AMC makes move to buy out Kerasotes

Change could alter ticket prices, discounts

NICK QUIGLEY
Daily Egyptian

Carbondale moviegoers could be seeing changes in the theaters if a master business transaction goes through.

AMC Entertainment, Inc. and Kerasotes ShowPlace Theatres, LLC, have entered into a "definitive agreement" in which AMC would take over most of Kerasotes' assets, according to an AMC press release. Kerasotes owns both the University Place 8 and ShowPlace 8 theaters in Carbondale.

"Combining Kerasotes' highly regarded assets and operations with our own is a natural way for us to continue redefining the future of our industry," said Gerry Lopez, AMC CEO and president in a press release.

"Our collective experiences and our complementary geographic footprints will allow us to maintain the reputation for excellence and leadership that is part of each company's culture."

The partnership is not official as of yet as it is pending approval from the Department of Justice for any potential antitrust issues.

Sun Dee Larson, AMC vice president of corporate communications, declined to make specific comments on the situation.

Internet chatter has suggested the merger will yield higher ticket prices, no free reprints on popcorn and soft drinks and the elimination of Kerasotes' Five Buck Club, which allows movie patrons to view movies at discount prices after they have been shown for two or more weeks.

"We can't provide an official statement or comment on rumors or speculation until the transaction is closed," Larson said.

If ticket prices increase, it would affect the decision to go to the movies, said Cami Neelon, a sophomore from Red Bud studying outdoor recreation.

"I would definitely go less if it was more expensive," she said. "It depends on my money situation honestly, and the movie I want to see."

Ryan Prad, a freshman from Frankfort studying geography, says he will go to Kerasotes theaters once every couple weeks at home, but doesn't like the idea of paying more to see a movie.

"I like Kerasotes because it's cheap," he said. "If ticket prices went up, I'd be going less."

Kerasotes gift cards, movie money, Premiere tickets and Super Saver tickets will still be valid after the sale, according to the company's Web site.

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Relocation of GLBT Center raises accessibility concerns

MICHARA CANTY
Daily Egyptian

The Office of Institutional Diversity might have violated the Specialized Student Services policy when it moved the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Resource Center to the C-Wing of Woody Hall Feb. 5, said Jill Adams, law consultant for the GLBT Advisory Board.

"The center's new location is on the third floor of the building, which does not have an elevator, causing it to lack handicap accessibility, Adams said. Other members of the GLBT Resource Center said Thursday. The center joined the Black Resource Center and soon-to-be Hispanic Resource Center in the C-Wing.

Dr. Linda McCabe Smith, associate chancellor of institutional diversity, unauthorized the relocation of the center last month to make room for the Veterans Affairs office, which requested accessibility, said Virginia Dicken, GLBT coordinator.

Smith was unavailable for comment.

Dicken said there was no reason given for the move.

"We didn't even know when we were moving," said Nathan Franklin, a junior from Springfield studying political science and employee of the center. "We've been working out of boxes since Jan. 15 and knew nothing."

It is not mandatory for all campus locations to have accessibility, but if a program solicits a nature of advocacy, which requires psychological and physical accessibility, the institution must comply, according to The Development of Facilities and Services for Students with Disabilities at SIUC, report published by Specialized Student Services, Adams said.

GLBT's mission statement guarantees community members a welcoming and private space for library resource, Adams said.

"These issues need to be addressed: Lawful acts such as the American Disabilities Act and the Rehab Act are being considered for reference," Adams said.

"The issues fail to cease there."

Kathryn Ward, a sociology professor, said she has a disability that causes her to use a wheelchair. She and other students are deprived access, she said.

"The university needs to stop doing the minimum necessary ... important facilities are ignored while athletic ones are supported," she said.

Robert Benford, member of GLBT's advisory board, said minority groups are being Balkanized and institutions need to converse with organizations about their needs before making unauthorized decisions.

Board members addressed a letter to Dr. Smith Feb. 1, and Paulaite Czink, former GLBT coordinator, wrote one personally to Chancellor Sam Goldman, Benford said. Neither has received feedback from either official, he said.

"(We're) trying to service the entire campus and community, but anyone with physical limitation can't have open access to the full service and resources our center provides," Dicken said.

