

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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BRANDON CHAPPLE ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

'It's just hair,' Carbondale Community High School science teacher Carrie Mueller said minutes before her head was shaved by senior Khrysta Dunkel. 'I'm choosing to lose my hair; other people don't get a choice.' In an effort to raise money for this weekend's Relay for Life, Mueller told students in the high school's Key Club that if they raised more than \$1,000, she would shave her head. \$1,032 dollars later, Dunkel, the club's president, shaved her head in front of roughly 50 students and faculty members. Mueller was also motivated by recent cancer deaths in her life. One of her close friends was diagnosed with cancer the same day her grandmother died of cancer, she said. In addition to the students' money, the group raised \$2,500. **For more on the group's efforts and Mueller's head shaving, see siUDE.com.**

Evergreen Terrace raises rates

Tenants given little notice about change

Lindsey Smith
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Evergreen Terrace residents might have a little more room in their wallets than they would like next semester.

Rates at Evergreen Terrace, a

family oriented University Housing residence, have jumped from \$493 to \$533 for the 2008-09 year, said Julie Payne Kirchmeier, director of University Housing. Last semester, rates increased from \$454 to \$493.

Jake Einhorn, a sophomore from Newton studying theater, said the most frustrating part of the rent increase was the lack of communication between the residents and University Housing.

Einhorn has lived at Evergreen Terrace for two semesters and said he was not previously informed that last semester's increase would take place. Kirchmeier said residents should have received a letter telling them about the \$39 increase.

"They just sent me a bill," Einhorn said. "They didn't send an e-mail, they didn't post anything on my door. They didn't let me know in any way that they were thinking about raising the rent."

Kirchmeier said rates increased by 10 percent a few years ago, 8.5 percent last year and 7.5 percent this year, bringing the rent cost for a two-bedroom apartment to \$533.

The rise in rates was comparable to other housing facilities and used to cover the cost of living increases such as utilities and insurance, Kirchmeier said.

Roberto Franca, a 52-year-old from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, said University Housing contacted him about the rent increases



JASON JOHNSON ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

After struggling through the day with her allergies, 7-year-old Inaya Williams finds comfort in the arms of Whitney Stewart. Stewart works in the after-school program at Evergreen Terrace.

through the mail.

"They sent out a complicated paper explaining all the expenses, about how they have to take care of the maintenance and more, all sorts of situations they explore to raise the rent," Franca said.

The upcoming round of increases is as abrupt as the last,

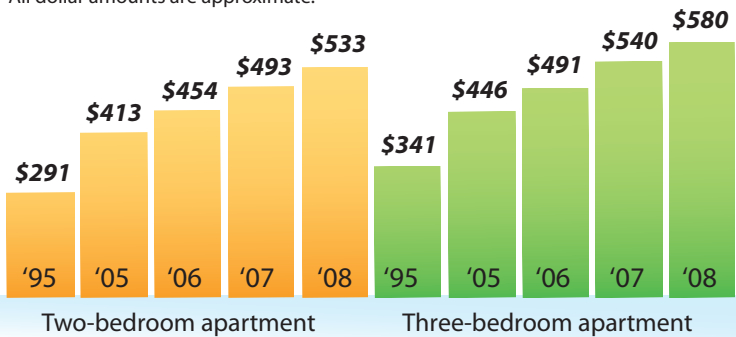
Einhorn said.

"I talked to a student worker and I asked her how much it's going to be for summer rent. She said, 'Hold on a second. I think it's this much, but we're trying to raise the rent,'" Einhorn said.

See RENT, Page 8

Evergreen Terrace raises the rent

All dollar amounts are approximate.



Source: University Housing

Michelle Arras ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Online Student Life
 Panel discusses role of masculinity in rape.

siUDE.com

Campus
 Regatta riders hope to stay afloat, or sink with style.

PAGE 3

Online Pulse
 Voice your opinion on the ode to 'Don't tase me, bro!'

siUDE.com



Online Sports
 Men's tennis seeks first tourney win since 2003.

siUDE.com



This poll is brought to you by **COUNTRY.**
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siuDE.com Question:
Who will make the biggest impact in SIU sports?

Kevin Dillard	28%																		
Anthony Brooker	24%																		
Torres Roundtree	7%																		
Bryan Mullins	42%																		

10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

This is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general nor the public as a whole.

Who should allocate the student activity fee?
A. USG, they're doing a great job!
B. USG, but there should be better guidelines in place
C. The administration should allocate the fee.
D. RSOs should be responsible for raising their own money

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CALENDAR

Plant Sale
• 10 a.m.-3 p.m. today at the Agriculture Building Greenhouse
• Plants for house and patio

The Palestinian Non-Violence Movement
• 7 p.m. today at the Student Center Kaskaskia/ Missouri Room
• Come watch a screening for a film about the Palestinian Non-Violence Movement
• For more information, call 453-5714

Mixing Workshop with Nashville Engineer/Producer Jeff Balding
• 10 a.m.-noon, 1 p.m.-3 p.m. and 3 p.m.-5 p.m. today at Communications Building, room 1114
• Free to anyone, limited availability. Contact Todd Herreman at toddh@siu.edu to reserve a spot

SPC Presents: Drive-in Movie
• 8 p.m. today at the Arena parking Lot 18
• Showing: "No Country for Old Men," rated R
• Free, no alcohol

Third Annual Kimball Classic Golf Scramble
• 11:30 a.m. Saturday, registration
• 1 p.m. tee time
• Four person team to play
• \$65 per person, all proceeds go to Archway Foundation for Children

SIU Sailing Club Free Sail
• Noon-4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Crab Orchard Lake Playport Area
• Turn right at Route 13 and Spillway Road, the Playport entrance is on the left, follow the signs
• Call DJ at 203-0141 for more information

The calendar is a free service for community groups. We cannot guarantee that all items will run.

Submit calendar items to the DAILY EGYPTIAN newsroom, Communications 1247, at least two days before event, or call (618) 536-3311, ext. 266.

NEWS BRIEFS

Convicted Illinois rapist back behind bars
SPRINGFIELD (AP) — State Supreme Court justices have ordered a Champaign man convicted of rape back into custody just a day after he was freed on parole.
Vincent Lipscomb was released Wednesday after a Champaign County judge dismissed a petition to declare him a sexually violent person and keep him behind bars.
Justices on Thursday said the 38-year-old will remain in custody while the state appeals that decision.
Lipscomb was convicted in 1990 of raping a University of Illinois student and sentenced to 24 years in prison.
He was due to be paroled in 2004, but Attorney General Lisa Madigan moved to have him declared sexually violent. That would mean the state considers him mentally ill and likely to attack again, and could lock him away until he is cured.

