don't accurately



represent their constituents because they encompass people from so many areas.

Illinois will lose one congressional district in this redrawing, dropping from 19 to 18. Luechtefeld said the committee will likely eliminate a district in central Illinois, an area dominated by the Republicans.

Jackson said because Chicago's population declined since the last district map was drawn, the city's districts will need to branch out to the suburban areas for Democrats to control them.

Gov. Pat Quinn signed Senate Bill 3976 March 18, which will influence the redistricting process. One part of it, the Illinois Voting Rights Act of 2011, aims to prevent districts with large numbers of minorities from being divided.

Jackson said the new law complements the migration of people from inner-city Chicago to the suburbs. The loss of a congressional district will lead to many changes in the Chicago area, he said.


Bost said southern Illinois has

always had problems attracting the state's attention because of its low population. State Sen. Kwame Raoul, D-Chicago, chairman of the redistricting committee, said more hearings will be held in the future.

Although the league failed to get the signatures necessary for the referendum, it will make its voice heard at the forums, Flanagan said.

Justin Kabbees can be reached at jkabbes@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 256.

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RESOURCES

CONTINUED FROM 1

There is no mandatory training for newly hired teachers at SIUC to accommodate disabled students. There is mandatory training for teachers' assistants, so they know where accommodations are in classrooms, what they are, and how to use them, Flesko said.

Faculty members can call DSS to ask for advice and education on a case-by-case basis if they need it, but most faculty members know what to do and how to adjust their teaching styles to accommodate disabled students, she said.

Plesko said when DSS does departmental outreach discussions with faculty members, she talks about the latest in accommodations and technology DSS has, the kinds of software such as Blackboard that can better accommodate disabled students, how to find a note taker for a disabled student, and other suggestions.

Plant and Service Operations also takes suggestions from disabled students who have difficulty getting around on campus as to improve the campus' accessibility, she said.

"The commitment is so rich all over the campus. Faculty are amazing, receptive, and

knowledgeable about how to help students," Plesko said. "If you can physically and mentally be here, then the disability shouldn't be a factor in your success."

Patricia Cosgrove, assistant director of Information Technology, said the university's staff and faculty have always made a consistent effort since World War II to support and accommodate disabled students. Cosgrove said she and Plesko have worked together at the university since 1991 to select adaptive software and technology for disabled students to use.

"SIU has always been a friendly place for students with disabilities,"

she said. "If students need something specific that we don't have in our computer labs, we work with them, and Disability Support Services to accommodate them."

More disabled students who come to campus now have been accommodated at other schools and already know what kinds of software or technology they need to succeed, Cosgrove said. She said students often bring their own hardware and technology to the university with them, such as a refreshable Braille display.

The majority of accommodations for students now are hardware-related in terms of equipment for students to use in classrooms, Cosgrove said.

She said both DSS and Information Technology list equipment available for students to borrow on their websites.

Cosgrove said, although companies such as Microsoft and Apple design new software and technology with accessibility features for people with disabilities, the need for accommodations still needs to be emphasized and discussed.

"Students with disabilities need to have the same access as everyone else, so they need the accommodations to get that same access," she said. "We want to level the playing field so that they can do the same work that everyone else is doing, just in a little bit different way."

COMMUNITY

CONTINUED FROM 1

"The cost of going to the emergency room is far in excess of the cost it would be to us to provide these services," Goldman said. "When you have people who are in many ways handicapped, the city has to do something to make sure they don't hurt themselves."

Fritzer said the Women's Center and the Boys and Girls Club of Carbondale are both important organizations, but he does not foresee raising any additional money for them.

He said he agrees with Maroney and believes it is the community who needs to financially contribute to these organizations because the people are the ones affected.

"What is the position of the city?" Fritzer asked. "The city provides police and fire protection; safe, clean water; and sewer systems. There's that, and

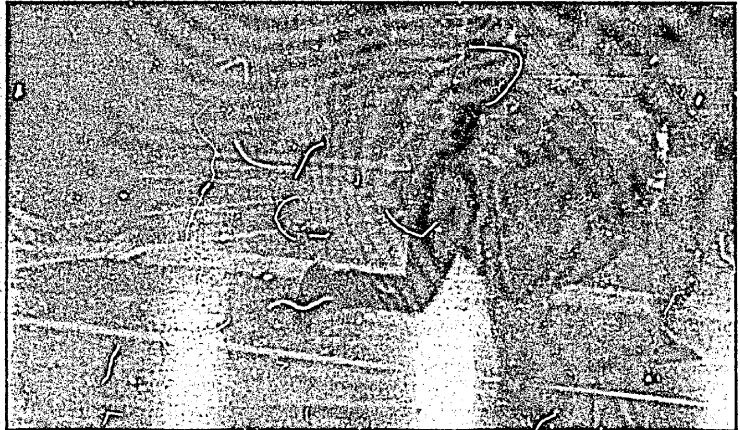
there's also clean neighborhoods. I don't think we should be funding other organizations if we're not funding our projects."

Council member Haynes said he would continue to fund charitable programs, but he would also have ideas to possibly increase money in the future.

One of his ideas is to put a referendum on the next available ballot to dedicate the 4 percent sales tax, which is currently given to Carbondale Community High School, to community-service programs.

"The programs would have a designated financial source," Haynes said. "The city itself would be making a commitment to funding these agencies, and the citizens of Carbondale would have a say so in. Yes, we want to do this."

