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9 bands to battle at LLCC

Free event set for 6 p.m. April 24

By Steven Hoskins Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD -- Let's have a battle, a battle of the bands.

This April 24, LLCC will hold its sixth Battle of the Bands competition at 6 p.m. in the Trutter Center, said Michelle Berger, student

engagement coordinator.

The event will include nine bands, and it is free to attend, Burger said. Competing bands have the chance to win cash prizes of \$500, \$250 or \$100.

Each band will have 10 minutes for setup and 15 minutes to perform.

- The schedule of performance based on performance start times is:
- 6:10 p.m.: On Point
- 6:35 p.m.: Automatic Afterthought
- \blacksquare 7 p.m.: Jack and the Crew
- 7:25 p.m.: Built in a Day

■ 7:50 p.m.: Kickstart

- 8:15 p.m.: Fill in the Blank
- 8:40 p.m.: The Light Home
- 9:05 p.m.: Bad Banshee
- 9:30 p.m.: Wanna

People's choice ballots are due by 9:50 p.m., and the winner will be announced at 10 p.m.

Last year's battle was a huge success with eight bands competing, including a solo acoustic act by Geoff Leathers, which Burger notes was a big crowd pleaser.

"We also had three bands -- Built in a Day,

Negative 17 and The Blind Social -- with female lead singers," Burger said.

Bands come from Lincoln Land, as either current students or alumni. At least one member be a current or former student of LLCC, Burger said.

There is no criteria for a band. A student can play any instrument.

Those that participate in the competition will need to keep it work safe, with no vulgarity or profanity. That said any who

Bands, continued on Page 2

College Inaccessible

By Ryan Wilson Editor

Imagine getting stuck on the second floor of Menard Hall. You can't use the steps, elevator or jump through any windows. If you go down the steps, you may not make it out alive.

Now imagine that a fire started on campus and smoke is quickly filling every square inch of the building. What do you do?

"I didn't do anything," said Alexis Wernsing, now a student of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. "Just sat at the top of the stairs.'

Her experience was a fire drill. There was no fire, no smoke, no lifethreatening hazards.

"That is the only fire drill I ever remember at Lincoln Land, and the police officer basically told us to carry the chair down the stairs," said Wernsing, who uses a power wheelchair. "My chair weighs probably seven times what Thom (Thomas Whalen) weighs."

What if there was an actual fire? What if smoke slowly encased her lungs, so she couldn't breathe?

"The art department discussed it for a day or two and decided that if there ever was a fire, Al (Shull)

Please pardon the inconvenience as we work on making this entrance more accessible.

Ryan Wilson/The Lamp

A sign outside the advising office apologizes for work being done to the entrance. The construction creates difficulty for students with disability to enter the office.

SGA officers elected

By Tyler Allison Staff Writer

Springfield – Alyssa Boyd was elected vice president of the LLCC Student Government Association in the only contested position.

Boyd ran against Courtney Guinn. Elections were held April 6 and 7.

Seven candidates ran unopposed. Madison Baker ran for the student trustee position, Robert Bentley for treasurer, Emily Tomlin for secretary, Katrina for representative at large, Katie Robinson for representative for business and technologies, and Carrie Darr for representative for social sciences.

Four SGA positions were not filled. Those positions were: public relations and representatives for health professions, arts & humanities and for mathematics and engineer sciences.

The Student Government Association is the official council for the student body. Many clubs and departments are represented by the members elected. Consisting of 12 Representatives, five officers, and one student trustee, the SGA plan and coordinate numerous events to raise awareness for certain causes and clubs. To be eligible to run for a position with SGA, you must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours and have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average.

would take me out of my chair and just carry me downstairs," Wernsing said.

But what if no one was around? It would have resulted in a lawsuit

for Lincoln Land.

A similar situation happened to me and another LLCC student in a wheelchair on Friday, March 17, after there was a school-wide power outage.

