City Council approves sales tax increase

TIM CHAMBERLAN
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

A 0.25-percent sales tax increase was approved by the Carbondale City Council Tuesday evening, following a meeting with strong community support evident for both the sales tax and the upcoming Carbondale Community High School referendum.

The additional sales tax will only go into effect if the city referendum on the Feb. 23 primary election ballot is passed by voters.

The sales tax proposal was tabled by the Board of Education enlarged the sales tax as a method of funding school construction in a statement from State Superintendent of Education Glenn McGee.

In his statement, McGee applauded this unique method of funding school construction and the accompanying Carbondale Community High School referendum.

Julia Rendleman, CCHS student body president, supported the sales tax because of the dedication of the high school. Rendleman described a number of problems with the building, including falling ceilings, unsafe outdoor lighting and the lingering smell in the hallway "of toilet overflow." She also noted the facility was built in 1923 without plans for technology, including televisions in classrooms.

"Some people would argue that a willing student can learn in any environment," Rendleman said. "But that is like saying students can use an abacus to learn logarithm. Times are changing, and the school needs to be left behind." Citizens of the community also attended to support the tax increase and the upcoming referendum.

Mary Simon, a long-time Carbondale resident, urged the council to approve the additional sales tax.

She said the new high school was needed and that this type of opportunity might not come along for a long time.

"Let's do it," Simon said, referring to the proposal. "This is the best buy in town.

"We need people," a school board candidate said.

Disagreed with one previous speaker's statement that a new high school was not necessary, McDaniel said the high school was no longer needed.

Search for a sweeter smelling swine

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Director to cultivate pride in SIUC athletics

JAY SCHMIDT
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Editor’s Note: This is the second part of a two-part interview with Mark Hulbert, SIUC’s interim athletics director, on the state of the athletic department. The first part of the interview appeared in the Wednesday edition of the Daily Egyptian.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, is a former basketball coach and track assistant at SIUC, as well as former director of the Mind Prep Program. He has led the team to dominate in the NCAA during much of his 30-year tenure with the University. He took over the athletic department’s position of Jim Hart, who became an assistant to Chancellor to Ann Armstrong Jan. 20.

DE: Given your interim status, how much say will you have in personnel decisions for the department?

HB: If you look around at the tenure of the new coaches in the athletic department, with the exception of the two new basketball coaches, most of the people have a great deal of tenure with this program. I don't anticipate they're going to be any turnover in coaching positions. We may do some reorganization in terms of personnel within the office, but other than that, I don't anticipate much changing.

DE: Turning to the football program, obviously there have been a lot of changes for a long time. How important is it for Coach (Rod) Quier to show some improvement next season on the 3-8 record his first two teams have produced?

HB: Knowing Coach Quier and his assistants, they put an awful lot of pressure on themselves. If you look at the games that have been lost by this football team, they've been in a lot of bell games that they could have really won. So the record would not be a point of discussion. But I think Coach Quier and his assistants feel an urgency to begin to win, and I like that about them, because this is their third year here and I think they ought to begin to win. He'll have a couple of his recruiting classes that are here, so we ought to begin to see some changes.
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Intramural sports hosts Super Hoops

SCHICK: Athletics gear up for 3-on-3 match at the Recreation Center this weekend.

RHONDA SCARR: DAILY EDITION REPORTER

The Recreation Center is gearing up for the NCAA March Madness hype by stimulating a hoop fever of its own.

A walk through the Recreation Center Monday night with talk of basketball rules and the sounds of the game without the intensity and stress of actual plate play.

In the Alumni Lounge on the second floor, team captains listed to the rules of the Schick Super Hoops 3-on-3 Tournament.

A basketball tournament played the first games of the Spring semester and the SUC America basketball team practiced for a few weeks.

Darreli Beihl, an intramural sports graduate assistant from Bethalto, said basketball is one of the most popular intramural sports for men.

"This is by far the biggest sport we offer," Beihl said. "We have the most participants and bring the most applicants to play."

Rolling Shiki coach Pat Borle (right), motivates J.R. Boyer, a freshman in business, to complete a "ball trap" designed to improve flexibility and strength. The Rolling Shiki will continue to use the Recreation Center for practice before going to Lexington, Ky., for the Big Blonde Invitational this weekend.