Kayla Kearns can be reached at kkearns@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 266.



GEORGE LAMBOLEY | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Jordan Mosley, left, 11, and Zanidrella Johnson, 11, race Wednesday across the gymnasium at the Boys and Girls Club of Carbondale. Mayoral candidate George Maroney has pledged to cut funding for community service and nonprofit

organizations if elected. The Boys and Girls Club of Carbondale gives approximately 65 children a place to go after school for entertainment, supervision and help with homework, said Kevin Green, a youth counselor at the facility.

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Online statements to reduce paper waste

SARAH SCHNEIDER
Daily Egyptian

Katelyn Gramlich said she thinks it has become a trend to receive and pay bills online because of the convenience.

Gramlich, a graduate student in speech communications and women's studies from St. Louis, said she receives her bank statements online because she is often near a computer.

"More people have laptops now because we are on the go instead of going home to check the desktop computer," she said.

Beginning May 15, bursar billing statements will be available online only at SakulNet, said SIUC Bursar Jill Kirkpatrick. She said e-bills display the same information as paper bills, including charges for tuition, fees and housing, as well as payments and other credits.

Kirkpatrick said the bursar bill green initiative will save money and paper for the university. Currently, the Bursar's office sends out 25,000 paper bills per month, she said.

Universities such as SIU - Edwardsville and the University of Illinois have used online billing for years now to save paper, Kirkpatrick said.

Patrick Lewis, a graduate student in geography and environmental resources from Jonestown, Miss., said he receives all of her bank statements online and pays her bills online.

Last year, 98.7 million people in the U.S. filed federal taxes online,

compared with 95.5 million in 2009, according to an article in the South Florida Sun-Sentinel.

Lewis said people may choose to make different kinds of payments online to be environmentally conscious.

"One of the university's goals is to be more environmentally friendly," Kirkpatrick said. "We are constantly looking at ways we can do that by putting more information online for students and staff."

For every 38,000 bills paid online, production of 5,058 pounds of greenhouse gases is avoided, and two tons of trees are preserved, according to NACHA, a not-for-profit electronic payments association.

Gramlich said she thinks the university has a responsibility to think about the environment, and the paperless billing initiative is part of that duty.

Lewis said while online statements are beneficial to the environment, she is skeptical about how it will affect parents who help their children with finances.

"My grandmother is not very computer savvy, so I don't know about that," she said. "Personally, I think it is a good thing, but for my parents, I am not sure."

Kirkpatrick said the online statements will be more user friendly.

"Currently, we only mail out one bill, and we have a lot of students who might be in a situation where they want their parents to view the bill, or they need a bill to go to both their mother and their father if they

SIU to switch to electronic billing

25,000 bursar bills per month set to be mailed electronically this May.

Method of message delivery

For every 38,000 bills paid online, the production of 5,058 lbs of greenhouse gases is avoided and two tons of trees are preserved

Source: NACHA
a non-profit electronic payments association

are divorced, and this way can be set up to let as many people as the user wants to view that bill," she said.

Kirkpatrick said the online statements might allow students to

easily meet payment deadlines. The current system could take a couple of days.

"We always have some students not able to make a payment deadline,

JUSTIN SKARIN | DAILY EGYPTIAN
and it is hard to keep up with a billing address when several students move frequently within the year or between semesters. This will eliminate the postage problem with that," she said.

King: USG must be selective with event money

BRANDON COLEMAN
Daily Egyptian

Undergraduate Student Government doesn't have money to pay for every request from Registered Student Organizations, USG President Marcus King says.

King said USG has to be selective in the events it pays for with money from student activity fees because there are more than 400 RSOs that may need money. A group receives student government money only if the event it's hosting is open to all students, he said.

"There are a lot of things on this campus that I wish we could fund, but I can't be biased because it goes against the rules," King said.

USG can't pay for travel costs, conferences or equipment that is used only by a single RSO.

An RSO has two revenue pools: unrestricted money that the RSO raises itself and restricted money from student government activity fees, said Katherine Sermersheim, associate dean of students. She said unrestricted money could be spent however a group wishes, as long as purchases follow state and university guidelines.

King vetoed USG payments

"I think that because all students are paying into the student activity fee, all students should get to benefit from what those fees are.

— Katherine Sermersheim, associate dean of students

on March 22 for \$3,000 worth of tractor parts for the Agriculture Systems Technology RSO. USG's Senate voted in the same meeting to let the veto stand. Graduate students Colburn Dittmer and Mary-Grace Bell, both members of the club, said the veto shows USG is not aware of events and programs within the College of Agriculture Sciences.

Bell, a graduate student in animal science from Bridgeport, said in an e-mail Agriculture Industry Day, the event the tractor would have been used for, welcomes more than 700 high school students from throughout southern Illinois to compete in multiple FFA contests.

Students learn about new agricultural research in the changing industry at the event, Bell said. She said the club encourages all SIUC students to attend.

Dittmer, a graduate student in soil and agriculture systems from Minden, Iowa, said the club only uses the tractor for the marketing and promotion of the event. He said the group received USG money for tractor parts in the past.

Computers, desks, chairs and monitors are the most common items paid for by USG, Sermersheim said. Usually, when an RSO wants to get rid of or replace any of its equipment, it can go to an equipment warehouse where items can be exchanged, she said.

Andrew Morgan, coordinator for the Inter-Greek Council, said none of the 20 RSOs he works with requested money from USG to purchase equipment.

