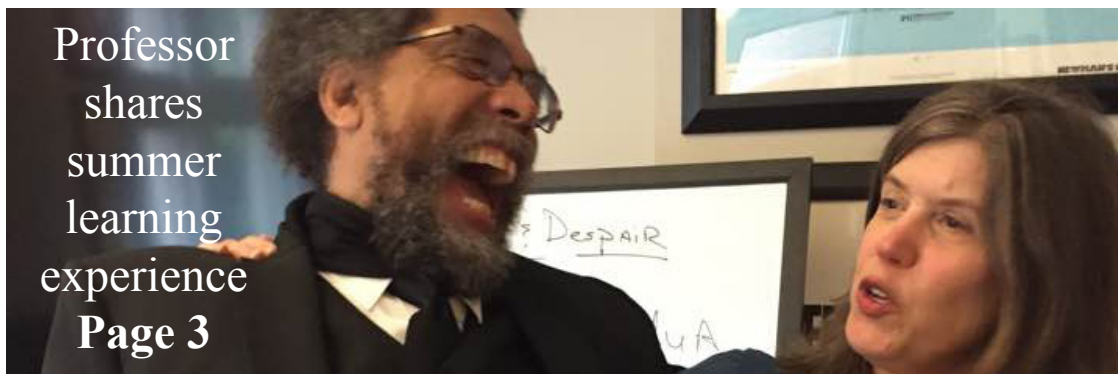
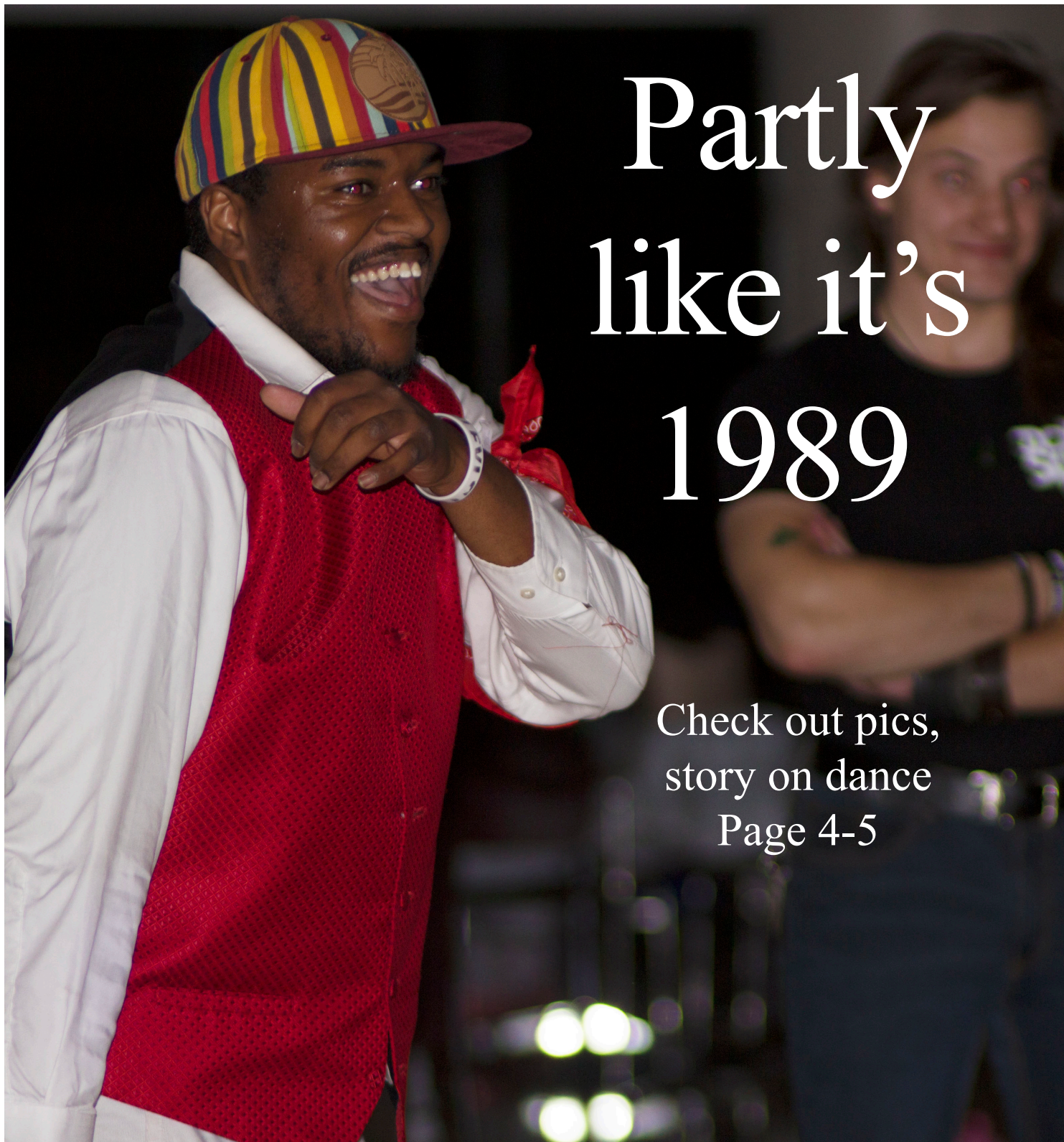