"You have people here that played basketball in high school, this is one of their last opportunities to play in this kind of setting," Beihl said. "It is a good way to meet people and stay in shape."

More than 50 teams signed up for the league and will play games Sunday through Thursday until the playoffs before spring break.

"Come play right here," Beihl said.

The Recreation Center will play songs off of its current playlist the third round.

Bald eagle population steadily on the rise

DE-LISTED: The nation's symbol moves from the endangered list to the threatened list.

BURKE SPEAKER: DAILY EDITION REPORTER

State officials are delisting the bald eagle from endangered to the less critical threatened status under the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act. Following a state-ordered review of scientific data, the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act listed the bald eagle as threatened for the first time this year.

According to Monica, 10 years ago, there were only four pockets of bald eagles in the state, but they have expanded to five different areas.

"This trend is a step in the right direction for the bald eagle population," Beihl said.

Former student body president eager to get to work

KINDRA THOMSON: DAILY EDITION REPORTER

Raymond Lenzi reverted to his roots after being pronounced Jan. 20, 2004, the University center as the vice chairman for Institutional Advancement. The University of Wisconsin for four years and University of Missouri for 10, Lenzi has dedicated his career to higher education.

When Lenzi arrived he could return to SUC without a pay cut, took on the University of Missouri for 10, Lenzi has been selected to higher education.

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"We have too much to do to improve the environment of the educational value, he also enjoys the scenic aspects for hiking and boating.

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Call the bus route from hell.

A "dead end" like the University of Michigan wouldn't want its students hop aboard its bus on Jun. 24 because they won't be standing at the opposite stop.

"The bus route from hell," according to the Michigan Daily, is the University's transit system, which serves the University of Michigan campus.

According to the Michigan Daily, the students formed a line across the street, refusing to let the bus go on its second pass through the area near the University of Michigan campus.

"They banged the bus with hockey sticks and removed its gas tank cover," according to the Michigan Daily.

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ANN ARBOR, MICH. Students swing into action because of inset bugs.

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Saluki bandwagon still awaiting fans

The road to St. Louis for the Missouri University Conference Tournament is becoming crowded thanks to the resurgence of the Salukis' men's basketball team and its growing legion of fans.

Coming off one of their biggest wins in four years, an 84-66 win over Columbia University Monday night, first-year coach Bruce Weber and the Salukis have reinvigorated the faithful and started to make the faintest memory of the team's recent "dog days." SJUC is out to beat its record since the three-time Valley Champion made a transition with Chris Carr's final season in 1994-95. In the process, the Dawg Pound's followers and many other Saluki fans have flocked back to the SIU Arena to catch the hottest ticket in town. The result has many benefits for the University, its students, faculty and staff, Carbondale and Southern Illinois.

The momentum could not have come at a better time for the basketball program and the Athletics Department in general. After suffering through three straight losing seasons and seeing veteran coach Rich Herrin pushed out in April, SJUC appeared to be continuing its downward spiral.

In steps Bruce Weber, who has turned 18 years of instruction while assisting one of the nation's best-minded coaches in Purdue's Gene Keady, into a team of overachievers who place defense and teamwork at the top of their priority list. After a slow start, the team has boomed around generating interest and creating a home atmosphere that reminds the Daily Egyptian of a taste of the Salukis'. With two home games left, Feb. 13 is being hailed as a "must win" game.

The Salukis have begun to establish a new tradition, and the future appears to be headed for even more success. Weber and his staff have one of the Valley's top recruiting classes for next season, led by standout Mr. Vernon Davis and Kent Williams. As he brings in more high-quality players, Weber will soon make the recent past an exception to the rule of Saluki history.

Although crowd size has grown recently, Weber's Salukis need as much help as they can get. The team is now on a dog days in which they cannot get ignored, as Illinois State and Southeast Missouri State have learned in their recent bids for the MVC title. Unlike other college sports, huge fan support at a basketball game can make the difference in a hard-fought conference matchup.

