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Students encouraged to exercise and eat healthy

Erin Holcomb  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
ernh1@siu.edu

The university took another step in its support towards healthier lifestyles for the campus community with a new Wellness Center promotion. The Saluki Steps program, supported by the Wellness Center, the Student Center and the American Heart Association, includes a group of striding paths around campus and the introduction of menus in the Student Center highlighting the healthiest food choices for students.

More than 20 students, faculty and staff members gathered at the courtyard behind Anthony Hall Friday to kick off the promotion with a walk around one of the 13 paths created on campus.

Michelle McLaren, coordinator of the Student Health Center, said the promotion is a refreshing way for students to practice healthy habits. She said she would like to organize the group walks every couple of months.

“We’re encouraging them to have a break, take a walk,” McLaren said.

The paths were created this semester and stamped with maroon paw prints to lead the way, McLaren said.

Beth Hartke, corporate events director for the American Heart Association, said she’s excited to be a part of any event that promotes a healthy lifestyle.

“I think eventually everyone’s going to catch on,” Hartke said.

Larry Dietz, vice chancellor of Student Affairs, said he likes the chance to walk around because he does not have much time at work.

“My physician and my heart could use it,” Dietz said.

“Often times we walk during business hours and that’s not enough,” Dietz said he likes the alternative inside walking paths as well.

“If you get a rainy day, there are no excuses,” he said.

Students have no excuse to avoid eating healthier either, said Lynn Gill, nutrition coordinator for the Wellness Center.

Gill said she worked with a group of volunteer dietetic students and Chartwells to identify the healthiest food choices students can make in the Student Center. They then created menus with maroon paw prints to show the healthiest food choices and silver paw prints to show the second healthiest.

“We’re not telling them not to eat because that’s unrealistic,” Gill said.

The group is also working with the dining halls to create similar menus in the future, she said.

Trinity Allinson, a first-year graduate student in food and nutrition from Benton, said it is good to have experts pinpoint healthy food choices for students.

“It is easy to be overwhelmed by all the nutritional information,” Allinson said.

“(Students) can now actually have the information at their fingertips,” Allinson said. “They can make more educated choices.”

See STEPS | 2

Saluki Steps promotes healthy lifestyles

Eureka, we’ve got it

SUZANNE CARAKER  |  DAILY EGYPTIAN

N

Searches continue amid hiring freeze

Situation does not affect student worker positions

Madeleine Leroux  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
mledouIso@siu.edu

Chancellor Sam Goldman said the hiring freeze is anticipatory planning for the worst possible situation in fiscal year 2011, but some positions must be filled.

Goldman announced the hiring freeze Sept. 14, the day it became effective. In his State of the University address, Goldman said only essential hires approved by the offices of the provost and chancellor would continue.

According to the guidelines of the hiring freeze, the freeze applies only to hires made on state-appropriate position and does not apply to graduate assistants, research assistants, undergraduate assistancies or student workers.

Because the freeze was instituted only two weeks ago, Goldman said he did not know exactly what searches would be approved to continue.

“It’s still early,” Goldman said.

“What we’re seeing now is the end product of a lot of searches and I don’t want to stop those.”

Interim Provost Don Rice said certain positions have to be filled in order for a department to function. He said the university is urging deans and departments to be conservative and hold back on filling any of the open positions.

“The idea is just to have the money available just in case we do have to use those funds,” Rice said.

“The idea is not to reduce the faculty, although, depending on our fiscal situation over the next two or three years, we may find the faculty a little smaller than it has been.”

Rice said though the official request for approval of an internal search for the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs position has not been submitted, it would likely be approved when the time comes.

The position, which has been open since July 1, has both a vacant line and salary available, Rice said, and the university cannot operate without someone in that position.

Eugene Basanta, chairman of the School of Law dean search committee, said the freeze has not slowed the dean search, which began advertising for candidates in early September.

“We’re going forward with that search,” Basanta said.

The university is also trying to fill the associate chancellor for the Office of Diversity by Jan. 1.

Sole Smith contributed to this report.

Madeleine Leroux can be reached at 536-3312 ext. 254.
Steps

Whether students are making more educated choices by constructing a walking routine or practicing healthy eating habits, Gill said she does not want students to feel that anyone is preaching to them. “We’re not the food police,” she said. “We’re just giving them the tools they need to make healthy choices.”

