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## The Daily Egyptian, October 30, 2008

Daily Egyptian Staff

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Volume 94, Issue 42

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OCTOBER 30, 2008  
VOLUME 94, No. 42  
16 PAGES

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CURRENTS BLOG

**Can't get enough on skydiving?**

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EDYTA BŁASZCZYK ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

**Gene Leonard, a regular jumper and member of Southeast Missouri Skydiving, waits for the right altitude to jump. For a more in-depth look on skydiving, see CURRENTS, Page 8**

## \$1.5 million nets college retention increase



**Eric Miller, a senior from Springfield studying engineering, "fires up" a machine that makes carbon nanotubes Wednesday.** Miller, an undergraduate research assistant, has stayed at SIUC for the duration of his college career and is particularly happy with his professors and their dedication to his education. **JULIA RENDLEMAN DAILY EGYPTIAN**

### Engineering program aims to keep students close, involved

**Demarcus Hamilton**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The College of Engineering is ahead of its schedule in a \$1.5 million plan to improve plummeting graduation rates, a report from September shows.

Interim Associate Dean John Nicklow said the \$1.5 million grant was given by the National Science Foundation to help improve the college's graduation rate, which hit a staggering 37 percent in 2004.

Nicklow, the principal investiga-

tor of the project, said the five-year plan was originally sketched out to improve graduation rates at the college. After researching the root of the problem, however, the research staff found that the problem was retention.

"We can increase the graduation rate from 37 percent to 67 percent by increasing retention in first- and second-year students," Nicklow said.

From 1997 to 2004, only 64 percent of freshmen came back for their

sophomore year and only 70 percent of returning sophomores returned for their junior year, Nicklow said.

**"I love it. I have good communication with all my mentees and I feel I've helped them adjust to the living and learning community of Thompson Point and college in general."**

— Samantha Trusk paid mentor at Pierce Hall

Common reasons students left the college were lack of academic preparation, difficulty adjusting to college life, lack of a community-focused environment and financial difficulties, he said.

These problems are what made Nicklow and the other six personnel

use the \$1.5 million to create the living and learning communities in the College of Engineering's infrastructure for undergraduates living on campus.

"About 60 percent of that money will go back to students," Nicklow said.

One of the foundations of the living and learning communities plan will require freshmen and sophomores to live on campus in one of three designated buildings: Pierce, Abbott or Bailey halls.

| Progress made towards engineering objectives  |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>Objectives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1.5 million grant awarded September 2006</li> <li>• Plans went into effect fall 2007</li> <li>• 60% of funding to go to student tutors, mentors and supplemental instructors</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve graduation rates from 37% to 67%</li> <li>• Improve freshman retention rates from 64% to 80%</li> <li>• Improve sophomore retention rates from 70% to 90%</li> <li>• Junior and senior figures to increase naturally</li> </ul> | <p><b>Progress as of fall 2008</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freshmen retention: 71% (7% increase)</li> <li>• Sophomore retention: 79% (9% increase)</li> </ul> |

Source: Interim Associate Dean John Nicklow

DeAndré Elion ~ Daily Egyptian

See RETENTION, Page 11

## Final open forum sexual harassment discussion today

**Sean McGahan**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

As the Saturday deadline for opinions on the way the university deals with sexual harassment approaches, people across campus will have one last chance to publicly make their voices heard today.

Students, faculty and staff have been asked to analyze proposed changes to the policy drafted by the university's legal counsel. The changes attempt to address advancements in case law and come after several groups have criticized the way people were treated under the current policy.

The Sexual Harassment Working Group, which consists of various experts on the topic of sexual harassment, was given the task of compiling the opinions of groups and individuals for a report to SIU President Glenn Poshard.

In preparation for the final open forum — 3 p.m. today in the Student Center's Illinois Room — working group chairwoman Michelle Miller discussed the policy and campus conversation.

**DAILY EGYPTIAN:** Why should students care about the sexual harassment policy and procedures?

**Michelle Miller:** The most important reason is because it covers them. It considers students both as potential harassers and potential victims, so they need to be aware of the policies that cover them.

There is a Student Code of Conduct, of course, that students are subject to, but the policy of sexual harassment covers the entire campus, so students need to know where to go to seek help and where to seek advice.

**DE:** Why should faculty and staff care about the policy and procedures?

**MM:** The same reason. The policy is supposed to be designed to create a campus that is free of sexual harassment. To that end, there are expectations built into the new policy about everyone's role in this new harassment-free area that we're trying to create.

There are expectations for individuals to report and expectations for individuals to perhaps serve on panels for appeals if they are asked by constituency heads, there are expectations for people to understand the policy, to be trained and be educated about sexual harassment and the policies associated with it.

For all of those reasons, the full campus community needs to be aware of what the proposed policy says and what it is asking of us.

**DE:** What is the purpose of the open forum?

**MM:** This is the third open forum the Sexual Harassment Working Group has had. The purpose of all of them is to provide an opportunity for individuals in the community to come and to share with the working group their ideas and suggestions related to the policy. And again, to do it in an open way, so individuals can hear from each other and respond to each other's comments.

The task for the working group as we facilitate these discussions is to be listeners. Sometimes we walk people through the changes and this policy versus the policy we currently have, and to try to point out places where there's been changes made by the General Counsel's office in the revisions.

See FORUM, Page 10

This poll is brought to you by **COUNTRY** Insurance & Financial Services

siuDE.com Question:  
With the election a few weeks away, do you plan to vote early or on election day?

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| I plan to vote early.        | 14% |
| I vote absentee.             | 12% |
| I will vote on election day. | 64% |
| I do not intend to vote.     | 10% |

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.

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

What's your favorite unofficial holiday?

A. Unofficial Halloween. B. Unofficial St. Patrick's Day.  
C. Unofficial Christmas. D. I think unofficial holidays are stupid.

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News Brief

**Want Obama tickets? Head to wait list**

CHICAGO — Barack Obama's Election Night event in Grant Park is the hottest ticket around, if you can get one.

A Web site set up for tickets is now accepting names for a wait list, one day after Obama's campaign sent an e-mail inviting only supporters from

his home state of Illinois.

The Web site says people who register will be notified if any tickets become available for next week's event.

A ticket is good for two people. A permit application filed with the city says 65,000 spectators will be at the

event. Vendors will sell pizza, hot dogs and hot chocolate.

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley has predicted as many as 1 million people could show up in the park.

The permit application calls for chain link fences and 925 barricades to be put up.

**Chicago to New York on delays: 'It's your fault'**

CHICAGO — Chicago can blame New York for its airport delays — at least in part.

Many of the delays plaguing O'Hare International Airport are due to chronic congestion at New York's airports, U.S. Transportation Secretary Mary Peters said Wednesday.

Fewer than half the flights over the summer between O'Hare and New York's three airports were on time, compared to an almost 80 percent on-time performance for all other flights, said Peters, citing new federal data.

While an ongoing \$15 billion expansion of the nation's second-busiest airport, which includes a new runway scheduled to open Nov. 20, should help reduce delays, Peters said New York could hinder Chicago's efforts.

"No amount of new concrete will help if your planes are stuck in New

York," she told reporters at O'Hare.

"Chicago shouldn't have to play second city to New York's aviation shortcomings."

Peters said steps are being taken to reduce delays at New York airports, including the appointment of a new air traffic czar for the region, a redesign of airspace patterns in the northeast and the deployment of new aviation technology.

"The sad truth is, all your hard work and tireless tenacity may be undermined because of the record airline delays too many travelers experience every day at the three New York area airports," said Peters, flanked by city of Chicago officials.

A federal report released in July ranked O'Hare last among major U.S. airports in on-time departures. Only about 63 percent of O'Hare flights left on time from January through May,

she said.

One constraining factor is that there isn't enough room at the New York area's major airports — John F. Kennedy, LaGuardia and Newark-Liberty — to build new runways, "which means our task will be more complex, and our solutions more creative," Peters said.

Also on Wednesday, new federal figures indicated that average U.S. air fares jumped 8.1 percent in the second quarter to their highest level since the government started keeping track 13 years ago.

They rose 11 percent on average for O'Hare flights.

New figures from the U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics showed the need for more competition at airports where the number of flights are capped, Peters said. Caps are scheduled to be lifted at O'Hare on Friday.

Calendar

**"The Lost Gospels" Intersivity Christian Fellowship**  
• 7 p.m. Thursday at Life Science III Auditorium

*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 the event, or call 536-3311, ext. 266.

Police Blotters

Kendall D. Hayes, 18, of Chicago was arrested and charged with possession of cannabis more than 30 grams with intent to deliver, resisting/obstructing a

peace officer and criminal trespass to state property at 7:10 p.m. Monday at Allen III. Hayes was transported to the Jackson County Jail.

**Correction**

If you spot an error, please contact the DAILY EGYPTIAN accuracy desk at 536-3311, ext. 253.

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# Public policy institute director bids farewell to all

**Brandy Oxford**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Mike Lawrence greeted the crowd that came to his retirement reception Wednesday with hugs, handshakes and promises to continue his work in politics.

Lawrence, who has been director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute since 2003, said he plans to resume his column about state politics after his Nov. 1 retirement.

"I care a great deal about this state and the policies of this state and I want to get back to commenting on them," Lawrence said.

Lawrence worked alongside former U.S. Sen. Paul Simon, from Makanda, at the institute from the time Simon founded it in 1998.

Before he came to SIUC, Lawrence worked as a journalist, then as press secretary and senior policy adviser for former Gov. Jim Edgar.

"I'm a journalist at heart and it's good to get back to my roots," Lawrence said. "I have a lot of things I want to say."

Lawrence used his interest in state politics to help focus the institute on state policies and government, said John Jackson, visiting professor for the institute.

"I think it's been a good change and I think it's generally worked well for us," Jackson said.