We were stuck on the second floor of Menard Hall. Lincoln Land's phones, Wi-Fi, emails and elevators were not working. The campus police did not even know we were stranded on the second floor until two ablebodied individuals walked over

Accessibility, continued on page 3

The Lamp wins top staff award

Editor Ryan Wilson named Reporter of Year; staff earns 13 honors

SPRINGFIELD - The Lamp, the student newspaper at Lincoln Land Community College, won the top staff award and had its editor named Reporter of the Year.

The Lamp won 13 awards for work in 2014

at the Illinois Community College Journalism Association awards banquet on Friday, April 10, 2015.

"Winning first place in the Mike Foster General Excellence Award was gratifying," said Tim McKenzie, adviser of The Lamp and assistant professor of journalism and humanities. "It shows the whole staff did great work, covering the campus and consistently putting out a top-notch publication."

Ryan Wilson of Auburn, the editor, also was

named Reporter of the Year.

"This was an award I thought Ryan deserved," McKenzie said. "Ryan is a great writer and leader as editor. He goes above and beyond at every turn. This year has been a chance to rebuild and grow the newspaper. We would not have made the strides we did without Ryan."

This inaugural honor was given based upon one reporter's ability to use a range of styles to cover a variety of topics. All community

colleges in Illinois were invited to give three samples of one writer's work.

The judge noted: "Ryan Wilson's writing and reporting abilities are at an extraordinary skill level, and he clearly stands out amongst his community college journalism peers. ... Wilson knows what it takes to produce worthwhile journalism, and he has a bright future ahead of him."

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OPINION

This newspaper is dedicated to the students, faculty and staff of Lincoln Land Community College.

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Editorial Policy

All letters submitted to The Lamp for publication must contain the writer's name and telephone number. The telephone number will be used only to verify the author of the letter. Letters need to be originals and not copies of letters to others. Viewpoints expressed in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of The Lamp.

Copyright Information

The only yoga I want is frozen

By Elaina Antenan Staff Writer

As someone with severe anxiety, I tend to struggle with stress. A lot. I'm sure many of the people reading this deal with stress. We all do. How do we handle it?

Some people do yoga, breathing exercises, etc. Not me.

Some people eat their feelings (me), cry (me, again), talk to someone or ignore it until it builds up and becomes overwhelmingly unbearable.

I wouldn't suggest ignoring your stress.

If you have the option to eat a full pizza or ignore your stress, what would you choose? Please remember, I'm not a doctor not a dietitian. I'm just a working college student, living at home, who knows how stressful teenage life can be.

You Google ways to avoid stress, and what pops up? Exercising techniques and good eating advice.

My immediate thoughts: I pay for my coffee. I don't have money for healthy food. I barely have time to sleep, let alone exercise.

Exercise and heathy lifestyles are wonderful, but they are not going to make a college student's troubles disappear. Nothing will. Sorry, guys.

The truth is, no coping mechanisms are going to make everything disappear, but they help. Coping mechanisms are like bath crayons: They're fun in the bath, but once you're dressed and ready to go out, you forget they even exist. I'm a huge fan of bath crayons and bubbles, so this analogy excites me.

Cigarettes, over-eating, drinking too much alcohol, over-sleeping, and procrastination. All these things put more stress on you.

You spend money for these unnecessary "luxuries" that you think are helping you cope with stress, but they are just adding new issues into your life. They may help you now, but later on, when you are broke from buying Oreos and cigarettes you're going to say, "Wow, that random Elaina girl writing for The Lamp was right, but those Oreos were bomb."

Once again, I will never condemn someone for eating Oreos to make things better, because I've had my fair share of delicious mint Oreos in times of turmoil.

I know dealing with stress is hard. It will get better.

But you have to take one problem at a time and not procrastinate on getting things done. Don't let problems ensue without at least considering a solution, because then you have 10 problems at once running through your head, and you feel like your mind is going to explode.

You can't afford to have a brain explosion. That's a lot of medical

bills and missed assignments.

All this being said, I've come up with some more realistic ways for college students to cope with stress. Here Are 5 Ways To Realistically Cope With Stress:

Get a stress toy

Find one that looks exactly like someone who causes you stress and carry it around with you. When you feel especially overwhelmed you give this guy/gal a strangle-like squeeze, and BOOM! Instant relief. I found this little dude on www. officeplayground.com. He even yells when you squeeze him!

