

15 soldiers killed in downed helicopter

21 more wounded as insurgents add missiles to armory; helicopters were transporting soldiers on leave

FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP) — Targeting American forces with new audacity, insurgents hiding in a date palm grove shot down a Chinook helicopter carrying dozens of American troops Sunday, killing 15 and wounding 21 in the deadliest strike against U.S. forces since they invaded Iraq in March.

Witnesses said the attackers used missiles — a sign of the in-

creasing sophistication of Iraq's elusive anti-U.S. fighters.

Three other Americans were killed in separate attacks Sunday, including one 1st Armored Division soldier in Baghdad and two U.S. civilians working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Fallujah. All three were victims of roadside bombs, the military said.

It was the deadliest day for U.S.

troops since March 23 — the first week of the invasion that ousted Saddam Hussein — and a major escalation in the campaign to drive the U.S.-led coalition out of the country.

The giant helicopter was ferrying the soldiers on their way for leave outside Iraq when two missiles streaked into the sky and slammed into the rear of the aircraft, witnesses told The Associat-

ed Press. It crashed in flames in farmers' fields west of Baghdad.

"It's clearly a tragic day for America," Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said in Washington. "In a long, hard war, we're going to have tragic days. But they're necessary. They're part of a war that's difficult and complicated."

Like past attacks on U.S. forces and a string of suicide bombings

that killed dozens in Baghdad the past week, U.S. coalition officials blamed either Saddam loyalists or foreign fighters for the strike outside Fallujah, a center of Sunni Muslim resistance to the U.S. occupation.

President Bush was at his Texas ranch, out of public sight Sunday, "Our will and resolve are unshakable," said a White House spokesman traveling with him.

L. Paul Bremer, the head of the occupation in Iraq, repeated demands that Syria and Iran prevent fighters from crossing their borders into Iraq.

"They could do a much better job of helping us seal that border and keeping terrorist out of Iraq," he told CNN. The "enemies of freedom" in Iraq "are using more sophisticated techniques to attack our forces."

Consecration of gay bishop marks change

Ceremony in Episcopalian Church will have worldwide ramifications

DURHAM, N.H. (AP) — After anguished debate, Episcopalians gathered Sunday to consecrate openly gay cleric V. Gene Robinson as a bishop — a first for any major Christian denomination and perhaps the beginning of the end for their denomination in its current form.

After a musical prelude, participants singing a hymn began filing into the University of New Hampshire sports arena where the ceremony was being held before an audience of about 4,000 people. Outside, a handful of anti- and pro-gay demonstrators were kept apart by police.

The ceremony is a landmark event for gay activists, U.S. Episcopalians, their 75 million fellow Anglicans around the world and other Christians.

Though there have been gay bishops in the past, all were closeted when they were elevated to their posts. Robinson has been open about his 14-year relationship with his partner throughout the process in which he won election to his new post.

A standard part of the consecration of an Episcopal bishop is an invitation for objections. Unlike most consecrations, however, this time formal objections were planned by New Hamp-

ONLINE

Current New Hampshire bishop responds to controversy surrounding consecration.

gc2003.episcopalchurch.org/ens/3577_21171_ENG_HTML.htm

shire Episcopal dissenters and assistant Bishop David Bena of Albany, N.Y. Bena represents a newly formed alliance of conservative bishops, the Conference of North American Anglican Bishops.

The head of the 2.3 million-member church, Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold, would deal with objections in a dignified way, said James Solheim, a national church spokesman. If there were more than a handful, or if the objectors became unruly, they could be asked to register their complaints in another room.

Dissenting traditionalists planned a competing Communion at a nearby church.

Outside the arena, 11 members of the anti-gay Rev. Fred Phelps' Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., demonstrated against Robinson's consecration.

About 30 feet away, another group protested the presence of

See BISHOP on Page A-8

Libraries looking to a digital future

Illini Union hosts library conference; speaker notes digital media usefulness

BY TINA SHAH
Staff writer

Stephen Murray's interest in using innovative digital media made him an appropriate speaker for the University's Oct. 30-31 conference on the library at the Illini Union. The conference dealt not only with the allocation of funds of a tight budget, but also other issues, such as library space and acquiring print materials.

Ten years ago the native of Britain sought a place where he could apply new methods of gathering and forming ideas of digital media that he was trained in at the humanities department at Columbia University in New York.

Other participants at the conference ranged from international speakers to professors. They discussed critical issues for research libraries such as important services for the "digital age": the role of print materials, trends in scholarly communications and library space.

"The library is no longer a passive, reciprocal medium," Murray said. "It is more like a lab, playing a more energetic and active role."

Murray pointed to engaging University faculty and scholars as a challenge the library faces.

"Since the 1990s, the faculty at

The library is no longer a passive, reciprocal medium. It is more like a lab, playing a more energetic and active role.

