Man in wheelchair hit by driver who ran red light eastbound on 13

TARA KULASH
Daily Egyptian

A John A. Logan student was hit by a car crossing the intersection of Illinois Route 13 in front of University Mall.

Witnesses Samantha Finger, a Coeio resident, and Ryan Turner, a Zeigler resident, said they saw the accident happen around 6:10 p.m.

They said they were traveling west on 13 when the stoplight turned red and all cars stopped but one. As Copper Gowan, a sophomore at John A. Logan studying social work, started to cross the street in his wheelchair, Turner said an SUV driving east went through the stoplight and hit Gowan.

“The car went about five feet in the air. Not the wheelchair, the car,” Turner said.

The driver Stephen Pyle, a Herrin resident declined comment.

The victim is presumed dead, but could not be confirmed at press time.

Traffic was shut down eastbound Illinois 13 at the time of the accident as police investigated the area.

This report will be updated as more information is received. Tara Kulash can be reached at tskula@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 255.

Sgt. Rich Brunner of the Carbondale Police investigates the scene of an accident Thursday on eastbound Illinois Route 13. Witnesses said a vehicle ran a red light and struck a man who was crossing the street in a wheelchair. The victim’s status is unknown.

Machine in Engineering lab causes fire

SARAH SCHNEIDER
Daily Egyptian

A fire in the D wing of the Engineering Building caused an evacuation of the building Thursday night.

Those in the building were evacuated after the fire alarm was pulled at 8:21, said university spokesman Rod Sievers. He said the damage to the Dynamometer machine that measures the mechanical force of a rotating machine, caught fire in a lab in the college’s Center for Advanced Friction Studies while running a test on brakes.

Sievers said there were no injuries and did not think any classes were going on at the time.

Please see FIRE | 3

Transportation bus becomes hands-on classroom

TARA KULASH
Daily Egyptian

Beehives and composts are just a few of the items that might be aboard southern Illinois’ version of the Magic School Bus.

The Repurposed Outreach Vehicle for Education and Research is a bus Andrew Podoll, an SIU alumnus, purchased to bring science and ecology experiments to students across the region.

Podoll said the idea for the Eco ROVER project began in 2007 when, as a graduate student, he started a partnership with teachers across southern Illinois to develop curriculum around hands-on learning models. He would take his truck to schools ranging from elementary to high school and bring in participation-based experiments and lessons such as a model river system, organic and inorganic fertilizers, and creating fossils for students.

Podoll said the students are always excited for his lessons. “Kids want to get their hands dirty,” he said. “But it’s an opportunity to learn. If you can control that environment, a little bit and harness their energy, it can be very productive.”

The project is beneficial for students with learning disabilities as well. Podoll said, because they don’t have to read a textbook and regurgitate information or fill in circles on an exam.

It’s helpful for teachers, too, because they can take away from the lessons and use them in the classroom, he said. Podoll also visited the SIU campus Thursday.

Podoll said he started to think about how inefficient his truck was because of limited space and how he could bring his work to a bigger scale. That’s when the thought for a bus came to him, he said.

“I was just joking around with some friends,” he said. “They said, ‘Yeah, a bus, Andrew. Nice.’”

Please see ROVER | 3

STEVIE MATZKER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Firefighters work to extinguish a fire Thursday at the Engineering Building. The cause of the fire was determined to be a dynamometer, a device used for measuring torque or power.

Provided Photo

STEVIE MATZKER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sgt. Rich Brunner of the Carbondale Police investigates the scene of an accident Thursday on eastbound Illinois Route 13. Witnesses said a vehicle ran a red light and struck a man who was crossing the street in a wheelchair. The victim’s status is unknown.
The Weather Channel® 5-day weather forecast for Carbondale

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<thead>
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<th>Day</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
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<td>T-Storms</td>
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<td>81°/64°</td>
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The DAILY EAGLE 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 intersession 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 EAGLE online publication can be found at www.dailyeagle.com.

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The DAILY EAGLE, 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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Correction
In the April 26 edition of the DAILY EAGLE, the story “USA Today recognizes three SIUC students” should have read “Stout said she was in shock when she received her email about the award, and her first reaction was, ‘No way.’ The DAILY EAGLE regrets this error.

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BE SENSE
JUNE 12-2 TUES-THURS
In September 2010, the joke became a reality. On a road trip through Hannibal, Mo., Podoll saw a used bus for sale, and within seven days, he said he made the purchase.