Do YOGA-rt

Frozen Yogurt. Make sure you get it from a place that has a bunch of toppings so you can express your stress through the amounts of toppings you put on your treat.

Oh my god. Oreos and frozen yogurt in one place? Is this heaven?

Go for a walk

To the nearest computer and look at pictures of kittens.

If this doesn't cheer you up, you have a problem not even I can fix.

Coffee

I know not everyone likes coffee

but tea or hot chocolate will also suffice. There is nothing better than a yummy warm beverage to get your mind off of stress while making you feel warm and fuzzy inside. Now I can't guarantee with coffee that the feeling inside is fuzziness, I suggest you use the facilities when ready. Don't worry, you're not alone.

Be a problem solver

In all seriousness I suggest having a problem journal. Yeah I know I sound like some cheesy therapist, but for you people out there who are like me and love shopping for school supplies, here is your chance. Go out, buy the cutest (or most masculine) journal/notebook you can find and a pack of rainbow pens to go with it. Splurge a little, be selfish and spend a little extra money, or don't. Just remember it's all about YOU. Once you have your awesome journal and you have picked out your favorite colored pen, start outlining your problems by number. Leave space between each problem so you can go back and jot down ideas for solutions to these stressful issues. Clueless is love. Clueless is life. And Remember: We believe in you!

You can read more from Elaina on her blog: https://inelainashead. wordpress.com

Students get to ice skate at LLCC

By Steven Hoskins Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD -- On April 1 if a student went down to the Student Union, They would have been in for quite the sight, a large 21-by-42 foot rectangular area looking very much like a looking skating rink. After signing a liability waiver and strapping on a pair of hockey skates students got to skate across a PVC floor of 98 tiles. Running slash sliding back in forth in utter chaos student tried their best to keep balance, more than a few failed.

Brought to us by Record-A-Hit Events, or RAH, brave students skated on PVC like it was ice while others looked on both laughing and cheering at the spectacle. The company does many events for colleges near and far, "About two events a week" says Mariuaz Kaplon, an event staff member, "We come to LLCC about 4 or 5 times a year." When asked if there was anything special about the skates or floor Kaplon said "No [it's] just normal PVC and hockey skates After an enthusiastic run Nathan Bauser, current Student Government Secretary, said he "Had a lot fun, [I] only skated a few times on ice, this is similar but rough as you don't slide as much." When asked what he would say to any future would be skaters he said "Don't be afraid to be embarrassed."



Students ice skate in the Student Union on April 1. The skating was done on plastic set out to form a rink.

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Accuracy

The Lamp strives for accuracy. If you find an error, please let us know. You can reach us at lamp@llcc.edu or 217-786.2311. D'Amante Pitts also said that he "had fun" When asked if he thought this might be a April fool's prank he voiced surprise as he didn't even know it was April Fool's Day. Like Bauser, Pitts stated that the skating was "similar to ice skating, but not as slippery, kinda bittersweet." He also added that "you need to make sure you have the right size skates,

or it will be painful."

Michelle Berger, Student Engagement Coordinator, said she "first saw the iceless skating on youtube and thought it would be neat," she then found RAH based near Chicago. When asked if she purposely planned such a strange event on April fools she said she "Didn't originally plan it that way, but thought it would be a fun sort of reverse trick to actually have ice skating, plus it worked out to also help promote the Student Government elections."

Well the student life pulled together another fantastic event and honestly what better way to spend April 1st then slipping and sliding, with arms wildly swinging, falling and twirling, what better way than just looking like a fool.

Bands

Continued from Page 1

participate not only get to do a show with no entry fee. The annual event began in 2009, although it was canceled in 2013 for lack of participation.

The Battle of the Bands is sponsored by the Loggers Activities Board and Student United Way of LLCC, with proceeds going to the United Way of Central Illinois. The event will be free to attend but will also be selling commemorative T-shirts and have several door-prizes, as well as providing free popcorn and soda.