Chicago welcoming Middle East and North Africa leaders
CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago has worked to raise its international profile as it bids for the 2016 Summer Olympics and the city gets another opportunity next week when it hosts dozens of mayors and municipal leaders from the Middle East and North Africa.
More than 40 leaders from Iraq to Yemen and Ramallah, West Bank, are expected to attend a three-day U.S.-Arab Cities Forum that starts Monday.
Mayor Richard Daley said the focus won't be on international problems, but on issues that hit cities closer to home like education, transportation, crime and infrastructure.
That help is especially important for a place like Iraq, he said.

Chicago police: five victims 'definitely targeted'
CHICAGO (AP) — Police said Thursday they think more than one person carried out the slayings of five people found dead Wednesday afternoon inside a ransacked house on Chicago's South Side.
Authorities have not identified any suspects or determined a motive, but police are confident the killings were not a random act, said Chicago Police Commander Eddie Welch.
"They were definitely targeted," he said at a news conference Thursday afternoon at police headquarters.
Further, he said it was obvious that whoever carried out the crime spent a lot of time in the house.
"There was a lot of damage to this residence, at all levels of this residence," Welch said.

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"There was a lot of damage to this residence, at all levels of this residence," Welch said.

CORRECTIONS

In the Thursday edition of the DAILY EGYPTIAN, the story "Student scolded for online post" should have stated Alex Kochno is a senior from Downers Grove studying management. The DAILY EGYPTIAN regrets this error.

POLICE REPORTS

Police have an unnamed suspect for credit card and harassment by telephone at Southern Hills between April 12 and Monday. The case has been referred to the State's Attorney.
Two SIUC students were arrested for battery and aggravated assault at the Wall and Grand Apartments at 7:35 p.m. April 22. Neither suspects required medical attention.
Jocquell Reshard Mays, a 19-year-old SIUC student from Carbondale, was issued a notice to appear for battery charges originally at Schneider Hall at 5:10 p.m. Wednesday. The victim did not require medical attention.
There are no suspects for charges of criminal damage to a vehicle parked in Lot 23 between the hours of 6 p.m. Sunday and 2:50 p.m. Tuesday.

TODAY		SAT		SUN		MON		TUE		WED		THU	
High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
79°	48°	66°	48°	61°	43°	57°	43°	62°	48°	69°	56°	73°	54°
T-Storms/Wind 30% chance of rain		Partly Cloudy 20% chance of rain		Showers 40% chance of rain		Partly Cloudy 20% chance of rain		Mostly Sunny 10% chance of rain		Partly Cloudy 10% chance of rain		T-Storms 40% chance of rain	

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Humane Society of Southern Illinois

Races make Campus Lake weekend hot spot

Cardboard Boat Regatta, triathlon is this Saturday

Lindsey Smith
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Campus Lake will soon resemble a scene from Disney's movie "Stuart Little."

Academic departments are set to compete Saturday in two Carbondale traditions: the 25th annual Doc Spackman Memorial Triathlon and the 35th annual Great Cardboard Boat Regatta.

The regatta has received air-time on national television, said Larry Busch, one of the event's organizers.

"We've had MTV show up and they said they loved (the event) so much that they plan to come back at some point. One year, Good Morning America broadcasted live from Campus Lake," Busch said.

David Goldman, a sophomore from Lincolnwood studying industrial design, said he planned to compete in his first boat regatta Saturday. He said he was surprised at how big the event was.

"(My aunt) went to school (at SIUC) I don't know how many years ago," Goldman said. "But she was in the race then, so I guess it's kind of a big deal."

This longtime Carbondale tradition began as the last big project for a design class, Busch said, but so many spectators loved watching the boats that the request for entrance into the contest without being enrolled in the class was granted.

"It has grown over the years to there being over 2,000 boat regatta's around the world and ours was definitely the first one," Busch said.

Busch said he expected roughly 40 boats to race in the event this year. There is not just one winner, though.

"We have several classes of boats. We have the canoe and



BRANDON CHAPPLE ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Industrial design professor Walter Hargrove and his wife Yoko build a cardboard boat Wednesday night in the Blue Barracks. Hargrove will compete in this weekend's Great Cardboard Boat Regatta on Campus Lake and hopes to do better than his last year's second place performance.

kayak powered boats. We have our experimental group — sometimes paddle wheels. Then we have instant boats and we've added a kids class for those 13 and under," Busch said.

Custom-made "unique pieces of art" are awarded as trophies, Busch said. Trophies are awarded not only for first place, but also other categories, such as the best use of cardboard and the most spectacular sinking.

"People actually compete and try to see who can sink the best. There are as many awards for nonperformance as there are for

performance. If you win a trophy, you've probably earned it," Busch said.

First time regatta racer Kristen Allen, a junior from Effingham studying communication design, said she's competing in the event to fulfill a requirement for her graphic design class.

"If you build a boat, you supposed to be at least getting an 'A' in it, hopefully. So if you race it, I don't know; he's got prizes and stuff set up for it," Allen said.

Allen's class was divided into groups of three and given about two weeks to finish.

"It's kind of a crammed in last project ... It's something different because it's life-size and not in front of a computer screen," Allen said.

Goldman said his class ran out of time to do the competition as a project, so his teacher offered it as extra credit instead. He said after roughly four hours of work, he's about halfway done.

Both Allen and Goldman are skeptical of their boats' floatation abilities.

"It'd be more fun (if it didn't sink) because I actually want to race it," Allen said. "I want to get in there with a paddle and try

to beat everyone else. That's the whole point of it, so hopefully it doesn't just crash to the bottom."

Those participating in the Doc Spackman triathlon, named in memory of longtime athletic trainer Robert "Doc" Spackman, will be faced with a 385-yard swim, a five-mile bike and a two-mile run.

The Campus Lake boat dock will be open for registration from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday. There is a \$10 registration fee.

Lindsey Smith can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 255 or lgsmith@siu.edu.

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Booked hotels leave families frantic over graduation weekend

Panic over rice prices hits California



Customers Sam Liew, center, and his mother Chan Phan look at Thai jasmine rice and decide not to buy it because of the high price at Gold Star Supermarket in Sacramento, Calif., April 15. The retail price for a 50-pound sack of Thai jasmine rice has risen from roughly \$20 to \$40, straining budgets for families and restaurants.

Jim Downing
MCLATCHY TRIBUNE

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The global rice panic has come to Sacramento.

As word of food riots and export shutdowns in Asia reached California in recent weeks, worried shoppers have been buying up hundreds of pounds of rice at a time from the Asian supermarkets, looking for security against rising prices.

"When people saw the price jump \$2 or \$3, they started buying like crazy — 10 bags, 15 bags," said Cu Van, a floor manager at Goldstar Supermarket. Each bag weighs 50 pounds.