One of Lawrence's greatest accomplishments was when he helped push the first ethics and campaign finance law through the

Illinois General Assembly, Jackson said.

"Mike is very hard-working, intense and focused," Jackson said. "He's busy all the time and that means the institute is busy all of the time."

Steve Brown, the press secretary for House Speaker Mike Madigan, said he and Lawrence were adversaries when Lawrence worked for Edgar, but have worked side by side to educate SIUC students about state politics through classroom lectures and luncheons.

"He was probably one of the best reporters that I had come in contact with when we were both in journalism," Brown said. "I think he is a very good columnist because he'll develop an opinion that comes about from good research and then he'll be a fierce advocate for his point of view."

As director of the institute, Lawrence served the university in a way that directly reflected Simon's dreams for the institute, Brown said.

Lawrence said his parting advice to students is to seek out and take advantage of people at the university who can offer students help.

Lawrence was one of those people for Silas Key, a radio-television graduate from Chicago.

As a member of the National Association of Black Journalists, Key said he met Lawrence for the first time at an institute luncheon for journalists.

This was his first opportunity



JULIA RENDLEMAN ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Silas Key, right, a SIUC mass communications alumnus, drove from Chicago to attend Wednesday's retirement party for Mike Lawrence, retiring director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at SIUC. Key described Lawrence as a role model who brought many influential journalists to SIUC. Key now works at the radio station Power 92, in Chicago.

to meet with career journalists and it spurred his decision to produce radio shows, said Key, who works for Crawford Broadcasting in Chicago.

"Mike helped guide me on my way into journalism," Key said. "I appreciate him for that."

Key said the university is losing someone who likes to work

with youth and inspires students to learn and become active community members.

"He really likes to mold young minds," Key said.

Roughly 400 people attended the reception.

"It makes me humbled to see the turnout," Lawrence said. "My greatest fulfillment at Southern has

been from mentoring students."

Brandy Oxford can be reached  
536-3311 ext. 255 or  
brandy.oxford@siude.com

**siUDE.com**  
Go online for a brief history of the institute.

**“My greatest fulfillment at Southern has been from mentoring students.”**

— Mike Lawrence  
retiring director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute

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# Stocks turn higher after rate cut

Tim Paradis  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Wall Street got the news Wednesday it wanted from the Federal Reserve — a half-point cut in interest rates — and rallied in late afternoon trading, extending the previous day's huge advance. The major indexes all rose at least 2 percent after the central bank announced it was lowering its Fed funds rate to 1 percent.

The market waffled while it was still digesting the Fed's economic assessment statement that accompanied the rate cut but then seemed ready to advance in the final hour of trading. Policymakers spelled out a weakening of economic conditions in the U.S. and abroad, citing first a drop in spending by American consumers.

The Fed also reiterated it expects government steps, including its own efforts to increase liquidity, to improve credit market conditions and the economy over time.

"It seems like they pretty much met expectations," said Bruce McCain, chief investment strategist at Key Private Bank in Cleveland. "They more or less indicated elevated concerns about the economy, but nothing in it suggests any real panic but that this is just one more step in their program to restore the financial system to complete functioning."

The market's back-and-forth trading, typical in the minutes after a Fed rate move, drew all the more scrutiny a day after an 889-point surge in the Dow Jones industrials Tuesday, its second-largest daily point gain after the 936-point surge

on Oct. 13 that later evaporated as fears about the economy grew. The stock market has been extremely volatile lately — beyond a simple case of investor indecision, Wall Street's back-and-forth moves may also be part of its attempt to establish a bottom.

Analysts and investors were waiting to see whether the market would pull back now that the Fed has announced its decision — following an old pattern of "buy on the rumor, sell on the news" — or whether it would show further stability and hold on to those gains. And the final minutes of trading remain crucial, as they have in the past six weeks produced some of the market's biggest selloffs and rallies as investors hold out to establish or sell positions as long as possible.

Not all observers saw the Fed's action as likely to aid the markets, at least initially.

"I think this 50 basis point (0.5 percentage point) cut was more symbolic than substantive," said Ed Hyland, managing director and global investment specialist in J.P. Morgan Private Bank. "It makes borrowing more cheap, but it doesn't necessarily help you find a willing lender. What the economy needs is willing lenders, people comfortable taking risk. It will take time for that to loosen up."

In late afternoon trading, the Dow rose 229.22, or 2.53 percent, to 9,294.34.

Broader stock indicators rose in choppy trading. The S&P 500 index rose 23.95, or 2.55 percent, to 964.46, and the Nasdaq compos-

ite index advanced 48.71, or 2.95 percent, to 1,698.18.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 19.75, or 4.09 percent, to 502.30.

Advancers outnumbered decliners by about 2-to-1 on moderate volume of 1.03 billion shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The yield on the three-month Treasury bill, regarded as the safest investment around and an indicator of investor sentiment, fell to 0.61 percent from 0.74 percent Tuesday. A drop in yield indicates an increase in demand. Meanwhile, the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.87 percent from 3.84 percent late Tuesday.

The rate cut aside, some observers said the market has benefited on Tuesday and Wednesday from a break in the selling by hedge funds and mutual funds that has occurred as some investors exited the market and also at the behest of brokers who can force professional investors to set aside larger cash cushions as stocks lose value.

"As long as you can get a day where you can take a breath and you just don't have huge redemptions that are taking place then there is some money out there," he said.

Some investors are hesitant to re-enter the market after being hit hard. Even with Tuesday's jump, the three major stock indexes are still down more than 30 percent for the year, battered since last month's freeze-up of the credit markets. The troubles with the credit markets have made it harder and more expensive for businesses and consumers to get loans.

# Quake in southwestern Pakistan kills 170

Ashraf Khan  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ZIARAT, Pakistan — A strong earthquake struck before dawn Wednesday in impoverished southwestern Pakistan, killing at least 170 people and turning mud and timber homes into rubble.

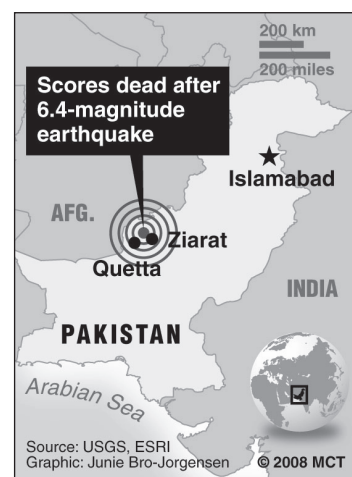
An estimated 15,000 people were left homeless, and rescuers were digging for survivors in a remote valley in Baluchistan, the remote province bordering Afghanistan where the magnitude 6.4 quake struck.

Officials said they were distributing thousands of tents, blankets and food packages and sending in earth-moving equipment to dig mass graves. Many of those who survived were left with little more than the clothes they had slept in, and with winter approaching, temperatures were expected to drop to around freezing in coming nights.

Worst-hit was the former British hilltop resort of Ziarat and about eight surrounding villages, where hundreds of houses were destroyed, including some buried in landslides triggered by the quake.

"There is great destruction," said Ziarat Mayor Dilawar Kakar. "Not a single house is intact."

Aftershocks rattled the area throughout the day, including one estimated at magnitude 6.2 in the late afternoon. There were no reports of additional



casualties or damage.

Kakar said the death toll from the quake was 170, with 375 injured. Around 15,000 people lost their homes, he said.

Kakar appealed to "the whole world" for help, but the head of Pakistan's National Disaster Management Authority said an international relief effort would not likely be necessary.

In the village of Sohi, a reporter for AP Television News saw the bodies of 17 people killed in one collapsed house and 12 from another. Distraught residents were digging a mass grave in which to bury them.

"We can't dig separate graves for each of them, as the number of deaths is high and still people are searching in the rubble" of many other homes, said Shamsullah Khan, a village elder.

# Democrats outnumber Republicans in early voting process

Stephen Ohlemacher  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Democrats are dominating early voting in six key states President Bush won four years ago, forcing Republican John McCain to play catch-up even before Election Day arrives.

Democrats outnumber Republicans among early voters in Iowa, North Carolina, Florida, Colorado, New Mexico and Nevada, according to statistics from election and party officials in those states. Bush won all six in 2004, and McCain needs to win most of them to claim the White House this year.

Georgia, another red state, doesn't track early voters by party, but it does by race. About 1.4 million Georgians have already cast ballots, and blacks are voting in disproportionate numbers. Black voters overwhelmingly support Democrat Barack Obama, who is bidding to become the nation's first black president.

Voters can always cross party lines, but the early indications clearly favor Obama. It is unclear, however, whether they will translate into success because never before have so many Americans cast their votes before Election Day.

In Florida, for example, early vot-

ing lines have been so long that Gov. Charlie Crist signed an executive order Tuesday extending early voting hours.

About a third of voters are expected to vote early this year, up from 22 percent in the last presidential election. More than 15 million voters have already cast ballots, according to statistics compiled by Michael P. McDonald, a political scientist at George Mason University.

"This is off the charts in some of these states," McDonald said. "They already have record turnout (among early voters) in some states."

But is Obama, who is using his fundraising superiority on a massive early voting campaign, merely eating into the number of votes he would otherwise receive on Election Day? Or is McCain, who trails in most polls, falling perilously behind as Election Day approaches?

McDonald said the McCain campaign is digging itself a dangerously deep hole in states the Arizona senator cannot afford to lose. "We have yet to see the Republicans really gear up their get-out-the-vote campaign," McDonald said.

However, he noted Democrat John Kerry led among early voters in Iowa in the 2004 presidential race, only to lose the state to Bush.

Mike Duncan, chairman of the Republican National Committee,



CHUCK LIDDY ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sen. Barack Obama makes a closing pitch for the voters of North Carolina Wednesday at an outdoor rally in downtown Raleigh. "North Carolina, I've got two words for you: six days," Obama told the crowd of about 25,000.

hopes McCain will do the same in numerous states this year.