"Usually, if we have any events, we borrow that equipment or rent it, whether it's tables and chairs or sound equipment," Morgan said.

King said Agriculture Industry

Day is a good community service event, but student activity fee money should be used mostly for students who pay the fee.

"I don't mind outside people being able to come (to the event), but it's an activity fee," he said.

King said the College of Agricultural Sciences should pay for the club's request for some of the tractor parts. If USG had funded equipment for the tractor, similar requests from other RSOs would come in, he said.

Sermersheim said the tractor is currently stored in the barracks west of the Neckers Building. She said she was at the meeting four years ago when USG first approved money for tractor equipment.

"(The club) used it, and it's under their inventory for them to continue to reuse and have," she said.

Equipment that costs more than \$100 is tagged and tracked through the property control office in the Wham Education Building, Sermersheim said. She said property control sends her an annual asset inventory report containing equipment details for each on-campus office.

Dittmer said the group raised money for Agriculture Industry

Day because it is a marketing tool to recruit prospective students for the College of Agricultural Sciences, but building a tractor is expensive. The group was looking forward to covering the expenses with money from USG, he said.

Dittmer said a department within the agriculture college usually does marketing for Agriculture Systems Technology's events, but it can't purchase the tractor parts the group needs because of budget cuts.

Sermersheim said an organization that receives money from the activity fee should advertise its events to students with a tagline stating it was partially or fully paid for by student fee money. She said USG and the Graduate and Professional Student Council should remind RSOs of their expectations to market to all students.

"I think that because all students are paying into the student activity fee, all students should get to benefit from what those fees are," she said.

Brandon Coleman can be reached at bcolemandailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 259.

Voices

6 • Thursday, March 31, 2011

www.dailyegyptian.com

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GUEST COLUMNS

Japan sets an example for the U.S. in time of disaster

TARA KULASH
sophomore studying journalism

I've always considered myself a calm person in risky situations. I believe it's the best way to think clearly and come up with a positive solution rather than acting out of panic. For this reason, I've come to respect Japan quite a bit more.

When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, it seemed citizens reacted

out of panic. Businesses were looted, fights broke out, and the general attitude of the area was man-eat-man. I do understand, however, that the circumstances justified a degree of desperation. The people of New Orleans did not receive help in a timely matter, and even when help did arrive, it was less than adequate.

Japan, on the other hand, seems to have only become more unified by the

Japan, on the other hand, seems to have only become more unified by the disaster.

disaster. Many are without food, shelter or electricity, but the level of courtesy remains the same. There have been no

reports of looters. Public transportation gave out, and when only a few routes were operating, citizens proceeded to stand patiently in line. When I picture something like that in the U.S., I only see people yelling and shoving to get ahead.

Most admirable are the scientists and military men, working at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. For the good of their country, the crew

risked being exposed to clouds of radioactive steam. I couldn't think of a more selfless act.

I know Japan isn't perfect, and I know it's the selfless attitude that has given the country a reputation of being brainwashed. But it's this selfless attitude and unity that's also going to get the country through this difficult time, and I think the U.S. could take some pointers from them.

Southern Illinois' many conservatives are flawed

MICHAEL TUSTISON
freshman studying chemistry

One of the major drawbacks of attending college in southern Illinois is being stuck smack dab in the middle of an extremely conservative culture among people who have extremely conservative political and religious beliefs. I'm told I should be more tolerant of people with whom I disagree, but I cannot tolerate the conservative views espoused by my neighbors, as well as a number of students at SIUC. Indeed, I have a serious problem with nearly every ideal that conservatives espouse.

From my perspective, the conservative philosophy seems to be "It's a dog-eat-dog world out there, and it's every man for himself!" For example, conservatives don't believe in subsidized housing or food stamps for the poor. If you

can't make it on your own, you deserve to be tossed out in the streets and forced to rely on charity for food. And if you have a serious medical condition and need health care to stay alive, don't expect any help from conservatives — they want to rescind the Affordable Care Act. If you're not a good capitalist and can't afford to pay for health care, you don't deserve to live.

I have a problem with people who believe only those who have the means to pay deserve an adequate education system for their children. I also have a problem with people who believe the Earth is only 10,000 years old, that creationism should be taught in high school biology class and that prayer to the Christian God should not only be permitted in public schools but openly encouraged.

I have a problem with people who would ban abortion under

all circumstances — people who believe that an unborn fetus has more worth than a living child.

I have a problem with people who claim to cherish American freedom yet persist in denying gay people the right to wed.

And I have a problem with people who believe convicted criminals should be forced to endure brutal living conditions and/or executed in the most expeditious manner possible.

I have a problem with people who believe unions designed to help working-class people earn a modest living must be destroyed while the wealthy oligarchy should be allowed to plunder the nation for every cent it can get away with.

I have a problem with people who believe businesses should be allowed to destroy the environment in pursuit of ever-increasing wealth, regardless of the cost to the

health and welfare of the people who must live on this planet, the same people who believe climate change is a myth propagated by unscrupulous scientists or that their God will somehow mitigate the damage.

I have a problem with people who believe the rich should pay next to nothing in taxes and that every cent of their tax money should go toward things conservatives support, such as waging war, building prisons, and providing subsidies for fossil fuels, mega-farms and big business.