Professor  
shares  
summer  
learning  
experience  
Page 3



## Partly like it's 1989

Check out pics,  
story on dance  
Page 4-5



## Pantry feeds students

About 80 students  
have used food bank

By Cierra Buckley  
Lamp staff

SPRINGFIELD -- For many students on Lincoln Land's campus, the next big test isn't the biggest challenge they face. It's where they will get their next meal.

According to a 2016 Hunger on Campus study, as many as one in four students faced food insecurity in the last 30 days. The college hopes a 1-year-old initiative will help alleviate that problem.

Lincoln Land Community College's Student Life office implemented a food pantry in November 2016 to combat food insecurity among the LLCC student population.

"The idea was initially brought to me in the spring 2016 semester by Lesley Frederick and Todd McDonald," said Student Engagement Coordinator Marie Watson. "They stated that they were researching the term 'food insecurity,' and it motivated them to start to provide support to LLCC's students in the area of supplemental health."

The food bank's main goal is to provide food, but it also helps students get the extra help they need with things like personal care and hygiene items. The LLCC Food Program is supported by the LLCC Foundation.

"Approximately 80-plus students" have used the food bank, Watson said.

Students must have a student ID and complete an intake form to use the pantry. Students then get to choose the food and supplies from a checklist provided by a Student Life staff member.

The college plans to focus on helping students just on campus. Watson said, "We really targeted (the program) for those students who come to school to learn and can't because of other worries, like their next meal."

The food pantry's hours of operation are three days a week.

- Monday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Tuesday: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Thursday: 1 to 4 p.m.

"Even if you aren't a student anymore and prove that you were in a previous semester, you're eligible," Watson said.

The food banks asks faculty, staff and others to donate food and money.

For those wishing to donate, a list is available in Student Life with items that they need. Items are not just food, but items such as shopping bags, microwaveable safe bowls and personal care and hygiene items.

Any donation not used by the LLCC Food Pantry will be donated to the Illinois Central Food Bank.

Cierra Buckley can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu).

## Discount program helps students save

Madison Mings  
Lamp staff

SPRINGFIELD — As students we want to save as much money as possible and that goes for anything like clothes and food, well you're in for a treat because LLCC and UIS students are offered discounts downtown. This is a new program called UIS and LLCC students Downtown Discounts Program.

The people responsible for the Downtown Discounts program are State Representative Sara Wojcicki-Jimenez's, of the Higher Education Student Advisory Committee, and was co-chaired by University of Illinois-Springfield student Kaelen Smith and Lincoln Land Community College student Gabby Jones.

As part of her position, Wojcicki-Jimenez helps the community with issues and ways to help UIS and LLCC students.

Kaelen Smith and Gabby Jones explained why they decided to start Downtown Discounts for LLCC and UIS students.

"It was an idea brought by the student body president to attract the student body to spark the college students at LLCC and UIS," said Smith.

"At our first meeting we didn't really have an agenda, we just spoke about what we wanted. A UIS student brought up that they wished there was



more of an incentive to go downtown as students. Representative Wojcicki-Jimenez then brought in Lisa Clemmons Stott who's the executive director for Downtown Springfield Incorporated. From there the program really blossomed," said Jones.

The stores that are included in the Downtown Discounts program are Springfield Vintage, Custom Cup Coffee, Daisy Janes, the Hoogland Center for the Arts, Jade's Far East Emporium, The Roost, Wild Rose, Studio 6, Z Bistro and Udder Hut, Jojo's Street Cuisine, and Recycled Records.

"They are shops and restaurants that are for some afternoon fun," Smith said.

"Lisa from Downtown Springfield Incorporated became an influential part of the process from the

beginning. Also, the student who thought of the idea thought of downtown specifically. We chose to start with these businesses because they are more likely to jump on board. Multiple businesses jumped on immediately wanting to join," Jones explained as to why downtown businesses were chosen and not other businesses around town.