Both the menus and walking paths can be viewed online at the Wellness Center’s website at http://shc.siu.edu/wellness%20pages/wellness_home.htm.

Correction

If you spot an error, please contact the Daily Egyptian at 618-536-6911, ext. 261.

Student Health Center

out of flu vaccines

Madeleine Leroux

DAILY EGYPTIAN

welshmad4@siu.edu

Students looking to get the seasonal flu vaccines are temporarily out of luck. The Student Health Center has depleted its supply of flu vaccines, and postponed Oct. 1’s clinic until a date of arrival for an additional shipment is confirmed. According to the Student Health Center website, the vaccines were depleted because of an “overwhelming response” to the flu clinic.

Students can check the Student Health Center website for further information as it becomes available.

Calendar

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**Job losses, early retirements hurt Social Security**

Stephen Ohlemacher

**WASHINGTON —** Big job losses and a spike in early retirement claims from laid-off seniors will force Social Security to pay out more in benefits than it collects in taxes for the next two years, the first time that’s happened since the 1980s.

The deficits — $10 billion in 2010 and $9 billion in 2011 — would affect payments to retirees because Social Security has accumulated surpluses from previous years totaling $2.5 trillion. But they will add to the overall federal deficit.

Applications for early retirement benefits are 23 percent higher than last year, while disability claims have risen by about 20 percent. Social Security officials had expected applications to increase from the growing number of baby boomers reaching retirement, but they didn’t expect the increase to be so large.

What happened? The recession hit and many older workers suddenly found themselves laid off with no place to turn but Social Security.

“A lot of people who in better times would have continued working are opting to retire,” said Alan J. Auerbach, an economics and law professor at the University of California, Berkeley. “If they were younger, we wouldn’t call them unreemployed.”

Job losses are forcing more retirements even though an increasing number of older people want to keep working. Many can’t afford to retire, especially after the financial collapse decimated their nest eggs.

Some have no choice. Marylyn Kish turns 62 in December, making her eligible for early benefits. She wants to put off applying for Social Security until she is at least 67 because the longer you wait, the larger your monthly check.

But she first needs to find a job. Kish lives in tiny Concord Township in Lake County, Ohio, northeast of Cleveland. The region, like many others, has been hit hard by the recession.

She was laid off about a year ago from her job as an office assistant at an employment agency and now spends hours each morning scouring job sites on the Internet. Neither she nor her husband, Raymond, has health insurance.

“I want to work,” she said. “I have a brain and I want to use it.”

Kish is far from alone. The share of U.S. residents in their 60s either working or looking for work has climbed steadily since the mid-1990s, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This year, more than 55 percent of people age 60 to 64 are still in the labor force, compared with about 46 percent a decade ago.

Kish said her husband already gets early benefits. She will have to apply, too, if she doesn’t soon find a job.

“We won’t starve,” she said. “But I want more than that. I want to be able to do more than just pay my bills.”

Nearly 2.2 million people applied for Social Security retirement benefits from start of the budget year in October through July, compared with just under 1.8 million in the same period last year.

The increase in early retirements is hurting Social Security’s short-term finances, already strained from the loss of 6.9 million U.S. jobs. Social Security is funded through payroll taxes, which are down because of so many lost jobs.

The Congressional Budget Office is projecting that Social Security will pay out more in benefits than it collects in taxes next year and in 2011, a first since the early 1980s, when Congress last overhauled Social Security.

Social Security is projected to start generating surpluses again in 2012 before permanently returning to deficits in 2016 unless Congress acts again to shore up the program. Without a new fix, the $2.5 trillion Social Security’s trust funds will be exhausted in 2037. Those funds have actually been spent over the years on other government programs. They are now represented by government bonds, or IOUs, that will have to be repaid as Social Security draws down its trust fund.

President Obama has said he would like to tackle Social Security next year.

“The thing to keep in mind is that it’s unlikely we are going to pull out of the recession with a strong recovery,” said Kent Smetter, an associate professor at the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School. “These deficits may last longer than a year or two.”

About 43 million retirees and their dependents receive Social Security benefits. An additional 9.5 million receive disability benefits.

The average monthly benefit for retirees in 2011 is $1,158 while the average disability benefit is about $920.

The recession is also fueling applications for disability benefits, said Stephen C. Goss, the Social Security Administration’s chief actuary. In a typical year, about 2.5 million people apply for disability benefits, including Supplemental Security Income. Applications are on pace to reach 3 million in the budget year that ends this month and even more are expected next year, Goss said.