Jessica Smith, student representative of the Black Resource Center, said the move was an initial effort to make the C-Wing of Woody Hall a diversity center for students to access, but placing both programs so close together lessens the privacy for GLBT members.

Dicken said the move limits both physical and psychological accessibility for GLBT members. People who seek advocacy have to take two flights of stairs and multiple corridors, she said.

Despite the troublesome location of the office, Dicken said she encourages all students who need support to seek out the group's services.
As for refills, AMC offers free refills only on large popcorn and soft drinks, and each may be refilled only once. However, guests can opt to use AMC’s “concession saver” option, where they can purchase a $4 coupon redeemable in $5 in concessions, according to its Web site.

Keratos, on the other hand, offers unlimited free refills on popcorn, soft drinks and ICCE frozen treats.

While AMC has no Five Buck Club, it does offer a program called AMC Movie/Watcher, which works similarly to frequent flyer miles on airlines. Movie patrons are able to earn points toward free movies and concessions every time they purchase a ticket at an AMC theater. Members of Movie/Watcher who attend movies on Wednesdays receive a small free popcorn with every ticket purchased, Larson said. “I don’t usually get concessions because they’re so overpriced,” Sockow said. “I usually sneak a bottle of water in.”

Prail said he normally gets concessions when going to the theater, and always takes advantage of Keratos’ free-refill policy. He says a lot of people he knows also use the Five Buck Club.

“I think AMC is just trying to get money from the people,” he said, concerning AMC’s limited-refill policy. “And paying five dollars for a movie, well, there’s nothing wrong with that.”

AMC offers another program called “Weekday Escape,” where

“Combining Keratos’ highly regarded assets and operations with our own is a natural way for us to continue redefining the future of our industry,”

— Gerry Lopez

AMC CEO and president

moviegoers can see select movies at half price Monday through Thursday in certain markets. Guests will have to check with AMCEntertainment.com for local availability if the buyout goes through.

AMC Entertainment owns and operates 4,374 screens in 304 theaters, while Keratos owns 973 screens and 98 theaters, mostly in mid-sized metropolitan, suburban and metropolitan markets. Once combined, AMC will operate 108 theaters with 5,547 screens, according to a press release.

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About Us
The Daily Egyptian is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 20,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Friday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intermission editions will run on Wednesdays. Spring break and Thanksgiving editions are distributed on Mondays of the pertaining weeks. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale, Murphysboro and Carterville communities. The Daily Egyptian online publication can be found at www.siuDE.com.

Mission Statement
The Daily Egyptian, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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Upcoming Calendar Events
C4 Juried Art Exhibition • March 30 to April 3 in the Surplus Gallery at the Glove Factory; admission is free
- Submissions: $15 per piece of art, limit of three pieces
- C4 is hosting a Carbondale student and community art exhibition where cash prizes are given out
- Sponsored by the School of Art and Design, Critical Forum

Dorthy Morris Scholarship of $1,500
- Deadline is March 1
- Available to traditional female of junior standing and minimum 3.0 GPA
- See the Web site and download application at: scholarships.siu.edu

Guyon Scholarship of $1,500
- Deadline is March 1
- Available to non-traditional female of junior standing and minimum 3.0 GPA
- See the Web site and download application at: scholarships.siu.edu

Submit calendar items to the Daily Egyptian, Communications 1247, at least two days before the event.

The Weather Channel® 5 day weather forecast for Carbondale, Ill.

Today
A.M.
showers

Sunday
34°
29°

Monday
36°
25°

Tuesday
36°
23°

precipitation

precipitation

precipitation

precipitation

precipitation

precipitation

precipitation

precipitation

Daytime
32°
30°

Sunrise
47°
43°

Sunset
32°
29°

20% chance of precipitation

30% chance of precipitation

25% chance of precipitation
Preparing to fly out of Iraq with 70 wounded soldiers, the oxygen line on Christopher Piha’s plane suddenly burst.

“I’m 23 years old and I’ve got people’s lives in my hands,” Piha said. “It was intense. It was hot and the pressure was on.”

Piha, a senior from Carol Stream studying history, said he was usually young to be assigned his own aircraft. At 21 years old, Piha said he had his own C-5 Galaxys, the second largest plane in the world and big enough to hold six Greyhound buses.

After flying through high school, Piha said he joined the Air Force to make a lifestyle change. He said he worked hard in the military and reaped the benefits.