I have a problem with people who believe it's absurd to ask the wealthiest people in this country to provide additional revenue to help repair the damage to the economy caused by their extreme greed, yet would strip away basic necessities from others who have been devastated by the economic

consequences.

The entire conservative agenda is completely antithetical to building an equitable and socially healthy nation. They knowingly pursue an agenda that is detrimental to the country, and they are led by people who deliberately deceive the public in order to further their harmful agenda.

Most liberals understand there are many gray areas in life and our views are open to negotiation, while most conservatives see everything in stark black and white terms. Conservatives demand total acquiescence to their ideology and refuse to accept compromise (as evidenced by their near lockstep congressional voting record).

Conservatives' one redeeming virtue is that, unlike far too many liberals, they understand the importance of going to the polls on Election Day.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

USG neglects College of Agricultural Sciences, Ag RSO

DEAR EDITOR:

We are writing in response to the article "USG approves equipment, vetoes event for agriculture RSO." We were saddened the USG did not support one of the many successful Registered Student Organizations on campus, Ag Systems Technology. This organization is open to all majors and uses information and skills learned in the curriculum to compete among many across the

nation each year.

The USG has lost touch with the great things are going on in the College of Agricultural Sciences. In February the College of Agricultural Sciences hosted its annual All Ag Banquet to recognize its clubs and students for their scholastic and community involvement. At the annual banquet, the Ag Council presented a raised sum of \$1,500 for Heifer International, an organization based on spreading

knowledge of agriculture to become self sustaining.

The College of Agricultural Sciences encourages its students to be involved in the community and in outreach programs. The college encourages the participation of the SIUC student body, faculty, staff and all community members to participate in its Annual Ag Industry Day, which will be held April 15. The entire campus and community have been invited to Ag Industry Day for the past

six years, and the invitation has extended to this year's seventh Annual Ag Industry Day "Ag in the Atmosphere." In the College of Agricultural Sciences, we are excited to share our passions for feeding, fueling, clothing and beautifying our communities.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our views from a college which, we feel, has been misrepresented by this paper. We urge all students, faculty and community to consider attending

our open event and notice the warmth you'll feel radiating from within our college.

Mary-Grace Bell
2010 SIUC graduate,
graduate student in animal
science from Bridgeport

Colburn Dittmer
2009 SIUC graduate,
graduate student in
agricultural systems from
Minden, Iowa

Gus Bode says: Send us more letters! If you can write coherently and would like to share your perspective with the world, please consider lending your voices to our pages.

To submit a letter, please go to www.dailyegyptian.com and click "Submit a Letter" or send it to voices@dailyegyptian.com. Please make your submissions between 300 to 400 words. If you have questions, give us a call at 535-3311 ext. 281.



Submissions

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author's contact information, preferably via e-mail. Phone numbers are required to verify authorship but will not be published. Letters are limited to 400 words and columns to 500 words. Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. Others include hometown. Submissions should be sent to voices@dailyegyptian.com.

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APRIL 21ST
OUTDOOR GUIDE

New record, same Britney on 'Femme Fatale'

BRENDAN SMITH
Daily Egyptian

Femme Fatale



On her seventh studio album, "Femme Fatale," Britney Spears merges her two worlds in 2007's "Blackout," a record that polarized critics and was the artist's only album not to debut at No. 1. The following year, "Circus" saw the queen

of pop's return as a sexually-charged phoenix rising from her self-ignited ashes.

In the conceptual world of Britney the character, "Femme-Fatale" is a weekend of drinks, dancing and debauchery in Ibiza.

What Phil Spector was to the 1960s, Dr. Luke and Max Martin are to music today. The long-time Spears collaborators are responsible for much of the Eurotrash sound currently captivating today's artists. Here, however, Luke and Martin use Spears' accessibility and surpass the limits of traditional pop music.

On tracks such as "Inside Out," "Till the World Ends" and the lead single, "Hold It Against Me," Martin's Eurodance and dubstep sound melds into pop-influenced electronica and not vice versa. Despite their heavy-handedness with her contemporaries, these tracks manage to sound unique.

"Trouble for Me" and "I Wanna Go" are infectious, pop-friendly

club anthems. The Benny Blanco-produced "(Drop Dead) Beautiful" and will.i.am collaboration "Big Fat Bass" straddle the line between urban and electronic, layering Spears' moldable, breathy vocals behind pulsating percussion and throbbing bass lines.

At the end of the day, anything Spears' name is attached to is going to be mainstream because it's Britney Spears. It's this notability that gives her producers free reign in pushing the conventions of pop music.

With no concerns of artistic temperament, self-reflection or career growth, "Femme Fatale" shows Spears has recycled the sexy girl-next-door bit she introduced in 1998. But that doesn't take away from the release of a great, unapologetic dance record.

Brendan Smith can be reached at bsmith@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 273.

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Wiz reaches slacker zen on 'Rolling Papers'

BRENDAN SMITH
Daily Egyptian

Rolling Papers



Wiz Khalifa has focused his music on getting girls, spending money and smoking a lot of weed — and he does it all with an underdog sensibility, a dazed smile and kooky charm.

"Rolling Papers," his major label debut, is no exception.

Like many MCs, Khalifa established a name for himself independently. Just 23 years old, he already has two albums and nine mixtapes under his belt. Since his 2005 debut, "Prince of the City - Welcome to Pishahania," Khalifa has been building quite a bit of buzz.