“A lot of people who had been working despite their disabilities are applying for benefits after losing their jobs. ‘When there’s a bad recession and we lose 6 million jobs, people of all types are going to be part of that,’’ Goss said.

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**Social Security and Medicare**

The economic crisis, with its attendant job losses, has pushed Social Security and Medicare years closer to insolvency.

- **Social Security**
  - **Social Security Trust Fund (surplus)**
    - **Projected end of year assets:** in trillions
    - **2009-2015:** Solvent; takes in more money than it spends
    - **2016-2036:** Uses up surplus to pay benefits
    - **2037:** Surplus exhausted; can only pay out what is taken in from taxes

- **Medicare**
  - **Projected income, in billions**
    - **2009-2017:** $399
  - **Projected expenses**
    - **2009-2017:** $399

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*Note: Known as Part A helps pay for hospital, home health, skilled nursing facility, hospice care.*

**Source:** Social Security Administration, 2009 Annual Report of the Board of Trustees, 20090001
Last Thursday, the House of Representatives voted 253-171 in favor of a bill entitled the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act.

This bill didn’t get a lot of attention by the news media and with the passage of the bill, you may not see many changes in federal loan options, but what the bill will cause is some pretty big changes in who provides the money for federal student loan.

There are two programs that universities can use to provide loans for students; they are the Federal Family Education Loan or the Federal Direct Student Loan Program. Both programs offer the same federal loans, such as the Stafford or the PLUS, but the ways in which these loans are funded varies. The money for family education loans comes from private banks, so even though the loans are called federal, they essentially are not. As you probably know, you pay interest on these loans, so the interest payments go to private banks.

If you default on your student loan, it’s not really a big deal to banks because they are guaranteed to receive 97 percent of any loan issued back from the U.S. government. Seventy-five percent of all universities participate in this program.

If universities choose to participate in the direct loans program, then that money comes directly from the government and your interest payments would go to them instead.

What the student aid act would do is completely get rid of the family education loan program and make the direct loan program the only source of student loans.

Therefore, all money for federal loans would come straight from the government and it would receive all interest payments on those loans. The universities that participated in the FFEL program would now be participating in the FDSLP program.

While it hasn’t been stated how much money the government subsidized to banks participating in the family education loan, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that doing away with the program would save the government $87 billion over 10 years, which does not include the money the government would make from the interest payments on those student loans.

So, why does this matter if most students and universities won’t see any major changes in how they provide and pay for loans?

What this bill is doing is taking private interest out of government. Banks are getting an amazing deal here: they make billions off student-loan interest, and if the students can’t make the interest payments, the government will make up for that.

Why should banks get this kind of deal? The government can do the exact same thing, and for $87 billion less.

Too many times we hear of members of Congress doing the bidding of the medical insurance and steel industries.

And if they don’t support the legislation those companies need, those companies will lobby against them and threaten their office.

This is an example of the government doing something right; getting rid of the authority private interest groups and companies have over lawmakers.

In situations such as this, there is no reason the government should support private companies when it can accomplish the same thing for a better price.

Bucklin is a senior studying political science.

*Schoolhouse Rock*

Who is financing your student loan?

NATHAN BUCKLIN

vaunt71@asu.edu

Their word

Senate should approve bill that strengthens First Amendment

After years of debate and consideration, a federal shield law for journalists is once again up for a vote this week in the Senate committee, where it’s been bottled up for too long.

A version of this bill won House approval in 2007 only to die in the Senate.

It was approved again in the House last March. Now it’s time for the Senate to act. Freedom of the press is enshrined in the Constitution, but the absence of a law that protects the confidentiality of news media sources undermines the First Amendment.

Without it, reporters can be prosecuted if they refuse to reveal where they obtained sensitive information.

That, in turn, will make sources reluctant to come forward. Despite President Obama’s campaign pledge to support a shield law, Attorney General Eric Holder’s Justice Department has stymied progress by taking a hard-line position on criminal leak investigations, including those involving national security matters.

The department objects to a proposed “balancing test” that would allow a judge to determine whether making a reporter disclose a source is more important than the public interest in having the information.

To overcome that objection, the bill’s bipartisan supporters have offered a strong compromise designed to protect national security.

It creates exceptions to the reporter’s privilege in a variety of instances. For example, when the information is material to preventing an act of terrorism.