A three-judge panel will determine the winner based on stage presence, vocals, instruments, appropriateness (keeping the act clean) and crowd response. Bands can earn up to 30 points from the judges.

The crowd will also help with voting. Each audience member will get a ballot at the entrance. The top votegetter will receive 30 points, second gets 25, third 20, fourth 15, fifth 10, and sixth 5.

Because this is a fundraiser for United Way of Central Illinois, donations will be accepted. Jars for each band will be set up for the audience to donate, but the band can solicit donations early. The band that raises the most money will receive 20 points, second place 15 points, and third place will get 10. A band can earn up to 80 points.

Steven Hoskins can be reached at (217) 786-2311 or lamp@llcc.edu.

Accessibility, continued from page 1

to the police station.

While we waited 20 to 30 minutes for an officer to appear in the hallways, which were dimly lit by only two iPhone flashlights and an emergency light.

The first officer on the scene thought the elevators would work with power. After some disagreements with his coworkers, he realized that it wouldn't. The elevator outside the Art and Humanities office was, in fact, stuck on the first floor.

The only other option was for Lincoln Land faculty, staff, students and police officers to carry our wheelchairs down a flight of steps. So that's what they did.

The other handicapped student was easily carried down a flight of steps by some generous honors students. But her chair is a lot lighter than my behemoth, which includes hydraulics and a bigger engine and tires.

It took three police officers and one lean Chris Barry to carry my 350-pound, \$35,000-chair down the flight of stair in the A Lincoln Commons. Barry is the school's director of retention and student success.

I nervously watched them do this from a seat on the first floor in the commons, after my mom — with her heart anxiously pounding — carried me out of my chair.

Barry and the officers looked as if their lives were on the line. It wasn't, but their wallets were.

I can't thank the honors students, LLCC police department and Chris Barry for helping us in the situation. Without you, we would have set up a tent and campfire outside Tim Humphrey's office. Humphrey is the dean of arts and humanities. Thank you again.

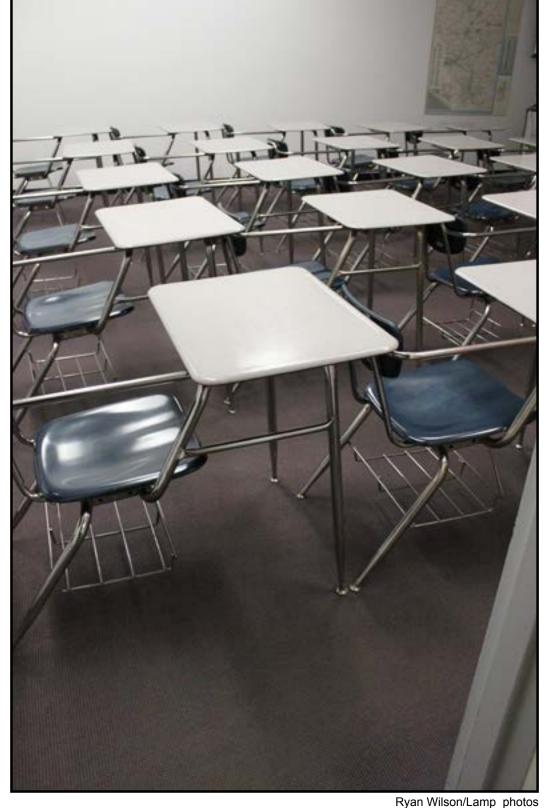
But let's make sure this never happens again at Lincoln Land. Let's make sure that (1) we all know every plan. Clearly, not everyone knew the rules, despite the procedures being posted in all classrooms. (2) Let's think about the disabled students.

Surely Lincoln Land Community College does not want any fatalities on campus because students are stuck inside. I know the school's enrollment would be up if it was more accessible.

I am proposing several solutions to prevent LLCC's disaster waiting to happen. We need to buy generator. OK, I admit, this may be too expensive.

If it is, get a backup power source for the elevators. Whether it's a small generator or even a simple crank.