But it was last year's "Kush & Orange

Juice" that gave the artist his big break. The day of its release, the mixtape became a trending topic on Twitter; the most searched topic on Google; and catapulted a relatively unknown Khalifa into the hip-hop stratosphere.

After beating out heavyweights Nicki Minaj and J. Cole for MTV News' Hottest Breakthrough MC of 2010 and turning down a slew of record deals from big names like Rick Ross and Drake, the rapper released his first single from the album, "Black and Yellow," in September. The song became one of the biggest hits of the year and the unofficial theme for Khalifa's hometown Pittsburgh Steelers.

"Rolling Papers" is a sunny, upbeat, harmonious glimpse into a young man who is as ambitious as he is carefree. Tracks such as "The Race" and "Hopes and Dreams" deal with diamonds, riding around getting high and Khalifa's 24/7

party of a life with a sense of lighthearted sarcasm.

"Roll Up" is a fiery, R&B-influenced pop gem. Khalifa's playful lyric fit perfectly with Stargate's warm, synthesizer-heavy production, like a male answer to Nicki Minaj's "Your Love."

The playful urban psychedelia of "Top Floor" and glowing celebration of fame in "Cameras" are standouts in a cohesive, well-crafted album.

The comparisons between Khalifa and fellow herbal-enhanced MC Kid Cudi have been rampant, but Khalifa's fun-loving, smiley-faced sound is in stark contrast to Cudi's lonely stoner tangents.

In a genre overcome by materialism, hyper-masculinity and excess, "Rolling Papers" is a refreshing testament to the simpler things in life.

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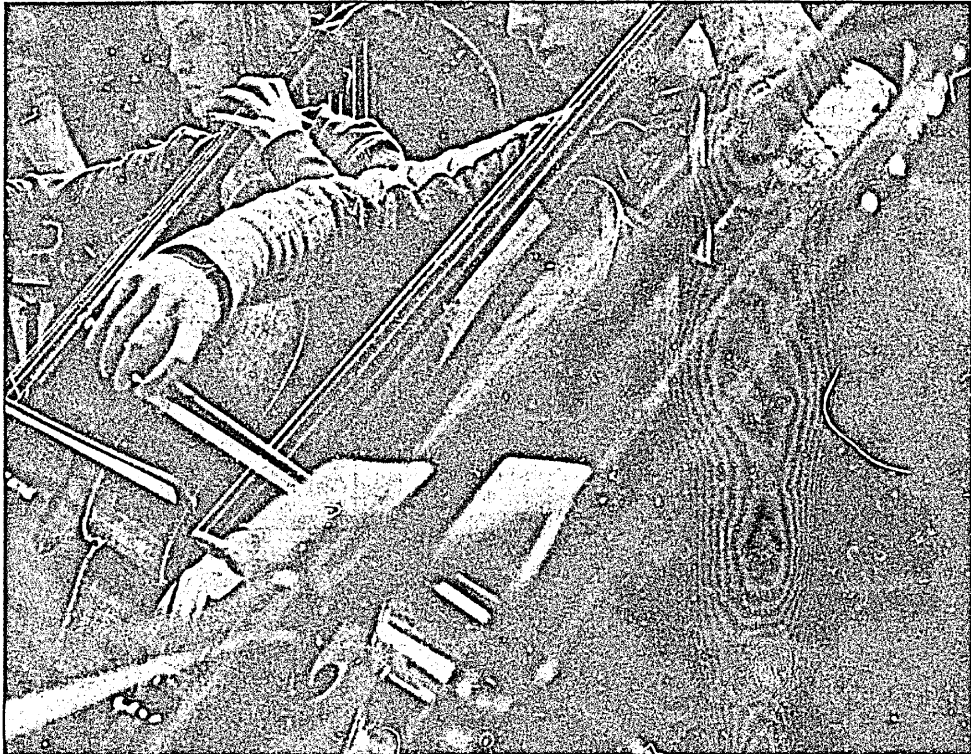
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LAUREN LEONE | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Kaitlin Fahy, center, a junior from Waterloo studying music performance and music education, tunes her cello Wednesday prior to taking a performance test with classmate Amber South, left, a junior from Enfield studying music education. South, who

also plays clarinet, saxophone and violin, said music education majors must learn as many instruments as possible in order to have the skills to teach their students. "Learning the violin before learning cello made learning the cello much easier," she said.



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3 bdrm 511, 505, 503 S Ash
RD, 405, 321, 319 W Walnut
305 W. College, 103 S. Forest
3 bdrm-310, 313, 810 W Cherry
405 S Ash, 106 B Forest,
321 W. College, 305 W College
2 bdrm-305 W College
409, 324, 319 W College

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Park, 6383 W Old Hwy 13

2 BDRM, 805 & 905 E Park,
955-1025 Autumn Pl

Avail April 2011, 805 E. Park

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EFFICIENCY APT, \$250/mo, good
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AVAIL MAY, 1 BDRM, ACROSS
from SUU, h-wired internet, satellite
TV, laundry, parking, water & trash,
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CDALE, NICE, LARGE, 1 or 2
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energy effc, c/a, w/d, d/w,
new carpet/vin, private yard, tree
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4 BDRM excellent cond., near campus,
w/d, d/w, a/c, lawn care incl,
pets ok, avail Aug 618-710-1306

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rec room, 1 car set, gar, shed, new
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and very nice condition. Call DG
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w/d, d/w, no dogs, pet-friendly
only, avail now, 618-549-0081.