“When other people were sitting around the break room playing cards, I was out there learning to do things on the jet,” Piha said.

Piha said he wanted to become a military officer, but knew that going to school and leaving behind his profession.

Piha searched many schools, but said choosing SIUC was an easy choice. Not only did his father Steve coach the 1983 national championship football team, but Piha said he learned to walk on SIUC’s football field.

“I came here and I got to talking to a few people, and I said, ‘Yeah, I’m home,’ Piha said.

Piha said veterans are non-traditional students who do not get the guidance incoming graduates fresh out of high school receive.

One of those confused veterans was Aaron Mager, a freshman from Columbia studying cinema and photography. Mager said he did not even know he was eligible for the Pell Grant upon arriving at SIUC.

Piha said he realized veterans did not need the tools and resources to understand the university process.

“There were some big holes in how we were serving veterans down here,” Piha said. “Before, there was just one office more aimed at educational benefits, as opposed to helping people come down here and learning what they’re supposed to do.”

So Piha did something about it by applying for the veterans coordinator job on campus.

Peter Giantu, SIUC’s associate vice chancellor, said several people applied for the job, but Piha stood out and was highly recommended.

“(Piha) led the charge,” Mager said. “He was very energetic.”

Piha is extremely knowledgeable about the field and has a passion for working with veterans.”

As veterans coordinator, Piha said he works with any service on campus that deals with veterans.

After receiving the job, Piha set out to establish the Veterans Center, which helps veterans make the transition from the military to college by guiding them through different processes, such as finding a tutor or receiving financial aid.

Mager said if not for Piha and the Veterans Center, he would have missed out on all the benefits veterans receive.

“Piha led the charge,” Mager said. “He was the head honcho in training all the veteran workers in the center.”

While Piha said he is most proud of the Veterans Center, he said looking around his office reminds him of how hard he has worked throughout his career.

“You know what I started with? Not a paper clip to my name,” Piha said. “All this is me.”

Travis Bean can be reached at carboss@siu.edu or 536-3311 ext. 274.
Organizations not ready to own Hayes center

NICK JOHNSON  Daily Egyptian

With their coffers nearly empty and no budget relief likely on the way, organizations within the Eurama C. Hayes Center are not in a hurry to accept the city's oral offer to grant them full ownership of the building, representatives from the organizations said. The city has maintained the center and provided funds for its services since 1975, when it was built with funds from the federal Model Cities program.

Mayor Bondale Cole made the offer public in his 2009 State of the City Address, in which he said he had thought of ways to resolve a "missing sense of ownership and create a truer atmosphere of community ownership at the Hayes center." To address those questions, I propose that the city release the building into the ownership of the northeast community," Cole said in the speech. Faced with a projected budget deficit of more than $5 million over the next two fiscal years, the city council's office presented suggested budget cuts to the community at the Feb. 9 City Council meeting. At the meeting, chairman of the "I Can Read" Program board Margaret Nesbit, president of the Carbondale branch of the NAACP Sidney Logwood and other organization representatives disputed city recommendations that would cut or eliminate funding for the center. Should the current recommendations be part of the 2011 fiscal year budget?

Marla Churchill, of Carbondale, reads "Little Bear, a kindergarten program of the "I Can Read" Program to kindergartners Tuesday during the "I Can Read" after-school program at the Eurama C. Hayes Center.

Logwood said he told Cole he had to consult with the entire northeast Carbondale community — where the center is located — before he gave an answer. "But he wanted us to fast-track it," Logwood said. "I believe he really wants to be in a position where he could announce it (at the State of the City Address)"

"Had the city not wanted to give us something of our own, said the city has not provided any written documents about upkeep costs for the center. "Under the circumstances ... it's a pie in the sky in our mind(s). Where's the interior?" Nesbit said.

"I don't want the organizations held responsible for the closing of the center should they not be able to pay for it," Nesbit said. Logwood said they do not want the organizations held responsible for the center. "I don't want to see the community take it and have it boarded up," she said.

The city stopped short of increasing revenue. Coleman said it removed only a sales tax increase in December instead of a sales and property tax increase, Logwood said.

User interface for our students," he said. "We are looking into other options for getting into the rental systems," he said.