"It gets more students downtown to the stores and have it more of a habitat for the students and the more students that go to the stores it helps the economic living in the area," Smith explained how the Downtown Discounts help the businesses that are participating,

DISCOUNTS, page 2



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

**Editor**  
Zach Aiello

**Assistant Editor**  
Avery Cook

**Editor of Photography**  
Niko Robledo

**Writers**  
Zach Aiello  
Leo Borgelin  
Cierra Buckley  
Jacob Fisher  
Madison Mings  
Jack Pugh  
Gracie Schweighart

**Photographer**  
Niko Robledo

**Cartoonist**  
Seth Black

**Correspondent**  
Patricia Koritz

**Coordinator**  
Tim McKenzie

**Contact Us:**  
The Lamp  
Menard Hall, LLCC  
5250 Shepherd Road  
Springfield, IL 62794  
Lamp@llcc.edu  
(217) 786.2311

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# A slice of Italy

By Zach Aiello  
Editor

SPRINGFIELD -- Deep in the heart of Italy lie the small villages submerged in Italian food culture. Old paved roads wind through rolling hills and past bustling markets, with a wide range of restaurants serving Italian cuisine. What better way to experience this Italian culture than to attend Lincoln Land's upcoming trip in May 2018 to Urbania, Italy.

Students and community members will be attending a two-weeklong trip to Italy next year, with the chance to take classes in Italian language, culture, culinary heritage and tradition.

Partnered with Richland Community College in Decatur, LLCC will be attending for the first year and will be led by Culinary Program and Operations Director Nancy Sweet.

"Anytime you can experience life from other people's perspective, that's a good thing ... for expanding your own horizons or perspectives," Sweet said.

For many who attend, this is a chance to experience the real Italy. The trip's main focus is to experience the culinary side of Italy, whether that be visiting small, locally-owned restaurants or going to some of the highest-rated restaurants.

Students and community members will get the opportunity to meet these restaurant owners and witness how they gather their locally grown ingredients to cook up some exquisite dishes that they prepare and serve in their own venues. Many of these ingredients are produced by local farmers and villagers who sell these ingredients in small time food markets.



LLCC and Richland aren't able to do this whole trip without the help of Centro Studi Italiani, which is the school they partner with that helps create an immersive experience for students. During the two weeks, students will take classes on how to have a conversation in Italian while having a slight focus on culinary terms as well.

While staying in the small town of Urbania, students live in their own apartments for the duration of the trip. From there, the group plans to take a trip up to a region that is called "Food Valley," which is home to "some of the most quintessential and amazing foods of Italy," Sweet said.

Another exciting part about the trip is the chance to meet one of the world's leading chefs in Italy, Chef Massimo Bottura.

Bottura owns and runs his own local restaurant in Modena, where he offers reservations for his 12 total tables. LLCC and Richland are hoping to be able visit his restaurant and have the

chance to dine and tour the three-star Michelin-rated restaurant, now named the No. 1 restaurant in the world.

LLCC hopes they can do some fundraising to lower costs for that visit because it is quite expensive added Sweet.

For many chefs in Modena, using fewer ingredients can actually be more as explained by Sweet.

"They use the finest ingredients they can, it doesn't mean you have to use the most expensive ingredients but you take what's best like a tomato that is ripe in season or balsamic vinegar that can help make a good product," she said.

The effort that many of these local farmers go through is to make sure that only the best ingredients come out, and that is what Sweet hopes that many students take to heart when they travel back cooking with this new style or look on culinary talent.

*Zach Aiello can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu.*

# Belize trip to focus on jauar

By Patricia Koritz  
Lamp correspondent

As Belize develops as a nation, the rainforest has been cut away, and the animal population has also shrunk.

The jaguar is among those animals who have seen a drop in number. A group of Lincoln Land students hope that they can learn more about the impact of development on the large cats during a study trip to Belize.

The group will be in Belize Jan. 6 to 11 and they will be staying at Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge.

Professor Dave Cox has been taking students to Belize for more than a decade, to study water quality the last 11 years, will be leading the group. This is the first time studying the jaguar.

Jaguars have a large-range of territory, and with the rainforest disappearing, much of the ground for Jaguars is shrinking. There has



not been a lot of research on jaguars in Belize, so it is an area with lots of opportunities to study.

While Belize has lots of protected land for the jaguars, the Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge is private land.

A lot of private land has moved from rainforest to citrus farming. The impact of the deforestation and move to agriculture is not fully known.

"There has not been a jaguar study done on private property, but one took place 20 miles north," Cox said.

The land of Sleeping Giant Rainforest Lodge is in a watershed area that drains into the nearby Subin

River. For the jaguars, this becomes important in pointing towards the type of territory that they prefer.