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houses, w/d, most c/a, live in w.
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Cheryl Bryant Rentals
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bth, live/fine art, w/d, furnished, new
pool, deck & storage, 549-5596

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Campus, new construction for
August leasing, no pets, call
618-549-4285 or text 618-559-6245.

NICE 2 BDRM house with large
fenced-in backyard, pets ok, please
call Clyde Swanson, 549-7292 or
924-3783.

NICE 4 BDRM w/in fireplace, must
be related, please call Clyde Swanson
549-7292 or 924-3783 or visit
my facebook page or go to
clyde.swanson@wordpress.com

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living room, family room, kitchen, 2
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1315 S. Wall St.
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www.comptonrentals.net
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LAWN & trash incl, mgmt & maint on
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GIANT CITY LODGE
HOSTESS: excellent customer serv
ice skills, a professional appearance
required.
GRILL COOK: experience preferred.
SERVERS: experience preferred.
DARTENDERS: WILL TRAIN, fun &
energetic personality, G/y at Tapa
& Salsky Johnson City only 20 min
from CDale, Hurley/Wally Coyles:
962-9402 or 922-0000.

DARTENDER WANTED, DAY &
night shifts avail, apply in person after
2 pm at C&C Place, 1017 N 14th
St, MtBoro.

HELP WANTED, WEEKEND shifts,
bus wash position, Sat 6pm-3am,
Sun 12pm-7pm, CDL's are required,
call Deck Doo at 549-2877.

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JANITOR MON-FRI, averages, 14
hours/week, \$8 25/hour, must work
summer and breaks, R&R Janitorial,
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AVON REPS, SELL Avon & Marks,
START for only \$10, no quotas,
earn up to 50%, call 618-529-7278.

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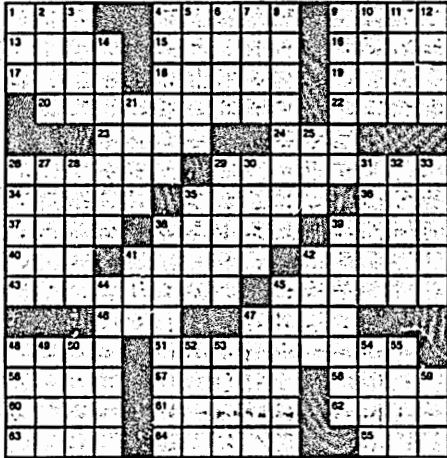
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Crossword

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**
- Use a crowbar
 - ___ with; backed in an argument
 - Letters on the back of a love letter envelope
 - Tow; drag
 - Useful
 - Strong desire
 - ___ of Wight
 - Songbirds
 - "I've ___ Working on the Railroad"
 - Cruel
 - Take apart
 - British conservative
 - Tyson nibble
 - ___ respected; very much esteemed
 - Sappy
 - See eye to eye
 - Allen or Feldman
 - British restroom
 - Mako cloudy
 - Has a party for
 - Lowly worker
 - Charged atom
 - Acts of derring-do
 - Brief memory failure
 - Entirety
 - ___ away; shrivel up
 - Big coffee cup
 - Father offspring
 - Seaweed
 - In name only
 - Canal in Egypt
 - Covered with a climbing plant
 - In the ___ ahead
 - Window glass
 - Chutzpah
 - ___ and the King of Slam
 - Takes to court
 - Avarice
 - Heaven above



- Itchy red patch
- Christmas
- Hot and humid
- Rome's nation
- Urgent
- BPOE members
- Baked Alaska and apple pie
- Area on a city's outskirts
- Architect Christopher ___
- Over the hill
- Casino game
- Sofa material
- Actor's part
- "A rose by ___ other name..."
- Usual practice
- Home of snow
- Hog's comment
- Slyly spiteful
- Crude minerals
- First letter in the Hebrew alphabet
- Not tight
- Recluse

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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- Veal or venison
- Pretending
- Kneecap
- Respiratory woe, for short
- Italy's dollar before 2002
- Astounds
- Out of breath
- Colander
- Deadly snakes
- Hawaiian feast
- Autry or Wilder
- Finished
- Deep mud
- Camera's eye
- Pull hard
- Night and ___

Horoscopes

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clement

Today's Birthday — Today's a great opportunity for growth for you. The year ahead promises expansion and pleasant surprises. Dream big, play big and love big. Imagine yourself reaching for fruit from the highest branches.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 6 — Art gives you access to strong emotions today. When was the last time you surrounded yourself with art? Close your eyes and visualize beauty. Create some, maybe.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 7 — Get together with friends somewhere gorgeous to consider future goals, dreams and magic wishes. What would it take to make your passions pay you?

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 6 — You're well known for your ability to create an atmosphere of elegant tranquility. A new direction provokes emotion. This peacefulness soothes, and all gets resolved.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 6 — This adventure holds beauty, peace and tranquility. A new possibility entices. Utilize your professional expertise, and savor the elegance you find.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 6 — In your core, you crave the simple things in life. Your surroundings may or may not reflect that. If not, make a few changes in that direction.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 7 — There's peace in the group today, and excitement to discover. Something new develops that rouses emotion. Use your professional skills.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — You possess a gift for creating an ambiance of serenity and elegance. Apply this in your work for powerful results. Address changes with that same balance.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 6 — In the arena of fun, a creative change beckons. Challenge your artistic skills to make something beautiful that you can enjoy with your friends and family.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — Use your shrewd business ability to surround yourself with art, simplicity and comfortable settings for nurturing yourself and others.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 9 — Consider learning a new art, something you've always been curious about. Surround yourself with an environment that pleases your aesthetic sense.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 9 — You find creative new ways of making money, or you find money hidden in creative places. Did you check the pockets of an old jacket? Be open to change (not just color).