In recent weeks, the retail price for a 50-pound sack of Thai jasmine rice, the prized variety served steamed in Chinese and Southeast

Asian cuisine, has risen from roughly \$20 to \$40, straining budgets for families and restaurants.

The spike in the cost of Thai rice is one of the most extreme examples of a trend that is pushing up prices for all the major globally traded food commodities — rice, wheat, corn, soy and dairy products. Experts say the increases largely have been driven by demand from booming Asian economies combined with poor harvests in key export countries like Australia. The demand for corn and soy to make ethanol and biodiesel also has boosted food prices, though economists disagree on how much.

Rice markets in particular have been jolted as a number of rice-exporting countries have restricted international sales in order to reduce prices for their own citizens.

For California rice farmers,

“When people saw the price jump \$2 or \$3, they started buying like crazy — 10 bags, 15 bags.”

— Cu Van
floor manager at Goldstar Supermarket

though, the high rice prices are a boon. Even though the short- and medium-grain varieties grown in the state are sold into different markets than Thai jasmine rice, which has seen the steepest increases, spot-market prices for bulk California rice are up 50 percent since February, to about \$20 for 100 pounds.

"We're kind of riding the coat-tails," said Pat Daddow, who runs the California Rice Exchange in Yuba City.

Domestic varieties of rice — long-grain from Texas, for instance — sell in some markets for less than

half the price of Thai jasmine rice. But grocers, shoppers and restaurateurs said the cheaper domestic long-grain varieties are suitable only for fried rice: Only Thai jasmine delivers the softness and aroma for proper steamed rice.

Still, Van said, some of her customers have begun to try other varieties. One morning last week, she pointed to a single bag of California medium-grain rice — typically used for sushi — lying askew on a pallet. It was all that was left of a one-ton shipment that arrived two days earlier.

White House: Syria 'must come clean' about nuclear work

Pamela Hess
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House said Thursday that North Korea's secret work on a nuclear reactor with Syria was "a dangerous and potentially destabilizing development for the world," raising doubts about Pyongyang's intention to carry through with a promised disclosure of its nuclear activities.

Seven months after Israel bombed the reactor, the White House broke its silence and said North Korea assisted Syria's secret nuclear program and that the destroyed facility was not intended for "peaceful purposes."

The disclosure could undermine six-party negotiations to try to resolve the nuclear standoff with North Korea. The White House issued a two-page statement after lawmakers were given details about the reactor in a series of briefings on Capitol Hill that included a video presentation of intelligence information the administration contends establishes a strong link between North Korea's nuclear program and the bombed Syrian site. The briefing also included still photographs that showed a strong resemblance between specific

features of the plant and one near Yongbyon in North Korea.

The White House said the International Atomic Energy Agency also was being briefed on the intelligence.

While calling North Korea's nuclear assistance to Syria a "dangerous manifestation" of Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program and its proliferation activities, the White House said it remained committed to the talks.

The administration said that after the reactor was damaged beyond repair, Syria tried to bury evidence of its existence.

"This cover-up only served to reinforce our confidence that this reactor was not intended for peaceful activities," White House press secretary Dana Perino said. "The Syrian regime must come clean before the world regarding its illicit nuclear activities."

The Syrian nuclear reactor destroyed by Israeli jets was within weeks or months of being functional, a top U.S. official told The Associated

Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter. The official said the facility was mostly completed but still needed significant testing before it could be declared operational.

No uranium, which is needed to fuel a reactor, was evident at the site, a remote area of eastern Syria along the Euphrates River. But the U.S. official said the reactor was similar in design to a North Korean reactor at Yongbyon, which has in the past produced small amounts of plutonium, the material needed to make powerful nuclear weapons.

Syria has maintained in the past that the site was an unused military facility.

Top members of the House Intelligence Committee who were briefed on the reactor said it posed a serious threat of spreading dangerous nuclear materials.

"This is a serious proliferation

issue, both for the Middle East and the countries that may be involved in Asia," said Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich.

Hoekstra and Intelligence Committee Chairman Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, told reporters after the closed briefing that they were angry that the Bush administration had delayed informing the full committee for so long.

"It's bad management and terrible public policy to go for eight months knowing this was out there and then drop this in our laps six hours before they go to the public," Hoekstra said.

President Bush's failure to keep Congress informed has created friction that may imperil congressional support for Bush's policies toward North Korea and Syria, he said.

Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the revelations make it clear that any deal to eliminate North Korea's nuclear programs must also stop its proliferation activities and include vigorous verification. But he said the information in the briefings was not a cause to end the talks.

WIRE REPORTS

TEXAS

Texas officials believe another 25 mothers from polygamist compound are under age 18

SAN ANGELO, Texas (AP) — The number of children in Texas custody after being taken from a polygamist retreat now stands at 462 because officials believe another 25 mothers from the compound are under 18.

Child Protective Services spokesman Darrell Azar says the girls initially claimed to be adults but are now in state custody. Earlier they had been staying voluntarily with their children at a shelter at the San Angelo Coliseum.

The official number of children taken from the ranch controlled by the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has been rising since a state raid three weeks ago. One reason is that some mothers under 18 claimed to be adults.

Roughly 260 children remain at the coliseum. The others were bused to foster facilities.

Former mayor in south Texas dognap scandal loses the pet

MCALLEN, Texas (AP) — A custody case that wrecked a small-town south Texas mayor's political career ended Thursday when she was ordered to return a Shih Tzu to her neighbors.

Grace Saenz-Lopez, the former mayor of Alice, had claimed Puddles died last year while she was pet-sitting for the neighbors. Three months later, however, a relative of the neighbors saw the dog, renamed Panchito, at a grooming business.

Saenz-Lopez insisted that Rudy Gutierrez and Shelly Cavazos had neglected the animal, but District Judge Richard Terrell in McAllen ordered her to give the dog back to the couple.

"She's broken-hearted, man," said Homero Canales, Saenz-Lopez's attorney, but he added that his client would comply with the order.

Canales added that the judge "admonished us for making a big deal out of a dog case." The lawyer's wife delivered the contested pooch Thursday afternoon.

IRAQ

Iraqi prime minister says political blocs agree to return to government

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's prime minister said Thursday that all political blocs have agreed to return to the Shiite-led government — a potentially important sign of success in efforts toward national reconciliation.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's optimistic remarks came a week after lawmakers with Iraq's main Sunni political bloc said the group has agreed in principle to return to the government nearly nine months after quitting the Cabinet.

A return of the Sunnis would be a boost to al-Maliki and seen by Washington as a significant step forward.

But the main bloc, the National Accordance Front, has not made a formal announcement about a return to the government, and agreements in principle in Iraq sometimes fall apart over the details.