"Jaguars are also almost always found near the water, such as swampy areas and seasonally flooded forests," said Sarah Lutchman, an LLCC student who is going on the trip.

The lodge's land is the type that typically supports jaguars, so it has a strong chance of having them on it.

With more than 58,000 acres of land, no one knows what type of animals could be found.

*Patricia Koritz is going on the January 2018 trip to Belize. She is serving as the public relations and marketing coordinator for the trip, and she wrote this story for The Lamp as part of promoting and sharing the trip with the LLCC community.*

## Discounts

Continued from Page 1

"I think these discounts are beneficial for both students and the businesses. I hope that students see these discounts and check out the businesses," Jones added

Students can receive the Downtown Discounts at the shops by having a Student ID card or students can ask the cashier for the discount. You will see the UIS and LLCC students Downtown Discounts logo in the front of the store window.

The discounts include anything from 10 percent off, buy-one-get-one free offers, and some stores even have raffles to win for certain items in their stores.

"We're working with addition of two shops, one is a yoga shop and we'll add more discounts for students," Smith said of adding more businesses to the program

"I hope students see a sign that Springfield is a good college town. UIS is a more recent school and LLCC only being a 2-year college having it in an environment worth living so that the students will come back to Springfield after they graduate, if they choose to leave, and can come back and want to still stick around here and have the student body see a sign of being a part of the community," Smith shared of his hopes for the program.

"I hope students venture downtown more. The downtown area is super cool with a great culture. I hope that students experience this. Our ultimate

goal is to find a way to get students to stay after college, or come back if they decide to leave. We hope that this discount card allows students to explore the city more on a budget. Hopefully, they find something they love and decide to stay or come back later in life. Overall, I hope that students use this discount card and explore the town that I love more," added Jones.

The UIS and LLCC students Downtown Discounts has a Facebook page where you can find more about the stores, deals, and upcoming information about adding stores to the Downtown Discounts program.

<https://www.facebook.com/DowntownSpringfieldStudentDiscounts/>.

*Madison Mings can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu*

# eSports the next big thing?

Leo Borgelin  
Lamp Writer

Imagine running down the football field. You've likely done it in high school or in your backyard not too long ago. Even on a game console if it helps. You never would have guessed that a helmet could prevent a Twitch. Yes, eSports are here. And by the looks of it, it's here to stay.

All it takes are a few hands, controllers, headsets, and not even a LAN Network and you would be professionally gaming. But be warned, the stakes are higher than ever and all it takes is one bad jerk to have a bad Twitch.

Twitch, the video streaming service only for gamers. Praised highly, especially from those with a sip from the holy grail in any game you can find.

Twitch is the most recognized platform to help launched the eSports community with a boastful user count of 55 million.

What is eSports exactly? Does it even support games like Madden NFL or the 2K NBA series, games that people consider actual sports?

It does not fully support these games, though the NBA does currently have plans to start an eSports series using the 2K NBA games to work right alongside their regular season. Similar to what FIFA has already done.

Ranking 6th behind European football, esports have been recognized as a sport. If it can generate \$500 million in revenue, then why not?

With notable games like League of Legends, Dota 2, Overwatch, and Counter-Strike leading the way for eSports, the world of sports have taken a new tone.

As exciting and busy as ever, the Logger Lair will be hosting an upcoming pool tournament. I was able to catch Cody who shared his insight about what the future of eSports could hold.

Just like any gamer Cody treats himself to a game or few during his recreational time. Nothing out of the norm.

"I think they're [eSports] cool. They're safer than recreation sports. I would watch something that doesn't exist in real life, but not something that doesn't exist in actual life"

With all the top games leading the way for eSports, there isn't much room for games like NBA 2K and Madden NFL to make any headway.

FIFA is only ranked 27 in terms of prize money without any similar eSports to help move up the ladder. Could this be a sign for the end of regular sports?

Bringing in a revenue of half a billion dollars, eSports barely competes with the revenue the front five brings in.

Those front five being European Football, the NFL, MLB, NBA, and NHL all bring in a combined revenue \$58 billion. That includes the nearly \$30 billion from the European Football.

As much potential the eSport community has, they still have a long way to go.

*Leo Borgelin can be reached at Lamp@llcc.edu*



# New insight on Civil Rights History

## English Professor Deborah Brothers discusses her summer at Harvard

By Madison Mings  
Lamp staff

SPRINGFIELD — The world seems to be getting scarier day by day. Especially racism being more violent, and people hurting one another because the color of their skin. Have you ever thought what happened with The Civil Rights movement? The nonviolent protests that were against racial segregation and discrimination from the years of 1954 to 1968? Those protesters walked with Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X and many other activists to have freedom and become equal with stopping the segregation.