Crowds of 4,000 spectators are a definite improvement compared to the past few seasons, but there are many fans who have not quite been won over yet. The crowds of the "three-peat" season of the early '90s regularly exceeded 6,000, making it even more difficult for opponents to have a chance to knock off the Salukis. SJUC students have no reason to avoid attending men's basketball games or other Saluki sports for that matter. Admission is free with a valid student ID, providing an opportunity to take advantage of an important feature of college life that doesn't send anyone scrambling to make rent payments. After much debate concerning an athletic fee last year, it is a waste of money not to take advantage of the chance to see just what those extra funds are providing.

Getting sports such as softball, men's tennis and women's golf are expected to pick up with Caris Williams improvement compared to the past few seasons, CIA. Since we keep making it better, Valley Champlou ended their season. Unlike other college sports, huge fan support at a college basketball game can make the difference in a hard-fought conference matchup.

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SUPER HOOPS
continued from page 3
is packed," Behl said. "Whole fen-
terest and faith of each team
come out to show support." Playing its first game, the Interfraternity Christian Fellowship
team was determined to have a
good time despite its loss.
Brian Chase, a member of the team and a sophomore in aviation
from Aurora, said the team was out to have fun but winning would be a plus.
"It is just a way to get out and
get away from school life," Chase
said. While Chase's team played the
game on foot, the Rolling Salukis
practiced on wheels for the Bluegrass Invitational, the tournament played this weekend at the
University of Kentucky.
Team Captain Xi Yun, a senior in accounting from Colorado Springs, Colo., believes the tourna-
ment will be challenging.
"It is going to be a very compet-
tive weekend," Xi said. "It is not
going to be easy by any means." Yun said this year has been a struggle beginning with the loss of
many players.
"We have a building stage right
now," Yun said.
Earl Jordan, a senior in psychol-
ogy from Chicago and assistant
coach of the team, remains opti-
mistic despite the team's inap-
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LENZI
continued from page 3
the political issues that affect
them.
"In the late 1950s dominant-
political issues surrounded the
student body, which became obvi-
cious in students behavior," Lenzi
said.
Lenzi chose to attend SIUC over the University of Illinois af-
ter feeling he was more at home and find-
ing SIUC on a spring day with his
parents.
"There was a kind of youthful
excitement at this school, there was
a tremendous feeling of energy, and a high percentage of young people in the Universi-
y," Lenzi said.
When Lenzi attended SIUC, he had an oppor-
tunity to attend college. "His father was a coal miner and whose mother
was a waitress, was the first in his family to have a chance to attend higher
learning. "I came here as a kid from a family where no kids went to school. I was so excited to be here," he
said.
When Lenzi attended SIUC, he was involved in the debate team and was also Robot body president and a member of Delta Chi.
Thirty-five years later, Lenzi has the opportunity to face everyday as the new vice chancel-
or. Although he has been on the job for only a little more than a week, he meets with faculty mem-
bers daily to discuss projects that
he oversees.
Lenzi and his staff plan cam-
paigns for the University that deal
with campus-wide problem and
the marketing skills of the Uni-
versity.
Tom Redmond, Development
Services director for Carbondale
and long-standing friend of Lenzi,
said few things about the vice
chancellor have changed through
the years.
"He has less halo, but no less
exemplary," Redmond said. "He is
energetic toward any position he
has ever had, and I am sure he will be successful in his new job." Nancy Hunter-Pei, director of
Student Development, helped
Lenzi with his campaign for stu-
dent body president in college.
"She explained Lenzi was
brought back to the Carbondale
area for the same reason that
I was," Hunter-Pei said. "I think
that most former students of SIU are drawn back to Carbondale for one reason or another," Hunter-Pei said. "Ray is
er
just like the rest of us." Lenzi's wife and two daughters
are in Carbondale.
Lenzi's wife and two daughters
are involved in Carbondale life as
well. His oldest daughter is a
junior at SIUC, and his youngest
takes the vice chancellor's place;
"Southern Illinois has been
to me since I was a 17-year-
old freshman, I am a part of this
community," Lenzi said. "Roots
always bring people back."
The disappearance & reappearance of Saluki Spirit

The question on the mind of the SIUC Athletics Department in recent years is simple — is the SIU Arena half full or half empty?

Unfortunately for the men's and women's basketball programs at SIUC, it has been neither this season.

- The SIU Arena hosts a capacity of 10,014, but only one crowd this season brought more than 4,000 fans — on Jan. 30 for the men's victory over Illinois State University. On that night, 4,280 Saluki fans were in attendance.