LOUISIANA

McCain vows he won't mishandle a disaster the way Bush mishandled Katrina

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Republican presidential candidate John McCain took stock of still-hurricane-damaged areas of New Orleans on Thursday and declared that if the disaster had happened on his watch, he would have immediately landed at the nearest Air Force base, drawing a sharp contrast to President Bush's handling of the tragedy.

McCain called the response to Hurricane Katrina "a perfect storm" of mismanagement by federal, state and local governments.

The Arizona senator walked a few blocks of the hard-hit Lower 9th Ward, passing tidy rebuilt stucco houses standing next to abandoned structures, their facades still spray-painted with the markings of rescue workers who went door to door nearly three years ago searching for bodies. Government-issued trailers still dot the neighborhood. McCain said his teenage daughter Bridget had been there with a volunteer youth group a few weeks ago to help in the recovery.

Department honors deceased student

Engineering department plants memorial tree

Madeleine Leroux
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Friends and colleagues gathered Thursday morning to plant a tree in memory of an SIUC student who was found dead in a campus creek earlier this month.

Huaijun Meng, a doctoral student studying electrical and computer engineering, was an international student from China who came to SIUC in fall 2007. He was found near the south pedestrian bridge that crosses U.S. Highway 51 near Wright Hall April 2.

Roughly 25 people attended the memorial service organized by the department of electric and computer engineering. The service was held at 9 a.m. outside the Engineering Building.

Ning Weng, an assistant professor in electrical and computer engineering, said he was Meng's professor and academic adviser. Weng said Meng was very nice and had a gentle heart; he was a very gentle man, quiet and shy.

"He was a young, talented person," Weng said. "His passing is a huge loss to us and his family."

Weng also read a letter from Meng's family at the service thanking the department for the thoughtfulness and generosity throughout the past month.

Weng said Meng's death came as a shock to the small Chinese community of Carbondale, even affecting those who did not know him.

Ada Chen, an assistant professor in electrical and computer engineering, said she was not close to Meng but knew him as an



JAKE LOCKARD ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Grounds department employees Joyce Lee, left, and Mike Gould remove dirt from the base of a dogwood tree to make room for mulch Thursday afternoon. The tree was planted Thursday morning in memory of Huaijun Meng, a doctoral student studying computer and electrical engineering. Meng was found dead in a campus creek April 2.

outstanding student.

"All students come from all kinds of countries and this is a big loss for all of us," Chen said.

Chen and Weng performed the ceremonial planting of the tree at the end of the service. Having a beautiful tree growing in southern Illinois in his honor would have made him happy, Weng said.

Glafkos Galanos, chairman of

the department of electrical and computer engineering, said a plaque would be placed with the tree as well, but because the inscription is in both English and Chinese, it had to be sent out of Carbondale for engraving.

Galanos said the plaque should be placed aside the tree in about two to three weeks.

Early autopsy results reported

"His passing is a huge loss to us and his family.

— Ning Weng
assistant professor in electrical and computer engineering

Meng's death appeared to be caused by drowning, but the results of a toxicology report will finalize the cause of death. According to the Jackson County coroner's office,

the final reports will be available next week.

Madeleine Leroux can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 268 or mleroux@siu.edu.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Underage marriage unacceptable

DEAR EDITOR:

I think most of us can agree with Ms. Lindsay that the way the state of Texas has handled the Eldorado Compound has been less than perfect. I think the children, especially those still being breastfed, should be allowed to see their mothers. I feel the mothers and the children are the victims here in this case.

What I don't agree with is her attitude towards the marriage of children. Yes, when her great-grandparents were 13 they may have been able to get married, but laws have changed. When

my great-grandparents were 13, narcotics were legal, were used widely for recreational purposes and to cure common ailments. Does that mean we should all be allowed to go use the narcotics of our choice?

Currently in the state of Texas where this religious sect chooses to live, you must be 16 years old to be legally married, but you must have parental consent. Most of the "marriages" that have occurred are just "spiritual marriages," meaning they're not legal.

You may say, "Oh, but Texas practices common law." If the person is under the age of 18 in the great state of Texas, they are unable to enter into a common law marriage even if they have

parental consent. What is happening when these men "marry" these young girls is statutory rape, plain and simple.

I personally have no problems with consenting adults of legal age living a polygamous lifestyle if that is what they choose to do. My great-great-great grandmother was the fourth of 9 wives of her husband. After he passed away our government enacted laws that made polygamous marriages illegal. Several of my ancestors have practiced polygamy just as several have practiced monogamy; all of them were consenting adults by the laws of their time.

Amy Welling

graduate student studying exercise physiology

THEIR WORD

Supreme Court murky on executions and cruelty

McCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

"When you have to kill a man," said Winston Churchill, "it costs nothing to be polite."

When you choose to execute a condemned person, likewise, it costs little or nothing to do so without inflicting gratuitous pain. But reaching agreement on how to achieve that, as the Supreme Court's 7-2 decision upholding Kentucky's execution protocol shows, can be anything but cheap.

The federal government and 36 states insist on maintaining the regrettable practice of capital punishment. The uncertainty over this issue resulted in an effective nationwide moratorium that lasted for months. Now, some states can be expected to resume executions. The court's mixed ruling, however, guarantees more lawsuits and more appeals.

The court splintered on whether

and why this particular method of lethal injection complies with the Constitution's ban on "cruel and unusual punishment." For the most part, the justices agreed authorities may not use a procedure that carries a genuine risk of needless suffering. But they couldn't reach a consensus on what is required to meet that standard.

Justices Clarence Thomas and Antonin Scalia denounced the entire effort. In their view, anything is permissible except methods that are actually meant to inflict torture as well as death — never mind if they inflict torture through indifference or carelessness. But Chief Justice John Roberts, writing for a three-justice plurality, reached the sensible conclusion that the Constitution

forbids any method posing "a substantial risk of serious harm" in the form of pointless suffering.

Lawyers for the two killers challenged Kentucky's use of a three-drug protocol: the first to induce a coma-like state, the second to cause paralysis and shut off breathing, and the third to stop the heart. If the first drug is administered

incorrectly, they pointed out, the other drugs could produce suffocation and agony. The plurality agreed, but found that the state has adequate safeguards to ensure that doesn't happen. Roberts and Co. also concluded that the alternative method the inmates offered is untried and might be even worse.

Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and

David Souter, in dissent, noted that other states have adopted precautions to make sure the first drug has taken effect before the others are injected. Among them: speaking the inmate's name, touching eyelashes and using smelling salts to confirm unconsciousness. Maybe those steps aren't so fool-proof that they should be required by the court. But it's hard to see why any state should mind incorporating them.