"We will send out over 200 million pieces of mail and have over a quarter of a billion contacts, counting

the mail, the phones and the door knocks," Duncan said. "These are numbers we've never been able to reach before."

McDonald said the Republicans'

massive get-out-the-vote campaign "took us all by surprise in 2004, and it could happen again. But this is a juggernaut operation that the Obama campaign has."

## CHINA

### Most Asian stock markets extend gains after Wall Street's rally

HONG KONG — Most Asian stock markets rose Wednesday after a stunning rally on Wall Street as investors awaited possible interest rate cuts from central banks in the U.S. and Japan. European markets opened mixed.

Japan's market was by far the best performer: The Nikkei 225 index jumped 589.98 points, or 7.7 percent, to 8,211.90 after the dollar rebounded against the yen overnight, easing pressure on exporters.

But elsewhere, the regional rally fizzled by the afternoon as traders cashed in profits amid fresh worries about company earnings.

## FLORIDA

### McCain tries to link country's safety to the financial meltdown

MIAMI — Republican John McCain, scrambling after one of the biggest battlegrounds of the presidential election, is touting his history on national security and trying to link the issue of the country's safety to the financial meltdown.

McCain was meeting privately Wednesday with former top military officers who advise him on national security. He was expected to issue a statement afterward outlining his views on security threats to the nation.

"Raising taxes makes a bad economy worse," McCain said Tuesday, previewing his theme.

## SOUTH KOREA

### North Korea's Kim Jong Il suffers 'serious' setback in health

SEOUL — South Korean intelligence indicates that ailing North Korean leader Kim Jong Il suffered a serious health setback, a newspaper reported Wednesday, while the latest undated video released shows him touring the communist country.

The report in the Dong-a Ilbo newspaper cited an unnamed government official in saying intelligence obtained Sunday suggested "a serious problem" with Kim's health. The report did not elaborate.

Kim, 66, reportedly suffered a stroke and underwent brain surgery in August. North Korea, however, denies he is ill.

## WASHINGTON

### Fed expected to cut key interest rate again

WASHINGTON — The worst financial crisis in 70 years has forced the Federal Reserve to employ all the weapons in its arsenal — including cutting interest rates to near historic lows — to try to keep the country from plunging into a deep recession.

Fed policymakers are expected to slash a key interest rate by a half-point, pushing the federal funds rate down to 1 percent.

Economists believe the Fed is prepared to cut rates that low because of the rising fears that the financial turmoil of the past two months is raising the specter of a deep and prolonged recession.

# Fraternity aims to attract Latinos to campus

Group tries to educate, include community

**Jeff Engelhardt**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Though Latino Heritage Month has come to a close, the work of Sigma Lambda Beta has just begun, its leaders have said.

Julio Aviles, vice president for the Latino fraternity, said the group is on a mission to create a welcoming environment for Latino students. The 12 members helped coordinate events such as Noche de Gala, a piñata workshop and discussion panels throughout Latino Heritage Month.

But Aviles said that is just the beginning.

"We are focusing on trying to get more Latino students from Chicago to come down," Aviles said. "SIU offers a real good chance to experience life outside of the city and most Latino students here haven't experienced that before."

The challenge for Aviles and Sigma Lambda Beta is finding the Latino students as soon as possible and making them feel comfortable. Aviles said the Latino population has been included in SIUC's retention struggles, as he frequently sees students leave an already small group.

There are 746 students on campus this semester identified as Hispanic, according to university records.

Sigma Lambda Beta President Alberto Mendez said he knows the difficulty of transitioning from the city.

Mendez, a senior from Chicago

studying automotive technology, said when he first came to SIUC he didn't know if there would even be any other Latino people in the community.

"Southern Illinois just didn't seem like a place where there would be a lot of Latino people," Mendez said. "There was not a whole lot of campus involvement when I got here."

Three years later, Mendez has seen the emergence of Sigma Lambda Beta, the Hispanic Student Council and the international fraternity Omega Delta Phi. He said all three organizations work closely with each other to help students from all backgrounds gain an understanding for different cultures.

"When you walk on campus you don't see many Latino students, and that's why these organizations are so important," Mendez said. "It gives people a common ground and a way to relate to each other."

With all of the participation within the groups this year, Aviles said he expects both Sigma Lambda Beta and the Hispanic Student Council to double in size by next year. If membership does double, there would be more than 100 students between the two groups.

There has already been more interest from Latinos on campus, said Arturo Mendez, a freshman from Chicago studying accounting and secretary of the group.

He said all of the community service and events his organization has been able to do this year have led to many inquiries from people interested in joining.

"There are more and more Latinos coming in and making a difference and making friends at the same time," he said. "We just try to help as much as we can. We will give people rides to the store, show them around campus,



JENNIFER JOHNSON ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

**Julio Aviles, a junior from Chicago studying civil engineering and a member of Sigma Lambda Beta, helps the Hispanic Student Council pick up garbage Oct. 19.** The crew walked along both sides of Giant City Road and gathered any garbage they saw for community service.

really whatever we can."

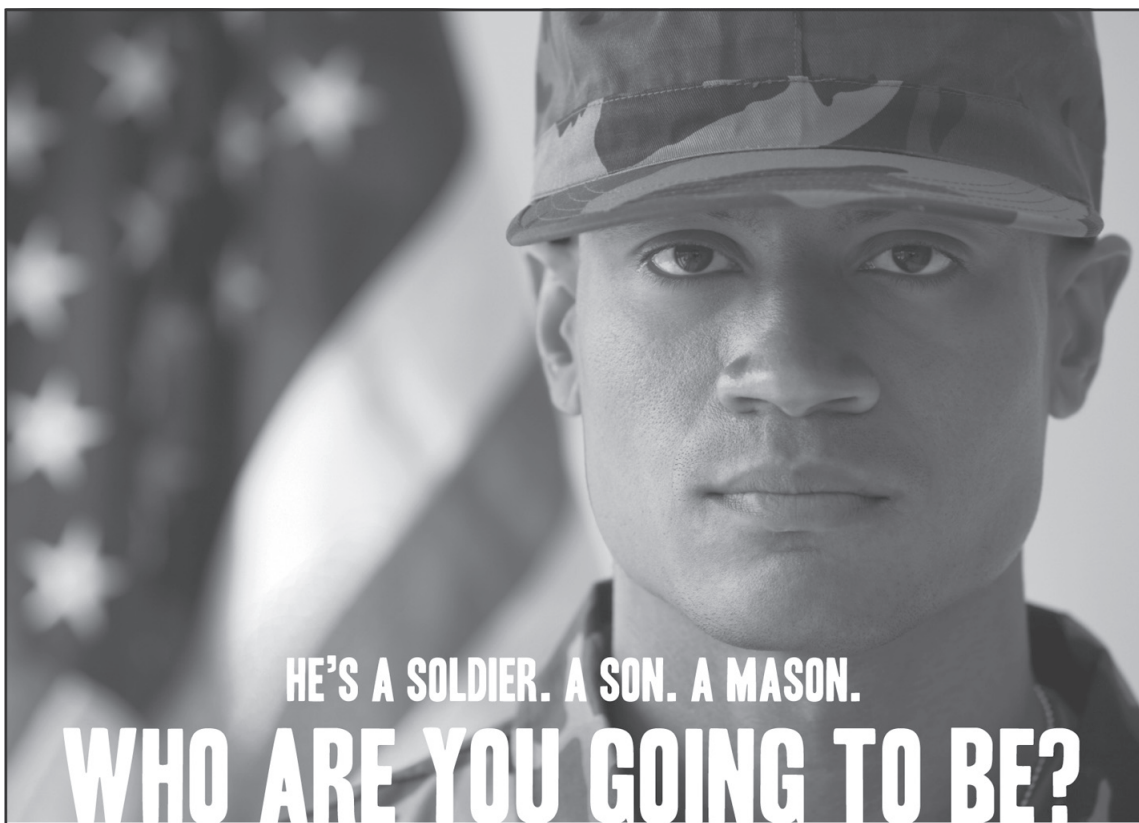
While most of the big events for Sigma Lambda Beta happen during Latino Heritage Month, Arturo Mendez said there are still opportunities for students to come out and participate with the group.

He said the fraternity will stay involved with other international groups such as Asian and Native American groups and will also hold a big mariachi night in April.

"When I first got here I didn't know what to expect, but southern

Illinois has been great and I think it was important I found a group like this to get involved with right away."

Jeff Engelhardt can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 268 or [jengel@siu.edu](mailto:jengel@siu.edu)



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EDITORIAL CARTOON



LACKADAISICAL LOCUTIONS

## Voting from the cuckoo's nest: A healthy paranoia

SAM PACKARD

sublimesam@gmail.com



Two weeks ago, I opted to vote early in the 2008 election, as is my right as a citizen of Illinois and Jackson County. It was a seemingly plain experience, it took only about 10 minutes of my time and required little more than some photo identification. Only one thing could have spoiled it and did: electronic touch-screen voting.

Don't get me wrong, I'm all for convenience. If you knew how many Hot Pockets I'm capable of consuming during the course of a week, you'd think convenience was my middle name. But something about computer-based electronic voting just doesn't sit right with me. I'm not alone, either. There's just something about putting the fate of the country into the hands of a man-made, man-programmed computer that inspires a little healthy paranoia.

I almost had a Chief Bromden moment. If you recall, Bromden is the main character and narrator of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." What makes the book so interesting is its narration, from the perspective of this Native American giant: A stoic, silent man, who, while quite lucid and

perceptive, seems to split his time evenly between sweeping floors, hiding in closets and falling into wildly paranoid hallucinations and delusions. There are moments when you don't know whether the book is being narrated through the lens of an introspective, articulate observer, or that of a schizophrenic asylum patient describing the wires and needles creeping out of the walls as he lays awake at night.

