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Split, budget tax SIU

Heads aim to thin cuts, keep SIUE

BY ELIZABETH DONALD
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Trustees on Thursday faced two hits to Southern Illinois University: a possible 8 percent budget cut and a bill to make the Edwardsville campus independent.

SIUE Chancellor David Werner said the 8 percent cut being recommended by the office of the budget would trim \$5.6 million from SIUE's budget this year — a fiscal year that ends in July.

The university has about \$2 million in reserve, plus another \$1 million from additional enrollment, he said. But that would still leave \$2.6 million to trim from expenditures that are mostly past.

"We're going to be scrambling," he said.

Technically, the state budget office does not directly control the universities. The Illinois Board of Higher Education makes recommendations on budgetary matters directly to the governor.

But the budget office has pressed the Illinois Board of Higher Education to cut 8 percent from all universities.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education will meet again on Monday to hear testimony from universities about the impact of an 8 percent cut more than halfway through the fiscal year, then will advise the governor.

"We're hopeful they will recommend something far less than 8 percent," Werner said.

But in the meantime, Werner and SIUE vice chancellors are trying to find ways to cut \$2.6 million from a budget that has already been trimmed by \$4.4 million and 16 jobs. Some future cuts might be restrictions on travel and not filling empty positions — those are the easiest cuts, Werner said.

"If this actually happens, we won't have much time," Werner said. "Our first priority will be to protect students' access to

Please see SIU, 2A

ELDER RAGE



Don York became a different man after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, but professionals say there's a way to handle the anger and the frustration that can go with the disease.



STEVE NAGY/News-Democrat

Donna York, 68, of rural Collinsville said she spends a lot of time visiting her 73-year-old husband, Don, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 1992, at the Missouri Veterans Home in St. Louis.

BY TERI MADDOX
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Donna York remembers her husband, Don, as a kind, sensitive man who could cry just hearing a sad story on a TV newscast. Children were drawn to his twinkling eyes and Santa Claus-style beard.

But after Don York, now 73, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 1992, his personality changed. He became confused, agitated and even physically aggressive.

Several times, Don York woke up in the middle of the night and came after Donna with walking sticks and other objects. He insisted she wasn't his wife and wondered why she was in bed with him.

"I kept my jeans, my shoes, my cell phone and my car keys by my

bed at all times," said Donna York, 68, a retired hospital auditor who lives in rural Collinsville. "I was ready to go."

The Yorks were experiencing what California author Jacqueline Marcell calls "elder rage," a tendency for some people with dementia to become frustrated and angry. They can't function as well as they used to. Their children want them to stop driving, cooking and living independently.

Marcell was in the metro-east this week, advising mental-health professionals on how to deal with elder rage. She spoke to more than 200 people Wednesday at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville.

Marcell called for earlier diagnosis of Alzheimer's and increased support services for caregivers. She

noted dementia symptoms often can be slowed through proper treatment and medication.

"Most doctors say, 'They're old. They're senile. They're at the end of their life. There's nothing that can be done,'" Marcell said. "And that's not true. They're propagating a myth."

Marcell's visit was sponsored by Red Bud Human Service Center. The nonprofit organization provides information, counseling and other services in Randolph, Monroe and St. Clair counties.

Jodi Kranz coordinates the center's Mental Health and Aging Outreach Program. She wants to familiarize people with early signs of Alzheimer's and reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness.

Please see RAGE, 6A



"Most doctors say ... there's nothing that can be done. And that's not true."

Jacqueline Marcell, author

University seeks aid from state

Asbestos removal is sought at West

BY SCOTT WUERZ
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BELLEVILLE — Lindenwood University officials are asking the state to help close a deal to buy the old Belleville Township High School West building.

The university asked for contact information for state agencies that might want to rent out space at the old West, according to state Rep. Tom Holbrook, D-Belleville. Lindenwood also asked for information about grants to pay for asbestos removal.

"Lindenwood asked through the Belleville mayor's office for a list of agencies that might be interested," Holbrook said. "I was able to give them about 25 names, but I couldn't tell you who they are off the top of my head."

When Democratic Gov. Rod Blagojevich took office in January, he pledged to review all of the state's office contracts to see whether any could be eliminated or replaced with cheaper deals, Holbrook said.

"All leases are up for grabs, and they will be reviewed," Holbrook said. "There will be a process of competitive bidding. Lindenwood should be given full consideration that everyone else gets."

Blagojevich spokesman John Richardson said he is unaware of any contact so far between Lindenwood and the state about using part of the old school for office space.

Lindenwood spokesman Scott Queen said the university, which plans to use the high school building as a satellite campus for night classes, does not need anywhere near the 300,000 square feet available.

West students will start classes in the fall at the school under construction on Frank Scott Parkway West.

"We're looking for government agencies, not for-profit-type organizations, and other

Please see UNIVERSITY, 2A

Authorities are confused by kidnap victim's behavior

Elizabeth Smart rejoins her family

BY PATTY HENETZ
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Trapped in the hills above her anguished family's home for the first two months of her disappearance, Elizabeth Smart may have been kept from escaping or crying out for help by the growing influence of her captors, police said Thursday.

Frightened at first by her abduction at knifepoint, Elizabeth was forced to depend on her captors during her nine-month disappearance, authorities said.

INSIDE:
Drifter-preacher called a polygamist.
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When found by police, the 15-year-old vehemently denied her identity when asked whether she was Elizabeth Smart and told officers that the couple she was with were her parents.

"There is clearly a psychological impact that occurred at some point," Police Chief Rick Dinse said. "There is no question that she was psychologically affected."

Salt Lake Police briefly outlined Elizabeth's movements

Please see SMART, 6A



Elizabeth Smart held her brother William on Thursday at their home. Her sister Mary Katherine is in the background.

Fairview city leaders propose extra money for art show

Economic benefit seen from Salute to Masters

BY PATRICK J. POWERS
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FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS — City leaders, piecing together a tight budget for the next fiscal year, have proposed a donation up to \$35,000 to the Midwest Salute to the Masters art fair.

"They recognized, with the economy the way it is, that we needed a little extra help," said Penny Struebig, director of the 16th annual Midwest Salute to the Masters. "They have been

wonderful to us."

The city, which last week said it may not be able to fund the art fair at all, made a commitment to the "signature event" on Wednesday at the City Council's Finance Committee. The committee proposed to make three donations to the Salute to the Masters: two payments of \$15,000 and one of \$5,000, if needed.

The committee didn't address funding other events, such as the Tourism Bureau of

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Pick Three-Midday: 2-1-2
Pick Three-Evening: 5-6-2
Pick Four-Midday: 3-4-9-1

Pick Four-Evening: 9-1-7-2
Little Lotto: 5-10-13-20-23
Jackpot: \$3.5 million

FOR MISSOURI

Daily Pick 3: 3-7-2
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