One sure thing is that this ruling will generate more lawsuits and a blizzard of briefs to sort out its full implications. Instead of using money to prevent crime and provide secure prisons, a lot of states will get to waste it defending their brand of capital punishment.

They could do themselves a favor by just giving it up.

This editorial appeared in the Chicago Tribune Wednesday.

The federal government and 36 states insist on maintaining the regrettable practice of capital punishment.

GUEST COLUMN

Loved and abandoned, Pennsylvania grieves

Karen Heller

McCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

We're sad. Not bitter — sad. Bereft, even. Hillary's left. Barack's departed. They've moved on.

We haven't.

The phone slumbers. The mail slot is liberated from the clot of political mailers. Our Outlook inbox is cleared of hourly missives.

The governor and mayor called nightly, never at 3 a.m., but nightly.

"Bet it's Ed again," we declared before lifting the receiver. Sure enough, it was.

In the final stages, the surrogates receded. Barack, Hillary and the Big Dog phoned directly, as well they should. We mattered, big time.

Now, where, oh where, is the love?

Oh, right, decamped to Indiana and North Carolina.

Politicians are cruel and cutting like that. Court 'em and leave 'em.

Do they write? Do they call? No, they

do not.

For six weeks, the klieg lights shone on Pennsylvania. It was like being Lindsay Lohan or something. Now, we've been dumped, experiencing withdrawal as the recovering celebrantes of primary politics.

We hoped the candidates would do for Pennsylvania what scores of politicians have done for New Hampshire and Iowa, delivering pothole-free highways and juicy government pork, much the way that West Virginia became one giant RobertByrdhstan.

But, no.

Few specific promises were made, only photo ops in timeworn locations; Independence Hall, American Legion halls, the Italian Market, diners and more diners.

It was as if Ike were still president or, possibly, Rutherford B. Hayes.

In an astonishing turn of events, both candidates waited until the Most Important Day in Our History, that would be election day, to be photographed in Philadelphia's equivalent of kissing a baby, that is, holding

a cheesesteak. Hillary came in for the kill at Boccella's in Conshohocken, while Barack traveled to Pat's, bypassing the Geno's ordering-English mandate/publicity stunt.

We were reminded that this was a battleground state and, indeed, the fight got bloody. Quick, cue the "Rocky" theme song, pan the Art Museum steps!

News troops descended, along with Stephen Colbert, forced to spend time in Amtrak-through country while harvesting new spins during the primacy primary.

Pennsylvania was drenched in rusty stereotypes, as if the place was straight out of "The Deer Hunter," generalizations that weren't even true in 1969. Honest, we're hip to this 21st-century stuff. Philadelphia's even rebranded its homeless shelters as "overnight cafes," sort of like BYOBs without the B's.

Six weeks! We thought it would spoil us forever. Who knew that six weeks of attention would reduce a state of 12.4 million to the cliché of bitter, bowling, gun-toting, church-clinging, beer-chugging, cheesesteak-

scarfing "Rocky" fans?

Waxing nostalgic, Hillary spoke of her summers in Scranton playing pinochle because, apparently, Yahtzee was too hip. Barack went to find big money in San Francisco and described folks here as bitter.

Let's get this clear. We can do bitter.

But when Pennsylvanians get angry and frustrated about the state of things, they don't cling to guns or religion. They cling to their utter disgust with the Bush administration.

Which would fit Obama's description of our "antipathy to people who aren't like them."

Who's going to fly now? The polls and the press, off to Indiana and North Carolina, both hosting primaries May 6. Expect the words Hoosier, basketball and barbecue to be uttered ad nauseam.

Meanwhile, we've been left in the rust.

Heller is a columnist for Philadelphia Inquirer.

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.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We just want to protect them from abuse and neglect. We're not trying to change them."

Shari Pulliam

spokeswoman for the Texas Child Services Agency on the intentions for the 437 children removed from an isolated polygamist compound

Gloria Bode says check out what the Pulse team says in chatter online!



Southern Illinois ... naturally

Garden of the Gods and Cache River State Natural Area

Audra Ord
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Editor's Note: This is the final story in a four-part series exploring recreational parks and preserves in the southern Illinois region.

Walking down the trail at Garden of the Gods is like taking a trip back through time — 320 million years, to be exact.

Sandstone formations dominate the horizon, some of the bluffs reaching 100 feet in height. Much of the rock displays oddly shaped swirls and bands of darker stone, creating designs and sculptures in the rock face: a natural outdoor art gallery.

From the observation deck, the view allows visitors to see for miles, overlooking the lush, rolling hills of the wilderness area.

Between Garden of the Gods and the Cache River State Natural Area, outdoor adventurers have plenty of recreational opportunities to choose from.

Located south of Harrisburg, Garden of the Gods is known for its landmark rock formations, while Cache River is a swamp area known for its water-oriented activities and award-winning vegetation.

"If you like kayaking or canoeing, it's one of the best places you can go,"

said Doug Gembala, an SIU alumnus.

Cache River Site Superintendent Jim Waycuilis said the area is home to 11 state champion trees. The trees are recognized as state champions for being the biggest trees of their species in the state in terms of circumference, height and crown spread.

The largest of the state champion trees is the bald cypress, which measures roughly 35 feet in circumference and is more than 1,000 years old.

The Cache River area also features 21 miles of trails, including three to six miles of canoe trails, Waycuilis said.

Gembala has kayaked the canoe trails and said it's a great way to explore the area.

"I thought it was neat to go through that whole area in a kayak. It's almost like going through a maze in some kind of swamp," Gembala said.

Waycuilis recommends visitors to the Cache River area first stop by the new wetland center to learn more about the history of the area. He also recommended the Heron Pond Trail as an easy, enjoyable hike.

"Heron Pond is kind of a cathedral of cypress trees. It's a really unique area. Most people think of Illinois as corn and soybeans, and being in southern Illinois, it's certainly a resource-rich area," Waycuilis said.

A unique event taking place at the Cache River area this weekend is

the seventh annual Birding Fest. The festival runs from today to Sunday and features different birding-related activities such as bird watching, guided canoe tours and wildlife photo exhibits.

The festival is free, except for a \$5 fee for guided canoe tours, and all activities are run out of the Cache River Wetlands Center.

Garden of the Gods is a 3,300-acre wilderness area featuring old-growth forest and stunning rock formations.

The area has two main trails systems, the better-known trail being the 0.25-mile long observation trail.

Amy Ensign, a freshman from Vernon Hills studying nutrition, said Friday was her first time at Garden of the Gods. She said being from the flat, northern part of Illinois, she was surprised to see such interesting geological features.

"I was surprised; it was something different than what I thought it was going to be. The rock formations ... you wouldn't expect it in Illinois," Ensign said.

