

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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Southern Illinois communities swamped by storms

LINDSEY SMITH
Daily Egyptian

In six days, Carbondale's total rainfall has nearly doubled its April average.

Southern Illinois' has been swept with storms during the past two weeks. Carbondale has seen apartment damage and roofs blown off both the Lesar Law Building and the new city Public Safety Center. The city of Cairo has become involved in a federal lawsuit. Murphysboro has lost bridges and roads and Grand Tower's mayor has asked his residents to voluntarily clear the area, while many residents of Olive Branch have evacuated.

Carbondale has seen 8.68 inches of rain from Friday to Wednesday, according to the National Weather Service in Paducah. The average rainfall for the entire month of April is 4.39 inches. So far, this spring is the seventh wettest on the service's record.

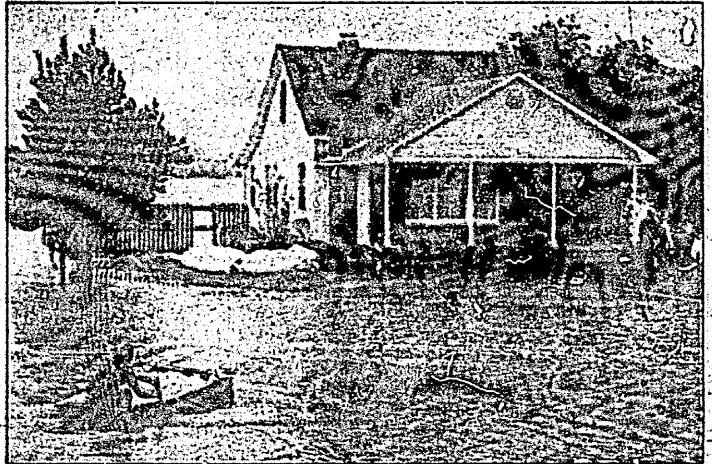
More storms are expected Saturday night and Sunday.

The state provided Union County with 5,000 sandbags and six rolls of plastic while Jackson County received 50,000 sandbags and 50 rolls of plastic, State Rep. Mike Bost, R-Murphysboro, said. The Illinois National Guard, Illinois Department of Corrections and Illinois Department of Highways have assisted with sandbagging in both counties.

Williamson County has become one of the central bases for state support operations while care facilities have been set up in Franklin and Massac counties, Bost said.

Bost said he, Gov. Pat Quinn and other local representatives were briefed Tuesday at the Incident Command Emergency Center, which houses departments such as the Army Corps of Engineers, Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, on the flooding and severe weather in southern Illinois.

"We're facing Mother Nature; you can only react to her," Bost said. "It's just knowing what's



GENNA ORD | DAILY EGYPTIAN

A man in Olive Branch paddles toward one of the many houses nearly overcome by floodwater in the unincorporated town near Cairo. Terri Farris, owner of the house, said she still has power and water, and she plans to stay as long as possible. The storms of the past several weeks have caused serious flooding throughout much of the Midwest.

"We're facing Mother Nature; you can only react to her. It's just knowing what's going on with each incident and trying to keep the right people there."

— Mike Bost
state representative, R-Murphysboro

going on with each incident and trying to keep the right people there."

UNION COUNTY

As of mid-Wednesday, three bridges had been destroyed in Union County and another 10 were underwater, Bost said. Another 10 roads were damaged to the point of being impassable, while 20 more were underwater.

The Big Muddy River rose four inches Wednesday.

JACKSON COUNTY

Bost said three roads in Jackson County were underwater mid-Wednesday but had not sustained permanent damage.

A press release from Jackson County's Emergency Management Agency also listed Dogwood Road, Airport Road,

Glenn Road and West Clayton Road as being closed.

Murphysboro Police Chief Jeff Bock said a couple areas in the town have flooded, including Shomaker Drive. The city has worked to sandbag its infrastructure buildings such as its sewer pump station.

The city has not made any evacuation suggestions, Bock said. He said he thinks those who live near the flooding area have made arrangements to evacuate, should the water continue to rise.

Bock said Murphysboro has not received any state help yet and is preparing for water levels higher than it saw Wednesday because of additional rain projections and the amount of backed-up water expected.

The gray clouds have had a silver lining though, he said.

"In 1993 ... (the) temperature outside was very hot, humid.

There were a lot worse conditions for that one," he said. "We do have the luxury of a little bit cooler temperatures this time, which makes the working a lot easier."

Bost said this flood is unique because it has been caused by the significant amount of rain in the area that has no where to go, and the additional water flowing down from northern Illinois' storms. A couple levees may be breached for the first time, he said.

In Carbondale, North Oakland Street and Walnut Street (Old U.S. Highway 13) east of Giant City Road have been closed, said Carbondale City Manager Allen Gill.

Gill said city buildings and equipment have been damaged in the storms. The city was forced to postpone the open house for its new Public Safety Center when its roof blew off in the April 19 storm. Repairs for the building are being estimated by insurance adjusters, he said.

The university is facing several hundreds of dollars in repair costs, said Phil Gatton, director of the Physical Plant at SIUC.

— Phil Gatton

director of the Physical Plant at SIUC

Please see FLOOD | 7

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

Mission Statement

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

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Upcoming Calendar Events

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Pancake days
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Search for permanent engineering dean underway

SARAH SCHNEIDER
Daily Egyptian

The four finalists for the dean of the College of Engineering will be interviewed and will hold public events for campus interaction within the next month.

Lizette Chevalier, Demetrios Kazakos, Darrell Pepper and John Warwick are the candidates.

Chancellor Rita Cheng said after reviewing the campus input, she will check references and have further discussions with the candidates, which will cause the process to last several weeks.

She said a dean should have an appreciation for different areas of engineering, and a knowledge and willingness to support research and develop programs for students, particularly through their first year as an engineering student.

"They also need a personality that will connect to the outside supporters and people who hire the students so we can make sure the students who graduate from our programs transition into productive careers," Cheng said.

The dean position has been

open since former Interim dean Ramanarayanan Viswanathan resigned in November by sending a letter to former Provost Don Rice. He stated the decisions made during the first five months of the semester had damaged the academic mission of the university and his college. Viswanathan had been Interim dean since January 2008.

Gary Kolb, dean of the College of Mass Communications and Media Arts, has been the acting dean of the College of Engineering since March 7. He said his job is to prepare the college for a permanent dean, and to help review faculty up for promotion and tenure.

Chevalier, acting associate dean of the SIUC College of Engineering and professor of civil and environmental engineering, has been at SIUC since 1995, when she was an associate professor. She said she has been an assistant professor, a department chair, a professor and acting associate dean during her time at SIUC.

Chevalier said she respects that the institution is committed to access, excellence, diversity, research and creativity, which she said is an important balance.

"I can't wait to have the opportunity to look at times to be creative about resources. We have to have a mission. We have to work toward a common vision and a collegiality," Chevalier said.

Due to her previous position at the university, Chevalier said she has some advantages over the other candidates.

"I know this institution. I understand the challenges we are up against, and I am not running away from it," she said. "I know the people that are here and what challenges we have as a state, an institution and a region."

Kazakos, director of the Center of Research Excellence in Science and Technology at the National Science Foundation, said he thinks his career should be in academia and is excited to have the opportunity to rejoin a university.

He was a professor and department chair of electrical engineering at several universities. Now he is in science-based multi-disciplinary research in Arlington, Va., where he is in charge of money distributed to support research for minority institutions.