As I stood there peering into the next four years of our country, I didn't get the fear and loathing of a broom-wielding paranoid schizophrenic. I did, however, consider changing my mind and voting in the general election, on good ol' fashioned paper stubs.

I voted anyway, but the past eight years have taught that the outcomes of these elections are too important for their overwhelming volatility to be overlooked. Even if you don't indulge in my healthy paranoia about what might be going on behind those touch-screens and who holds the reins, too many malfunctions have been documented. In my book, one vote miscounted is too many.

So if those of you who will vote Nov. 4 see the option, as was present on the electronic ballot, to vote for a requirement to provide paper ballots in the future, do it. Because if you're anything like me, your candidate of choice needs your vote counted.

Packard is a junior studying anthropology.

GUEST COLUMN

## Tri Sigma: Our story

Alpha Nu alumnae  
GUEST COLUMN

*Editor's note: National restrictions to members of the sorority Sigma Sigma Sigma prevent them from speaking to the media, and all guest columns must be approved by the national organization. This column is being run in its original form, and has only been formatted.*

As we gather with our sisters we stopped and took a moment to figure out what being a Tri-Sigma truly means to each one of us. To us it is more than just a group of girls whose lives are randomly intertwined; it is our lifelong commitment to each other. "From the outside looking in you can never understand it, from the inside looking out you can never explain it." No matter what the obstacles or circumstances that we faced as a sisterhood, we have always had each other for support and encouragement.

This past year our commitment to each other was put the test. As the housing requirements shifted, the active women of the Alpha Nu chapter collectively came together and decided that it would be in the best interest of the chapter to pull their own charter. The decision was made due to the fact that as a chapter it wasn't feasible for a majority of our girls to stay in the residence halls, which was the option provided by university housing.

Our national organization left the decision up to us as a chapter and completely supported us through the entire process. Now that there

is discussion about the possible redevelopment of the Alpha Nu chapter, our national organization has made the proper arrangements to determine whether it would be in the best interest of Tri Sigma to return to the campus. Although we are grateful to the Panhellenic Council for voting to allow Alpha Nu to return to campus, this discussion and decision can only be made by the Executive Council for the good of the national organization.

A representative will be coming to the campus at the end of this semester to conduct an analysis and determine the interest level of campus women; a decision there after will be made. If the national organization decides to bring Alpha Nu back to the campus, the process in which to do so is lengthy and that is why there is not a specified timeline in which the chapter will return. If Tri Sigma returns to the campus, the women who were previously active collegiate members will help in the redevelopment of the chapter. Although we will not be active members of the chapter, we all have alumnae status and will play a vital role in supporting the new chapter.

We can only hope that the Southern Illinois University Greek community leaders and current Tri Sigma members will encourage and support the possible redevelopment of Alpha Nu as well as any future Greek chapters trying to make their mark on the SIU campus. To our Tri Sigma Sisters at SIU — remember, we are sisters for a lifetime.

Alpha Nu local alumnae.

ABOUT US

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## QUOTE OF THE DAY

“We just hope people will be as patient to try to vote as they would be in waiting for a hamburger at one of the more fancy hamburger places.”

**Frederic M. Umane**  
New York City Board of Elections  
member anticipating long lines on Election Day.

OCTOBER 30, 2008 • 7

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Truth about water

DEAR EDITOR:

According to many theories, all aspects of earth are interconnected. Everything from rocks to multicellular organisms are connected; one of the most prominent connections is the relationship between water and everything that relies upon it (which happens to be all living organisms). Without water, life would not exist.

Luckily, 70 percent of our earth is covered with it, 97.3 percent being oceans and seas.

While many creatures can survive in salt water, humans have a hard time. Out of the 2.7 percent that is left, 2 percent is currently held in glaciers and ice caps rendering the water inaccessible. The 0.7 percent left is the useable freshwater, which is divided up by groundwater (0.5 percent), freshwater lakes (0.4 percent), soil water (0.04 percent) and stream/atmosphere (0.01 percent).

Most of this water goes toward agriculture or the livestock that feed humans. Depending on whom you ask, the percentage is between 70 percent and 87 percent. Even though water is recyclable, it may take days to thousands

of years to make a rotation depending on the reservoir. Here are the statistics: icecaps/glaciers (10-1,000 years), atmospheric water (10 days), soil moisture (2 weeks-1 year), oceans and seas (4,000 years), groundwater (2 weeks - 10,000 years), lakes (10 years) and rivers (2 weeks). These numbers are significant because they illustrate the fact that water takes time to recycle itself.

When pollution is entered into the equation, the natural filters that reside within the earth take time to filter the harmful toxins. For example, plants that have waste ponds inappropriately placed can and do put pollution into the groundwater, which can take up to 10,000 years to be exchanged, and one more important note is that a significant amount of water used is ground water.

Just think about the water you drink when you decide to throw something in the lake or agree to have a plant built around your town. These numbers are from the book Geosystems by Robert Christopherson.

**William Sutphin**

sophomore studying geography and environmental resources

### Abortion and the Bible

DEAR EDITOR:

The anti-abortion forces are out in force lately. In particular, I refer to those right-wingers who imply that a vote for Obama would be a vote for abortion and a vote against the Bible. Perhaps this is just typical right-wing electioneering — think of a “bad” word, socialist, unChristian, whatever, and twist facts to make it fit your opponent.

But if not, those who really think that way should actually read the Bible. Maybe they could quote some verses that oppose abortion or even mention the word. And don't quote the sixth (Catholic: fifth) commandment. The commandment does not say, “Thou shalt not kill;” it actually says “Thou shalt not murder.” The word “kill” crept in with translation. And “Thou shalt not kill” does not make much sense, after all. Every time you squash a mosquito, you are killing. Every time you pull a weed. Do these deserve hellfire?

So it comes down to whether killing a fetus is murder. Well, not according to the laws of Moses. The only one that comes close is Exodus 21, 22-25. This says if a woman has a miscarriage as the result of a fight, the man who caused it should be fined, nothing more. Mainly because he has damaged the other

man's property — the fetus. Note that the sexism in this phrasing — “he,” “other man” — reflects Old Testament language.

If the woman dies, however, the culprit must be killed. The death of the woman would be murder. The abortion, or miscarriage caused by an outsider, is not. Now suppose your wife were pregnant, and there were complications. First, the fetus is malformed; essentially, it has no brain and would only live for a few days after birth as a complete vegetable. Moreover, there is a very high probability that your wife would die in the birth process — say 90 percent. If, however, an abortion is performed, even a very late term abortion or a partial-birth abortion, your wife will be fine.

Does your Bible oppose this abortion? If so, you need a new Bible and a new religion. Maybe you should try Christianity, because I'm sure Jesus would not sentence your wife to death so that a vegetable could live a few days. News flash: According to statements, Sarah Palin would let your wife die in the above scenario. I think John McCain would do so also, but he keeps contradicting himself, so you can't be sure. Obama has clearly expressed his distaste for abortion but would allow your wife to be saved.

**W. D. Wallis**

Emeritus professor, mathematics

## EDITORIAL CARTOON



Gus Bode says: It's time to send the DE a letter. Don't like what our student columnists and editorial board have to say? Want to make your opinion heard on some other university policy? Do something about it.

Send letters to the editor and guest columnist submissions to [voices@siude.com](mailto:voices@siude.com), and don't forget to include your name, year in school, major, hometown and a phone number for verification.



## EDITORIAL POLICY

Our Word is the consensus of the Daily Egyptian Editorial Board on local, national and global issues affecting the Southern Illinois University community. Viewpoints expressed in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of the Daily Egyptian.

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## SUBMISSIONS

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author's contact information, preferably via e-mail. Phone numbers are required to verify authorship, but will not be published. Letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. All topics are acceptable. Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. Non-academic staff must include position and department. Others include hometown. Submissions should be sent to [voices@siude.com](mailto:voices@siude.com).



**Skydiving Terms**

**Altimeter:** A device that measures height above the earth's surface (altitude); for skydivers, typically it measures the height above the intended skydiving landing area.

**Arch:** Position skydivers use to orient the front of their torsos to the relative wind. Described, it has hips forward with back arched; legs extended to 45 degrees, toes pointed; knees at shoulder width; arms bent 90 to 120 degrees at the shoulders and elbows and relaxed; head up.

**Canopy:** The major component of the parachute system comprised of fabric membranes that connect to the parachute harness by suspension lines and provide the means for the jumper to descend safely.

**Drop zone:** 1. Skydiving establishment or intended parachute landing area. 2. Any predetermined area upon which parachutists or objects land after making an intentional parachute jump or drop.

**Free fall:** The portion of a parachute jump or drop between aircraft exit and parachute deployment in which the parachute is activated manually by the parachutist at the parachutist's discretion or automatically, or, in the case of an object, is activated automatically.

**Parachute:** A fabric device that slows the descent of a falling object; derived from the French words "para," to shield, and "chute," to fall. Thus, parachute means "to shield from a fall."

**Pilot chute:** A small parachute used to initiate and/or accelerate deployment of a main or reserve parachute.

**Student:** A skydiver trainee who has not been issued a USPA A license.

Source: U.S. Parachute Association, <http://uspa.org>

**Skydiving jump prices**

Tandem jump: \$175  
 SIU skydiving club dues: \$20  
 Skydiving class and first jump (if member of SIU club): \$155  
 After ground course and first jump: \$55  
 \*After off student status and not renting gear, price depends on altitude. If jump from roughly 12,000 feet: \$23. If jump from roughly 4,000 feet: \$16.

\*This is because the cost goes toward fuel. The higher you fly, the more fuel for which you must pay.