Some of the rock formations seen from the observation trail feature iron deposits that create unique swirls, bands and pockets in the sandstone.

The other major trail that runs through Garden of the Gods is the River-to-River Trail. This section of trail is part of a larger trail system that



The sun rises over the Buttonland Swamp in the Cache River State Natural Area Sunday. This globally recognized site, located just south of Vienna, allows a glimpse into a natural area comprised of bluffs, bottomland, swamps and sloughs.

EMILY SUNBLADE
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

"It's something completely different and new and it's really cool ... you get to climb on rocks and look out over giant hills and trees," Ensign said.

Audra Ord can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275 or amarie06@siu.edu.

PARKING DIVISION LOTTERY REMINDER

On Campus Resident Freshmen and Sophomores

If you 1) will not be 21 years of age by 12/14/2008, and 2) have less than the 56 credit hours posted in the Student Information System for Junior Status, and 3) wish to apply for Fall 2008-Spring 2009 overnight parking privileges, you must enter the lottery drawing by applying online before June 30, 2008 at:

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7:00 P.M. LAWSON 151

For more information, please contact our office:
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EVERGREEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"If I hadn't called about summer session ... I wouldn't have known."

The impending increase came as a surprise to Franca.

"I don't know the budget, how much it costs for maintenance. It seems to me, since the units are almost full, that they make enough money to take care of the (apartments) here without raising the rent," Franca said.

Franca, who has lived in Evergreen Terrace for five years with his wife and daughter, said money is not a commodity for his family. Raising the rent would force the family to prioritize, Franca said.

"(I'd have to) work maybe a little more, put in a little more time. Then start to cut things like lights, power, the air conditioning," Franca said. "The comfortable (would start) to shrink."

Einhorn said he hopes to compensate for the increase by using his income tax refund and taking out additional student loans.

He said he was planning to work and attend classes during the summer while residing in Evergreen Terrace, but only until he can find a nicer residence that is still in his daughter's school district.

"I'm looking at moving because I don't like the idea that my rent can just go up whenever. At the beginning of the semester, it's not a problem because financial aid helps cover it," Einhorn said.

Einhorn said he was not considering legal action but wanted to examine his contract again. He said he didn't think the rates could be changed without notification.

Kirchmeier said because Evergreen Terrace used a loan to buy the land, additional restrictions exist in its budget. The restrictions don't allow it to use all the money it actually collects, she said.

The loan will be paid off this fall, which would allow upgrading projects to begin, she said.

"(Evergreen Terrace) seriously needs some upgrades and we know that. Our hope is that once some of these restrictions have been lifted that we'll be able to get some of these projects started," Kirchmeier said.

Some projects included balcony repairs, different painting and exterior upgrades, Kirchmeier said.

Despite rate increases, Franca remains optimistic about his residence.

"I love Evergreen Terrace. It's a very nice place. We're very happy here," Franca said. "(It has a) very family atmosphere."

Lindsey Smith can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 255 or lgsmith@siu.edu.

"I'm looking at moving because I don't like the idea that my rent can just go up whenever. At the beginning of the semester, it's not a problem because financial aid helps cover it."

— Jake Einhorn
sophomore studying theater

NEWS BRIEF**GPSC elects new officers**

Three students are preparing to take on new leadership roles within the university's graduate student government.

Graduate and Professional Student Council elected new officers at its final meeting of the semester Tuesday night. Kyle Stevens, a second year law student from Tunnel Hill, defeated current president Steven Middleton by one vote. Stevens said his main goal was to improve the organization's prominence on campus.

"I think one of the things about GPSC is, how many people really know about it?" Stevens said. "It's such an under the radar thing almost and I'd just like to make it more visible."

Stevens said he planned to improve the organization's Web site by making it more user-friendly.

He said he also wanted to bridge the gap between law students and other graduate and professional students. Stevens emphasized his plan to have an open door policy and said students could come into his office, meet up with him in Starbucks or even contact him through Facebook.

Middleton, a graduate student from Iowa studying psychology, was voted to fill the position of vice president of Administrative Affairs. Claudia Torres-Ambriz, a graduate student from California studying sculpture, was voted vice president of Graduate School Affairs.

Allison Petty can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 259 or allison.petty@siude.com.

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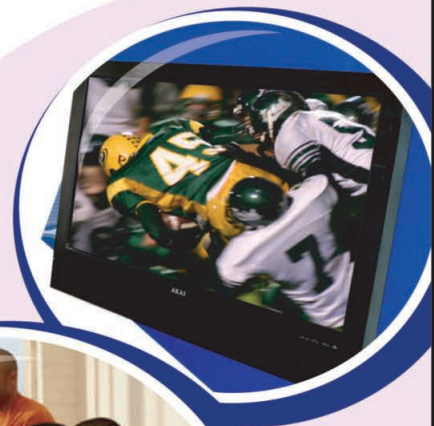
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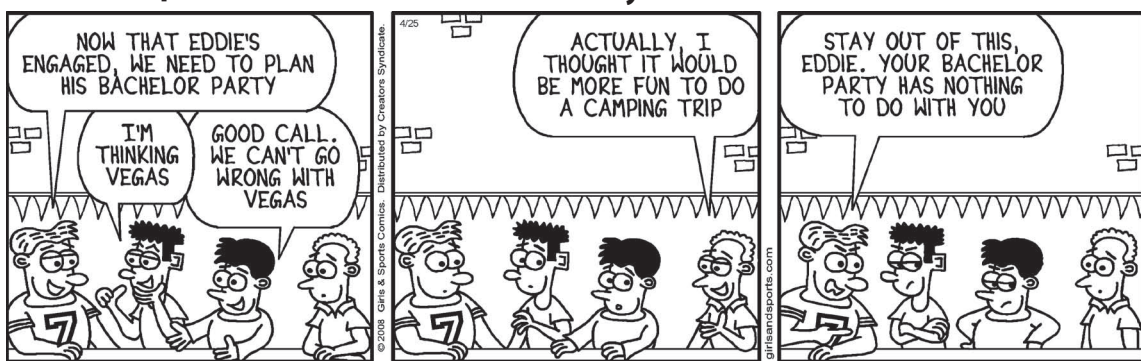
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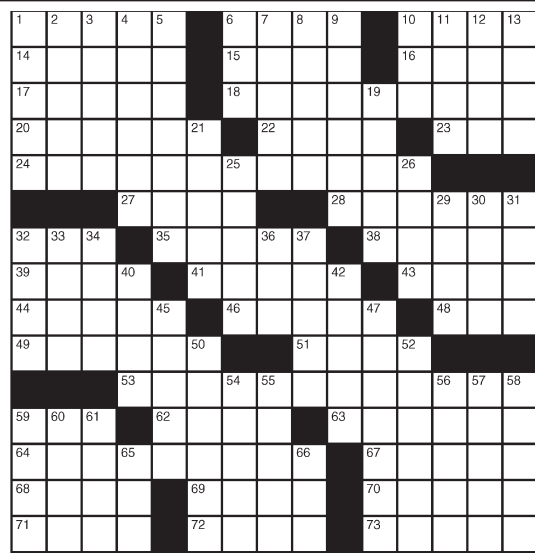


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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

- ACROSS 1 Wound crusts 6 Synagogue platform 10 Software support person...