Kazakos said his work with research and ability to find funding

throughout his career gave him experience to be an effective dean.

"I have been in my position in Washington for almost two years, so I have created a lot of good contacts in programs and other funding agencies," he said.

Pepper is a professor and director of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Nevada Center for Advanced Computational Methods at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. He said he can bring the experience, connection and interaction he had both in private industries and in the government to the dean position.

"I think from the managing side, I am comfortable with that, and I spent about 20 years in the industry as well," Pepper said. "I wound up doing managerial work at different levels, including owning my own company and so forth, so I think I have a pretty good feel and handle for that side of things."

Pepper said he hopes to help students find connections and network to help them succeed in their future.

"I could bring a view outside of southern Illinois, maybe a perspective, considerations or ideas that are a little

more national or global," he said. "I have contacts all around the world, and there is a lot of potential and many things that could be done to have a wider vision or broader perspective."

Warwick is acting vice president for academic affairs and executive director of the Division of Hydrologic Sciences at the Desert Research Institute for the Nevada System of Higher Education.

He could not be reached for comment by press time because he was traveling to Carbondale for his interview today.

According to a university press release, Warwick said his passion for undergraduate and graduate student issues is the motivation behind his desire to return to a more traditional academic and university environment. He said he is passionate about developing multi-disciplinary research programs and growing collaborative research relationships among academia, industry and government.

Cheng said it would be ideal if the candidate chosen could start in early July or August so they could have some time on campus before classes start in the fall.

Finalists hold forums for financial aid director

TERRANCE PEACOCK
BRANDON COLEMAN
Daily Egyptian

Three finalists for the director of financial aid position have been chosen and will hold open forums today to meet with members of the university community.

Finalists are Cleo Yvonne Morris, Paula Clendenen and Terri Harfst. The forums will be held in the John C. Guyon Auditorium, beginning with Morris at 9 a.m.

Clendenen, associate director of financial aid services and fiscal management, is scheduled to present from 11 a.m. to noon.

Harfst, interim director for financial aid, is scheduled to present

from 1 to 2 p.m.

Harfst said whoever is chosen as the new director of financial aid should work to improve the office's current practices and not make unnecessary changes.

Harfst has served as the university's interim director of financial aid since October. She has supervised financial aid services for students, assisted in preparing reports for government agencies and college administrations, and manages \$4 million. She said in August the Financial Aid Office received 12,000 phone calls from students and parents. Annually, 16,000 financial aid packages are put together for students, and about \$282 million is dispersed through them.

Harfst, who earned her two

degrees from SIUC, has held many positions at the university such as academic scholarship coordinator for enrollment management, financial aid and new student admissions. She said she has learned to engage in dialogue with different departments to discuss ideas that can be used in financial aid.

"One of the things that I hope to do that we really haven't implemented is that I want our staff to become more involved in professional organizations," Harfst said. "I want them to be involved in campus activities and serving on campus committees. I want them to be faces out in our community so people can know who they are."

Clendenen has worked in SIUC's

Financial Aid Office since 1982 as an adviser. She handles staff management responsibilities for services to students and serves as liaison for the student alternative loan program, according to a university press release.

Clendenen said she cares about Financial Aid Office's role in enrollment.

"I have two degrees, which I received here at SIU, and I have a strong commitment to students, parents, and the service that we give to students from our office," she said.

Morris, senior financial aid coordinator for the ITT Technical Institute in Arnold, Mo., is scheduled to present from 9 to 10 a.m.


She has held her position at the

Institute since September 2002, according to the press release, and she manages accounts receivables for student accounts, helps develop student enrollment strategies, and assists in preparing student financial aid packages.

Morris said she has been interested in the financial aid director position at SIUC since the job became available. With her experience in the private sector of universities, she said she brings new ideas to the university.

"I'm just coming from the private side to give a new prospective on customer service," Morris said.

Terrance Peacock can be reached at tpeacock@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 268.



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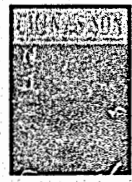


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Southern Illinois University Carbondale

New Faculty Senate pres. wants cooperation

SARAH SCHNEIDER
Daily Egyptian

As the newly elected president of the Faculty Senate, William Recktenwald said one of his goals will be to uphold shared governance between faculty and staff.

"I think that you have to have shared governance because there are too many very intelligent people on both ends of the spectrum, and you need to tap the intelligence of those people, and I know that people can work together," said Recktenwald, a senior lecturer in journalism.

Seven new senators were elected, two senators were re-elected, seven senators had terms end and executive officers were voted on, at the monthly Faculty Senate meeting Tuesday in the Student Center. Final reports from all of the committees were also turned in.

John Legier, Stacy Thompson, Tsuchin Chu, Meera Komarraju, Nicole Roberts, Blaine Bartholomew and Qingfeng Ge

were elected. Connie Baker and Brooke H.H. Thibault were re-elected. Joan Davis, Cathy Mogharreban, Sanjeev Kumar, Mark Amos, James Ferraro, Thomas Tarter and Michael Lydy finished their terms.

Recktenwald said he was shocked to be nominated for the president position, which includes presiding over meetings and attending committees on campus.

"I had no interest in that and had not talked to anyone about ever being president," he said. "It was nice to be nominated and even nicer for the body to elect me."

Sanjeev Kumar, former Faculty Senate president and chairman of civil and environmental engineering, said he thoroughly enjoyed working on the senate for six years, and it was both a privilege and an honor.

He said he tried to bring awareness of the need for shared governance on campus.

"In any university setting,

any ideas or plans that need to be implemented in an academic setting, faculty, staff and students play a critical role," Kumar said. "When they have meaningful input from the constituencies, the chances of having a successful implementation of the plan are much higher."

Gary Appar, an associate professor in animal science, food and nutrition, was re-elected vice president in the Faculty Senate for his final year.

In his position he said he provides a voice for issues that need to have faculty representation. Appar said he hopes to be more proactive in his next senate year by being more frank.

"I feel confident in the current committees I serve on, and I feel I have gotten to know the current players in the administration and how to best position ourselves in that administrative structure," he said. "I think in closed-door meetings, there are opportunities for input from a faculty's

66 *In any university setting, any ideas or plans that need to be implemented in an academic setting, faculty, staff and students play a critical role.*

— Sanjeev Kumar
former Faculty Senate president

perspective. ... I am not sure that has been effectively done in the past."

Mary Lamb, former secretary for the senate, said she decided not to run again because she has been secretary for two years and thought it was time someone else had a chance at the position.

She said she will remain a senate member but will miss being secretary of the executive council.

"I felt like I had my finger on the pulse of the university, which was nice," Lamb said. "I think it was an educational experience."

She said she is optimistic about the new leadership for the senate and hopes its mission continues.

"Faculty Senate is an advisory

to the chancellor, and always my hope has been that the advice from the senate will be taken very seriously," Lamb said. "I am not sure past chancellors have always taken it very seriously."

Appar said being on the faculty senate is time-consuming but worthwhile.

"I honestly think every faculty member on this campus should strive to serve as a senator at some point during their academic career because it certainly is excellent to have explained some of the process of things we do on this campus," he said.

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More politicians find social networking effective

KAYLA KEARNS
Daily Egyptian

Matthew Tanner said politicians didn't notice the possibilities of the online social world until President Barack Obama's great success with his iPhone app in 2008.

