

One woman, one voice fighting against AIDS

Sean McGahan
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sheryl Lee Ralph is actively fighting the killer of many of her close friends.

The actress — probably best known for her role as Brandy's no-nonsense stepmother in the UPN hit "Moesha" — continued this fight Friday night in the Student Center Ballroom D.

Ralph performed "Sometimes I Cry" — a one-woman show that tells the stories of four diverse women affected by HIV and AIDS.

The act is the newest entry in Ralph's more than 16-year endeavor to raise awareness and money to fight the disease that, according to the AVERT organization, has taken the lives of more than 25 million people worldwide since 1981.

Ralph, speaking on the final day of AIDS Awareness Week at SIUC, said she intends her work to be "a loving, living memorial of the many friends that I lost to HIV (and) AIDS."

The actress portrayed an 18-year-old who had lived her life in foster homes, a 24-year-old nymphomaniac, a 45-year-old entrepreneur and a 68-year-old Sunday school teacher — all of whom were infected with HIV.

Ralph said she first became aware of the plights of those infected by HIV in the early 1980s, a time when her career — and the disease — were coming into the mainstream.

"It was just starting to rear its head, and we were ushered into the ugly, ugly time when people did not care about those who were infected

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—Sheryl Lee Ralph
actress and AIDS activist

with the disease, and they certainly didn't talk about it," Ralph said.

She said she sees a similar silence and apathy today — which is why it is such a vital time to bring the issues to the forefront.

"This show is about breaking that fourth wall by opening up the audience to ask questions so that we can get open, honest dialogue going about this disease and what is going on with people and figure out a way to make some serious change when it comes to AIDS," Ralph said.

She said a good example of this dialogue came after a performance of the show in Houston on Wednesday night.

"A young African foreign student stood up and said how can it be that he could come to America and witness what he believes is the same devastation going on in Africa right here in America," Ralph said.

She said she has the same question.

"How can we let it happen to us — with all the technology, all of the information, all of the money and all of the access?" Ralph asked. "It doesn't have to happen."

Elisa Marsh, a senior from Chicago studying social work, described the performance as "phenomenal."



DAN CELVI ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sheryl Lee Ralph performs "Sometimes I Cry" in the Student Center on Friday night. In the performance, Ralph acts out different personas of people infected with HIV and AIDS.

"She was talking about something that was very important because on a college campus there's sex, there's some of everything going on," Marsh said.

She said the realistic portrayal of women of diverse ages and ethnicities made the performance accessible for all people.

"To tell you the truth, she scared the hell out of me," Marsh said. "She's telling the lives of women that live with this disease. It was

just sad."

Student Programs Coordinator Nikki Hornsberry said she asked Ralph to come to SIUC because she had been personally touched by the performance when she first saw it in June.

"Right now in this time when we're trying to be educated in HIV and AIDS, we need a different experience instead of just statistics," Hornsberry said. "This performance shows a beauty, and it shows a story,

instead of just someone trying to tell you, 'Here it is, these are the facts.'"

Hornsberry said she found the unique depiction of those affected both precautionary and inspiring.

"It actually gives you a vision of what can happen if you do have HIV and AIDS, and it shows you that life can go on," she said.

Sean McGahan can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 259 or sean_mcgahan@dailyegyptian.com.

The meth menace: spreading fast

Austin Fenner
Tina Moore
MCT

NEW YORK — Methamphetamine — once considered the drug of choice in the backwoods — is moving up in society. Experts say methods for "cooking" the drug have become less noxious over the past decade, making meth labs a friendlier fit for apartment buildings like the one on Manhattan's East Side, where federal agents announced a bust last week.

"Back in the day, cooking meth was a very smelly process," said Steve Robertson, special agent and spokesman for the DEA. "That's why meth labs would go into rural areas. You would have them out in little shacks out on farms or ranches."

Agents from his agency announced Thursday — National Meth Awareness Day — that they had busted a clandestine meth lab at an East Side high-rise. They also announced nine other meth lab busts in the city and on Long Island.

The local meth labs highlight a change in the face of methamphetamine use — long a rural drug consumed most often by lower-

income men and women.

"There's no question that there has been an increase of meth use in the city," said Dr. Petros Levounis, who runs the Addiction Institute of New York. "The transformation from Sudafed to meth is extremely, extremely easy."

The busts announced last week added another twist to the meth dilemma: Two of the men arrested, both professionals, were making the drug for personal consumption.

Meth labs — even rural mom and pop labs — are usually run to turn a profit.

Michael Knib, an information technology vice president for Citigroup, told agents he started producing the drug because he lost his sources when he moved to the city from Seattle, investigators said.

Mehmetcan Dosemeci, a 28-year-old doctoral student in history and Fullbright Scholar at Columbia University, told agents that he was making the drug in his Manhattan Avenue flat to stay awake. He researched cooking meth on the Internet.