Another exception would apply if a court determines that the information came from criminal conduct, or observing criminal conduct. That should satisfy both the Justice Department and a few recalcitrant GOP members of the Judiciary Committee who have resisted to stalling techniques to keep the bill from coming to a vote.

The committee, slated to meet Thursday, has no good reason for further delay.

This editorial appeared in the Miami Herald Thursday.
GUEST COLUMN

Assignment: cruelty in the classroom

Justin Goodman
McClatchy Tribune

Now that kids are back in school, parents everywhere are breathing a sigh of relief. The frantic search for school supplies is over, and most kids are settling into their new routines.

But don't relax just yet, Mom and Dad. You still have some homework to do. Your assignment: Find out if cruelty is on the curriculum.

If animal dissections are included in this year's lesson plan, the answer is "Yes."

As early as middle school, most students are forced by their teachers to cut up intact frogs, fetal pigs and other animals. Only 15 states have passed laws or resolutions that allow students to opt out of animal dissections.

But even in states where such laws exist, students who choose not to dissect can be ostracized or ridiculed by their peers and teachers.

A New Jersey eighth-grader who opted out of dissection had the remains of a dead frog placed in her purse by her teacher and was ordered to carry a dead animal across campus.

Educators often ignore or are unaware of the abundant data documenting the superiority of non-animal teaching methods and commonly tell their impressionable young students that dissection is vital to a successful science education.

Who are 12-year-olds to argue? They don't know that each of the more than 10 million animals that are killed and cut open in classrooms every year represent not only a life lost, but also part of a trail of animal abuse.

Some animals used for dissection are caught in the wild; others come from breeding facilities that cater to businesses that use animals in experiments.

Or they are lost or abandoned animal companions who were sold by an animal shelter to a biological supply company. PETA investigators who went undercover at one biological supply company documented cases in which animals were removed from gas chambers and injected with formaldehyde without first being checked for vital signs — a violation of the Animal Welfare Act.

The investigators' video footage documents cats and rats struggling during injection. One rabbit, still alive after being gassed, tried to crawl out of a wheelbarrow that was full of water and dead rabbits.

Employees laughed as a co-worker drowned the animal. For both ethical and educational reasons, cutting up the organs of dead animals is not the best way to introduce students to modern scientific methods.

Nearly every published comparative study has concluded that non-animal-learning tools, such as virtual dissection software, teach anatomy and complex biological processes as well as, or better than, animal dissection.

Two recent peer-reviewed studies show that even something as simple as building body structures out of clay is superior to cat dissection when it comes to teaching anatomy to college students.

Last year, the National Science Teachers Association amended its official position statement to approve the use of non-animal alternatives as replacements for dissection.

Using non-animal science education tools also more accurately reflects what students will encounter if they go on to medical school.

Today, nearly 95 percent of U.S. medical schools have abandoned the use of animals; instead, they use non-animal methods that rely on sophisticated tools such as human-patient simulators.

Educators need to bring themselves up to date on the emerging areas of medical and scientific research that rightly view the use of animals as not only unethical but also antiquated.

Concerned parents can take action, too, by urging their local school board to ban classroom dissections or at least give all students the option of doing a non-animal project. In this day and age, using dissection to train students for the modern scientific world is like preparing kids for calculus with an abacus.

Goodman is a research associate supervisor for PETA and an adjunct faculty member of sociology and criminal justice at Marymount University.
‘Surrogates’ fails to provide answers

Luke McCormick
DAILY EGYPTIAN
LMcCORMICK@SIUE.COM

“Surrogates”
Directed by: Jonathan Mostow
Starring: Bruce Willis, Radha Mitchell, Rosamund Pike
Release Date: 9/25
Rating: C−

Jonathan Mostow’s latest film has a great premise, but the director does not deliver on its promise. “Surrogates,” adapted from a comic book series of the same name, shows a world where people never leave the home. People are able to live through surrogates, a robot that is basically a better-looking version of its human counterpart.

When the murder of a person’s surrogate causes the operator to die as well, Bruce Willis is brought in as a floppy haired detective. Willis’ alternate body is pretty creepy. The actor has been going with the clean dome for years now and seeing him with a junk wig is striking. These surrogates are supposed to be better looking, but the older, grizzled Willis is much more effective.

People are supposed to remain safe when their surrogates are harmed, so the murder puts everyone on edge. To solve the case, Willis has to leave his home and surrogate for the first time in years. Somehow his body is not a flabby mess, but it is the future so maybe there is some hot new supplement to keep people healthy without being active. This dilemma is not addressed.