Tanner, of Hardin County, is a network administrator and securities manager for Performance Learning Systems in Cadiz, Ky., the company that administers Blackboard. He said social networking sparked politicians to market iPhone apps as a way to get their name out to the public.

"Every political app has two goals in mind: shaping one's perception of the politician and showing current supporters, 'I'm here, I'm modern, and I'm with you wherever you go,'" Tanner said.

While Obama made use of social media in 2008, 2012 will be the year of the iPad, said Patrick Ruffini, a political strategist and partner at political media firm Engage.

Local politicians in Carbondale and political organizations have

66 *Campaigning is a game of technology, strategy and tactics. That's been true throughout American history.*

— David Yepsen
director of the Paul Simon Public Policy

embraced the trend as well.

Carbondale City Councilmember-elect Jace Adams used mass e-mails, a website and Facebook to engage voters in her campaign. Mayoral candidate Brent Ritzel used Facebook, Twitter and mass e-mails to discuss issues related to his campaign.

The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute uses a variety of social networking outlets to relay its message because it targets different age and constituency groups, director David Yepsen said.

The Institute sends out notices by mail, posts on Facebook and sends an electronic newsletter to notify people of events. Yepsen said, using a variety of media is important in a political campaign.

"Campaigning is a game of technology, strategy and tactics. That's

been true throughout American history," Yepsen said. "Successful candidates are those who can make the best use out of those options."

Lee Allen is a 2007 SIUC alumnus in communication design and art history and the front-end developer at Acuity Group, an international multi-channel commerce and digital marketing firm. He said what set Obama's campaign apart from others was his brand approach to small-screen social networking, a process that includes more than cell phone usage.

Allen said a significant portion of smartphone use happens when users are not mobile at all, such as when they're sitting on their couch watching TV.

Social media give brands the ability to become life-like by providing real-time interaction

with individuals. They give the appearance of personal contact by blending into communication shared with real-life friends using Facebook news feeds and Twitter streams, he said.

Tanner said apps used by public figures are easy to put together and are effective.

"The apps from a technical standpoint are rarely complex," Tanner said. "Some of the apps in the store hardly even work as described, but yet you will see thousands of downloads simply because of the person it was created for."

The effectiveness of small-screen and social media strategies in Illinois is probably proportional to how much they've been adopted in a particular district, Allen said.

"Here in Chicago where I see more people buried in a smartphone on their morning commute than a newspaper, it's likely to be more effective — in rural areas, less," Allen said.

The Democratic National Committee launched two iPhone and iPad apps. One was Organizing for America, launched last June

for the 2010 mid-term elections. Obama released an app with the announcement of his 2012 reelection campaign.

Tim Pawlenty, digital adviser to the Republican National Committee, introduced a social gaming initiative, borrowed from Farmville and Foursquare, which awards badges and points to supporters who participate in the campaign.

"Republicans are really trying to ramp up their use of technology," Yepsen said. "They don't want to be beat in the technology war."

Facebook allows candidates to harvest data, Ruffini said. If users give permission, the campaigns can access their information such as e-mail address, hometown and personal network, he said.

"With elections getting closer, there will be greater increase in this market, both for developer revenue and for publicity of the marketed politician," Tanner said.

Kayla Kearns can be reached at
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Obama goes to NYC for money, Chicago for Oprah

DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — President Barack Obama plunged into donor-rich New York on Wednesday, his first fundraising sweep of the city since announcing his re-election bid this month, with a lament that he has not seen his wish for less-polarizing politics realized.

"The hope that I had that we'd start coming together in a serious way ... has been resisted," Obama told contributors who gathered at the home of financier and former New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine.

His intention, Obama said, is to make the 2012 campaign an "election in which we're not just talking slogans ... but we are looking soberly at the choices we face."

The president's outreach to donors came on a whirlwind day that began by taking on "birthers," who dispute

he was born in the United States, and producing his detailed birth certificate. He also flew home to Chicago to help pal and supporter Oprah Winfrey close out her syndicated talk show with a "big get" — an interview with him.

"Today was a fun day," Obama said as he entered his first fundraising event. "Nobody checked my ID at the door. But it was also a serious day because part of what happened this morning was me trying to remind the press and trying to remind both parties that what we do in politics is not a reality show. It's serious."

The three Democratic Party fundraisers in New York were scheduled across midtown Manhattan, including a dinner at The Waldorf-Astoria hotel. Obama was not due back at the White House until the wee hours of Thursday. He was expected to raise between \$2

million and \$3 million.

In Chicago Obama and his wife, Michelle, took turns answering Winfrey's questions during a taped interview at her studio, her show's first interview with a sitting president and first lady. Winfrey has announced that she's ending her top-rated program on May 25 after a quarter-century on television.

The Obamas' interview is scheduled to air Monday.

The show released one excerpt from the interview, an exchange over his decision to produce his Hawaii birth certificate. Laughing, he said,

66 *"The hope that I had that we'd start coming together in a serious way... has been resisted."*

— Barack Obama
U.S. president

"Can I just say? I was there, so I knew that I knew I had been born. I remembered it."

Winfrey's relationship with the Obamas dates to their days in Chicago, and she lent her credibility and celebrity status to his 2008 presidential campaign with her first-ever political endorsement.

Corzine, who lost his political job in 2009 despite Obama's efforts to help him get re-elected, is a former chairman and CEO of Goldman Sachs. He has deep ties to the financial industry, which felt battered by Obama's rhetoric blaming the financial crisis on "fat cat"

Wall Street bankers. The industry also chafed at the subsequent overhaul of financial regulations.

Corzine now heads MF Global Inc., a financial services firm, and Obama has begun trying to repair his relations with the business sector.

From Corzine's home, Obama was heading to Park Avenue for a dinner at The Waldorf-Astoria, followed by a concert-style event at the Town Hall theater primarily for his younger supporters and featuring The Roots, a hip-hop band from Philadelphia.

Since he became a candidate for re-election April 4, Obama has embarked on an aggressive inaugural fundraising tour that included three events in Chicago on April 14 and six events spread over two days last week in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Obama raised \$750 million for the 2008 campaign and hopes to top that for his re-election.

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406 S. University 1, 2, & 4
606 1/2 S. University
705 W. Walnut 2
400 S. Washington A*

Two Bedroom

503 N. Allyn
609 N. Allyn
408 S. Ash
504 S. Ash 1*
508 S. Ash 1, 4
514 S. Ash 2, 5
502 S. Beveridge 2
507 S. Beveridge 2-3*
509 S. Beveridge 3-4
512 S. Beveridge 1-7*
513 S. Beveridge 2-5
514 S. Beveridge 1-6
515 S. Beveridge 1-5
510 N. Carico
720 N. Carico
205 W. Cherry
311 W. Cherry 2
404 W. Cherry Court

407 W. Cherry Court
406 W. Chestnut
310 E. College 2-4*
1201 W. College
201 W. College 3
309 W. College 1-5*
310 W. College 1 & 2
400 W. College 1-5
401 W. College 1-3, 5, 7*
407 W. College 1-3
409 W. College 1
501 W. College 4 & 6
503 W. College 1-6
507 W. College 4-6
509 W. College 4-6
710 W. College 5, 6
120 S. Forest
716 S. Forest
520 S. Graham
402 E. Hester 1 & 3*
408 E. Hester 1, 2, 4 & 7
703 W. High E
705 N. James
612 S. Logan
300 W. Mill 3, & 4
507 W. Oak
505 N. Oakland
511 N. Oakland
514 N. Oakland
608 N. Oakland C, G, H, J, K
202 N. Poplar #1
507 S. Poplar 3*
1710 W. Sycamore
919 W. Sycamore
404 S. University N
404 1/2 S. University
504 W. Walnut
1004 W. Walkup
400 S. Washington A*
600 S. Washington 2, 4, & 6-8
404 W. Willow
804 W. Willow