Sources: Jack Trimble, Doris Dumey



**LEFT: Jack Trimble, right, a junior from Elgin studying science education, and Bryan Pumphrey, a junior from Chicago studying information systems and applied technology, work on packing a parachute.**



**RIGHT: Jumpers Gene Leonard, Alex Taylor, Stan Parham and Richard Raithel practice dirt diving, or practicing their positions, for their jump.**



**LEFT: Ralph Bailey, right, the Dropzone Owner and IAD Instructor, helps Ashley Gray, a sophomore from Lockport studying biological sciences, secure the harness.**



**RIGHT: Gene Leonard, a regular jumper and member of SEMO, prepares for his jump at roughly 10,500 feet.**



**ABOVE: Bryan Pumphrey, the treasurer and webmaster of the skydiving club, lands his jump.**



**Ben MacRae, a freshman from Naperville s**

**Th**

**These athletes take ad**

**“W**hy am I doing this?” Laura Collebrusco asked herself as she gazed at the ground almost 4,000 feet below her.

With a deep breath, Collebrusco exited the aircraft. Seconds later, she threw out her pilot chute, which activated her parachute, and her gradual, floating return to earth began.

“I still ask myself every time on the way up, ‘Why am I doing this?’ But once I get to the ground, it’s totally worth it,” said Collebrusco, a freshman from Riverton studying photojournalism.

Collebrusco, a member of the SIUC skydiving club, is one of several hundred people to try skydiving for the first time this year.

Skydiving was first used as a term in the mid-1950s, though parachuting had been around for hundreds of years — even as early as the 1100s, according to <http://uspa.org>. Today, the sport continues to grow; the U.S. Parachute Association reported 31,264 members at the end of 2007.

“You have to be a certain kind of a person that wants to jump out of a plane repeatedly,” said Doris Dumey, a skydiving instructor and coach at the Cairo Regional Airport.



studying cinema and photography, makes his second jump from the Cairo Regional Airport.

# The sky is not the limit

Story by Audra Ord

Photography by Edyta Błaszczyk

## venture to new heights

### Technically speaking ...

Skydiving is more than jumping out of a plane and pulling a parachute — it requires training, practice and focus.

The USPA has a graduated licensing system. New jumpers start on student status; they are required to jump with a jumpmaster or instructor, and must use a student rig with a 280-foot canopy. (Canopies are usually sized on a 1:1 ratio; one square foot per one pound. For example, a 190-pound person would jump a 190-square foot canopy.) A larger canopy means a slower descent.

Students also do lower exits — from about 4,000 feet — and experience no freefall. They pull their chute as soon as they exit the aircraft.

After the skydiver has completed five jumps and pass a written exam, they are eligible to acquire their A license, which allows them to freefall and pack their own chute, among other things.

Subsequent licenses, B through D, can be acquired after the skydiver learns certain skills and has completed a set number of jumps.

Alex Taylor, vice president of the skydiving club, began skydiving in January 2008 and has since completed nearly 40 jumps. He said the transition from student status and the 35-pound student rig (the backpack/harness that holds the

main chute, reserve chute and other equipment) to a smaller, lighter rig was significant.

"It's like going from driving a bus to driving a sports car," Taylor said.

### "You know that feeling when you stick your hand out of a car window?"

Jumpers who have moved beyond their A license are able to experience the feeling of freefall. Licensed jumpers typically exit the plane somewhere between 10,500 feet and 12,500 feet, which allows them 40 to 55 seconds of freefall.

Jack Trimble, president of the skydiving club, said the rate of fall depends on how the skydiver arranges his or her body in the air, but speeds of 120 mph can be reached in the standard arch position. He said it takes roughly six seconds to fall 1,000 feet.

Taylor said he loves the exhilarating feeling of freefalling.

"You know when you stick your hand out of the window of a car going down the highway? It's kind of like that, only it's your entire body," Taylor said.

### "What happens if your parachute doesn't open?"

Trimble said people ask him all the time about the danger involved with the sport of skydiving.

"We get this question all the time. Sometimes people think we haven't thought about it," Trimble said.

He said people watch TV or videos of skydiving injuries or fatalities and assume skydiving is extreme and dangerous. But although there are extreme aspects of the sport and certain skydivers perform dangerous maneuvers, the sport in itself is as safe as the participant makes it, Trimble said.

Inherent backup procedures and devices and several advancements in technology have made skydiving safer.

If for any reason the main parachute fails to deploy properly, the skydiver can cut away, or release, the main chute and pull the reserve.

Although the main parachute is packed by the skydivers themselves each time they jump, a USPA-certified rigger packs the reserve parachute every 120 days to ensure it is

packed correctly.

Another device that ensures safety is the Automatic Activation Device, or AAD. According to <http://uspa.org>, the AAD is a "device attached to the interior of the reserve parachute container, which automatically initiates parachute deployment of the reserve parachute at a pre-set altitude, time, percentage of terminal velocity, or combination thereof."

Trimble said most injuries and fatalities are preventable, which is why the skydiving community calls them "incidents" instead of "accidents." He said most problems result from human error rather than equipment error.

Kevin Trujillo, a sophomore from Bolingbrook studying photojournalism, has completed four jumps and is confident in the safety of his gear.

"Let's just say the drive to the drop zone is more dangerous than the skydive itself," Trujillo said.

Audra Ord can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275 or at [amarie06@siu.edu](mailto:amarie06@siu.edu).

For more information about the skydiving club, visit their Web site at [http://www.siu.edu/~siu\\_skydivers/](http://www.siu.edu/~siu_skydivers/) or attend one of their meetings, which are at 5 p.m. every Thursday in the Ohio Room on the second floor of the Student Center.

**"I still ask myself every time on the way up, 'Why am I doing this?' But once I get to the ground, it's totally worth it."**

—Laura Collebrusco  
member of SIUC skydiving club

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### FORUM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

By doing that, we're wanting to open up questions for the audience — what are the concerns you have with this? Are you OK with the change? What suggestions would you make?

The prior two forums we had we didn't have very many people there, but we did have a wonderful dialogue. What we want in this third session is perhaps an even larger audience and more dialogue.

**DE:** How will the Sexual Harassment Working Group compile these various opinions?

**MM:** In two very specific ways. Number one, we're going to be including every written comment we receive in the appendix of the report that we're going to give to President Poshard. Everything that we've been getting in — all the comments from individuals and constituency groups — will be included in the actual document itself so no one is excluded.

I should point out that if individuals have specifically asked us for them to be confidential or anonymous we will include them in that way because there are some stories that perhaps people may not be comfortable with their names attached.

The second way is, once we have gathered comments from the constituency groups and individuals who are willing to share with us, to go

through them and identify common themes. What are some points that several individuals have made?

What are some concerns that we've heard from across the campus, in particularly from several different groups on campus — the students, faculty and staff — and to identify those more salient or common, frequent concerns and to use those to help make recommendations to the president about things we should address because of those concerns. We want to look for the common ones.

We also want to look for some kind of, rather than the word common, the word salient — more important issues that people have addressed, some significant issues that they've identified. So even if only one person has identified something, if they're identifying something that seems to be particularly problematic and they can point to issues where this would really be an issue for our campus then we'll make sure that this gets highlighted in the report.

It doesn't mean that the Sexual Harassment Working Group is going to agree with all the comments, but we think it's our obligation that these voices rise to the level that the president hears them.

For more of this conversation, visit [siuDE.com](http://siuDE.com)

*Sean McGahan can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 254 or [mcgahan@siu.edu](mailto:mcgahan@siu.edu).*

All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

**Present Day to May 9**  
**Exhibit: A Warrior's Story: An Oglala Sioux Painted Buffalo Robe, curated by Lori Huffman, designed by Amy Chase**  
*Faner Hall, University Museum*

**Saturday, November 1**  
**Native American Heritage Month Kick-Off Bison Tasting and Film**  
*3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Lentz Dining Hall*

**Monday, November 3**  
**"Waterbuster" Film & Conversation with Dr. Gray Whaley\***  
*7:00 p.m., Student Center, Mississippi Room*

**Wednesday, November 5**  
**Taste of Bison**  
*11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Trueblood Dining Hall*

**Somewhere Between Native and American: Powwow and Its Creation of Community and Identity through Song and Dance in Central Illinois\***  
*12:30 p.m., Grinnell Hall, Lower Level*

**Thursday, November 6**  
**Esther Belin: Re-examining the Resistance in Native American Literature\***  
*7:00 p.m., Student Center, Ballroom B*

**Friday, November 7**  
**"Weaving Worlds" Film & Conversation with Professor Jo Nast\***  
*7:00 p.m., Student Center, Kaskaskia/ Missouri Room*

**Wednesday, November 12**  
**Native American Lunch Special**  
*11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., University Hall*

**Winter Counts, Buffalo Robes, and Literacy Practices**  
*7:00 p.m., Faner Hall, University Museum*

**Monday, November 17**  
**Exhibit: Mapping the Trail of Tears through Southern Illinois**  
*12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Student Center 1st Floor, Hall of Fame*  
Curators: Karen Frailey and Harvey Henson  
Sponsored by WSIU Public Broadcast Stations and the University Museum at Southern Illinois University Carbondale

**Robert Lewis, Stories from the Earth\***  
*7:00 p.m., Student Center, Auditorium*

**Thursday, November 20**  
**Bison Chili Night**  
*4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., University Dining Hall*

**Dr. Lisa King-Huth: Beyond 'We Are Still Here': Rhetorics of Native Identity and Speaking Presence to a Non-Native Public\***  
*7:00 p.m., Student Center, Ballroom A*

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**\* Denotes U-Card Event**



# Native American Heritage Month 2008

**Southern Illinois University Carbondale**

For detailed descriptions of events, visit us on-line at [www.stddev.siu.edu](http://www.stddev.siu.edu)



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JOE REHANA ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Members of the SIU women's softball team take advantage of Wednesday's warm weather to get on the field. Haley Gorman, a freshman from Arcadia, Calif., studying graphic design works on bunting while other teammates took turns in the batting cages.