STEPHEN MURRAY
conference speaker

Columbia University have used less and less of the library resources," Murray said.

Provost Richard Herman, the welcoming speaker on Oct. 30, said the faculty is not necessarily using less library resources, but rather they are accessing them online more.

"The library is facing a number of problems, but it is not just our library," Herman said.

Herman pointed to several issues, including an increase in the price of journals because of higher fees instituted by publishing companies, the decision of what information to archive and a shortage of shelf space for books.

"A library that prides itself in carrying a complete collection, of course, has a hard hit," Herman said.

A solution to the overcrowding problem is a new storage building expected to be completed in a

See LIBRARIES on Page A-8

EL DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS



ADRIANA D'ONOFRIO The Daily Illini

Jared Terronez, senior in LAS, stands in front of a mural while reading a poem for La Casa's Blue Room poetry event on Thursday night. Participants were asked to read a piece from a Latino poet in celebration of Dia de los Muertos, a three-day Mexican holiday that translates to Day of the Dead. The holiday honors and celebrates loved ones who have passed away.

Behind the musical: Into the Woods

Sunday sees final performance of show; talents of many contribute to its quality

BY MOLLY STEPHEY
Staff writer

As children, many of us are lulled to sleep with fairy tales of handsome princes oozing charm and honor and naive Little Red Riding Hood who becomes the unknowing victim of the Big Bad Wolf. But what if Prince Charming were really the bad guy and Little Red Riding Hood were the predator, not the prey?

This unusual depiction of traditional fairy tales and their "happily-ever-after" endings are the theme of the musical, *Into the Woods* — the final performance of which took place Sunday night. It was the last of seven performances that began on Oct. 23 at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

While acting and music are often considered to be the most important elements of this performance, others felt the effects of

lighting, scenery and costumes also contributed.

Because there weren't a lot of scene changes, James Zager, director of the performance, said lighting became an especially important aspect of the show.

"It became a character itself," Zager said. "It reflected the mood of the play as well as the changes the story went through."

Preparation for the show started last January, Zager said. Kathy Perkins, lighting designer for the production, traveled throughout Champaign-Urbana taking pictures of sunsets to gather inspiration and ideas for design.

Emily Withenbury, sophomore in LAS, said she noticed the amount of time and effort put into the play. She said she liked how the scenery and lighting seemed to work together in the performance.

"I liked the effect of the lights and how the tone shifted from



SHIRA WEISSMAN The Daily Illini

(From left) Sophomores in FAA Samantha Tanner, Jenny Maurer and Stephanie Limesand prepare for the final performance of *Into the Woods* Sunday afternoon at the Krannert Center.

light to dark when scenes changed," Withenbury said. "It made the set seem more realistic."

Zager said one of the major challenges for the production was emphasizing the specific change from Act I to Act II. While

Act I shows fairy tales as they are traditionally represented, Act II reveals the consequences that such traditional representations often disregard.

"From the beginning, I

See MUSICAL on Page A-8

Illinois bucks trend of tuition programs

Budget woes lead to loss of similar programs in other states, College Illinois! stays solvent

BY SABRINA WILLMER
Staff writer

Illinois began its prepaid tuition enrollment period last Wednesday, not following the trend of five states who have suspended these programs because of increased tuition and a slow economy.

Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Texas and Colorado have recently suspended their prepaid tuition programs for a 12-month period to avoid any future liabilities to their programs.

Prepaid tuition funds allow parents to begin investing a cer-

tain amount of money for their child's college costs — either in a lump sum or monthly payments — when the child is still young. A state then pools the money — which becomes a trust fund — in long-term investments, hoping that earnings will match or exceed the cost of tuition when the child is ready to attend college.

College Illinois! is the prepaid tuition program for the state. By law, the tuition trust fund created in this prepaid program cannot be combined with other state dollars, and the benefits received from the program are 100 percent exempt

from state and federal taxes.

Ohio's prepaid tuition fund, The Guaranteed Savings Fund, allows families to purchase tuition units, which are held until a child reaches age 18, said Judy Cunningham, public relations manager of The Ohio Tuition Trust Authority. The suspension occurred on Oct. 8 due to the market value deficit, annual tuition increases exceeding investment returns, inflation of price units and fear of increasing the deficit of the fund, Cunningham said.

Although Ohio is suspending its fund, the money families have

already invested in the fund is safe and families will receive their money when the child reaches 18.

A cash shortfall is expected in 2014, but the state plans to make up the difference, Cunningham said.

"The (families) will get what they have been promised in this program," Cunningham said.

Although the prepaid program is inactive in Ohio, there are many other savings options available for families, she added.

Jo Carole Ellis, executive director of the Kentucky Affordable

See TUITION on Page A-8