However, all Lincoln Land elevators are already hard to use, even with the school's power working. The elevators' buttons are way (way!) too high for individuals who use wheelchair. Wernsing said she had to wait for someone to press the buttons in the elevators.



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At top right, an automatic door opener for disabled students goes from the ground to the waist-height for a walking user. At bottom right, the button to door opener outside of the Student Union. Buttons going to the ground can be bumped by a wheelchair. Reaching a waistheight button can be impossiblefor some students in wheelchairs.

It is almost as if LLCC is trying to keep us out. Really?

The school also: Needs reachable entrances into

■ Needs to let senior citizens and

handicapped individuals right next to the doors into Menard. Board of Trustees members and President Charlotte Warren have designated parking spots fewer than 20 feet near the entrance.

Desks inside a classroom where the desks are located a couple feet from its

entrance in Menard Hall, making it impossible for a wheelchair to enter.

We need to fix these problems. It will cost thousands, if not millions, of dollars, but it will be worth every penny. It may even increase enrollment, giving the college more money.

"Obviously in today's times, accessibility is of huge importance," Wernsing said. "People need to be award. But what I appreciate at Lincoln Land is that people do whatever necessary to assist diligent students in learning. Whatever it takes. I hope to be teaching there in a couple of years."

Ryan Wilson is the editor of The Lamp and also uses a wheelchair. He can be reached at (217) 786-2311 or lamp@llcc.edu.



"I guess I don't mind much because people there (at Lincoln Land) are always willing to help," she said. "That doesn't solve the problem,

though." Wernsing said the elevators should have a set of buttons lower to the ground. Lincoln Land needs to have more wheelchair buttons that start from the ground up. There are a combined five of such buttons in Menard and Sangoman Halls. Two of those buttons – one of which is

often hidden behind a trash can --

A. Lincoln Commons.

are to enter and exit the library. The

other three are for the entrance in the

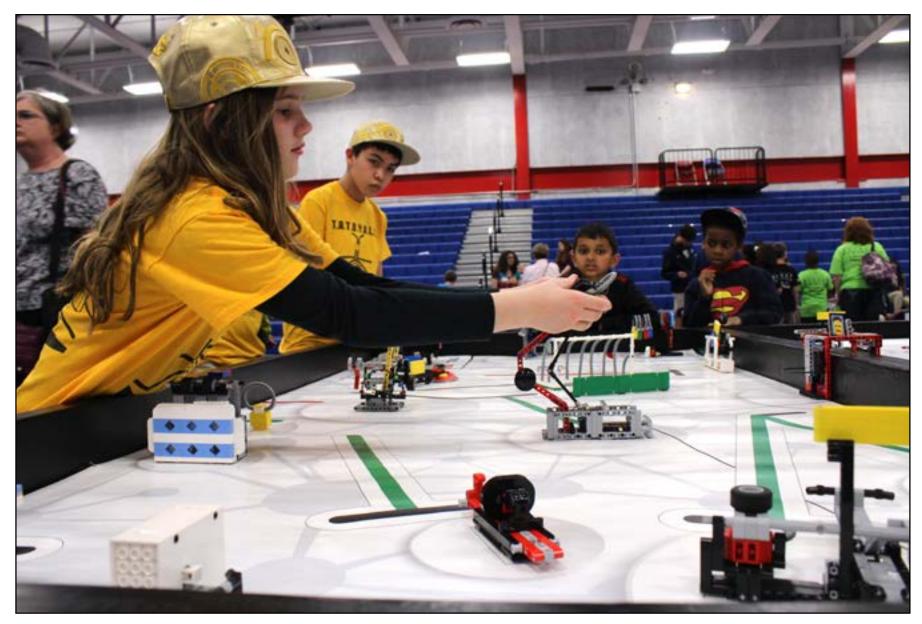
The lockers near the east side of Menard Hall are shown. They may be too high or low for students with disabilities.

The buttons to the elevator closes to the Student Union can be hard to reach or impossible to press for students unable to move their arms.

Photo by Alexis Wernsing

An elevator with reachable buttons for each floor is located inside Nugent Hall at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.