- With only two games remaining in the home schedule for the men's basketball team this season, the average home attendance for the Salukis has been a paltry 2,773 fans. Unless something crazy happens in the final two games, the downward spiral of attendance at SIUC in the 1990s will continue.

Mike Trude, marketing director for SIUC Athletics, knows the best way to put posters in the seats.

"Winning dictates almost everything for attendance at this University," Trude said. Trude also blamed bad winter weather and the fact that several games were scheduled over winter break for a few of the particularly small crowds earlier in the season.

Although the men's basketball team enjoyed a great deal of success early in the decade — including three consecutive NCAA tournament appearances — area fans seem to have a short memory.

The Saluki men have had three straight losing seasons, and fans have not seemed to take notice that the team seems to be back on the winning track.

The men's squad, under the leadership of first-year head coach Bruce Weber, has turned heads around the Missouri Valley Conference this season. The team is a respectable 12-3 on the
ATTENDANCE

continued from page 6

year and appears primed to break into the upper half of the conference standings.

Although SIUE students get into all games for free, student support for the team has been scarce. If we can get some of those students who have never been to a game to their first one, I think a lot would be coming back,” Trude said. “It’s a nice diversity from schools and sports and part of university life.”

Melissa Beer, a junior in athletic training from Aviston, was in attendance at Monday night’s men’s game versus Creighton University. She said she attends Saluki basketball games regularly.

“The guys are having a really good season,” Beer said. “I love attending basketball games. Mount Vernon High School is a small school, but their athletes graduate at a significantly higher rate than they current li are on campus. They are tening via the computer about how outstanding the business administration is at the university. I’m really impressed with his ability to teach the game. We’re going to have to have some one here who can get young people to understand the game and get them to be willing to work together as a team. I haven’t talked with him particularly about saying — I don’t know the length of his contract at this point and time. But I do know that the [Missouri Valley Conference] is a league that he is interested in business, not many other alums would know about how important the basketball program is. On the other hand, if we had a basketball or a baseball or a football that did extraordinarily well, the alums would pop up everywhere. If you’re able to listen to [Saluki radio commentator] Mike Reis on the radio, he often talks about people who are listen ing via the computer all over the country. That’s the kind of interest that exists in athletics, which is why it’s so important for the University as a whole.

The 0.25 percent sales tax will be used to help make the yearly hotel payment for the city, reducing the increase in property tax.

For example, a $90,000 residence in Carbondale would see a $115 increase in property taxes if the referendum was not on the ballot. With the 0.25 percent sales tax, the same homeowner would have a $115 increase in property taxes.

The tax increase will take effect July 1. If the school referendum is approved, the school referendum will be on the Feb. 23 primary, ballots.
OVER ONE MILLION OF
THE BEST MINDS IN
AMERICA HAVE ALREADY
CHosen THE best
RETIReMENT SYSTeM.

TIAA-CREF.

When it comes to planning a comfortable future, America's best and brightest turn to the expert: TIAA-CREF. With over $200 billion in assets under management, we're the world's largest retirement system, the nation's leader in customer satisfaction,* and the overwhelming choice of people in education, research, and related fields.

Expertise You Can Count On
For 80 years, TIAA-CREF has introduced intelligent solutions to America's long-term planning needs. We pioneered the portable pension, invented the variable annuity, and popularized the very concept of stock investing for retirement. In fact, we manage the largest stock account in the world (based on assets under management).

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Making manure manageable

KATE KLEINMAIR
Daily Egyptian Reporter

Researchers at SIUC are investigating the evils of hog manure and trying to devise a way to effectively manage the waste and combat the odors.

Richard Steffen, a faculty member and the director of the College of Agriculture, said the project's goal is to analyze the waste management systems to determine what happens to the manure in these systems.

"We're trying to get a better idea of what the nutrients go to, where the materials go," Steffen said. "So we can make recommendations for better management of the facilities and the same time share the information with another group who is involved with the research initiatives.

Steffen and University of Illinois colleagues Kurtz, Raskin and Gary Wallow tragically won a $35,000 grant from the state's Council on Food and Agricultural Research (CFAR) to study the new waste routes to the handling systems most frequently used in Illinois swine waste management.