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 9 — Today's your chance to rule your world. Will you be an authoritarian dictator? A meek public servant? A magnanimous king or queen, perhaps? Play by the rules.

JUMBLE

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

CFLIF

LUPBM

ALGNOL

SROASC

Answer here:

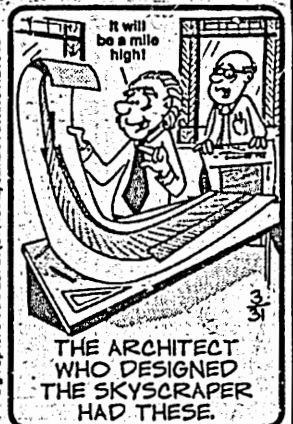


WEDNESDAY'S ANSWERS

BRICK FAINT CRYING FOSSIL
What the magician had on the course — A BAG OF TRICKS

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Krueck



THE ARCHITECT WHO DESIGNED THE SKYSCRAPER HAD THESE.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

SUDOKU

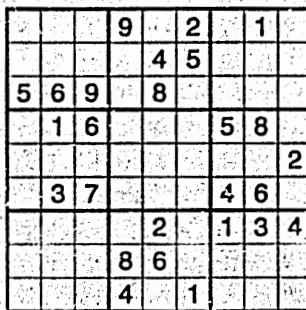
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:

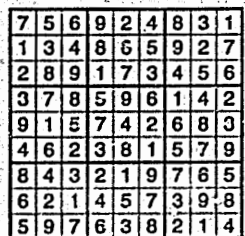


Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit

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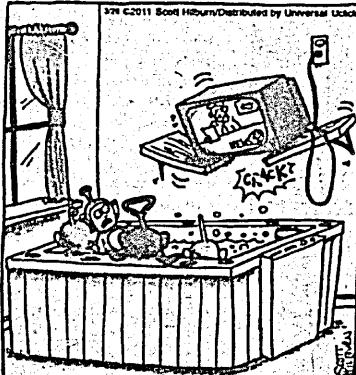
by Ryan Wiggins



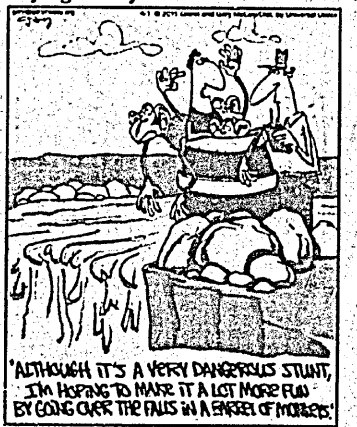
Pooch Cafe



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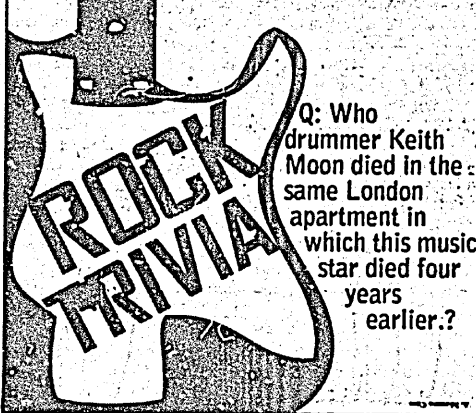


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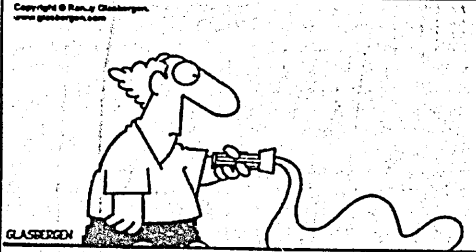
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SOFTBALL

Salukis take both games against Billikens

AUSTIN FLYNN
Daily Egyptian

Junior left fielder Mallory Duran led off the first game in a doubleheader Wednesday with her first home run of the season, and the Salukis stayed on top all game to sweep the Saint Louis Billikens at Charlotte West Stadium.

The Salukis (18-10, 3-0 Missouri Valley Conference) took game one 3-2 behind a complete game from senior pitcher Danielle Glosion and game two 5-1 with senior pitcher Alex Peters throwing a complete game.

Coach Kerri Blaylock said she was pleased with the performance of her team and it had strong points in both games.

"We had good pitching all day, good defense all day, and we started really coming up hitting with runners in scoring position in the second game," Blaylock said.

SIU gained an early lead on the Billikens (19-14) in game one on Duran's home run, and Junior shortstop Haley Gorman knocked in Duran from third with a single in the fourth to put the team ahead 2-0.

The game got close toward the end as Saint Louis scored two runs in the fifth, tying the game 2-2.

But the Salukis came back with a run in the bottom of the fifth when Duran singled, bringing in freshman second baseman Jayna Spivey.

Senior pitcher Danielle Glosion held Saint Louis hitless the rest of the game to give the Salukis the 3-2 victory.

The second game went smoother for SIU, as the Salukis committed two fewer errors and allowed three fewer hits.

The game was scoreless until the fourth inning, when the Salukis scored two runs, one on an RBI single by Duran and the other on Spivey's sixth home run of the season.