C A P P E D C A M S E R B
A S L O P E A D E E R O O
C H U T E S L E T S P L A Y

- 8 Euripides drama 36 Luau garland 9 Holdings 37 Military muddle...

- By Stanley B. Whitten Highwood, IL 4/25/08 53 Mayflower landing 69 Poet Pound...

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Sudoku By The Mepham Group

Sudoku grid with numbers in bold borders: 4, 8, 9, 1, 8, 6, 9, 8, 5, 3, 4, 6, 9, 5, 3, 2, 5, 3, 9, 4, 2.

Level: 1 2 3 4 Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box... contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution to Thursday's puzzle: 8 5 1 2 6 7 4 3 9, 3 6 9 8 4 1 2 7 5, 2 7 4 5 3 9 8 6 1, 1 9 5 7 8 2 6 4 3, 4 2 6 3 9 5 1 8 7, 7 3 8 4 1 6 5 9 2, 6 1 3 9 2 8 7 5 4, 9 8 7 1 5 4 3 2 6, 5 4 2 6 7 3 9 1 8.

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4/25/08

Advertisement for siUDE.com with a Pac-Man logo and the text 'HUNGRY? checkout the online menu at...'.

By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday: You'll do very well this year, but the results may not fit your pictures. There are aspects to your dream that aren't practical.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 6 — Your job is particularly difficult now. You're being asked to do something you don't want to do at all.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — You're starting to get interested in finding out what else there is.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 6 — As you're making up your shopping lists and figuring out what you need, also find another way to bring new money in.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Talk over your dilemma with a person who understands. You'll get further with the support of those who see things your way.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — A big job has got your attention, and your imagination. This will be a working weekend, to create magnificent things.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Reconnect with somebody you love and keep the dream alive.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 6 — Household chores and other family matters take up the vast majority of your time this weekend.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is an 8 — A fascinating conversation interferes with chores.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 6 — Not a good time to gamble. Financial situation erratic.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — A person who's been hard to convince is starting to soften up.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 6 — The stack of stuff you've been putting off seems to have grown in your absence.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — A get-together with friends does wonders to alleviate your stress.

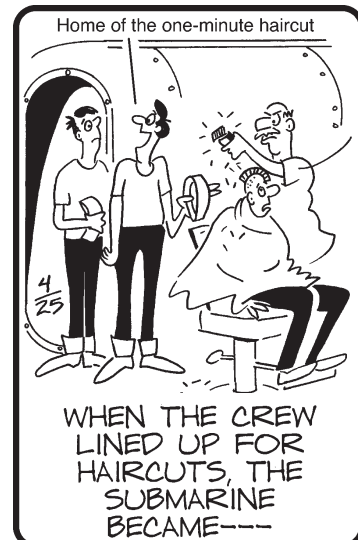
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JUMBLE

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

Jumble words: GLUHC, CAPIN, RECUPS, SCIBEP. Includes a small puzzle grid with circled letters.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



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

A: A 'SCUBA' 'PURSE' (Answers on Monday) Yesterday's Jumbles: SILKY FUROR OCCULT PARADE Answer: What a boxer will fight for that a woman has — A PURSE

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MSU

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

After extending its losing streak to five games Tuesday when it dropped two games to non-conference opponent Tennessee-Martin, Blaylock said it gave the team a wake-up call as it enters the final stretch of Missouri Valley Conference play.

The Saluki offense has struggled to get runs across late in games as they are 4-6 in one-run games this season.

Junior catcher Jayme Wamsley said patience is key for the Salukis despite their sense of urgency to finish at the top of the MVC standings.

"We are getting very excited (at the plate) because we want it so bad, that we want it too bad almost," Wamsley said. "It's just a matter of trusting ourselves."

The Salukis had the day off

Wednesday and sophomore second baseman Alicia Garza said having a little time off has allowed time for injuries to heal.

"It was really nice because a couple people were kind of sore and a couple of things that were kind of bugging people and I think it's really good to have a day off," Garza said.

The break didn't help freshman outfielder Chelsea Held heal completely as she will be out up to a week with a sprain in her left hand. She could see time pinch-running during the weekend.

Held has appeared in 35 games this season, mostly in pinch-hitting and running situations, and is batting .281 with seven RBIs and one home run.

The Salukis will open play with a doubleheader Saturday at noon and 2 p.m. They will finish Sunday at noon.

NFL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Alan Turner, Craig Turner and Allen are not expected to be drafted, but their impressive workouts at pro days could land them a spot on an NFL roster as a free agent. Former Salukis Arkee Whitlock and Braden Jones both signed as free agents with the Minnesota Vikings last year and are still on their roster.

Hill said he has worked as hard as he can and now the only thing left to do is wait.

"I don't really have any regrets about working harder. I have worked as hard as I can," Hill said. "Just put my faith in God, and everything happens for a reason and I believe it will."



Tyler Bullock watches a pitch during the April 12 game against Bradley. The Salukis will play Missouri Valley Conference leaders Northern Iowa in a three-game series this weekend.

EMILY SUNBLADE
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

UNI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Northern Iowa holds a one-game first place lead over Wichita State in the MVC standings and feature a high-octane offense led by junior infielder Brandon Douglas.

Douglas, who is hitting .392, is third in the MVC in batting average and also has a team-high 41 RBIs.

Northern Iowa's everyday lineup carries five batters with a .324 average. Its pitching staff is

equally impressive.

Only junior pitcher Nick Kirk (4-4, 3.74 ERA) has an ERA under 4.00 but the other two members of the pitching staff have impressive stats in their own right.

Senior pitcher Guido Fonseca carries a 4.03 ERA with a team-high seven wins and 65 strikeouts. Fellow senior Taylor Sinclair has a 5-1 record and a 4.06 ERA.

SIU is led by junior catcher Mark Kelly and senior starting pitcher Shawn Joy. Kelly drove in the game-winning

run against Missouri Wednesday.

Joy is 4-2 with a team-best 3.08 ERA after coming off a complete game shutout of Wichita State Saturday.

Kelly is batting .324, second best on the team, with a team-high 33 RBIs.

He said the 2-1 win against Missouri was critical.