Hog manure handling systems include anaerobic and aerobic lagoons and pits under hog confinement. Manure put in a lagoon is decomposed by anaerobic microorganisms, and manure is spread as fields as fertilizer.

"Steffen said other possible uses might be to convert the methane into the manure into combustion gases or to dry the manure and transform it into nutrients. He said the simplest disposal technique is using it as fertilizer. However, the rising number of confined swine and the small areas the large swine are estimated to decrease the area where manure cannot be spread. Large areas of hog confinement require hundreds of acres for spreading, so transporting the manure then becomes a factor.

Swine waste is a concern for C-Fall, a coalition of farmers, environmental activists and consumer groups. "We want a solution and there are many ways to effectively react to the handling systems most frequently used in Illinois swine waste management. We are just trying to find out what information we have to work on this research initiative," Steffen said. "We're not creating new problems in the neighborhoods."

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The Illinois State Endangered Species list includes Bald Eagles, which protect endangered species from being lost throughout the country. Bald eagles were listed as endangered in 1978, and monitoring the next year. Population has increased since the 1972 ban on DDT, a pesticide that causes the death of fish, but also preys on other waterfowl. Eagles also nest along various lakes in Southern Illinois, including Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge.

Jim Mabery, wildlife biologist at Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, said Southern Illinois numbers also have increased in recent years.

Mabery said according to the surveying of only one-third of the 60-mile target area there has increased to 30 eagles from between 10 and 15, in previous years.

Steffen and University of Illinois researchers are studying management systems, including anaerobic and aerobic lagoons, as possible uses for hog manure. A new project's goal is to develop a better management of the facilities and the same time share the information with another group who is involved with the research initiatives.

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Football team inks 17 players

Cory Cheval
Saint Peter's Reporter

The SIDC men's football team announced the signing of 17 players in the early signing period Wednesday.

The Storks signed nine defensive players, six offensive players and one specialist. Defensive players are:

- Defensive backs — Justin Allen, Oak Park-River High School; Steven Davis, Don, Ky.
- Jeff

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"I can say I've told you that I've been the one telling them, 'Hey big man, good game.'"

Soji has a long way to go before he gets those types of compliments from a famous coach or a person he admires, but he has his brother for inspiration and guidance.

And the two brothers have plans to compete in a competitive game of one-on-one during the Christmas stay in London. Michael was, of course.

''It's just a matter of him taking care of his business."

— BRUCE WEBER
MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

"After playing with someone bigger than me, I feel Cheval,"

he said. "He stung me on some blocked, but I answered some, too, which made me feel like I had something to offer. He tells me, 'This is what happened in the red.' He makes me appreciate hard work."

Weiner called Soji's impact as sweet as 'Kendal' is still a question.
Kids don't worry about records

Fans love to love players because of who they are, not because of the team's wins or losses.

Paul Wilkening, Daily Egyptian Reporter

Not all sports heroes are Super Bowl MVPs. In fact, some of the most important sports heroes are the least celebrated. These are the heroes that continue to strap on the helmet or tie the laces, knowing they will have to face the agony of defeat more often than winning.

Many athletes struggle to cope with the realization that they may not always win. "Little kids don't care if you win or lose," Junior forward Meredith Jackson said. "They think you're great just because you're out playing on a court, and they can cheer for you.

For the past two seasons, the Salukis have limped to the court after every game, win or lose — to sign autographs for their fans. The Salukis (5-13) have emerged from the locker rooms victorious only four times at home this season but manage to set aside dejection to greet their patient fans with a smile. "You're just got to come out and be positive with them and just use those five or 10 minutes and enjoy signing autographs," Jackson said. "You've just got to come out and be positive with them and just use those five or 10 minutes and enjoy interacting with the little kids and toys and move on."

"I love little kids," Smith said. "So coming out and seeing them looking up to you brings a smile to my face. Sometimes it even leads to help you forget for a split moment that you just had a terrible game or you just lost a big one that you needed to get." Signing autographs allows the Saluki players to be accessible to their fans in hopes to increase fan appreciation. The program has been a success, but the increased appreciation comes from such a small population base.