With the bus, Podoll said he wants to take the hands-on learning experience to the next level. He said he wants projects such as a green roof and composts. He said he even wants a beehive on the inside with a bumpout area in the back where students can watch the bees pollinate the plants.

The main goal, Podoll said, is for all the hands-on modules to be connected like a miniature ecosystem.

The cost of the finished product will be at least $80,000, he said. This could be problematic because the project was deemed a not-for-profit organization in September 2010, which means all funds must be from donations and fundraisers.

“That way, we can provide free resources for schools,” he said.

So far, from fundraisers and private donations, Podoll said the organization has managed to raise around $10,500. He also has a pending grant application with Old National Bank for $12,000.

He said he wishes he could wait to uncover the bus as a finished product for a wow-factor, but considering how slow the process has become, he doesn’t think it is a realistic idea.

In the meantime, Podoll said he still travels to schools for lessons and takes the bus with him so the community will see how he is still active in the project.

One class he frequently visits is Marsha Bertling’s fifth-grade class at Jefferson Elementary School in Marion. She said on his first visit, he gave a presentation on his visit to Antarctica.

“From that moment on, I begged him to come back to my class,” she said.

Podoll does experiments of all kinds with the class, Bertling said. One experiment, for example, was when the class put garlic in with carnation flowers to see if the plants absorbed the scent.

She said the way he relates to the kids is unbelievable.

“As far as I’m concerned, science is more of a fine art, because it’s something that has to be experienced,” Bertling said.

“It’s not just a subject you can teach out of a book, and that’s what he did. He took it out of the book.”

Sally O’Leary, a science teacher at Murphysboro High School, was the first teacher Podoll worked with on the project. She said the two would go through her lesson plans and tweak them to be more hands-on.

Many students come back to O’Leary to ask how Podoll is doing, she said.

As far as getting the money for the bus, O’Leary said she is hopeful for Podoll.

“She’s very charismatic. Every teacher will tell another teacher, and hopefully the word will spread,” she said.

Bertling said it’s going to be hard to raise the money because financial times are hard for schools but she’s positive Podoll will get the bus completed.

“If Andrew Podoll is behind it, I will not just hope for it,” she said. “It will happen.”

Tara Kulasch can be reached at tkaulasch@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-3319 ext. 253.

Sanjeev Kumar, the chairperson of Civil and Environmental Engineering, went to the building when an assistant from his lab, which is next to the lab where the machine caught fire, called him and said smoke was seen. Kumar said tests are run in the lab on a regular basis.

Sandee Burra, a graduate student in civil engineering from Hyderabad, India, said he and his classmates saw smoke coming in through the ceiling of the lab they were in and called emergency services.

Sieves said the damage was confined to the machine, but it took firefighters a while to clear the smoke in the building.

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Swimming Continued from B

Wolfe has made first-team All-Conference twice since being redshirted as a freshman. He won three individual Mid-American Conference titles, won 29 individual races and made the honorable mention Academic All-Conference selection in 2011 during his time at SIU. Wolfe will return this fall for his senior season as a two-time defending MAC champion in the 100-yard butterfly.

Caleb Mottinger can be reached at cmottinger@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-3313 ext. 269.
Golf
Compassion from R.

Matthews and two other seniors played in their last tournament Sunday to Tuesday in Terre Haute, Ind.
The Salukis tied with Northern Iowa for third Conference champion Missouri State bested the Salukis by six strokes, and Illinois State finished in second place.
A slow start Sunday in the 54-hole tournament put SIU in a rut it couldn’t pull itself out of, despite a strong finish.
Sophomores Cassie and Ashleigh Rushing both tied for their personal 54-round scoring best at SIU. Though disappointed in the loss, Cassie Rushing said despite not scoring as well as she had wanted, she was glad that the first day didn’t keep the whole team from doing its best throughout the tournament.
"Starting off, our score was below average, which basically put us in seventh place," coach Alexis Mikhailovich said. "We had to play catch up round two and round three; we went from seventh to fifth, and on the second day of our game for the best team score out of the 10 teams that were there."
Mikhailovich will start her second year at SIU this fall. Her first year of coaching saw four first-place finishes and seven second-place victories out of the Salukis’ 11 tournament roster, with a tie for third earlier this week to top it off. She said if the team’s round two and round three scores were totaled, it would have won the tournament.
SIU placed ahead of Missouri State both of those times, she said.
Mikhailovich, said 10 players are on the roster for next fall. The four players from this team’s last year said they would leave school for half of this year’s team, but with three of her top five players retiring, she said in light of this year’s success and team camaraderie, her second year at SIU is already off to a good start.
Caleb Mottinger can be reached at cmottinger@eAlsgeyar.com or 536-3311 ext. 269.
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Setty launches ‘#FreeTregSetty’ campaign, garners national attention

Athletic Department denies release until end of semester, academics play a part

JOE RAGUSA Daily Egyptian

Treg Setty wants to leave SIU and go back home, but those in the Athletic Department say Setty won’t be granted a release until he finishes the semester with good grades.