The protesters led the federal government to approve The Civil Rights Act. It was signed in April 1968, which made it illegal to discriminate because of race, religion and national origin, to name a few.

Lincoln Land Community College English Professor Deborah Brothers was accepted in the National Endowment Humanities Summer Institute 2017 over the summer for a month. This year's institute was held at the Hutchins Center for African and African-Americans research. The topic was What Happened to The Civil Rights Movement? And it explored the struggles for African-Americans for freedom and civil rights with the American history in the twentieth century, the roots of the civil rights movement, the process of the racial changes and the nature of its achievements and legacies.

Brothers said she was thrilled to find out that she was accepted. The scholars associated with the program, particularly Cornel West and Henry Louis Gates, are two of the best minds in the country, she said. The speakers associated with the program are among some of the foundational Civil Rights Activists alive. Dorothy Burnham and Ester Cooper Jackson, (102 and 100 years old, respectively), were also

an amazing part of the institute, she said.

Brothers met Burnham and Jackson at the institute.

"The fact that they put their lives on the line and put up with the ill treatment and preserved," Brothers said of Burnham and Jackson. "They still had their sense of humor and compassion, minds and kindness. The big picture with now vs then and showing faces."

Brothers applied to the NEH 2017 institute for many reasons and listed a few as being that she has a lifelong academic and personal interests in social activism. She had specific projects pertaining to the Civil Rights Movement that she wanted to develop for her courses, specifically for women's literature and children's literature.

Brothers also said she saw the need because our country is more divided now than it was or at least those divisions are more apparent, vocal and violent.

They came prepared and had ideas for their individual projects but then they read forty more books during the month they were there, she said. They talked about history and contemporary events with folks who walked with King and Fannie Lou Hamer. They studied and wrote and researched and challenged our presenters and each other for over 30 eight-hour days.

Brothers said they became collaborative colleagues. They could not have done that in another environment. It was a rare intensely-intimate and intellectually-stimulating opportunity.

Brothers said she is working to bring what she learned about The Civil Rights Movement to her courses.

"Slowly, still processing, and still reading about stuff from the summer institute," she said.

She said they started out as strangers that were there with no friends, partners, or kids. Most of the other



faculty lived in the same building and even spent their weekends and evenings together going to Harvard Library or archive yet again, into Boston museums, eating tacos at Felipe's, playing taboo or just walking to Trader Joe's. They all became great friends, Brothers said.

Brothers still communicates with

colleagues at the institute. They have set up a Facebook page.