This is the film’s main hang-up. So many questions related to the use of alternate bodies are not approached.

Mostow goes straight for the action-film clichés of shootouts and car chases instead of delving into the sci-fi complexities. Mostow is a serviceable director, but not the filmmaker to take on this story. “Surrogates” is not a bad film.

It is a perfectly fine rental or lazy afternoon TBS flick. The action is fun, quick and clean and few others run an action film like Willis. The biggest flaw with the film is all of the futuristic elements that are never explained, which makes it nothing more than rental fodder. If anything, seeing Ving Rhames rock dreadlocks in a small supporting role is worth the viewing.

Mostow’s main goal was to give these bald action heroes a hair for the first time since 1994.

Next time out, Mostow needs to focus on delving deeper into his source material rather than helping out his bald buddies.

Luke McCormick can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275.

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Patrick Sutfin, a sophomore studying photojournalism, listens for the remaining time limit while waiting for a bite on his fishing line during one of the events in the Ultimate Saluki Challenge Competition Sunday. The challenge was to catch as many fish in 30 minutes with a miniscule amount of tools. Emulating the "Survivor" reality TV series, the Ultimate Saluki Challenge placed students into venues that tested their ability to "rough it" in the wild. Contestants were voted off until one was left the victor. Near the end, the finalists said they were hungry and tired. "I want something greasy," Sutfin said. Contestants received prizes, including a $500 book scholarship, a trip on the Ooey River and a Missouri Valley Conference Basketball Championship package with lodging included. The final "Tribal Council" ceremonies concluded at 6 p.m. Sunday at the Alumni Lounge in the Student Recreation Center with guest host Mike Shupin, former star of "Survivor: Australia."

Office of Diversity pursues applications despite hiring freeze

Christina Spakovsky
DAILY EGYPTIAN
spakovsky@dailiegyptian.com

University officials are reviewing applications for the associate chancellor for the Office of Diversity, attempting to fill the position by Jan. 1.

Chancellor Sam Goldman said the university has been trying to fill the position since September 2008, which is why the search is immune from the university's hiring freeze.

According to the job description, the associate chancellor will serve as chief diversity officer and report to Goldman. The office is responsible for several operational units including the Affirmative Action Office, the Black Resource Center and University Women's Professional Advancement.

Sept. 11 marked the official application deadline, and Harold Bardo, chairman of the search committee, said the committee is evaluating candidate qualifications.

Bardo said the search committee consists of 11 people from various departments on campus including Disability Support Services, the Alumni Association and Student Affairs.

Around 30 applications have been received and it would take two to three weeks to review them, Bardo said.

"We've asked the committee to review the applications as they come in. It's (now) a matter of sifting and discussing how compatible the applicant is," Bardo said.

Despite drafts of proposed changes to the position, Bardo said no changes were made and none will be made in the future.

"The position has been advertised and we can't change the responsibilities," he said.

Linda Smith, interim associate chancellor for diversity, said she applied for the permanent position, but has no idea how many candidates she is up against.

"I'm just one applicant among several," Smith said. "The market should be competitive."

She said as interim associate chancellor, she facilitates all of the sexual harassment and diversity training campus-wide and is responsible for at least six reports including enrollment, annual hiring and the university's affirmative action plan.

"I find this is somewhere I can make an impact on the university level," Smith said.

Bardo said he is confident the committee will find an applicant to fill the requirements and the position will be filled soon.

"It's been awhile since the search began," Bardo said. "There has been a lot of thought as we've asked this person to do, which is part of the reason that it has taken so long."
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Salukis bring out the brooms

Ryan Simonin
Daily Egyptian
rsimonin@siu.edu

The men’s and women’s cross country teams placed first out of the six teams at the Saluki Invitational in Carbondale Saturday. Cross country coach Matt Sparks said both squads had great performances.

"On the men’s side, it was especially exciting to see (senior) A’Errit Dickabo running well,” Sparks said. "We have had a different No. 1 runner every meet and that gives them all some confidence that they can get out there and take some leadership responsibilities."

The SIU men finished with a team score of 34 followed by Washington University and University of Evansville, Southern Illinois University-Ericsville and Kaskaskia College finished fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively.