Lego Land at Lincoln Land



Photos by Margot Hammers

Visitors came out to Central Illinois Junior First Lego League Expo held in Cass Gym on April 6. The event showcased the work of 24 regional Junior First Lego League teams of children, ages 6 to 9.



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Wilson also won first place in the News Story category and both first and second place in the Sports Features category.

"They did a great job this year," McKenzie said. "The number of award winners speaks well of everyone's effort and ability." Here is a full list of honorees:

■ Ryan Mazrim of Chatham, 2nd Place (Division II), News Column ■ Rebekah Lange of Springfield, Ryan Wilson of Auburn and Jordan Minder of Rochester, 3rd place, News Story of the Year

■ Dominique Lamp of Springfield, 3rd Place (Division II), Features Story

■ Ryan Mazrim of Chatham, 3rd Place (Division II), News Photo ■ Jordan Minder of Rochester,

3rd Place (Division II), Features photo

■ Jordan Minder of Rochester, Honorable Mention (Division II), Features Photo

■ Alisha Kirkley of Springfield, Honorable Mention, Graphics ■ Brennan Stidham of Springfield, Honorable Mention (Divi-

sion II), News Story ■ First Place (Division II), Mike Foster General Excel-

II), Mike Foster General Excellence Award ■ Ryan Wilson of Auburn, First

Place, Reporter of the Year

Ryan Wilson of Auburn, First
Place (Division II), News Story
Ryan Wilson of Auburn,

First Place (Division II), Sports Feature

■ Ryan Wilson of Auburn, 2nd Place (Division II), Sports Feature



Ryan Mazrim/The Lamp ABOVE: Ryan Wilson displays the Mike Foster General Excellence Award that The Lamp received at the Illinois Community College Journalism Awards on April 10. LEFT, TOP: A group of staff members are shown, front row, from left to right, Ryan Wilson (editor), Stephen Ortega and Rhonda Leonard. Second row, right to left, Tim McKenzie (faculty adviser), Teresa Brummett, Mike Whitlaw, Madison Mings and Joe Hay. LEFT, BOTTOM: Ryan Mazrim shows his award for second place in the column writing. He also won a prize for news photography.

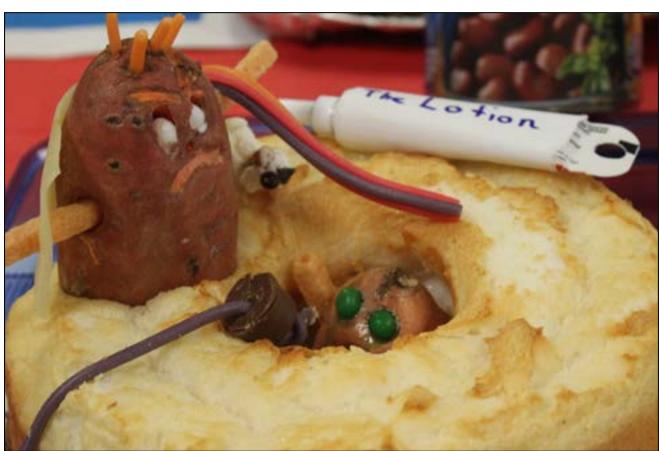




Teresa Brummett/The Lamp



Cooking the books





The Lamp photos

Barry Lamb's 'The Silence of the Yams' won first place for representing 'The Silence of the Lambs' in the Edible Books Contest during National Library Week. The creation includes a yam trapped in the center of an angel food cake, while the yam, representing Hannibal Lecter wears, a slice of Swiss cheese as a suit of skin. It also included a prison scene atop a sweet potato pie. AT LEFT, TOP: Becky Parton's 'Vanity Pear,' an adaptation of William Makepeace Thackeray's novel, 'Vanity Fair.' AT LEFT, BOTTOM: Amanda Wiesenhofer's 'Fatty Lumpkin' won second place. It comes from J.R.R.Tolkien's 'The Lord of the Rings.'