The bookstore requires students to have a fall contract that would include some rentals to, only two schools are research universities: Sacramento State in California and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ryan Voyles can be reached at rvoyles@siu.edu or 536-3311 ext. 259.
Trees could make (or break) degrees

Now that spring is approaching, high school students are preparing to graduate, and a majority of these students are looking to enroll in university classes as their next natural step. In preparation for this, they participate in an activity very common among high school seniors — college visits.

But what are they going to see when they come to SIUC? Almost a year after the May 8 storm, this campus is still not the scenic place it plans to reach out to potential SIUC students. Federal Emergency Management Agency reported more than $6 million in damages. Southern expected to receive up to 75 percent of the total damages from the storm, which the university has been working with since July.Acccording to Phil Gatton, director of the Physical Plant, the request was unsuccessful.

So once again, it comes down to money. Yes, progress has been made — paths have been cleared; trees have been planted — but what about other areas such as Campus Lake and Thompson Woods, places that make this university unique.

The Daily Egyptian asks how this university plans to reach out to potential students, who will hopefully be involved in the school’s activities, programs and discussions to implement a textbook rental program and an interactive recruiting Web site, but these efforts will not be noticed if students can’t get past aesthetics. It is a harsh truth that we live in a world where books are judged by their covers, and with the economic crises the way it is, students — and their parents — are looking for any reason to cross one more university off the list of potentials.

Weather-related tragedy spotlights attendance pressure from universities

My sister’s best friend from high school was killed in a car accident Monday as she drove back to the University of Evansville. Corinna was only 20 years old.

The accident happened Monday morning, the morning after most of southern Illinois and Indiana received significant snowfall. Corinna was on her way back to school when she hit some ice and lost control of her vehicle, sending her head-on into the path of a Ford Excursion that was pulling a trailer. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Most of the comments on the story about the accident that ran in the Evansville Courier & Press are critical of the university of Evansville and the pressure they put on students. The comments came from other students, parents and friends of college students.

One mother wrote, “Why did UE not delay or at least cancel classes today as did other educational institutions in the area? I realize that UE is comprised of mostly those that live on campus; however, there are many that commute … I am a mother of a commuter and was scared to death as mine started out on this morning to take an exam from which she would not be excused.”

Another parent: "I understand that SIUC cannot close the campus at the first sign of snowfall, or even after a few inches have accumulated. And I must commend the university for being more prepared this season and being proactive in clearing the sidewalks and parking lots. However, I do think the university and its instructors should be more understanding when students can’t make it to class because of weather. No student should feel the need to risk their life to catch a 50-minute lecture or to take an exam that could easily be made up. I implore the university to be more lenient when the road conditions are hazardous."

Editor’s note: Ord is a former Pulse editor for the Daily Egyptian.

Submissions

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author’s contact information, preferably 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. Students must include year and major. Faculty must include rank and department. Others include hometown. Submissions should be sent to voices@siude.com.

Notice

The Daily Egyptian is a “designated public forum.” Student editors have the authority to make content decisions without censorship or advance approval. We reserve the right to not publish any letter or guest column.

Audra Ord

Senior studying journalism

and speech communication

Our Word

Trees could make (or break) degrees

We at the related tragedy spotlights attendance pressure from universities

Guest Column

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NICK JOHNSON
Daily Egyptian

Although progress has been made in the removal of uprooted trees on campus after the May 8 storm, funding and logistical issues are inhibiting further efforts, university officials said.

Though most of the moved areas and paths have been cleared of trees, storm debris remains in other areas, such as Thompson Lake and Thompson Woods, grounds superintendent David Tippy said.

“We’ve got a lot of trees down on campus still, no question about that,” he said.

Though Tippy said his staff has been slightly reduced due to budget cuts, it hasn’t adversely affected cleanup and the staff is waiting for better weather before continuing.

“A lot of these trees that are down aren’t in accessible areas,” Tippy said. “We don’t know how we can get to some of these without damaging other things in the process.”

Director of the Physical Plant Phil Gatton said SIUC received insurance funds for trees adjacent to buildings, mowed areas and those strewn across paths. The university requested funding for cleanup of other areas from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, but was unsuccessful, Gatton said.

All hazardous debris from the storm has been cleared, Tippy said.

Gatton said he’s unsure if the university will get federal funding for non-hazardous debris removal.

In addition to grounds staff, Tippy said the campus community has to be involved in the cleanup in some way.