Saluki junior guard Meredith Jackson signs an autograph for SIUC women's basketball player Amanda Reardon after the championship at the Saluki Arena. (Daily Egyptian)
SHANEEL RICHARDSON
Sports Editor

Taking candy from a baby is simple. Try taking a baby and turning him into “Kandi.”

The SIUC men’s basketball team is possibly up to this stiff challenge by showing some interest in 6-foot-5 freshman Soji Abidemi Olowokandi.

If the name sounds familiar, it should be because he’s the baby brother of Michael Olowokandi, the overall No. 1 draft pick of the NBA, and people expect me to bring a double-figures dance in the valley’s spectrum.

The SIUC coaching staff is not allowed to work with Soji because of NCAA regulations. He still must complete Eligibility Clearancehouse and pass the ACT.

It’s just a matter of him taking care of his business, Weber said. “Then he can get into [the fall] like any other big fellow.” Soji participated in unsupervised team workouts during the NCAA’s no-contact period but has played mostly at the Recreation Center.

Major said, “You kind of have to see the kind of the ability the guy really has, but you don’t want to break the rules by coming to the SIU-Lolm at 12 midnight and doing something like that, which is going to rock.”

Soji arrived in Carbondale in September with absolutely no basketball skills at all. No post moves. No soft hands. Nothing. He could not even dunk.

Playing in a trash-talking environment such as the Rec, he found himself being ridiculed for the season. “One, I’m quite tall,” said Olowokandi, who is a part-time student in music. Two, a lot of people are like ‘Michael Olowokandi is in the NBA,’ and people expect me to come out and be whatever. But I had never played organized basketball before.

Soji has slowly progressed in his time at the Rec during the last five months. Thanks to the help of old faithful creative, he has gone from 178 pounds to a bulky 250. Former SIUC stars Ashley amenities and Troy Hudson and former University of Florida standout Dan Cross also have helped Soji learn the basics.

The post moves are coming. The hands are starting to soften up. The dunks?

“I wish I could kill the rim right now,” he says. “People used to be like, ‘Big man, dunk out ball, dunk that ball.’ Now I’m dunking with both hands. I’m left hand, right hand. When I start playing at SIUC, I know I’m going to crush the rim. I’m always itching to get on the court to play for SIU.”

For the people who used to laugh at him?

“All the guys who were laughing at me when I first got here,” he said, “are in double-figures with just guard Nadine Brandt (10.3 ppg) are making points.”

The Panthers, who are a game Sinith said. “I think we have to go in...”

The Salukis have met up with the lowly Bradley Braves (6-12, 0-10)

The Panthers are a game behind the University of Evansville for first place, but the Salukis are 2-4-1 earlier this season.

The coaches watch the game film, sophomore guard Courtney Smith, said, “They basically were disgusted with how we performed. I think the biggest thing that we have to do when we go out is forget about our first meeting except that we want a little revenge.”

The Salukis nearly matched their season 49 percent shooting percentage in the loss but turned the ball over 27 times.

Sophomore forward Maria Niehrage was the lone Saluki scorer to reach double figured with just 12 points.

Without junior outside threat, Meredith Jackson, the Salukis shot 6-for-2 from behind the arc.

“You forget about it,” Jackson said with a sigh. “You put it in the back of your mind and know that you can have some revenge.”

Sophomore Torica Hathaway (17.6 ppg), who ranked seventh among Valley’s scorers, was held to a season-low six points.

Smith believes the Salukis are a "bit more mature this time around and are ready for the rematch. "We’ve learned a lot since then," Smith said. "I think we have to go in with the attitude that we can play with anybody in the conference as long as we play hard every game."

Smith has shared guard point duties with senior O’Dena Potter, while senior Tiffany Traylor’s (20.1 ppg) and freshman Kim Holloway’s (20.5 ppg) seasons have ended because of injuries. Smith and Potter average a combined 14.7 points a game.

Defensively, the Salukis will have their work cut out for them, as they face the Valley’s toughest trio. Junior forward Allison Sturz (23.0 ppg), foot-3 sophomore center Barb Bennett (12.1 ppg) and sophomore guard Nadine Brandt (10.3 ppg) are among the top 20 scorers in the Valley.

“I think they’re buying into it,” Heck said about her team’s mindset in the Valley’s tournament. “I think they think they’re doing some better things every game.”

Salukis holding final spot in quest for tourney bid