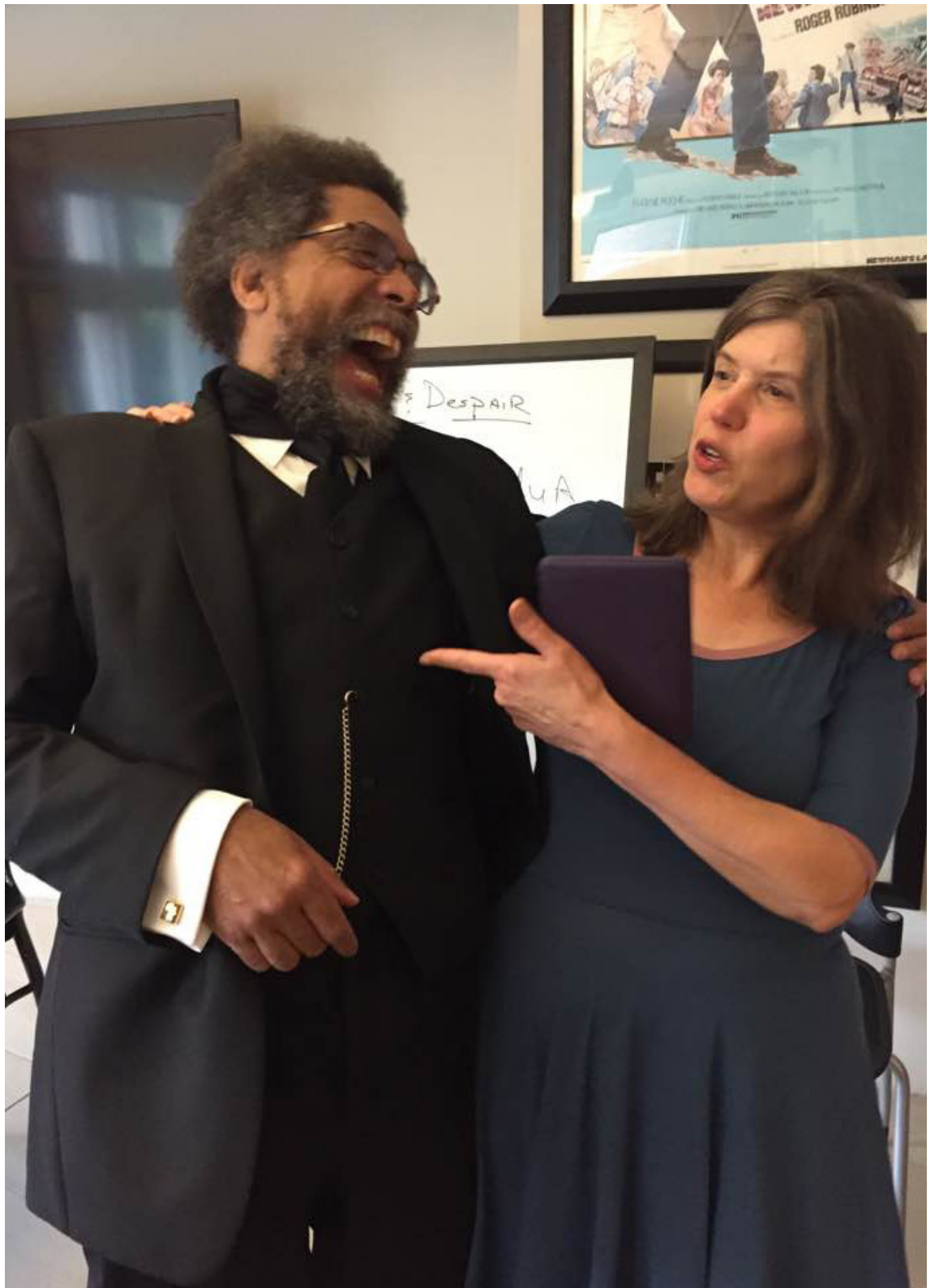
"I loved the experience," Brothers said. "Not one like this, it was really something."

I was anxious to go home, Brothers said, but already missing my NEH friends.

To have more information on the

National Endowment Humanities 2017 Summer Institute: What happened to the Civil Rights Movement you can go to <http://hutchinscenter.fas.harvard.edu/neh-summer-institute-2017>

Madison Mings can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu)





# LLCC goes back in time for 80's themed dance



**By Madison Mings**  
**Lamp staff**

SPRINGFIELD— On Oct. 13, 2017 the Gay-Straight Alliance went back in time using the Flux Capacitor in our DeLorean to the 1980s for a Totally 80's dance. The dance was held in the LLCC student union where students could get in with paying \$3.00 or bringing 5 nonperishable items for the LLCC food pantry.

There were party lights shining all around the student union, snack tables with fruit trays, cupcakes, soda beverages, and guests dressed in 80s attire. There were round tables that had miniature Slinkys and Rubik's cubes on them along with glow in the dark necklaces and bracelets for students and glow in the dark balloons with the text "party time" on them with a marble design added decoration to the room.

DJ Yinka from HISO Music Radio was the DJ for the dance playing songs from the 80s like "Rock With You" by Michael Jackson, "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen, and "Straight Up" by Paula Abdul to name a few.

The students that attended the dance were dancing all night long on the floor to the songs that were played. There were two performances, Empefive and LLCC's dance club: Express Your Seoul, both danced for the crowd.

Terrelle Jackson, President of GSA, spoke on why they held an 80's dance, "Last year we held a Zombie Prom and wanted to continue with a prom that is inclusive and fun. 80s

was becoming freer and sexuality becoming more open and the 80s are fun. There were requests that we have another one with all the fun from the previous prom on campus and it helps with the Food Pantry and income with it."

The best part of the dance was a hard question for Jackson but he responded with "All the dancing and the diverse group of students and having them meet each other and get to know one another, because they come from all walks of life in humanity and that is the best."

Jackson really enjoyed all the 80's songs that played but his favorite of the night was "Forget Me Nots" by Patrice Rushen. I asked him if GSA would have another dance like the previous two, "Yes we will have another dance hands down, a theme with the dance as well because they have been very successful."

He also added, "Even though it was held by GSA it was open to the public the dance was not just for students at LLCC, it was also fundraising for the LLCC food pantry which raised \$40 in food, \$80 in cash and the attendance of this year's dance was 52 people. I am also thankful for the Student Life and Faculties and the campus for letting GSA hold the 80s-dance event at LLCC."

I interviewed some of the students that attended about what the best part of the dance was and what their favorite song was that played. GSA's Vice President, D'Andrea Banger, said the best part was "When I looked up and saw everyone was on the dance floor dancing and being

involved with the dance and having everyone come together and be together."