“I don’t think every inch of campus is going to have the trees and debris cleaned up,” Tippy said. “There may be certain areas where the community says ‘I really think this needs some further attention.’ We have to get that kind of response.”

Dustin Clinton, a senior studying fine arts, said unsightly leftover debris would have affected his decision to enroll and might stick in the minds of others.

Prospective students pay attention to whether the university is working to keep a clean campus, Clinton said.

But students Jess Carter, a junior studying art, and Nick Kunkel, a junior studying geography, both said the university did a good job cleaning up after the storm and leftover debris wouldn’t be a factor if they were still deciding to enroll.

“It was just a natural disaster,” Kunkel said. “Nothing you can do about that.”

Nick Johnson can be reached at nickj39@siu.edu or 536-3311 ext. 263.
# The Best Rentals in Town

## Available Fall 2010

### One Bedroom

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<td>707 S. Ash 2, 4, 6-8, 10-12, 14, 15</td>
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### Two Bedroom

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**Townhouses, Apartments, & Houses within walking distance to campus & the strip!**

See Our Show Apartment!

501 W. College #2

**Monday thru Friday**
2:00pm to 6:00pm

**Saturday**
11:00am to 2:00 pm

Addresses Subject to Change

*Available now*
So phomore Malika Love, who finished in first place in both the long and triple jumps last week, will be taking a break from jumps this week, opting to compete in the sprint events.

The runners will also see a lot of their key athletes rest up this meet, sprint coach Alan Turner said. Most notably, juniors Kandise Thompson and Tessen Davie will be sitting out for the women.

"This weekend is just a real low-key meet," Price-Smith said. "A lot of our athletes will just be looking to fine-tune a few things and stay sharp before conference.

The Friday Night Special is a meet set to take place this weekend at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Ill., at the Lantz Indoor Fieldhouse. Timothy Helm can be reached at thelm@siu.edu or 536-3311 ext. 282.

TIMOTHY HELM/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SPORTS
Friday, February 19, 2010

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CONTINUED FROM 12

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TIMOTHY HELM/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The couple wasn't happy with their lot

**Tuesday’s answers**

1. The Duplex

**Horoscopes**

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clements

Today’s birthday — Enhance your self-esteem while providing just what your group needs in the city of practical encouragement. Everyone benefits from your enthusiasm the year. Just be sure to moderate your energy so that you’re still standing at the end of the day. Best advice: Manage your health.

**Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 5 —** What you have learned is not a necessary element. It’s the right time to get practical as you create just the right message with a floral arrangement or muted lighting. Add a splash of color to cheer up a room.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 6 —** Ease into the weekend by finishing a task that you’ve been avoiding. Think of your emotions on the line, long distance.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 5 —** Challenge yourself to speak up in a tight situation. Choose words carefully to avoid misunderstanding. Day professional, try to remember to argue.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 7 —** Never feel too afraid to let your guard down. What you like even more is to have someone in your corner to cheer you on. You can win today.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 —** Today you get practical as you create just the right message with a floral arrangement or muted lighting. Add a splash of color to cheer up a room.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 6 —** Each time you open your mouth, you have a chance to create connections. City a bit deeper to discover the right question. Then ask, and prepare to listen.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 6 —** Things run more smoothly if you decide the way to be emotionally persuasive while maintaining the bottom line. It would become our every day.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 6 —** You have little to do to take care of nothing. Fortunately, you have plenty of energy and enthusiasm for the task. You might even get paid.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 7 —** Don’t be surprised if the first words from your mouth include the right paper for an assistant. You don’t need the spotlight. You get plenty of attention elsewhere.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 6 —** Lively discussions with your partner lead to exciting conclusions. The game has two rules: comfort included maintaining health.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 7 —** The shift in your thinking is probably more supportive of others than you have been in the last few days. Help family members complete projects.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 —** Present the pace today. You find yourself in the right place at the right time. Sell your ideas. Buyers are listening.

**SUDOKU**

UNSCRAMBLE THESE FOUR JUMBLES, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SYASYG

IKKH

NOPETT

NAANAB

That scrambled word game by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

Friday, February 19, 2010
The NBA trade deadline came and went Thursday afternoon. Which team do you think made the biggest impact with its acquisitions?