Athletic Director Mario Moccia said the issue with Setty’s and Daniel Daniels’ releases involves academics and a change to the way the Academic Progress Rate works, with stiffer penalties for programs with student-athletes that have a grade point average lower than 2.6.

“It’s just a mess. All I want to do is go to school closer to my family,” Setty said on Facebook. “That’s it. Nothing else.”

According to Jeff Goodman of CBS Sports, Setty’s GPA is currently 2.5, and the Athletic Department wants to make sure his GPA is 2.6 before it grants him a release from his scholarship so the men’s basketball program won’t face penalties. Daniels faces a similar situation with his grades, as he has a 2.4 GPA, according to Goodman.

After several players left SIU during the tenure of former coach Chris Lowery, Moccia said the Athletic Department is nervous about possible sanctions from the NCAA. Moccia said he couldn’t comment on past transfers’ academic status when they left the program.

“We take (possible penalties) very seriously due to our previous coaching staff’s failure to keep players on our roster,” Moccia said. “We are paying for the sins of our past.”

Moccia said Setty met with the NCAA appeals committee Thursday, but he has not heard the results of the meeting. Moccia said he didn’t know if Daniels appealed the denial because he has heard conflicting reports from several people.

Daniels declined to comment about the situation.

Setty gained attention from national sports media, with Goodman and ESPN’s Doug Gottlieb showing support for the freshman over Twitter. Setty started the #FreeTregSetty hashtag on Twitter to gain more support for his release.

Compliance Coordinator Dan Rohrer said Setty and Daniels could still talk to and receive scholarship offers from other schools without an official release; they just need to ask permission from the Athletic Department before they make any contact with a player on scholarship.

Setty said the Athletic Department has not allowed him to talk to other coaches. The controversy surrounds an NCAA rule that allows players to transfer with a 2.0 GPA, but they can’t leave with a GPA lower than 2.6 without the school receiving penalties from the NCAA. Depending on the offense’s seriousness, men’s basketball could face a possible postseason ban and loss of scholarships if the team’s academics aren’t up to par.

“The (NCAA) choose the 2.6 grade point average because of data that shows that is usually the line between graduating at another institution and not,” Moccia said. “That was not arbitrarily selected, that selected with a lot of facts behind it, so I do not have any disagreements with their policies whatsoever.”

Media Services Director Tom Weber said coach Barry Hinson will defer all comments about the situation to Moccia.

Joe Ragusa can be reached at jragusa@dailyeagle.com or 536-3331 ext. 269.

Swimmer qualifies for Olympic trials

CALEB MOTSINGER Daily Egyptian

A Saluki swimmer has qualified for the Olympic trials for the first time in 12 years.

Junior Justin Wolfe’s time in the 100-meter butterfly at an independent meet in Nashville, Tenn., Saturday made him the first Saluki to meet or surpass the qualifying time since Matt Musa in 2000.

“One Justin sets out to do something, nothing stops him,” coach Rick Walker said. “What sets him apart is that he sets his sights higher than most people. He focuses on the long term and is internally driven.”

Walker said Wolfe’s continuous work in the off season allowed him to swim a 55.01 time in the long-course 100-meter butterfly, beating the qualifying standard time of 55.29.

Please see SWIMMING | 4

Women’s golf ends with tie at MVC Championships

CALEB MOTSINGER Daily Egyptian

Senior Alisha Matthews finished her final season with a career-best round and a Missouri Valley Conference Championship record for the lowest score in 18 holes.

“If I hadn’t have shot 67 in the last round, I would have come off of the course bawling,” Matthews said. “Right now, I’m still on the high of having my lowest career round, but it will probably sink in during the next couple of days that my playing career here is over. It’s going to be weird not having to go to practice.”

Matthews, a senior from St. Louis studying recreation, broke an MVC record set by SIU’s Braidy Hood in 2007. Sophomore Cassie Rushing, senior Margaret Gilley and Matthews all made spots on the MVC All-Conference team.

SIU had more spots on the list than any other conference school.

Please see GOLF | 5