# PULSE: MACABRE Walk on the wary side

Wes Lawson  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

*Editor's note: Due to a technical error, the fourth and final installment of Macabre Monday did not appear in Monday's paper. This is the article that was schedule to appear.*

For the students in the Public Relations Student Society of America, there's nothing better than delivering some good scares and raising money for good causes on Halloween weekend.

The Haunted Trail, which has been an SIUC tradition for the past five years, is once again set to haunt Campus Lake from 6 to 11 p.m. Thursday and Friday. It begins at the Campus Lake Boat Dock and ends at the campus beach, with a tram service at the end to drive scared trail-goers back to their cars.

The theme of the trail this year is "Nightmare on Campus Lake," and the various stops on the trail will have a movie theme.

The trail includes a series of scary sections around Campus Lake that have been set up by Registered Student Organizations. The mission of the trail is to scare the pants off of unsuspecting victims, but it also functions as the association's largest fundraiser, with half of the profits going to various charities.

Association president Michelle Restivo said she and the other executive board members are excited for the event, especially because it helps to raise money for good causes.

"In 2005, we raised over \$2,000 and that number has steadily gone up in the years since," Restivo said.

The trail runs a slightly less-scary version from 6 to 7 p.m. so young children can join in the fun. The more frightening adult version is from 7 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$6 or \$5 with a canned food item, which will be donated to a southern Illinois food pantry. For more information, visit the PRSSA Web site at <http://www.freewebs.com/prssa/hauntedtrail.htm>.

In addition to raising money for charity, the trail also offers an alternative to SIUC students who don't want to partake in Halloween-related debauchery. "Drinking is not really an issue for me, but it's fun to change things up on the weekend, especially around Halloween," said Chris Williams, a sophomore from Chicago studying film. "I enjoyed (the trail) last year and I hope that this year is even better."

Melissa Butler, who runs the PRSSA Facebook group, said this year's fundraising is for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, as October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

She said half of the proceeds from the trail would go to this cause. In years past, PRSSA has donated to the Coach Kill Cancer Fund and St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Wes Lawson can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275 or w4027@siu.edu.

## Campus political groups wind down

### College-county clerks report high student registration

Barton Lorimor  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Less than a week before an election in which college-aged voters are predicted to have high turnout numbers, student groups are launching their last efforts to muster support for candidates.

Liz Petre, a coordinator of the Students for Barack Obama movement, said she feels good about her candidate's position, but plans to take a nap after Tuesday's election.

"I can't get ahead of myself, but I feel really good," she said.

Petre said she and her husband, Jim Petre, also a coordinator in the group, would make one more trip to Cape Girardeau, Mo., to

campaign for Obama. The Petres said they have been leading SIUC students to the southeast Missouri community since September because the election results in Missouri are expected to be closer than in Illinois.

Nathan Gentry, president of the College Republicans, said they have been relatively quiet this election season. He said this is because they have been organizing events for members.

Though some of the group's leadership resigned this semester, Gentry said he believes the student Republicans worked well with the scenarios thrown at them.

Danielle Pauley, the vice president of the group, said the campus GOP would be attending a rally outside Shryock Auditorium Saturday. The rally is set to feature speeches by unspecified local Republican and Democratic candidates, and other speeches about the importance of voting.

Democratic candidates, and other speeches about the importance of voting.

| College-age voter registration |                   |                                     |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| COUNTY                         | UNIVERSITY        | Number of new 18-30 year-old voters |
| Jackson                        | SIU Carbondale    | 4,631                               |
| DeKalb                         | Northern Illinois | 6,616                               |
| Madison                        | SIU Edwardsville  | 9,133                               |
| McLean                         | Illinois State    | 21,500                              |

Source: County Clerk offices

Aaron Mallory, a junior from Flossmoor studying electrical engineering, said he organized the event to further educate students about the election and encourage them to vote.

"This year is going to be big no matter who wins," Mallory said. "I'm not involved in politics, but I just want people to vote."

A survey of Illinois county clerks with public universities in their districts revealed that more people aged 18 through 30 registered to vote in 2008 than in past years.

Jackson County Clerk Larry Reinhardt said 4,631 voters in that age range registered with his county this year, which is more than half the number of total voters registered.

Reinhardt said he is expecting

the overall voter turnout this year to be roughly 70 percent.

Other college communities, such as Madison County, home to SIU-Edwardsville, have also seen similar boosts.

Madison County Clerk Mark Von Nida said his office has already seen a strong college-age interest in early voting.

"Over 1,168 students have voted at SIUE early voting," he said. The Madison County Clerk's office set up an early voting booth on the Edwardsville campus.

Von Nida said that, like SIUC, several student organizations conducted voter registration drives, which assisted in adding more than 9,100 new voters at SIUE.

Barton Lorimor can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 263 or barton.lorimor@siu.edu.

## RETENTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Nicklow said the group tracked the grade point average of engineering students who lived on the same floor of the residential halls. Students who lived on those floors had a GPA of up to one point higher than students who didn't.

Another piece implemented in the plan is a peer-mentoring program. This puts mentors on every floor of every designated residential hall. These mentors accompany students to one class a week and also to athletic and social events.

Mentors also organize and lead study tables in which students can receive free tutoring

and have someone to talk to for one-on-one discussions.

Nicklow said this provides students with a social atmosphere and support system that helps keep students focused and less likely to drop out.

"We are just trying to learn what activities work and what doesn't," Nicklow said.

Samantha Trusk, a sophomore from Burbank studying civil engineering, was in the peer-mentoring group last year. She said the group helped her a lot and that the program helps keep students involved. This year she is a paid

mentor at Pierce Hall.

"I love it. I have good communication with all my mentees and I feel I've helped them adjust to the living and learning community of Thompson Point and college in general," Trusk said.

Graduation and retention has been a big problem for a long time but with more than \$1 million in help, it makes things more possible, Nicklow said.

Julie Eisenhauer is the project assistant. She said the program could also encourage parents to send their children to SIUC.

**When they see what we're doing here for students, it is a big selling point.**

— Julie Eisenhauer project assistant

"When they see what we're doing here for students, it is a big selling point," Eisenhauer said.

Another engineering selling point for students is the job market. With baby-boomers retiring, the demand for engineers has increased — as well as the salary, Nicklow said.

"We have people that have already been hired for jobs once they graduate," Nicklow said.

Jobs are starting graduating engineers at \$60,000 and higher because there is a national crisis in science and engineering.

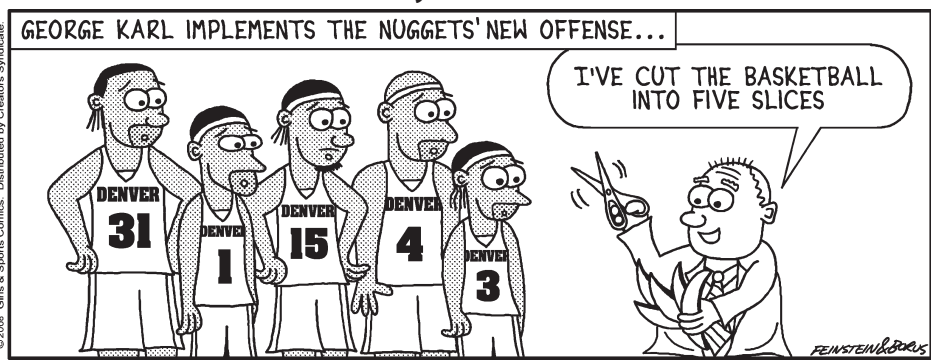
"It's a good time to be a scientist or engineer," Nicklow said.

Demarcus Hamilton can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 270 or youngmb@siu.edu



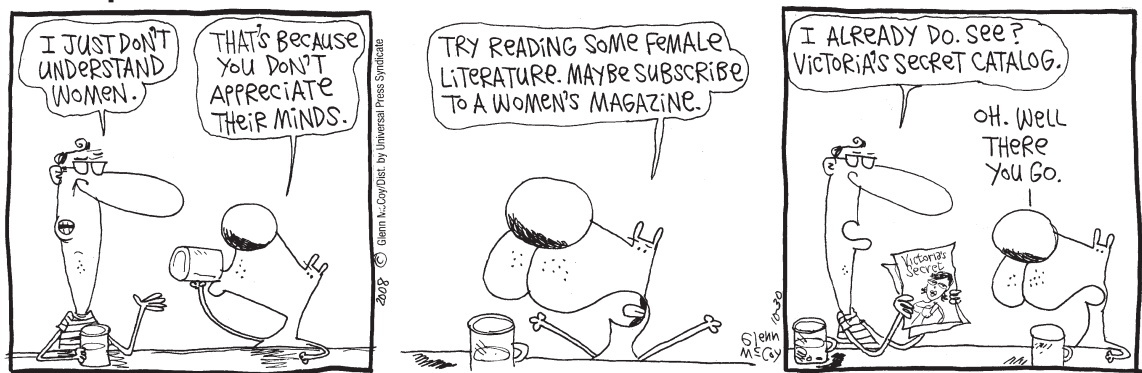
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**The Duplex**

by Glenn McCoy



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**THE Daily Crossword** Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