Three Bedroom

503 N. Allyn
609 N. Allyn
408 S. Ash
410 S. Ash
514 S. Ash 5*
409 S. Beveridge
503 S. Beveridge
506 S. Beveridge
507 S. Beveridge 2-3*
509 S. Beveridge 3-4
513 S. Beveridge 2-5
515 S. Beveridge 1-5
510 N. Carico
205 W. Cherry
209 W. Cherry
309 W. Cherry
405 W. Cherry
501 W. Cherry
405 W. Cherry Court
407 W. Cherry Court
406 W. Chestnut
1201 W. College
303 W. College
309 W. College 1-5*
312 W. College 3
400 W. College 1-5
401 W. College 1-4
407 W. College 1-3*
409 W. College 1
503 W. College 1-3
509 W. College 2
104 S. Forest
120 S. Forest
603 S. Forest
716 S. Forest
509 S. Hays
614 S. Logan
407 W. Monroe 1*
408 W. Oak
505 N. Oakland
511 N. Oakland
514 N. Oakland
617 W. Owens
202 N. Poplar 1
506 S. Poplar 1, 3, 5, 6*
509 S. Rawlings 3-5

519 S. Rawlings 3, 5-6*
1710 W. Sycamore
504 W. Walnut
820 W. Walnut 1

Four Bedroom

410 S. Ash
409 S. Beveridge
503 S. Beveridge
506 S. Beveridge
510 N. Carico
209 W. Cherry
309 W. Cherry
405 W. Cherry
608 W. Cherry
303 W. College
312 W. College 3
401 W. College 1-4
716 S. Forest
104 S. Forest
603 S. Forest
509 S. Hays
408 W. Oak
514 N. Oakland
506 S. Poplar 1, 3, 5, 6
509 S. Rawlings 7
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Voices

6 • Thursday, April 28, 2011

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EDITORIAL CARTOON



GUEST COLUMN

In N.H., Trump takes credit for Obama birth info

CHARLES BABINGTON
HOLLY RAMER
Associated Press

DOVER, N.H. — After weeks of suggesting Barack Obama was born in Africa, Donald Trump hastened to boast that he had forced the Democratic president to release a detailed Hawaii birth certificate disproving that claim, painting an apparent setback as a victory within minutes of arriving in the first-in-the-nation primary state.

The developer and reality TV show host, who is considering a White House run, again showed the difficulty establishment Republicans are having in controlling the early stages of their wide-open nominating contest. He also proved himself a nimble messenger, or spinner.

"Today I am very proud of myself because I have accomplished something that nobody else has been able to accomplish," Trump, told reporters Wednesday shortly after his

black and red helicopter, emblazoned "TRUMP" on the side, touched down in Portsmouth.

He arrived not long after the White House released the president's long-form birth certificate from Hawaii. He said he was honored "to have played such a big role in hopefully — hopefully — getting rid of this issue. Now, we have to look at it, we have to see, is it real?"

Trump said he hoped the birth certificate "checks out beautifully," but he used the opportunity before television cameras to again sharply criticize Obama on several fronts, including Libya policy and gasoline prices. He also raised questions anew about Obama's educational record and how he got into college. But he again offered no proof of anything amiss.

Trump's blistering attacks on Obama, including raising widely debunked rumors that the president was born abroad, have piqued the interest of some Republican voters.

He has seen his standing in some polls grow in the months since he first dangled a presidential candidacy before a GOP primary electorate looking for a leader to aggressively challenge the Democratic president.

Many rank-and-file Republicans still dismiss Trump as a non-serious distraction.

But as he easily grabs headlines, other potential candidates are playing a more cautious game, and most don't seem eager to talk about him. They've been distancing themselves from the so-called "birther" claims in recent days, and most weren't eager to weigh in Wednesday.

Sarah Palin, the former Alaska governor, sent a brief tweet that said: "Media: admit it, Trump forced the issue. Now, don't let the WH distract you w/ the birth cert. from what Bernanke says today: Stay focused, eh?" That was a reference to Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke's news conference.

And former Massachusetts Gov.

Mitt Romney said on Twitter: "What President Obama should really be releasing is a jobs plan."

Less than a year before Iowa and New Hampshire Republicans become the first to vote in the race, the GOP field is far from set. There's no true front-runner and no single establishment candidate. That leaves ample room for attention-getting events by less orthodox politicians such as Trump and third-term Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota.

Romney, who lost the nomination in 2008, former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty, and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich all have taken initial steps toward full-fledged runs, but none has emerged as the candidate to beat. Many Republicans expect Bachmann and former Sen. Rick Santorum to make their interest official. They also are waiting to hear from former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman and Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels. The 2008 vice presidential nominee, Palin, and the Iowa caucus winner, Mike

Huckabee, have dropped hints they will not run, but Republican insiders say no one is sure.

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour became the latest Republican to opt against a presidential run this week.

"This is shaping up to be a wacky year," said Scott Reed, who managed Republican nominee Bob Dole's 1996 campaign and had been advising Barbour. It's the most wide-open GOP primary in four decades, he said, and the eventual nominee conceivably could jump in as late as September.

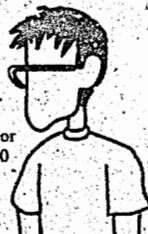
"There is still room for someone to emerge as the conservative alternative to Romney," Reed said.

Most veteran Republicans don't believe that person will be Trump, the thrice-married, much-caricatured developer who has donated heavily to Democrats in past years and switched his stands on key issues such as abortion.

Karl Rove, the top political adviser to President George W. Bush, calls Trump a "joke candidate."

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

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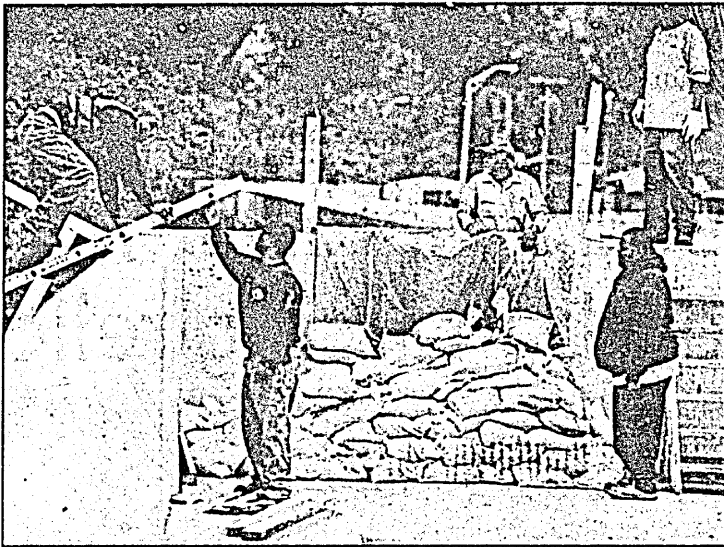


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ERIC GINNARD | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Volunteer workers help sandbag the Cairo levees in preparation for rising water levels. Gov. Pat Quinn issued a disaster proclamation for Cairo on Monday and sent the National Guard in Tuesday.