The production of meth puts the people making the drug and those around them in danger. Meth labs — where vaporous chemicals are hard to

detect — are known to explode.

"It's unsettling," said a neighbor in the Manhattan Avenue building where Dosemeci lived. He did not want to be named in this story. "He was taking a risk with other people's lives."

A retired 69-year-old clerk, who also did not want to provide his name, was dumbfounded.

"If it blows up, what is he going to say to the people who wind up in the morgue?" he said. "Who needs to stay awake for up to three days?"

The ease with which the drug can be made has prompted action in Washington.

A federal law that took effect in September bans over-the-counter sales of certain cold medicines with ingredients used to make meth, including pseudoephedrine and ephedrine.

The law requires buyers to show photo identification and allows them to purchase only a 30-day supply.

Robertson, who started out as a clandestine-lab investigator in the Southwest in the mid-1990s, said changes in the meth culture shifted into high-gear when recipes were posted on the Internet.

Saddam lawyers file appeal against death penalty sentence

Qassim Abdul-zahra
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Saddam Hussein's lawyers on Sunday formally appealed the death sentence against their client for the killing of 148 Shiites, a court spokesman said.

Five Iraqi judges sentenced Saddam and two other senior members of his regime to death by hanging on Nov. 5 for the killings in the town of Dujail, north of Baghdad, following a 1982 attempt there on the life of the ousted leader.

Under Iraqi law, death sentences are automatically appealed before a higher court within 10 days of their passage. But defense lawyers must file a formal appeal within 30 days, detailing the legal grounds for their action and presenting new evidence that could support their clients' claims of innocence. The lawyers could also make a plea for leniency.

"Today, defense lawyers came to the court and filed an appeal against the death sentence passed against Saddam Hussein and other sentences in the Dujail case," Iraqi High Tribunal spokesman Raid Juhi told The Associated Press.

Saddam's chief lawyer, Khalil al-Dulaimi, said two lawyers on the defense team had submitted the papers. He complained that defense lawyers had not received copies of the verdict until Nov. 23, delaying the appeal process.

"Finally we were able to do it," al-Dulaimi said. "We had to hastily

prepare the appeal because the court procrastinated in giving us the documents necessary for the submission in a bid to obstruct the appeal process."

Also sentenced to death by hanging was Barzan Ibrahim, Saddam's half brother and Iraq's former intelligence chief, and Awad Hamed al-Bandar, who was head of Iraq's Revolutionary Court when it condemned the Dujail residents to death following the assassination attempt.

Iraq's former Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan was convicted of premeditated murder and sentenced to life in prison.

Three defendants were given up to 15 years in prison for torture and premeditated murder. The three — Abdullah Kazim Ruwayyid, Mizhar Abdullah Ruwayyid and Ali Dayih Ali — were party officials in Dujail who were believed responsible for the mass arrests.

A local Baath Party official, Mohammed Azawi Ali, was acquitted for lack of evidence.

The nine-judge, higher court does not have a time limit for ruling on the appeal. But the death sentences passed against Saddam, Ibrahim and al-Bandar must be carried out within a maximum of 30 days from the day they are upheld by the higher court.

If the appeals court upholds the sentences, all three members of Iraq's Presidential Council — President Jalal Talabani and Vice Presidents Tariq al-Hashimi and Adil Abdul-Mahdi — must sign death warrants before executions can be carried out.

dash (dæʃ) <i>v.</i> -dash, -dash. 1. To splatter with or as if with a liquid. 2. To splash playfully in water. 3. To work at something casually or without serious purpose. — dasher <i>n.</i>	variously colored flowers.
Dacca (dɑːkɑː). Cap. of Bangladesh. Pop. 1,563,517.	daily (dɪˈleɪ) <i>adj.</i> Of, relating to, happening, or published every day. — <i>adv.</i> 1. Every day. 2. Once a day. — <i>n., pl. -lies.</i> A daily publication, esp. a newspaper.
dace (dæs) <i>n., pl. dace or daces.</i> A small freshwater fish of the family Cyprinidae, resembling the minnow.	daily egyptian <i>n.</i> 1 Award winning newspaper that gives away free loads of information 2 Student run free newspaper <i>vb.</i> 1 To entertain
dacha (dɑːtʃɑː) <i>n.</i> A Russian house in the country.	dai-qui-ri (dɪˈkiːrɪ, dɑːkɪˈrɪ) <i>n., pl. -ris.</i> A drink made with rum and lime juice.
dachs-hund (dæksˈhʊnd, dɑːksˈhʊnd) <i>n.</i> A small dog with a long body, very short legs, and drooping ears.	



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MAX BITTLE ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Hannah Shockey, 7, looks out of the nativity scene on the back of the St. Andrew Church float before the annual Lights Fantastic Parade on Saturday night in Carbondale. It was the church's first year to participate in the parade.