**Solution to yesterday's puzzle**

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | H | A | Q | E | L | C | A | R | D | O | J | O |   |
| O | A | H | U | T | I | N | G | E | R | D | A | S |   |
| L | I | M | A | E | B | B | E | D | H | E | W | S |   |
| E | L | E | C | T | R | I | C | R | A | Z | O | R | S |
| K | I | N | D | L | E | O |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| S | T | E | R | E | O | S | P | E | A | K | E | R | S |
| C | H | O | R | E | E | A | R | L | W | A | G |   |   |
| O | A | T | Y | T | W | I | X | T | L | I | N | T |   |
| M | M | E | G | W | E | N | K | I | N | K | S |   |   |
| B | U | M | B | L | E | B | E | E | W | I | N | G | S |
| M | A | L | U | E | L | E |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| G | O | O | D | V | I | B | R | A | T | I | O | N | S |
| M | A | R | V | E | N | R | O | L | T | H | A | W |   |
| A | L | A | I | A | D | A | P | T | E | N | Y | A |   |
| V | A | L | E | M | Y | N | A | H | M | O | S | T |   |

7 Greek vowel  
 8 Cowboys' showcases  
 9 Big fuss  
 10 Keep inside  
 11 Old-fashioned warning  
 12 Caviar source  
 13 Sawing logs  
 19 Alternative to smoking?  
 21 Beatty of "Deliverance"  
 24 Coagulate  
 25 "Chicago" role  
 26 Buffalo's county  
 30 Churn up  
 32 Boat propellers  
 33 Alan Ladd classic  
 35 Take a tour

36 Cause to wither  
 37 Brief announcement  
 38 Early or late  
 39 Warner Bros. creation  
 41 Pierced  
 43 Forceful flowings  
 44 Hebrew month  
 45 Declare  
 46 Break away  
 47 Pint drink, perhaps  
 49 Typist's stat  
 50 Bar members, briefly  
 55 Append  
 56 Part of NATO  
 57 Jurist Fortas  
 59 Elmer, to Bugs

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**SUDOKU** THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

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

**Solution to yesterday's puzzle**

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

**JUMBLE** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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

NOGGI  
 SEUDO  
 BASURD  
 BOPHIS

It's all mine as far as the eye can see

WHAT THE SUCCESSFUL RANCHER HAD.

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

Ans: A " " (Answers tomorrow)

yesterday's Jumbles: MOTIF TANGY IMBUED SATIRE  
 Answer: When she refused to pay for her portrait, he turned into a — "MAD" ARTIST

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**HOMECOMING**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Lennon was a three-year letter winner for the Fighting Sioux and served as team captain in 1983 as the team's feature running back. He was also named the team's most valuable offensive back and earned All-North Central Conference honorable mention as a senior.

As a coach, Lennon collected a 90-24 record as a Fighting Sioux in nine seasons, advanced to the playoffs seven times and recorded UND's only Division II National Championship in 2001.

"I was born and raised there, played my college ball there," he said. "I was an assistant coach there for nine years and went on to be the head coach. Overall, I've put in about 23 years in the University of North Dakota so we have pretty close ties."

Lennon said the game was set up to benefit both schools. He said when he was hired at SIU, a date remained open on the Saluki schedule and he

had already known of UND's need for another game.

"Neither one of us really wanted to play each other because of our reputations," he said. "But it got to a point where it was our only option."

Lennon's business-like approach to his homecoming away from home has been passed on to his players.

Nearly every Saluki approached about the situation said it was just the next game on the schedule and important for the team because of conference championship implications.

"All the guys know that is where (Lennon) came from, but he wants us to approach it as he has and that is just game No. 8," said SIU linebacker Ryan Patton. "It's a little different for him but things are normal for us. That is the way we are approaching it."

Any advantage Lennon might have obtained as a nine-year coach of the Fighting Sioux has been offset by the fact that current UND players know Lennon's style and philosophy.

"I don't know if it has much of an

advantage," Lennon said. "It works both ways."

Offensive guard Aaron Lockwood said the Salukis are expecting a Lennon-esque team — a team with discipline and a good football IQ.

"They are going to come down here and play their hearts out," Lockwood said. "They don't have a lot of stand-out, incredible guys but when you watch them as a group, they are fundamentally sound. They aren't going to beat themselves."

Lennon said he has had no regrets in coming to SIU.

SIU has gotten off to a 5-2 record this season and sits in a three-way tie for first place in the Missouri Valley Football Conference.

"It was the right time to move on," Lennon said. "The challenge in front of me is big enough for me to not think about anything in the past."

Brian Feldt can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 256 or bfeldt@siude.com.

**GOLF**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Newton said he was ecstatic with the outcome.

"The kids went out the last day and played well," Newton said. "I knew that 292 would move us up, but I didn't think it would move us up that far."

Junior Blake Driskell, who shot four shots better than senior Todd Obergoenner in the final round, was then recognized as one of the five Saluki golfers. This allowed Obergoenner's final round 81 to be dropped in favor of Driskell's 77 and pushed the Salukis into second place.

The correction gave the Salukis their best fall finish since the 2003 season. SIU has recorded two wins, a second-, a fourth- and a sixth-place finish in five tournaments this season.

The Salukis also finished with two wins and a second-place finish in the 2003 season.

Meanwhile, senior John Danielson garnered Missouri Valley Conference player of the week honors.

Danielson shot a three round total of 218 to finish in fourth place for the Salukis.

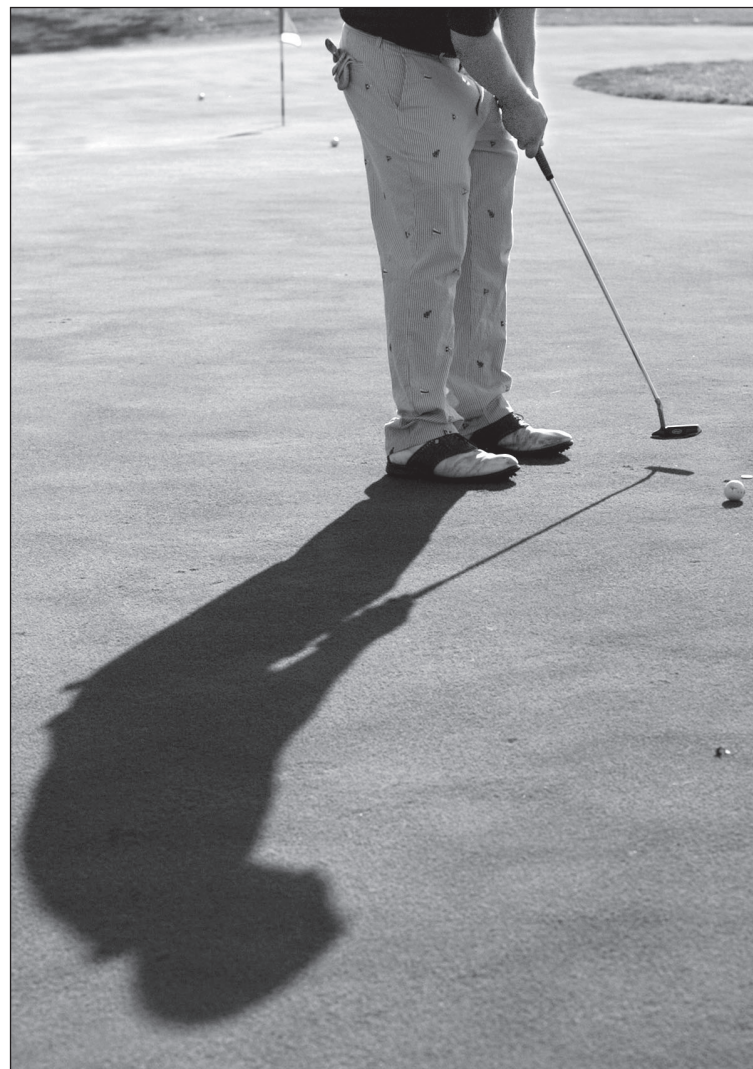
The fourth place finish was the best in Danielson's career.

Danielson said he was happy with his overall play.

"I had a good tournament," Danielson said. "I managed to equalize all of my bogeys with birdies. I didn't play my best, but I grinded it out and that's what you have to do."

Senior Phillip Collier joined Danielson in the top 10 as he shot a four-under-par 68 in the final round, which tied for a career low. He finished with a six-over-par 222 to tie for ninth place.

Finishing third for the Salukis was Obergoenner, who shot a 16-over-par 232 to finish in 39th place.



EDYTA BLASZCZYK ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

**Senior Phillip Collier putts during a practice** at Stone Creek Golf Club Oct. 10. The Salukis took second place at the UTA Waterchase Invitational this weekend after a scoring error that tied them for fifth was corrected. Collier was ranked third in the MVC with a 73.4 stroke average.

Also joining the Saluki score card was junior Patrick Scheil who shot a 236 to finish tied for 59th.

SIU will begin its spring season at the Samford Intercollegiate

in Limestone Springs, Ala., March 9, 2009.

Stile Smith can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 282 or sts34@siu.edu.

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# Saluki Insider

Game 5 of the World Series was suspended for two days because of poor weather conditions in Philadelphia. ESPN analyst Peter Gammons has dubbed the series as "the worst ever." Do you agree?



**BRIAN FELDT**  
bfeldt@siu.edu

It's not the worst ever, but it is definitely one of the worst since I've been on this planet. But what can be done? You can't change the weather. You can't help it that the Rays' energetic team has seemingly lost its flare. And there is certainly nothing you can do about Game 5 being suspended. Similar to what Gammons wrote, I think there was a sense of celebration lost when the Phillies won.

It's been hard for the casual fan to embrace either team in this series. The Tampa Bay Rays are a great story, on paper. But their fans have come out of the woodwork and will likely return since they didn't win it all. And sure, Philadelphia hadn't won a major sports title in 25 years, but I couldn't root for a city whose fans threw batteries at Santa Claus.

**LUIS C. MEDINA**  
lcm1986@siu.edu



**STILE SMITH**  
ssmith@siude.com

No, I think Gammons is completely wrong here. There have been some really bad World Series. Three of the last four World Series have, in fact, been worse than this one. At least this one didn't turn out to be a sweep unlike 2007, 2005 and 2004. So, Peter Gammons, maybe you should appreciate that instead of crying because one game gets suspended a couple days.