With no end in sight for the rain soaking the Midwest, Illinois' southernmost city, which sits at the conjunction of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, may require more aid in the days to come.



PAT SUTPHIN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Jeff Petzoldt, left, takes off his waders after ferrying sandbags across a flooded yard to his friend's house while Megan Sissom, Petzoldt's fiancée, takes a break from filling sandbags Wednesday in Olive Branch. Most of the unincorporated town near Cairo flooded Wednesday in the latest of the week's storms.

FLOOD

CONTINUED FROM 1

Gatton said the university had just started to recover from the May 8, 2009, storm when the recent series of storms hit the area. He said the university again is cleaning up limbs and other small debris, which takes up most of his crew's time that ideally would be used for other maintenance.

"We have graduation in two weeks, and we're trying to build everything up and have everything ready to go for graduation weekend, and it's just really been difficult," he said.

In addition to the roof flying off the law school building, he said nearly every house on the northwest side of campus had its basement flooded. Trying to keep up with mowing during the breaks in severe weather has created more damaged grounds, Gatton said.

"We're having to play catch-up, and in fact, in areas we're even having a hard time mowing just because of the amount of ruts that we're causing," he said.

Gatton said the timeliness of the repairs will be weather-dependent.

While roofs blew off the new Public Safety Center and the law building, several residents at Campus Habitat evacuated the 100 building at 506 S. Wall St. and the 400 building at 511 S. Graham Ave., according to a Campus Habitat press release. Most of the damage was caused by high winds and heavy rain. Residents were relocated to local hotels, the release said.

City crews have continued to monitor high-water areas, streets and utility operations such as traffic signal outages, Gill said. He said the city's water and sewer plants are functioning as normal.

Bost said the Big Muddy levee at Grand Tower might give way and is an area of concern within the county.

"We're trying desperately to watch (it) closely," he said. "There's not a lot you can do."

Grand Tower Mayor Mike Ellet strongly advised the voluntary evacuation of the town's residents late Wednesday, according to

a press release from Jackson County's Emergency Management Agency. The release said the levee had not been breached, but a recently repaired drainpipe had again been damaged.

A separate release from the agency listed Elliot Road, King Ferry Road, Rattlesnake Road, Upper Chute Road and Tator Road in Grand Tower as being closed.

Gill said Carbondale has responded to a mutual aid request to send a generator and emergency lights to Alexander County.

ALEXANDER COUNTY

By late Wednesday, the National Weather Service said the Ohio River at Cairo was at 58.5 feet, a foot away from its record height. The river is expected to reach 60.5 feet by Sunday.

Glenda Frost, 31, of Cairo, said the town has been flooded eight times since 1997, but the recent flood has been the worst. The town's new dam took up a significant amount of space and has changed how large amounts of

rainwater are displaced.

"Any time you put in a new dam, it's going to do things different than it did before," she said.

Cairo has been swept up in a legal battle in an effort to protect the town, according to The Associated Press.

Missouri has filed a federal lawsuit to block the Army Corps of Engineers' effort to blow holes in Birds Point levee, located in southeast Missouri's Mississippi County, to ease the rising waters near Cairo, the AP reported.

A hearing in Cape Girardeau, Mo., will be held today.

The report said the corps has decided to wait until Sunday, when the river is expected to reach above record level, to deem if the action is necessary. If a judge allows the action, it would proceed with caution before breaching the levee.

Missouri government officials told the AP floodwaters would damage 100 homes and 130,000 acres of land and create a silt layer that would take years to clear. Officials said the corps should explore other methods of relieving

pressure on the levees rather than releasing it on Missouri.

Cairo Mayor Judson Childs told the AP he supported the breach because it put people's lives ahead of farmland. He said he has asked residents to voluntarily evacuate should the levees near the town fail.

A few miles from Cairo, 40,000 sandbags were brought into the unincorporated town of Olive Branch, where homes sat surrounded by the floodwater.

Friends and family of Olive Branch residents traveled from Cape Girardeau to aid in sandbagging and evacuations.

Terri Farris, an Olive Branch resident, said she would remain in her house, and in good spirits, until it loses electricity despite how close the water has come.

"What else can you do?" she said.

Gemma Ord contributed to this report.

Lindsey Smith can be reached at lsmith@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 265.

Leaky Missouri levee highlights national problem

ALAN SCHER ZAGIER
JIM SALTER
Associated Press

POPLAR BLUFF, Mo. — Floodwaters leaking past an old earthen levee in this river town highlight a larger problem threatening much of rural America: Scores of flood walls built decades ago by farmers are increasingly susceptible to failure.

Many of the barriers are little more than piles of compacted dirt that were constructed without help from engineers, mainly to protect crops. Now they shield entire communities, and they are managed by local authorities who have little to no money for repairs.

"You build them to the levels

that you hope are adequate," said Jeff Rolland, deputy police chief in Poplar Bluff, a southeast Missouri town of 17,000 people protected by just such a levee. "Unfortunately, extraordinary storms come along."

That's what happened this week after as much as 15 inches of rain fell on the region in four days, causing the Black River to climb out of its banks. The flood displaced more than 1,000 people and sent water over the Poplar Bluff levee.

The levee is one of more than 100 across the country listed as unfit for use in the government's most recent report on the structures. The failing levees are in 16 states, including five in Ohio, five in Louisiana and 16 in

Washington. As still more rain fell Wednesday, all eyes were on the flood walls and the rising water.

The Reorganized Butler County No. 7 levee at Poplar Bluff failed a federal inspection in 2008 after the Army Corps of Engineers found a host of problems.

Corps spokesman P.J. Spaul said there were buildings on the levee, including a house and garage, as well as trees large enough to create holes in the earth if they died and their roots rotted.

The levee was also crisscrossed by roads and cattle trails, creating low spots. It was pockmarked with animal burrows. And fences and locked gates prevented access

for maintenance and inspections.

In addition, the inspector noted that earlier flood damage had gone unrepaired, and soil had been excavated from near the bottom of the levee, which could have contributed to dirt sliding down the side.

Because those problems were never addressed, the levee no longer qualifies for a corps program that provides money for flood-related repairs.

The recent heavy rain took a toll, allowing water to seep through the levee, pour over the top in 35 places and gush through a hole in the middle of the barrier.

Many rural levees are privately maintained and overseen by local boards or commissions with limited expertise and resources.

The quality of small-town levees varies greatly. Most are made of mounded dirt that has been sloped and then topped with grass to reduce erosion.

Others are more complex, with spillways, drainage systems and pumps. But for cities and private levee districts that are strapped for cash, levees are often little more than earthen berms, like the one at Poplar Bluff, about 130 miles south of St. Louis.

"People don't realize the levees there until the water starts rising," said Tom Waters, chairman of the Missouri Levee and Drainage District Association. "The local districts do what they can, but sometimes it's cheaper to be out of compliance and fix it yourself than be in compliance."