SPORTS





I amp staff photos

Lincoln Land's softball team celebrates after Rachel Hastings (17) hit a home run in the game against Heartland Community College on April 4 at LLCC. The Loggers won, 11-8.

Softball team 10th in nation

Lamp staff photos

Lincoln Land's Will Schneider (8) hits the game-ending threerun double in the bottom of the fifth inning against Spoon River College on Sunday, April 12 at Claude Kracik Field. The Loggers won, 13-2.

Baseball team's bats best in the NJCAA

By Ryan Wilson Editor

Loggers can hit. And Lincoln Land's baseball team has proof. It is currently batting .349 on the season, which is seventh in the National Junior College Athletic Association. LLCC has also scored 290 runs on the season, ranking 11th in the nation.

These numbers have helped Lincoln Land's baseball team win 11-straight games. It now has a 23-11 record on the season as of April 14. The team is also 12-6 in conference games.

The Loggers' pitchers have a 4.81

munity College on April 3 (W, W) 0-13, 10-2 at Heartland Community College on March 28 (L, W) 5-6, 2-8 versus Heartland Community College on March 27 (L, L) 11-1, 1-7 versus Illinois Central

College on March 22 (W, L) 5-6, 6-9 at Illinois Central College on March 21 (L, L)

6-4, 13-6 against Brookdale Community College on March 15 at

Winter Haven, Fla. (W, W) 7-2 against Oakton Community College on March 15 at Auburndale (W)

1-8 at Pasco-Hernando Community College on March 14 (L)

1-3, 10-3 against Kalamazoo Com-

By Ryan Wilson Editor

Lincoln Land Community College's softball team is ranked 10th in the National Junior College Athletic Association.

The Loggers have won 11-straight games and 29 of their last 31 games. They have scored 10 or more points in 13 of those games. This has helped them get a 30-10 record on the season and 17-1 in conference play.

The team has scored 287 runs in 389 hits in the season. That is 13th and 12th in the National Junior College Athletic Association, respectively.

Sophomore infielder Sadie Mosher is fourth on the team after hitting .379. She is also second on the team with six doubles and 33 runs batted in.

But Mosher can also pitch. She leads the team with 10 wins, 87 strikeouts (6.39 per game) and 11 complete games in 17 appearances. Sophomore infielde



A Lincoln Land player swings at the ball.

W)

2-1, 10-4 versus Lewis and Clark Community College on March 22 (W, W)

7-2, 11-0 at Lewis and Clark

(W, W)

11-2 against Rainy River Community College on March 10 in Titusville, Fla. (W)

12-3 against Waldorf College's

earned run average, ranking 69th in the nation. Team's are batting .299 against Lincoln Land.

Sophomore infielder and outfielder Will Schneider leads the nation with 19 doubles. He also ranks 19th in the nation with 30 runs batted in. Schneider was named to the firstteam all conference last season.

12-2, 8-0 versus Spoon River College on April 12 (W, W)

20-4, 7-3 at Spoon River College on April 11 (W, W)

6-2, 12-5 versus Lewis and Clark Community College on April 10 (W, W)

11-7, 15-14 at John Wood Community College on April 4 (W, W)

13-5, 14-4 versus John Wood Com-

munity College on March 13 (L, W) 9-1 at South Florida Community College on March 12 (W) 16-7 at Central Florida Community

College on March 10 (W) 4-5 against Mott Community Col-

lege on March 9 in Orlando, Fla. (W)

16-3 at Webber International University on March 8 (W)

13-2, 6-3 at Southeastern University on March 7 (W, W)

0-3, 8-9 at Northeast Mississippi Community College on February 28 (L, L)

9-7, 13-4 at Northeast Mississippi Community College on February 27 (W, W)

Ryan Wilson can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu or (217) 786-2311. pitcher is second on the team with seven appearances on the season.