Lighting up Carbondale

Alicia Wade
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The streetlights on Illinois Avenue went dark Saturday night as a crowd numbering well into the hundreds took to the streets, braving the chilly weather to see the twinkling lights of the 16th annual Lights Fantastic Parade.

The parade was part of Carbondale Main Street and

Carbondale Community Arts' Fantastic Winter Weekend, which featured more than 10 events in Carbondale's Main Street area. Open houses at several businesses as well as the basketball game and craft sale on campus were also a part of the weekend, which wrapped up Sunday with the Alternative Gift Fair at the Carbondale Civic Center.

The Lights Fantastic Parade featured more than 70 lighted

entries, ranging from a traditional manger scene to an alien waving to the crowds from his spaceship. Children dressed as lighted snowflakes, Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer with blinking noses and garland-covered angels warmed crowds along the parade route with their renditions of carols such as "Up on the Housetop."

For some, the music the marching bands in the parade

provided was the highlight of the night. Michelle Cohen of Carbondale attended the parade for the first time Saturday and said she enjoyed the marching bands the most.

"I really liked the bands, especially the last one (Carbondale Community High School Marching Terriers) with the lights on their heads," Cohen said.

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Second censure for pork prank

Brandon Weisenberger
DAILY EGYPTIAN

The student accused of putting a cooked pig's head on former Chancellor Walter Wendler's car received his second censure of the semester on Friday, and he learns later this week if he will be punished for a "gag gift" he delivered to Anthony Hall in October.

Judicial Affairs coordinator Carlos Del Rio censured Garth Kiser, a 28-year-old senior from Murphysboro, after finding him guilty of harassment and disorderly conduct charges.

The charges stemmed from a May 11 incident in which authorities accused Kiser of putting a cooked pig's head on the hood of Wendler's car, along with a poster board stating, "Wendler, stop pigging out on tuition \$\$\$!" Kiser also allegedly sent a mass e-mail with a picture of the pig's head on the car and the typed message, "Next time it won't be cooked!!!!!"

Kiser has not admitted involvement with the pig's head or e-mail.

On Friday, Kiser has another hearing for disorderly conduct and harassment charges related to his attempt on Oct. 12 to deliver a package to Wendler, whose demotion to professor of architecture was announced Nov. 8

Inside the package were farm animal figurines, a package of pork chops, a Wild West toy gun and sheriff's badge, play handcuffs and a T-shirt that had on it a picture of the head on the car and the phrase, "Wendler sucks! SIU's resources dry."

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Donning the Dawg suit one last time

Lights Parade last performance for suspended mascot

Sarah Lohman
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Gray Dawg has had his last dance.

Adorned in bells and garland, Brian Ardaugh, an SIUC mascot since fall 2005, danced alongside the Marching Salukis in Saturday's Lights Fantastic Parade for his final appearance in the fur.

Ardaugh, a senior from Plainfield studying electrical engineering technology, was suspended for two games after displaying "inappropriate behavior" during the Nov. 25 football playoff game against the University of Tennessee-Martin at McAndrew Stadium.

After the Salukis scored their first touchdown in the second quarter, Ardaugh said he

attempted to "kidnap" some UTM cheerleaders and then partially mooned fans with Gray Dawg's backside in response to their jeers.

He is scheduled to graduate Dec. 16, and the suspension cost him the last two games of his SIUC career.

Saluki Marketing Director Mike Trude said he and Athletic Director Mario Moccia decided to suspend Ardaugh for inappropriate behavior that reflected badly on the university. He said UTM fans and school employees complained about Ardaugh's actions in e-mails to both athletic and university administrators.

Brandon Henry, who has portrayed Brown Dawg for three semesters, said being the only mascot at games has been difficult.

"It's a lot different because you always feed off each other's energy," said Henry, a junior from Clay City studying political science. "Without him there, it's like straining to get to see everybody in

the Arena, and you kind of spread yourself a little thin."

Ardaugh has been offered the chance to act as a mascot for two games after graduation later this month, but he said he likely would not be able to because of travel and living arrangements.

Henry said working with the new Gray Dawg next semester would take some adjustment.

"It'll take a little bit of time because the chemistry (needs to be) there to be able to work together to put on a good show for people," Henry said.

Ardaugh was in the Dawg Pound sans Gray Dawg attire for Saturday's men's basketball game against St. Louis. Ardaugh's friends wore shirts that said "Free Gray Dawg," and Ardaugh wore a dog collar and held a sign reading "I'm still Gray Dawg."

He said he would miss being a part of SIU athletics and "knowing I am the Gray Dawg."

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Senior Brian Ardaugh, who portrays SIUC mascot Gray Dawg, prepares his costume for the last time at Altgeld Hall on Saturday night before the Lights Fantastic Parade. Ardaugh will be graduating with a degree in electrical engineering technology at the end of the semester.

MAX BITTLE
DAILY EGYPTIAN