'Beastie Boys,' make a
'Hot' comeback to the
realm of hip-hop

'Of Montreal' maintains
their psychedelic persona
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Soup's latest an embarrassing relic

RYAN VOYLES
Daily Egyptian

Fishin' For Woos
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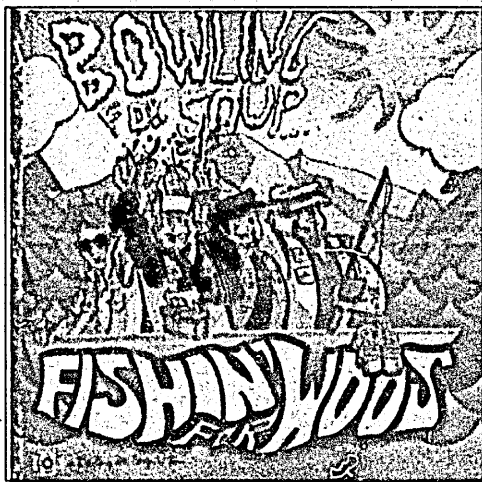
Bowling for Soup always seemed like an afterthought in the explosion of pop-punk bands in the early 2000s. Their vocals were more strained than their contemporaries', and the hooks were just as forgettable.

But, with the release of their 11th studio album, "Fishin' for Woos," Bowling for Soup proved they should have remained a relic of a genre that lives only through nostalgia.

Right with the opening track, "Let's Pretend We're Not In Love," it's obvious innovation is the band's worst enemy. Though they have entered their early 40s, they still screech about the pains and turmoil of school, work, girlfriends and partying all weekend long. While the lyrics are fine for a young pop-punk act, it's more like a musical mid-life crisis coming from this band.

The only thing that has changed is the obscure pop culture references the group drops into the songs. They're the musical equivalent of the worst random sequences in TV's "Family Guy."

No song captures the desperation of the album more than the first single, "S-S-Saturday." It's an attempt to recapture the over-the-top fun of



PROVIDED PHOTO

"1985," the band's 2004 hit. While that song had loving admiration for its topic, "S-S-Saturday" just sounds like a pathetic story of going to no-fun parties on the weekend with friends. Even Bruce Springsteen couldn't salvage a verse about the hilarity of drunk-texting your boss.

Now listeners just need a song about Sunday to join "S-S-Saturday" and Rebecca Black's "Friday" for a trifecta of tunes that make the weekend sound like

the most terrible thing ever. To call "Fishin' for Woos" a gutterball would be an understatement. It's more like a bowling ball that was thrown across the lane and destroyed the entire bowling alley, leaving only the thrower and the 10 pins he aimed for standing.

Ryan Voyles can be reached at rvoyles@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 258.

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Wombats follow up with standard punk pop fare

BRENDAN SMITH
Daily Egyptian

This Modern Glitch

★★★★☆

With the release of their 2007 debut album, "The Wombats Proudly Present: A Guide to Love, Loss & Desperation," The Wombats made the big dive into the overflowing pool of charming indie British bands.

The Liverpool trio's follow-up, "This Modern Glitch," sees the group try to hang out to their status rather than branch out.

The album opener, "Our Perfect Disease," is a mascot for the trio's sound. Frontman Matthew Murphy's lyrical punk sensibility is combined with the band's rhythms, giving the vibe of a pop cover of classic Joy Division. The track's sing-along chorus sounds like a rip off of Klaxons' "Golden Skans," but that doesn't make it any less infectious.

The layered synthesized harmonies and call and response

The strings, heavy English accent and melodrama of "Anti-D" sound like a bad Oasis outtake. The sluggish pace is different step for the group, and although the elements are there, the trio doesn't quite hit the mark.

chorus of "Tokyo (Vampires and Wolves)" makes for pure indie pop bliss. It is by far the record's most enjoyable three minutes.

"Walking Disasters" is an ode to a jaded relationship between Murphy and his femme fatale. The '80s pop-influenced instrumentation sounds refreshing against the singer's biting lyrics, which go so far as to namedrop Sigmund Freud — art school dropouts strike back!

The strings, heavy English accent and melodrama of "Anti-D" sound like a bad Oasis outtake.

The sluggish pace is a different step for the group, and although the elements are there, the trio doesn't quite hit the mark.

The electro-pop nostalgia of "1996" can only be described as cute. Murphy's love letter to his adolescence is sugary sweet and a tender power-pop song.

"Girls/Fast Cars" is undoubtedly marked to become the newest hipster anthem. With the chorus "I like girls and fast cars/It's cheap and it's pathetic, but you can hate me just because," it is clear the band builds up the rapidly cooler-than-you attitude.

"This Modern Glitch" is a record, but the only problem is The Wombats are just one of a zillion retro-influenced, indie pop bands. These songs will be utilized for their intentions: Urban Outfitters soundtracks, college radio play and background at a hipster get together.

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

Star magazine apologizes, settles Holmes lawsuit

Associated Press

Katie Holmes has settled her lawsuit with the publishers of Star magazine over a cover story that insinuated she was a drug addict.

The magazine published an apology to the actress Wednesday on the cover and inside its May 9 issue, saying it "did not intend to suggest that Ms. Holmes was a drug addict or was undergoing treatment for drug addiction."

"In a recent issue of Star, we published headlines about Katie Holmes that could be read to

suggest that she was addicted to drugs," the apology read. "Star apologizes to Ms. Holmes for any misperception and will be making a substantial donation to charity on Ms. Holmes' behalf for any harm that we may have caused."

Holmes' publicist, Ina Treciokas, said that American Media Inc. gave a sizable donation to Dizzy Feet Foundation, an organization that brings dance to underprivileged children.

Holmes sued the publishers last month for a January magazine cover with a headline that read

"Katie DRUG SHOCKER!" At the time, the magazine stood by its story and said it expected the case to be dismissed.

Financial terms of the settlement were not disclosed. Holmes had been seeking more than \$50 million in damages.

The 32-year-old actress said she accepts the apology and was pleased the lawsuit has been resolved.

"With this dispute out of the way, I look forward to once again focusing my attention on my family and career," she said.



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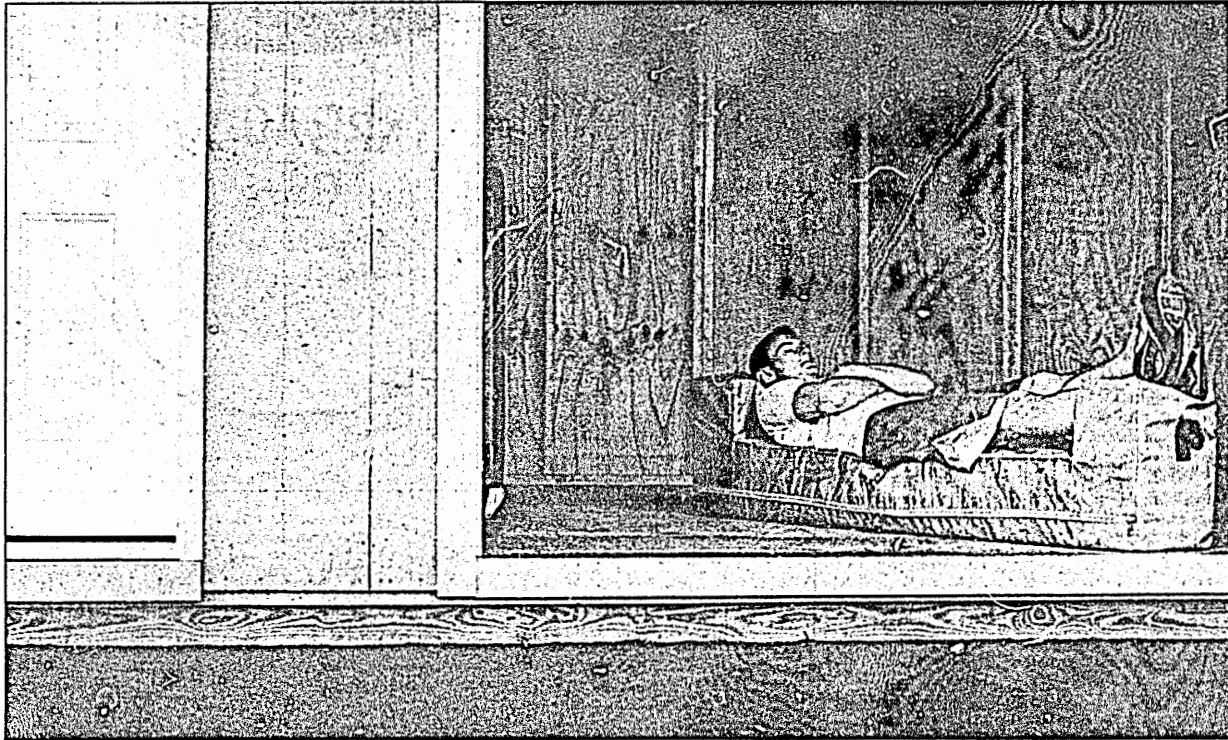
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JESS VERMEULEN | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Senior pole vaulter Tim Robberstad waits out the weather in an equipment shed Wednesday at Lew Hartzog track. "I have not been able to vault yet this week because of the weather," Robberstad said. "It's a little frustrating with conference right around the corner, but