Sydney McCabe, an active GSA member said, "The best part was seeing the groups without communication enjoy the message of the event and dance." She added that her favorite song that played was "When Doves Cry" by Prince.

Tiffany Fenner, an LLCC student, danced the night away and said the best part was "How everyone really danced together till our feet hurt." Her favorite song that played was "Let's Hear It for the Boy" by Deniece Williams.

Being secretary of GSA the dance to me was a lot of fun and a successful night. I participated in dressing like the 80s and the dance felt like I really transported to that time. Being surrounded by such great people and members of the club was an amazing time. My favorite part of the dance was dancing all night long and my favorite song that played was "Rock With You" by Michael Jackson.

Madison Mings can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu)

Photos by Niko Robledo









# Volleyball spikes opponents

## Four matches and four wins for Loggers

By Jacob Fisher  
Lamp writer

SPRINGFIELD – The Lincoln Land Loggers volleyball team gave it their all and won all four matches during the Lincoln Land Fall Class in Springfield on Oct. 20 and 21.

The last home games were part of the college's two-day tournament.

The Loggers swept three matches, and only lost one game in third set against Kansas City Blue Devils.

After suffering their first loss of the tournament, the Loggers bounced back to win the next six games and win the last two matches of the tournament.

After that loss, Coach Dietz said: "We changed one hitter (Kourtney Bilyeu in for Brea Cunningham) but that makes it seem like the first set was Brea's fault. Hardly!"

Dietz continued on, "It was just an attempt to shake us out of that funk."

Dietz said Addie Patton was a standout player in the four-game tournament.

"We're at the point, she can hit anywhere on the court hard," Dietz said of Patton. "Two teams were triple-blocking her, and she still racked up the kills."

The Kirkwood coach notified Dietz they tried to stop Patton by serving a little tougher and keep the ball away from the middle hitter.

"I also thought Kiersten Anderson did well running a 5-1 system this weekend," Dietz said.

Here is a quick recap of the tournament games:

### Match 1: Loggers vs. Kirkwood Eagles, 3-0

During the first match of the Fall Classic, Lincoln Land would shut out the Kirkwood Eagles, but only after a back-and-forth battle between the teams in the first set. The Loggers pulled ahead during the first set with a 21-17 lead as the end neared. But Kirkwood fought back.

With Loggers' Addie Patton serving, Lincoln Land Loggers ended up closing the door on Kirkwood and winning, 30-28, with extra serves.

In the second game of the match, Lincoln Land would pull ahead early, with a 7-3 lead. They eventually had a 9-point lead, but while the Eagles got to within 4 points for the Loggers, but they couldn't overcome the deficit. The Loggers won 25-17.



In the third game, the Loggers pulled out to an early lead of 6-4, but Kirkwood tied it up at 10. As the Eagles looked to take the lead, Logger Bailey Rexroad came up with the kill and held the Eagles from taking their first lead.

Following the stop of Kirkwood, Lincoln Land gained momentum, with Rexroad and Brea Cunningham blocking the final chance to hold on to the 25-16 win.

### Match 2: Loggers vs. Johnson County Cavaliers, 3-0

Coming off a sweep in the first set, the Lincoln Land Loggers looked to finish off the first night and continue their momentum against the Johnson County Cavaliers. However, match 2 was a battle for the Loggers.

The beginning of each of the three sets was a huge back-and-forth match-up for the two teams. The Loggers would take a 2-point lead in

the first set, as Carissa Smith served for the Loggers' possession. Though the Loggers' lead did not last long, the Cavaliers came back to tie the game at 16 points all, before the Loggers won 25-23.

With the second game, the Cavaliers momentum began with a 3-point lead. Lincoln Land Loggers would fall to a deficit of 14-9. The 5-point deficit would be reduced from a side out of the Cavaliers and block. But the Loggers would eventually come back to take the second set, 25-22.

Kiersten Anderson helped set up the ball, leading to Kaylee Beekman to lay down the kill.

The third came remained tight as the Loggers looked to sweep, but they eventually take the lead and win. To complete the sweep on the Cavaliers, Lincoln Land's Bobana Marusic set up Rexroad to lay down a spike for a 25-20 win.

### Match 3: Loggers vs. Kansas City Blue Devils, 3-1

On day two of the tournament, the Loggers came in with hopes of continuing their sweep.

In the first set against Kansas City, the Loggers fell behind the Blue Devils, 9-14. Trying to fight back, the Loggers would end up failing to Kansas City by a score of 25-16.