Saint Louis scored a run in the sixth to bring the score to 2-1, but SIU came back with three runs in the bottom of the Inning and finished off the Billikens.

Blaylock said many of the players had impressive performances at the plate throughout the day.

"Taylor Orsburn came up with two big RBIs late, Mallory Duran was special all day, Haley Gorman was special all day, so we had some kids that were hitting the ball well," Blaylock said.

Spivey said the canceled weekend series with Creighton was a letdown, but the practice time was very beneficial for the team.

"Having a couple days away from games and being able to just work on the little things wrong in my swing really helped out," Spivey said. "I feel a lot more comfortable at the plate today."

Senior third baseman Natalie Weissinger also made a few key



JESS VERMEULEN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sophomore outfielder Morgan Barchan fouls defeated Saint Louis 3-2 in the first game and 5-1 off a bunt Wednesday during the Salukis' first In the second game. The softball team will travel game of their doubleheader against Saint Louis this weekend to Cedar Falls, Iowa, to play the University at Charlotte West Stadium. The Salukis Northern Iowa Panthers.

plays defensively in both games.

Her diving catch with the bases loaded in the fifth inning of the first game became an unassisted double play when she stepped on third.

Weissinger said she had to be quick but remain calm in how she fielded the line drive.

"It's kind of instinct. Just to do it naturally, just catch it, and step

on the bag," she said.

Weissinger made another diving play in game two when she caught a popup that Peters lost in the sun.

Freshman first baseman Taylor Orsburn said if the team plays this way against Northern Iowa this weekend, it should have no problem coming away with a series win.

"I know that our hitting has gone up, and I think we're doing better," Orsburn said.

The Salukis' series against Northern Iowa starts with a doubleheader that begins at noon Saturday in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Austin Flynn can be reached at aflynn@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 282.

FOOTBALL

SIU turns to speed, experience for offensive production

CORY DOWNER
Daily Egyptian

Paul McIntosh said SIU football is not going to have another 5-6 season in 2012.

"Everybody is working hard to make sure that doesn't happen again," said McIntosh, a sophomore and frontrunner for the starting quarterback position next fall.

The team returned to the field this week for its spring workouts. Coach Dale Lennon said this is the time of year to determine where the team needs to be before the season opener Sept. 3 at Southeast Missouri State. Lennon said he hopes to use the speed on the offensive side of the ball to open up the field and create opportunities.

With the running back duo of junior Shariff Harris and sophomore Steve Strother, along with the quick feet of McIntosh, Lennon said SIU has the potential to be a good running team.

Other offensive aspects the team needs to improve in during the offseason include its play-action passing game and the ability to spread the field, he said.

"We're going to take some shots deep, and when you can throw the ball deep you have an opportunity to open up your passing game in general," Lennon said.



NICK JOHNSON | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sophomore quarterback Paul McIntosh puts on his helmet Wednesday during SIU's second spring practice at Saluki Stadium. McIntosh is the frontrunner to replace former Saluki Chris Dieker as the team's starting quarterback in 2011. McIntosh appeared in nine games last season and threw for 231 yards and three touchdowns. He also ran for 246 yards and one touchdown, with a 4.2 yard-per-carry average. Competition for the quarterback position comes from redshirt freshman Kory Faulkner, as well as sophomore transfer A.J. Hill.

The Salukis had speed in 2010, but the team is more well-rounded after another year of experience, Harris said.

In his sophomore campaign last season, McIntosh ran for 246 yards and one rushing touchdown, with an average of 4.2 yards per

carry. He also threw for 231 yards and three touchdowns in his nine appearances.

Strother, in his second year at SIU, led the Saluki offense with 930 all-purpose yards. He ran for 467 yards on 86 carries, right behind Harris, the Salukis' leading rusher.

"We're going to play explosive. We're looking to be a one-two punch. We're coming back with a lot of experience from last year."

— Shariff Harris
Junior running back

In his first year at SIU after transferring from Pittsburgh, Harris ran for 604 yards and averaged 5.4 yards per carry last season. He said the spring workouts are a great opportunity for him to improve his routes and yards after receptions, two areas he said he needed to work on after last year.

Harris said he is excited about the running game the Salukis have and looks forward to the damage they can do on offense.

"We're going to play explosive," Harris said. "We're looking to be a one-two punch. We're coming back with a lot of experience from last year."

Though the Saluki offense may cause some damage, it's still uncertain who will be calling the shots in the huddle on opening day. McIntosh is in the spotlight this spring, but he has competition from redshirt freshman Kory Faulkner and sophomore transfer A.J. Hill.

Lennon said he watches McIntosh every practice, looking at

his work ethic, how he competes and his leadership.

"He has leadership skills that are pretty impressive, but at the same time, he knows he's in a battle for the starting position," Lennon said.

Lennon said every player knows there are no safe spots on the roster, and everybody needs to work hard every day, including McIntosh.

Harris said he believes in McIntosh and knows he can contribute to the Saluki offense.

"It's nothing new to him," Harris said. "He's been out there before."

Lennon said he continues to stress leadership qualities but remains confident there will be no shortage of it on the field.

"You always want your leaders being your hardest workers and setting the tone," he said. "You can tell all the work in the offseason is starting to pay off."

Cory Downer can be reached at cdowner@dailyegyptian.com or 563-3311 ext. 282.

Sports

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