"We had a meeting about it being a 16-game season the rest of the way and now we know we can hang with just about anyone in the country," Kelly said.

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Who is your NFL Draft sleeper?

JEFF ENGELHARDT

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"I am going with wide receiver Dexter Jackson of Appalachian State. He is one of those players who just know how to make plays and score. Just ask Michigan. He lit up the Wolverines for 92 yards and two touchdowns. He is also from a winner, so you can't go wrong."

MEGAN KRAMPER

megkramp@siu.edu

"Delaware's Joe Flacco. He's got a great arm and gave SIU their money's worth in the FCS playoffs. It would be cool to see him go first round but whatever team gets him is definitely getting a top-notch player."

LUIS MEDINA

lcm1986@siu.edu

"Former Michigan running back Mike Hart is my sleeper pick. Hart scored 41 touchdowns and ran for more than 5,000 yards in his four years donning the blue and maize. His best feature is that he doesn't fumble. He'd be a great fit for any team."

SALUKI TRACKER

Bianca Stuart



SIU junior jumper Bianca Stuart was named the Missouri Valley Conference Women's Field Athlete of the Week. Her 20-foot-8-inch jump met regional qualifications for the NCAA Outdoor Championships. Stuart joins teammates Brandon Deloney and Andrea Norris as Athlete of the Week winners.

Do you have questions for the Saluki Insider that you want answered?
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FOOTBALL

Salukis set for NFL Draft

Hill, Marquez pursued by multiple teams

Jeff Engelhardt
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Most third-grade teachers do not get interrupted in the middle of a lesson by a phone call from the Washington Redskins.

But most teachers are not Nick Hill.

The former SIU quarterback has been busy student-teaching while preparing for the NFL Draft this semester, and his phone has been ringing frequently from interested teams.

The NFL Draft

is a two-day event starting Saturday and includes seven rounds and 252 individual selections. The Saluki names being mentioned on mock draft Web sites include Hill, offensive lineman Darren Marquez, wide receivers Alan Turner and Justin Allen and cornerback Craig Turner.

Hill has garnered the most interest, being pursued by the Chicago Bears, Philadelphia Eagles, Washington Redskins and Houston Texans. The Bears have contacted Hill the most, including earlier in the week, and introduced him to the coaching staff and facilities.

Hill said he wants to be on a team where he has a chance to make the roster and added the Bears would give him a real opportunity.

"All I need is a shot and I think I am going to get that opportunity," Hill said. "I've always been a Bears fan, so

it would be nice to play in Chicago, but I'm not really worried about what team. When you're talking about playing in the NFL, I'm not going to get too picky."

The 2007 honorable mention All-American threw for 3,175 yards last season with 28 touchdowns and only seven interceptions. Hill also showed his athleticism with 357 rushing yards and four touchdowns.

One player who could hinder Hill's chance to land on the Bears is a familiar foe — Delaware quarterback Joe Flacco.

Flacco out-dueled Hill in a victory over SIU in the semifinals of the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs. He now could beat Hill in the draft as he has been rumored by

ESPN to be selected by the Chicago Bears as early as the second round.

If Hill does not have his name called this weekend, he could still have a future as a free agent. Former Saluki Bart Scott signed as a free agent and is now a Pro-Bowl linebacker, while Tony Romo is a top quarterback

— Nick Hill former SIU quarterback after not being drafted out of Eastern Illinois.

Hill said signing as free agent would be a possibility and he would search for where he felt he could make a roster.

"I think it's encouraging to look around the league and see so many successful people that weren't drafted," Hill said. "You just got to go in there and work hard and not be worried about if you were drafted or a free agent."

Marquez has also garnered plenty of interest from teams, especially the Indianapolis Colts, who flew him in for a physical and workout. Marquez



Former Saluki quarterback Nick Hill looks for an open receiver during the Aug. 31, 2006, game against Lock Haven. Hill has been preparing for this weekend's NFL Draft. Hill said the Chicago Bears, Washington Redskins, Philadelphia Eagles and Houston Texans are among the teams interested in signing him.
 DAILY EGYPTIAN FILE PHOTO

is shorter than the traditional lineman at 6-foot-4, but he has worked to put on more weight.

His speed has also attracted NFL teams as he ran the 40-yard dash in five seconds.

The former All-American said he knows he has an uphill battle because of his size, but is confident he can make a roster.

"You always have to work harder from a smaller school because the big

schools get the hype," Marquez said. "At the end of the day you have to make the roster and I think I can do that if I get the opportunity."

See NFL, Page 14

SOFTBALL

Salukis hit the road to finish season

Team is currently on a five-game losing streak

Megan Kramper
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

For the first time in more than a month, the SIU softball team will take its game on the road.

The Salukis will play their last eight regular season games away from Charlotte West Stadium beginning Saturday as they face Missouri State in a three-game series.

It will be the first time the Salukis have played a series on the road since March 21, when they were swept at Wichita State.

Coach Kerri Blaylock said the Salukis have put unnecessary pressure on themselves recently because of their struggles at the plate.

"When you feel like you are having trouble hitting the ball, it can be one of the most excruciating things mentally and they know it," Blaylock said.

The series against Missouri State



Katie Schmidt swings at a pitch during the April 19 doubleheader against Creighton. The Salukis will go on the road to play Missouri State in a doubleheader Saturday and a single game Sunday.
 JAKE LOCKARD DAILY EGYPTIAN

could be vital for the Salukis, as they sit half a game ahead of the Bears in fourth place in the Missouri Valley Conference standings.

Blaylock said she isn't worried about spending the last weeks of the regular season on the road and hopes the time at home has refreshed the team.

"Honestly, it makes me feel pretty good because you're hopefully a little more refreshed and you haven't been spending so much time on the road," Blaylock said.

But with another series at Bradley next weekend, Blaylock said she isn't getting worried about the Salukis' position in the

conference tournament.

"I think every series is important and I'd hate to look at the next-to-last conference series and feel like it's the one," Blaylock said. "It's really not and you're just trying to take care of business all along the way."

See MSU, Page 14

BASEBALL

SIU visits Northern Iowa

Matt Hartwig
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

After going 2-2 against a pair of the nation's top 10 teams this week, things aren't getting any easier for the SIU baseball team.

The Salukis return to Missouri Valley Conference play this weekend against Northern Iowa after dealing No. 10 Missouri a 2-1 loss in O'Fallon, Mo., Wednesday.

"Hopefully this does a lot for our confidence," SIU coach Dan Callahan said. "We've been playing a lot of the top teams in the country and we hope this carries over to this weekend."

The Salukis (21-17, 4-8 MVC) will have their hands full with the Panthers (24-12, 10-2) when the series begins at 6:30 p.m. today at Waterloo Riverfront Stadium.

See UNI, Page 14