hopefully we'll get a nice day of practice in soon." Part of the men's and women's track and field teams will travel Thursday to Des Moines, Iowa, for the Drake Relays while the rest of the team will spend Saturday in Memphis to compete in the Memphis Tiger Invitational.



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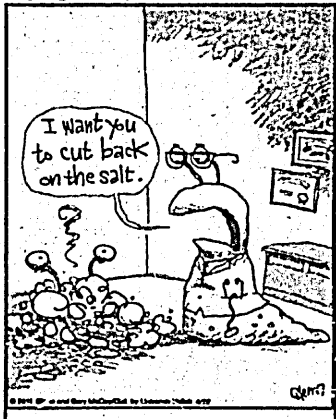
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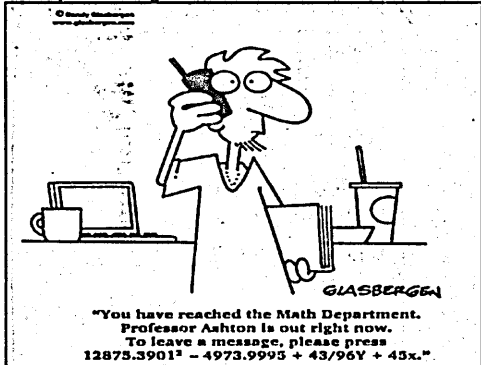
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Randy Glasbergen



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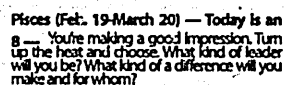
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2	1	5	4	8	9	3	6	7
3	9	7	6	5	2	1	4	8
8	7	2	9	6	3	4	1	5
9	6	3	5	1	4	8	7	2
1	5	4	7	2	8	6	9	3
7	3	6	8	9	1	2	5	4
5	8	9	2	4	6	7	3	1
4	2	1	3	7	5	9	8	6

For Bulls, focus turns toward Eastern semifinals

ANDREW SELIGMAN
Associated Press

CHICAGO—Relax, Chicago. Derrick Rose and the rest of the Bulls are breathing a little easier. They cleared one big hurdle, and now, they're starting at another one.

That would be Atlanta or Orlando in the Eastern Conference semifinals, after the Bulls disposed of Indiana in a tough first-round series. It's the next step in what they hope will be a long playoff run after a dominant regular season.

The opening round certainly wasn't easy. The Pacers hung in until about midway through the third quarter of Game 5 Tuesday, when the Bulls broke open a tight game and rolled over Indiana 116-89 in what turned into the first blowout of the series.

"It's really good for us to end this series like this," Luol Deng said. "We didn't really want another close game. In the locker room, we know it's not how you play, it's whether you win the game. We have adjustments to make."

The Bulls made major adjustments to get to this point, undergoing a massive overhaul a

year ago following back-to-back first-round playoff exits.

With new coach Tom Thibodeau, a rebuilt roster and Rose's emergence as an MVP candidate, the Bulls stormed to a league-best 62-20 record, matching their best record since the 1997-98 championship season.

Now, they've advanced past the first round for only the second time since Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen's second three-peat.

"Last year, we were just saying, 'How are we going to win this game? Do we have a chance?'" Rose said. "We really didn't have a chance. This year, we have a chance to win almost every game that we go in."

Many figured the Bulls would roll through the Pacers. Instead, they got all they could handle, pulling out the first three games by a total of 15 points and seeing a furious rally at the end of Game 4 fall just short.

Now, they're taking a breather after getting pushed by the Pacers, with no practice scheduled for Wednesday or Thursday.

For all the angst over the slow starts, the turnovers, the physical

"We have to try to figure out how we can keep (Boozer) out of foul trouble. It's hard to get into a rhythm when you're picking up two quick fouls like he is right now."

—Tom Thibodeau
Chicago Bulls coach

play and Rose's sprained left ankle, this is exactly where the Bulls thought they would be — even if getting there was a little tougher than expected.

The Pacers fouled hard. Their big guards gave Rose trouble, trapping him and throwing the offense out of sync. His ankle injury in Game 4 only added to the angst. So did Carlos Boozer's struggles, and if there's a concern going forward, that's a big one.

As if he wasn't having a tough enough time in the playoffs, another issue surfaced in Game 5 — turf toe. Boozer heard a pop in his right foot when he scored his lone basket in the second quarter and finished with just two points on 1-of-5 shooting. He also ran into foul trouble again, picking up two quick fouls in the first quarter and his fourth in the third. That gave

him 19 in the series, and he sat out the final 18 minutes, 17 seconds.

"We have to try to figure out how we can keep (Boozer) out of foul trouble," Thibodeau said. "It's hard to get into a rhythm when you're picking up two quick fouls like he is right now."

The Bulls' big offseason acquisition, Boozer has been out of sync ever since missing five games in March with a sprained left ankle. In his final 14 regular-season games, he hit the 20-point mark just three times and finished with 14 or fewer eight times.

He went from scoring 17.3 points per game in the regular season to 10.0 against the Pacers, and his shooting dropped from 51 percent to 35.8.

Every game in the opening round was a struggle for Boozer except the second, when he

delivered 17 points and 16 rebounds. He had 12 points in the opener and four in Game 3, and even when he scored 15 in Game 4, he hit just 6 of 15 shots.

The fouls certainly aren't helping the cause. It's hard to find a rhythm sitting on the sideline, and even if he's not shooting well, he still draws attention from opponents and takes some of the load off his teammates.

"Whoever we play next, I assure you they're going to plan a lot to stop Carlos," Deng said. "Carlos is one of the best low-post scorers in this league."

And he figures it'll be a different story for Boozer in the conference semifinals.

"Carlos will get going," Deng said. "If you look at the games, Carlos is rebounding the ball great for us. Every series is going to be different. Carlos is always working hard. He's always in there early. His rhythm will come. This series, Indiana did a good job sometimes taking his rhythm away, but this is over with. We've got to get ready for how we're going to get him more involved early and get ready for the next series."