9-8, 12-5 versus Parkland College on April 12 (W, W) 12-3, 10-0 at Parkland College on April 11 (W, W) 4-1, 6-4 versus Lincoln College on April 8 (W, W) 11-8, 12-4 versus Heartland Community College on April 4 (W, W) 21-8, 11-1 at Heartland Community College on April 3 (W, W) 1-2, 6-3 at Illinois Central Col-

lege on April 1 (L, W)

4-7, 11-3 at John Wood Community College on March 30 (L, W) 3-0, 2-1 versus John Wood Community College on March 28 (W,

Community College on March 21 (W, W)

6-2 against Iowa Central Community College on March 15 in Titusville, Fla. (W)

9-3 against Crowder College on March 15 in Titusville, Fla. (W) 14-0 against Kellogg Community College on March 14 in Titusville, Fla. (W)

8-3 against Chesapeake College on March 14 in Titusville, Fla. (W)

8-1 against Chesapeake College on March 12 in Titusville, Fla. (W)

9-8 against Waubonsee Community College on March 12 in Titusville, Fla. (W) 2-0, 9-1 at Pasco-Hernando Community College on March 11 junior varsity team on March 10 in Titusville, Fla. (W)

2-10, 5-4 at Hillsborough Community College (Fla.) on March 9 (L, W)

5-7, 0-8 at Seminole State College on March 8 (L, L) 5-6. 5-1 at South Florida Com-

munity College on March 7 (L, W) 4-7 against Hinds Community

College on Feb. 21 at Ellisville, Miss. (L)

6-17 at Jones County Community College on Feb. 21 (L) 1-9 at Copiah-Lincoln Commu-

nity College on Feb. 20 (L) 0-8 against Jones County Community College on Feb. 20 in Ellisville, Miss. (L) Ryan Wilson can be reached at

lamp@llcc.edu or (217) 786-2311.

April 15, 2015

Funnel cake treat is worth wait

Students line up for sweet treat

By Teresa Brummett Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD -- What is a funnel cake but a little batter dropped into a tub of hot grease. Then it's sprinkled with powdered sugar. Well that's the basic toppings, but owner Dan Herbst of Herbkoe Fun Foods isn't basic when it comes to his funnel cakes.

Although he's happy to fix you a funnel cake with just powdered sugar, he brought two more popular flavors with him: Chocolate and caramel toppings.

Herbst who began his business 17 years ago in 1998 said that he started with just shaved ice. He then expanded after that adding caramel apples and waffles on a stick to his menu. Herbst who runs his business from northwest Indiana seems to enjoy his job.

He worked more than two hours on Tuesday, March 31, making funnel cakes with a smile on his face the entire time. The equipment he has Herbst was able to make three funnel cakes at once which averaged out to about 90 by the time he ran out of batter about1:15 p.m. He would have happily stayed to finish out his time, had he not run out.



Dan Herbst of Herbkoe Fun Foods adds caramel to the top of a funnel cake in the A.Lincoln Commons on Tuesday, March 31.

Herbst mentioned that he's worked with Lincoln Land for four years on several other events and homecoming had been one of them. Lincoln Land Community College student Nick Snyder spoke with me about the funnel cake day. He commented saying, "They tasted amazing, and since my friend wasn't feeling well she gave me hers, if I could go back for a third one, I would".

CAMPUS

Snyder only asked for powdered sugar on his funnel cake he doesn't like all that other stuff. But when I asked about the process in making and how long he waited if he would wait that long again he quoted saying, "it was really cool watching the funnel cakes being made. I've never seen that done before. I did wait around 15 minutes but that's because the line was so long. It was well worth it. I loved it"

I heard a few comments of passing students saying, they were yummy, really gooey, a perfect size, warm, soft, so good and crunchy.

One teacher walked by jokingly saying, "This had better be worth the wait" course with a smile on her face she seemed very anxious to dig into her own funnel cake.

Hearing all these great comments I too had to get into line and wait like everyone else. I asked for all three toppings and wasn't disappointed. Thinking it may be overkill on sugar but it wasn't. It was very well proportion and was perfect in my book. Lincoln Land did a great job hiring Herbkoe Fun Foods for the funnel cake day. It was a huge success. Hearing comments how the students would love to see him back for waffle on a stick day would just an added bonus.

Teresa Brummett can be reached at (217) 786-2311 or lamp@llcc.edu.



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