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## VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

"I'm definitely ready to go out there and play hard," Robbins said. "We have a big weekend, celebrating the 50th anniversary and we're going to have a lot of people here, so we're excited."

Bradley, meanwhile, enters the game as losers of 10 of its last 11 matches. The Braves won their last match against Indiana State but have failed to win consecutive matches since early September.

The Salukis defeated Bradley in the team's first match of the season Oct. 3, but struggled to show any sort of dominance as the Braves took the match five sets before SIU claimed a victory.

Sophomore outside hitter Sydney Clark said the Salukis can't afford to overlook the Braves, especially considering the fight between the two teams during their last meeting.

"I think our conference is no longer as polarized as it had been," Clark said. "They're not a team to overlook. They're definitely a threat this year, so we're not going to take them lightly."

The Salukis sit at 4-6 in the MVC, one spot behind Evansville and Illinois State for the sixth and final position in the MVC Tournament.

If the Salukis can win both matches and get to a .500 record, it could put them in good position to make a final push headed into the end of the season.

Stile Smith can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 282 or sts34@siu.edu.

| NFL | AFC        |       |       |      | W | L | % |
|-----|------------|-------|-------|------|---|---|---|
|     | East       | North | South | West |   |   |   |
|     | Patriots   | 5     | 2     | .714 |   |   |   |
|     | Bills      | 5     | 2     | .714 |   |   |   |
|     | Jets       | 4     | 3     | .571 |   |   |   |
|     | Dolphins   | 3     | 4     | .429 |   |   |   |
|     | Steelers   | 5     | 2     | .714 |   |   |   |
|     | Ravens     | 4     | 3     | .571 |   |   |   |
|     | Browns     | 3     | 4     | .429 |   |   |   |
|     | Bengals    | 0     | 8     | .000 |   |   |   |
|     | Titans     | 7     | 0     | 1.00 |   |   |   |
|     | Colts      | 3     | 4     | .429 |   |   |   |
|     | Jaguars    | 3     | 4     | .429 |   |   |   |
|     | Texans     | 3     | 4     | .429 |   |   |   |
|     | Broncos    | 4     | 3     | .571 |   |   |   |
|     | Chargers   | 3     | 5     | .375 |   |   |   |
|     | Raiders    | 2     | 5     | .286 |   |   |   |
|     | Chiefs     | 1     | 6     | .143 |   |   |   |
| NFC |            | W     | L     | %    |   |   |   |
|     | Giants     | 6     | 1     | .857 |   |   |   |
|     | Redskins   | 6     | 2     | .750 |   |   |   |
|     | Cowboys    | 5     | 3     | .625 |   |   |   |
|     | Eagles     | 4     | 3     | .571 |   |   |   |
|     | Bears      | 4     | 3     | .571 |   |   |   |
|     | Packers    | 4     | 3     | .571 |   |   |   |
|     | Vikings    | 3     | 4     | .429 |   |   |   |
|     | Lions      | 0     | 7     | .000 |   |   |   |
|     | Panthers   | 6     | 2     | .750 |   |   |   |
|     | Buccaneers | 5     | 3     | .625 |   |   |   |
|     | Falcons    | 4     | 3     | .571 |   |   |   |
|     | Saints     | 4     | 4     | .500 |   |   |   |
|     | Cardinals  | 4     | 3     | .571 |   |   |   |
|     | Seahawks   | 2     | 5     | .286 |   |   |   |
|     | Rams       | 2     | 5     | .286 |   |   |   |
|     | 49ers      | 2     | 6     | .250 |   |   |   |

| MVC FOOTBALL  |         | CW | CL | OW | OL |
|---------------|---------|----|----|----|----|
|               | N. Iowa | 4  | 1  | 6  | 2  |
| SIU           | 4       | 1  | 5  | 2  |    |
| W. Ill.       | 3       | 1  | 5  | 2  |    |
| S. Dakota St. | 3       | 1  | 4  | 4  |    |
| Mo. St.       | 2       | 2  | 3  | 4  |    |
| N. Dakota St. | 2       | 3  | 3  | 4  |    |
| Illinois St.  | 1       | 3  | 2  | 5  |    |
| YSU           | 1       | 4  | 2  | 7  |    |
| Ind. State    | 0       | 4  | 0  | 8  |    |

| MVC VOLLEYBALL |         | CW | CL | OW | OL |
|----------------|---------|----|----|----|----|
|                | Wichita | 11 | 0  | 22 | 0  |
| N. Iowa        | 9       | 2  | 19 | 4  |    |
| Creighton      | 8       | 3  | 11 | 8  |    |
| Mo. State      | 7       | 4  | 16 | 8  |    |
| Evansville     | 5       | 5  | 11 | 12 |    |
| Illinois St.   | 5       | 6  | 12 | 11 |    |
| SIU            | 4       | 6  | 14 | 7  |    |
| Drake          | 2       | 9  | 8  | 16 |    |
| Ind. State     | 2       | 9  | 8  | 16 |    |
| Bradley        | 1       | 10 | 5  | 19 |    |

| BIG TEN FOOTBALL |          | CW | CL | OW | OL |
|------------------|----------|----|----|----|----|
|                  | Penn St. | 5  | 0  | 9  | 0  |
| Mich. St.        | 4        | 1  | 7  | 2  |    |
| Ohio St.         | 4        | 1  | 7  | 2  |    |
| Minn.            | 3        | 1  | 7  | 1  |    |
| NWestern         | 2        | 2  | 5  | 3  |    |
| Iowa             | 2        | 2  | 5  | 3  |    |
| Illinois         | 2        | 3  | 4  | 4  |    |
| Michigan         | 1        | 3  | 2  | 6  |    |
| Wisc.            | 1        | 4  | 4  | 4  |    |
| Indiana          | 1        | 4  | 3  | 5  |    |
| Purdue           | 0        | 4  | 2  | 6  |    |

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FOOTBALL

## Lennon: It's just Game 8 on the schedule



**Saluki football head coach Dale Lennon talks with members of the media** following Saturday's 23-17 win over Missouri State in Springfield, Mo. This Saturday the Salukis will play against the University of North Dakota, a school Lennon coached for nine seasons.  
**ANTHONY SOUFFLE**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

With former team headed to Carbondale, Lennon downplays significance

**Brian Feldt**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Dale Lennon has spent more years associated with the University of North Dakota than he has months

at SIU. He has won more games as a coach for the Fighting Sioux than he has coached quarters for the Salukis.

But Lennon is no longer interested in North Dakota's affairs. He is the SIU head coach.

And with Lennon's alma mater coming to McAndrew Stadium to play the No. 14 Salukis Saturday, the first-year head coach of SIU is doing what any NCAA coach would do: downplay the situation.

"Right now my approach is it is just the next game on the schedule," Lennon said. "North Dakota is a good program and they have a strong tradi-

**"Their expectations will be coming down here and finding a way to win and that is what we have to be prepared for."**

— Dale Lennon  
SIU head coach

tion of winning. Their expectations will be coming down here and finding a way to win and that is what we have to be prepared for."

But Lennon has played a pivotal role in North Dakota's success.

See **HOME COMING**, Page 14

MEN'S GOLF

## Scoring error deals SIU second

Danielson earns conference honors

**Stile T. Smith**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The SIU men's golf team finished in second place at the UTA/Waterchase Invitational after the correction of a scoring error launched the team three spots from fifth place into second.

SIU head coach Leroy Newton said tournament officials mistakenly counted Jordan Cox's score in each round, when in fact the golfer had not been playing because of an illness.

Final scores are made up of five golfers from each team, with the worst score being dropped. In this case, Cox's scores were considered the worst because he was not playing.

The Salukis' 296 score was turned into a 292 after the blunder and the Salukis jumped into second place.

See **GOLF**, Page 14

VOLLEYBALL



**JULIA RENDLEMAN** ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

**Outside hitter Jennifer Berwanger, a sophomore, practices Wednesday** afternoon in preparation for this weekend's matches against Bradley and University of Northern Iowa.

## Program's anniversary highlights Saluki weekend

SIU hosts Northern Iowa, Bradley

**Stile T. Smith**  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The SIU volleyball team will pay tribute to 50 years of Saluki volleyball this weekend during a pair of Missouri Valley Conference matches.

The volleyball program celebrated its 50th anniversary this year and the Athletic Department will hold several events to pay homage to past and present Salukis.

An alumni match will be played Saturday at 9 a.m., followed by a tailgate with former and current players before the football game, which starts at 2 p.m. Past players will be honored during Saturday's football and volleyball games.

Northern Iowa will make the trip to Davies Gymnasium Friday followed by a Saturday match against Bradley as SIU attempts to improve on its 14-7 record.

Coach Brenda Winkler said she is looking forward to the anniversary celebration, specifically seeing Brandy Stein, a former Winkler protégé.

Winkler coached Stein at

**"We don't want to hit any balls where Ellie Blankenship lives. That will be a focus."**

— Brenda Winkler  
SIU head coach

Parkland College before Stein transferred to SIU.

"I haven't seen her in a while and she's coming, so that will be special," Winkler said.

SIU will be looking to avenge a loss to Northern Iowa Oct. 4, when SIU lost the match in three sets.

Winkler said the Salukis will attempt to keep the ball away from UNI sophomore libero Ellie Blankenship, who had 26 digs for the Panthers in their win over SIU.

"She had 26 digs against us at the top of the key," Winkler said. "We don't want to hit any balls where Ellie Blankenship lives. That will be a focus."

Senior setter Brooklyn Robbins said the team remains confident despite the previous loss to the Panthers. Robbins added the home-court advantage could play a factor.

See **VOLLEYBALL**, Page 15