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SOFTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 16

Since the Salukis did not play these games, they have competed in three fewer conference games

than the Illinois State Redbirds, the top-ranked team in the MVC with a 17-3 conference record, and two fewer than the Drake Bulldogs, the second-ranked team with a conference record of 16-3.

The cancellations could also hinder players such as junior left fielder Mallory Duran and freshman second baseman Jayna Spivey in their chase for records. Duran has tied the record for the

most RBIs a single season with 50, and Spivey has worked her way up to the eighth spot for the most home runs in one season with 10.

The Salukis' final two series of the season will be against the two

top teams in the conference. They will play a doubleheader against Illinois State at noon Saturday and a game at noon Sunday in Normal. SIU will finish the season against Drake on May 7-8 at home.

BODYBUILDING

Professional weight lifters devote time to strength

TREY BRAUNECKER
Daily Egyptian

For bodybuilders who want to win competitions, Alan Beck said the greatest sacrifice they must make is to their personal lives.

"If you're serious about it, you eat and train, and that's pretty much your whole life," said Beck, a personal

training graduate assistant at the Recreation Center and a judge of this year's Mr. SIU bodybuilding competition. "Even though you look good and feel good about yourself, you can't go out and party because you have to always keep in shape."

Social lives aren't the only sacrifice bodybuilders must make to achieve their maximum strength. Personal

bodybuilding trainer Kenneth Eichorst said devotion to nutritional programs are necessary to maximize muscles for competition.

Bodybuilders must eat foods rich in protein such as tuna, steak and chicken to help build muscles, Eichorst said. He said bodybuilders typically avoid carbohydrates while training to deplete the glycogen stored in the body. Eichorst

said it's also important to maintain a significant amount of fat in the diet, but he's not referring to potato chips and french fries.

"As for your fats, you want to keep a moderate fat count," he said. "You also want them to be good fats. So, you want to eat nuts like almonds (or) walnuts."

Recreation Center assistant strength coach Rebecca Kimball said the greatest focus while training should span across the entire workout regimen. She said bodybuilders are strict in the way they train, and it's common for them to spend at least six days a week training.

Whether the focus is on the

biceps or the shoulders, Kimball said workouts vary among bodybuilders.

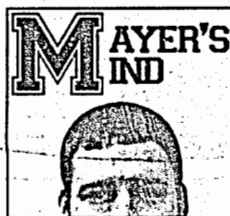
"There is no one workout," she said. "It depends on the person and how they want to go about training."

Most men tend to be the weakest in their calves, Eichorst said, and that is why it's important for bodybuilders to concentrate on these areas more than others. He said bodybuilders tend to pay more attention to their upper body and then aren't as developed in their quads, hamstrings and glutes as they should be.

"Calf muscle is mostly genetic, but you still have to train your ass off with your calves if you want them to grow," he said.

STAFF COLUMN

Bulls, Blackhawks switch positions this season

JACOB MAYER
Daily Egyptian

While life is good for Chicago Bulls fans, it's not so great for fans of the Chicago Blackhawks.

After four relatively close games against the Indiana Pacers, the Bulls defiantly put an end to the series in Game Five by winning 116-89 to move on the second round of the NBA Playoffs.

For the United Center's other residents, the Blackhawks fought back from a 3-0 series deficit to the Vancouver Canucks only to lose 2-1 in overtime in Game Seven.

It's amazing how much one season can change things. At this time one year ago, the Blackhawks were the No. 2 seed in the NHL's Western Conference and well on their way to winning the Stanley Cup. Now they were the No. 8 seed, the

last team in the playoffs and beaten in the first round.

On the other hand, the Bulls were in a similar situation to this year's Blackhawks as they too were the last team in the playoffs and beaten by the No. 1 seed, the Cleveland Cavaliers. This year, however, the Bulls had the best record in the league and have a legitimate shot at winning the NBA Championship.

Why the sudden change? Perhaps the Blackhawks were just one year ahead of the Bulls in terms of player development.

It is often said it takes three years for a player to develop to the point

where they can be a standout player and lead a team. Blackhawks' captain Jonathan Toews was drafted in 2006 and Patrick Kane was drafted in 2006 and 2007, respectively.

The Bulls, however, weren't able to draft Derrick Rose with the first pick until 2008, and while Rose was Rookie of the Year and an all-star his second year, the Bulls have improved the team around him as he's progressed to now have a team that can contend for a title.

In the long term, both teams are probably still on the way up. The Blackhawks lost several key players from their Stanley Cup winning team because of salary-cap restrictions, but

they still have a young core group that should only continue to get better.

The Bulls' window of opportunity is still wide open, as well. Rose will likely win the Most Valuable Player award this season, but that award could just be the beginning of many more throughout his career. He is the franchise player the Bulls have waited for nearly a decade.

So, while Chicago hockey fans may be disappointed with the way the games went this week, Chicago basketball fans have to be ecstatic with how the Bulls looked against the Pacers. For fans of both sports, these years are as good as it gets, or at least as good as it's been in a while.

D.E.
Daily BarkQUESTION
OF THE DAY

After the first round of playoff games are over and the Blackhawks lost in a crushing overtime defeat, what two teams do you think will make it past the conference semifinals and to the Western Conference Finals?

AUSTIN FLYNN
aflynn@dailyegyptian.com

I think it's going to be the Red Wings. The Canucks got extremely sloppy against the Blackhawks and I think it might happen again, and I think the Red Wings' 4-0 blowout of the Coyotes gave them enough confidence to take any team.

The Vancouver Canucks were the best team in the conference during the regular season, and they will maintain that place throughout the playoffs as they try to bring the Stanley Cup back to Canada.

RYAN VOYLES
rvoyles@dailyegyptian.com

I'll agree with everything Austin said. It's going to be the Red Wings. They destroyed a competent Coyote team, and no other team in the Western Conference looks nearly as strong.

JACOB MAYER
jmayer@dailyegyptian.com

Gus' Response

The Detroit, San Jose series will be a great heavy-hitting seven-game series with Detroit coming out with the win. Pavel Datsyuk is nothing short of amazing and Henrik Zetterberg might be back from his injury, giving Detroit the edge. Vancouver will take the Predators in five games. I like Nashville, but they simply don't have a team as good as Vancouver.





Which two teams will meet in NHL Western Conference Finals?

SOFTBALL

Rain ruins doubleheader with IUPUI

AUSTIN FLYNN
Daily Egyptian

A bout of bad weather has inconvenienced many in the Carbondale area, and the SIU softball team is no exception.

The doubleheader with the Indiana State-Purdue Indianapolis Jaguars at Charlotte West Stadium was canceled Wednesday because of inclement weather.

The games were added to the schedule in late March because both teams were looking to pick up extra games after previous rainouts, according to a Saluki Athletics press release.

Wednesday's rainout marks the fifth game the Salukis (32-13, 14-3 Missouri Valley Conference) have canceled because of weather. The other three games were conference games against Missouri State April 23 and a doubleheader against the Creighton Bluejays March 27.



SIU softball players pull a tarp over the field for the second time Friday at Charlotte West Stadium to fore a doubleheader. Wednesday's game was canceled because of severe weather. The softball team would have had a chance at first place in the Missouri Valley Conference standings if it wasn't for the canceled games.

GENNA ORD
DAILY
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Please see **SOFTBALL** | 15

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