The Cleveland Cavaliers definitely get some big help in the Antawn Jamison trade. He adds a different dimension to the team because he is a decent perimeter shooter in addition to being a beast in the paint. I am expecting him to open up the offense for the Cavaliers.

Tour getting ready for Tiger show

DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

POINTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Tiger Woods’ first public appearance in three months already is shaping up as a national event.

Tight security restricted access on the road that leads to the TPC Sawgrass clubhouse, where Woods is to speak at 11 a.m. EST Friday for the first time since his Nov. 27 accident that set off a series of revelations of infidelity.

Networks reserved their programming and, by late Thursday afternoon, seven satellite trucks had already parked outside the Sawgrass Marriott. The parking lot last saw this kind of activity five years ago — for media day at the Super Bowl between the New England Patriots and Philadelphia Eagles.

The public hasn’t had a clean look at Woods’ face since photos Wednesday of him jogging in his neighborhood outside Orlando.

Far more compelling will be the sound of his voice. Woods has not been heard in the 78 days since a magazine released a voicemail he allegedly left one of the women to whom he has been romantically linked, warning that Woods’ wife might be calling.

Instead of going on “Oprah” or another national television show to break the ice, Woods essentially will be speaking to the lone camera allowed in the room. It will be televised via satellite.

ABC, CBS and NBC will carry the statement live. ESPN will have it live on all its platforms, including Internet streaming, radio and mobile. It also will be piped over YouTube, the Webbys most popular video channel. Golf Channel will start coverage at 10:30 a.m. — call it a 30-minute pregame show.

Women’s

CONTINUED FROM 12

nior guard Kelsey Luna knocked down six free throws in the final minute to seal the victory for the Salukis. Luna came into the game with the second-best free throw percentage in the nation at 92.1 percent.

Luna led the Salukis in scoring with a game-high 19 points — 17 of which came in the second half — and eight rebounds. ISU put three other players into double figures and sophomore center Shannon Thomas put together a double-double with 10 points and 13 boards.

ISU also put four players into double-digit point totals, led by freshman guard Teni Oliver with 18 points. Senior guard/forward Stephany Neptune recorded her 10th double-double on the year with 14 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists — all of her points coming in the second half.

Neptune said the team started the game with good intensity on defense, but could not maintain the same level down the stretch.

“We did a great job in the first half, we were chasing down their screens and they couldn’t get open,” Neptune said. “We were down four points, then they hit a three and it went downhill from there.”

The women will return to action at 4:30 p.m. Saturday against Illinois State. The game will be the fourth annual Pink Zone game and will also be the Salukis’ senior night.

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Sycamores shut down Southern

Nneka Nwani, center, and her teammates look on during the first half of the SIU women’s basketball game Thursday against Indiana State at the SIU Arena. The Salukis lost 70-62 as the Sycamores sweep the season series.

RAY MCGILLIS

Daily Egyptian

In its second last home game of the year, the SIU women’s basketball team could not handle the post play of Indiana State. The Salukis (4-20, 3-11 Missouri Valley Conference) surrendered 35 points in the paint to the Sycamores (13-11, 4-9 MVC) and lost the rebound battle, 46-31, as they fell 70-62 Thursday.

The loss marks the seventh time in the last 10 years the women have tallied 20 or more defeats.

Head coach Missy Tiber said the team hit a wall offensively at the end of the first and it carried over into the second half.

“We just ran into a sharp where we could not score,” Tiber said. “It wasn’t that we weren’t getting open looks at the basket … I thought we were playing solid defense, but we just weren’t scoring — we had plenty of opportunities.”

Despite holding a lead as large as five in the opening 20 minutes, the Salukis went into the intermission trailing 34-24. The Sycamores went on a 19-4 run in the final six minutes to close out the half.

ISU shot 12-34 from the field to start the game, but the Salukis could not do any better and went 10-32 shooting in the first half.

For both of the top five 3-point shooting teams in the conference, the teams combined for only three first-half 3-pointers.

Senior guard Christine Presswood said it disrupts a shooter’s psyche when the shots aren’t falling.

“When you can’t find your shot, you can’t find yourself,” Presswood said. “We kind of got a grip on it in the second half, but it was a little too late.”

The Salukis refused to go down at home without a fight and mounted an 8-2 run to cut the deficit to four points with 30 seconds remaining.

However, Indiana State’s se-