"Dickabo finished second overall in the five-kilometer race with a time of 18 minutes, 34.4 seconds. "It was very muddy out there today,” Dickabo said. “I haven’t been feeling good at practice the last couple weeks and today I felt good during the first mile and overall I felt good for the first time in a long time.”

Junior runners Emily Tormes and Megan Hoelscher finished third (29:43.9) and fourth (29:52.1), respectively.

On the men’s side, SIU finished with a team score of 15 followed by Washington University and University of Evansville, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville finished fourth followed by Murray State University, Missouri Baptist University and Kaskaskia College.

"Neal Anderson ran especially well for the men today and he hasn’t really been at the top of the race before,” Sparks said. “Today he was able to do that, which gives him some confidence that he can run with our top guys and compete with them on a daily basis.”

The top five finishers in the men’s eight-kilometer race were all Salukis: Senior Jason Owusu; junior Kyle Kirchner and Anderson placed first, second and third, respectively. Senior Jeff Schmoyer finished fourth while junior Greg McBride placed fifth.

“We wanted to use this race as a workout and keep all our front guys together for the entire race and we did a good job at that,” Anderson said.

The Salukis travel to South Bend, Ind., next weekend to compete in the Notre Dame Invitational.
It’s significant in the fact that the Lions finally won a game, but it really doesn’t change where they are in the world. The Lions are a team that has shown very few signs of improvement and I wouldn’t be surprised if this is the only game they win all year. Really, the Lions winning is about the worst thing that can happen. Cannot watch them. Cannot cheer for them. Cannot hope for them. I want losses, I want people that want to lose. Why don’t they just run 10 people out there and get penalized every play until they do something different?

A win is a win and it is always a good thing, but the Lions had lost 19 games straight, so this win is sure to be a fluke. Just rest easy; the Lions will be back to their losing ways when they play the Bears next Sunday.

Significant win? Sure. Significant loss? Absolutely. What do you tell a team after losing to a group of players who had the same amount of wins in the NFL as you did last year? Hey guys, Y’All. Ok, we beat the St. Louis Rams last week. Sure, we didn’t score a touchdown and only won by two, but we won, so keep your heads up! Maybe it’s time to see if President Obama is as good at football as he is at basketball.

BISON

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“(Reaves) was huge for us tonight,” said senior linebacker Brandin Jordan, who notched his 300th career tackle Saturday. “To push them back so deep made it easier for us to hold them down.”

After a scoreless first quarter, the Salukis finally got on the board with a 65-yard, play-action touchdown pass to Jeff Evans. The play-action caught the Bison defense off guard, as there were no defenders within 15 yards of Evans.

The Bison came back though; driving 69 yards on 10 straight rushing plays to tie it at 7-7. A 44-yard field goal from Kyle Daugherty gave the Salukis a 10-7 lead at halftime. Despite the lead, junior quarterback Chris Dieker said the Salukis did not play to their potential in the first half.

“We went through a lot of adversity. Things really weren’t going our way in the first half,” Dieker said. “At halftime, we were behind on every stat except for the score, so, it was good for us to come out in the second half like we did and have a great second half.”

Senior running back Deji Karim put the Salukis up by 10 in the third but the Bison cut the lead to three, with 13 minutes left.

The Salukis blocked North Dakota State’s Shawn Bibeau’s 25-yard field goal attempt early in the fourth quarter, but the ball rolled into the end zone, where Bison right tackle Gerry Ebel recovered it. After some debate, the referees credited Ebel with a blocked field goal return for the score.

“It’s one of those things, you’ve been in the game long enough, and you think you have seen everything,” Lannon said. “It was the right call though, they did a good job calling a tough play.”

The victory was SIU’s eighth straight conference opening win. SIU also gained some payback on North Dakota State, who handed the Salukis their lone conference loss last season.

“It was a tough, physical game today. They’re a great team,” Lannon said. “I was pretty happy with the way we played today. We focused on not giving them the big play and we succeeded.”

Ryan Flores can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 256.

Give us your weak & weary of the old-fashioned news grind……..
**Football**

**SIU beats Bison in conference opener**

Salukis avenge lone conference loss from last season

Ryan Voyles  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
voyles@saluki.edu

North Dakota State held the ball longer, rushed for more yards and converted more first downs than the Salukis Saturday. It did not have more points. The Bison’s Pat Pachall, the leading rusher in the Football Championship Subdivision, rushed for 151 yards and the Bison had the ball 15 minutes longer than the Salukis. It was all for naught, as SIU defeated North Dakota State 24-14 Saturday at McAndrew Stadium.

“The only number that matters is the score,” head coach Dale Lennon said. “This type of game, with time of possession... it can be a little misleading. All that really matters is scoring opportunities — and we had the upper hand with field position.”

SIU (2-1, 0-0) only held the Bison (1-3, 0-1) to three 3-and-outs, but a combination of SIU’s defense and Scott Ravanesi’s pinpoint punting held the Bison offense to a mere 14 points. Ravanesi pinned the Bison deep in their own territory, forcing them to match up field on most of their possessions.

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Walker battles back from injury

Stile T. Smith  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
smithst@saluki.edu

With two sacks in less than 30 minutes, senior linebacker Kyle Walker was forced to leave the game near the end of the first half.

Walker rolled over his hands making a tackle on a kickoff towards the end of the first half in Saturday’s 24-14 victory against North Dakota State, and was forced to go to the Student Health Center for X-rays at halftime.

Walker said he didn’t think he would be able to come back after being injured. “I felt like my team was going to have a little bit of a letdown, because we don’t have all of our linebackers right now,” Walker said. “It was pretty rough thinking I wasn’t going to be able to come back and play, but they told me I could come back.”

When X-rays came back negative, Walker returned and made his presence felt in the fourth quarter. On second-and-nine from the Salukis’ 21, Walker forced an opening and dropped North Dakota State’s quarterback Nick Mortensen at the 30. Walker charged the quarterback on the next play, helping to force an incomplete pass and set up fourth down.

The Bison failed on a fake field goal on the next play, allowing SIU to take possession with a 24-14 lead and 2:49 left in the game.

Head coach Dale Lennon said Walker is a very important part of the Saluki defense.

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**Volleyball**

Salukis suffer first loss at Northern Iowa, win at Bradley

Derek Robbins  
DAILY EGYPTIAN  
robbinsd@saluki.edu

The SIU volleyball team is undefeated no more.

After starting the season 11-0, the Salukis tasted defeat for the first time on their first conference road trip. SIU fell to Northern Iowa Friday, but rebounded with a victory over Bradley Saturday.

SIU (12-1, 2-1) lost the game against Northern Iowa 3-1 (23-25, 25-11, 25-11, 25-20). The Salukis edged Northern Iowa in the first game, but the Panthers outscored SIU 75-42 over the final three games.

“After the first game, I was a little disappointed in the team,” head coach Brenda Winderle said. “I felt that the intensity was lacking and I just don’t know if they were playing really good or we were just playing really bad.”

Northern Iowa had four players with double-digit kills in the match. The Panthers held SIU to a .078 hitting percentage and only 32 kills. Junior right side Alicia Johnson led SIU with seven kills. Junior outside hitter Jennifer Berwanger was next with six kills. Berwanger’s streak of eight consecutive double-doubles ended in Iowa.

Northern Iowa (13-2, 4-0) swept Evansville 3-0 Saturday (25-14, 25-13, 25-16), improving its winning streak to 11.

SIU bounced back on Saturday against Bradley, defeating the Braves as straight sets (25-18, 25-10, 25-23).

“I think any time you take a loss, it should motivate you,” Winderle said. The Salukis hit .266 and held the Braves to 8-9-0 MVC to a .091 hitting percentage with 28 kills and 19 errors.

“I think everyone was kind of worried,” sophomore defensive specialist Lauren Blumhorst said. “We thought that we better win because we didn’t want to lose again like the night before.”

Berwanger led the Salukis in the match with a .458 hitting percentage, 14 kills, six digs and two service aces. Freshman middle blocker Alyssa Mayes added 11 kills off the bench while hitting .409.

“It definitely felt good to bounce back and get a win like that,” Mayes said. “We were very happy with how we performed and are glad to get another win.”

SIU was Bradley’s (8-9, 0-4) second opponent of the weekend. On Friday, the Braves lost to Evansville in straight sets (27-25, 25-14, 25-23). Bradley hit .160 on the night.

“Bouncing back from our loss was really all about character,” Blumhorst said. “We decided that we were still a good team and we played our hearts out to prove we are a good team. We tried not to let Northern Iowa affect us. We will learn from that match and we will not repeat them when they come here.”

The Salukis return home Friday to host Illinois State (6-9, 1-3) and Indiana State (5-10, 1-3) on Saturday. The match on Friday is “Pack the Gym” night at Davies Gym.