Following the first losing set, Coach Jim Dietz said, "We came out slow in the second set as well and fell behind 8-3."

Dietz continued on, "We were sluggish finishing off Johnson County on Friday evening, so it was likely a carryover effect."

Suffering their first loss off the tournament, Loggers looked to bounce back and even up the match. Kansas City pulls out in front of Lincoln Land, 6-1. Continuing an uphill battle, the Loggers' Carissa Smith leading the possession helped the

Loggers get their first lead.

As Lincoln Land leading the Blue Devils 24-18, Loggers' own Kiersten Anderson would throw down a spike to even the match at one apiece.

The Loggers then took the last two games at 25-13 and 25-12 to win the set.

### Match 4: Loggers vs. Waubensee Chiefs, 3-0

With the Fall Classic coming to an end, the Loggers looked to finish up strong. Lincoln Land faces Waubensee Chiefs, and the Loggers started with a strong lead.

Loggers' Brea Cunningham laid down a spike to put Lincoln Land at 24. Looking for just 1 point, Waubensee helped the Loggers out by hitting the ball out of bounds, winning 25 to 18.

The Loggers then swept the match against the Chiefs with 25-15 and 25-10.

# Emmi Fisher, Mason Gordon win scholarships

By Madison Mings  
Lamp staff

SPRINGFIELD — Lincoln Land Community College had two students receive National Scholarships. The two students that received the scholarships are Emmi Fisher of Springfield, an Agriculture major and Mason Gordon of Springfield, an Agriculture business major.

Emmi Fisher

Fisher received the 2017-18 National Black Farmers Association Scholarship reward of \$5,000, this is Fisher's third time receiving the scholarship.

The National Black Farmers Association is a scholarship that can be awarded to all students but has a special interest in minorities studying Agriculture or a related field. This award is given to 20 students nationally.

"It feels great knowing that I was chosen. I am very thankful and will apply next year for it as well," Fisher shared.

"It helps with school expenses and helps con-

nect the students who win. ... It's a great way to network and learn from people doing many different Agricultural fields," she added.

Fisher said she thinks everyone can have a passion.

"I hope to teach others that anyone can grow. Everyone can have access to healthy sustainable food and that Wwoofing should be on everyone's bucket list."

### Mason Gordon

Gordon received the 2017 Pearson Scholarship for Higher Education reward of \$5,000. There were nearly 700 applicants for the Pearson Scholarship and only 10 students are selected.

The Pearson Scholarship for Higher Education is a \$5,000 scholarship for Phi Theta Kappa members who are planning to transfer to a four-year institution. Along with the scholarship money, Pearson Scholars are paired with

a mentor from Pearson.

Gordon said he feels honored and humbled to be selected to be awarded this scholarship.

"Receiving this award makes funding my dreams possible."

Gordon shared what the application process is like for this scholarship.

"In the spring, I filled out a scholarship application through the national Phi Theta Kappa website. Based on my application, they matched me with scholarships that I would be qualified for. Pearson selected me as a finalist for their scholarship, interviewed me, and awarded me with the scholarship at the conclusion of the interview."

Gordon spoke highly of the Phi Theta Kappa scholarship application and encourages anyone on campus who is involved to apply.

Gordon's interest in Ag Business stemmed from his youth, "I grew up on a farm so agriculture has been my biggest passion from an early age. Being an agribusiness major allows

me to understand more of the day to day workings of the industry."

When speaking of the future Gordon said, "I would like to take my agribusiness degree and prior agricultural knowledge to Washington D.C. and become a lobbyist to present American Farmers and Ranches. I strive to educate lawmakers about the importance of Agriculture. I also hope to someday run for political office."

More information about Wwoofing here is a link to their website. [https://wwoofusa.org/?gclid=CjwKCAjwssvPBRBBEiwASFoVdyRciXqJGZj6PqwzCYOLLAV9qEeYrWSHGZxc46EQg4YK\\_msZw2y94hoC8\\_UQAvD\\_BwE](https://wwoofusa.org/?gclid=CjwKCAjwssvPBRBBEiwASFoVdyRciXqJGZj6PqwzCYOLLAV9qEeYrWSHGZxc46EQg4YK_msZw2y94hoC8_UQAvD_BwE)

More information about Phi Theta Kappa here is a link to the website. <http://www.llcc.edu/student-life/student-clubs-organizations/phi-theta-kappa/>

Madison Mings can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu)



# Coming to America

## Athletes transition from overseas to play for Lincoln Land

By Gracie Schweighart  
Lamp staff

As many of us know, making the transition from high school to college can be difficult. Bigger class size, new people, larger campus, and much more. Imagine having all of the nerves that come along with first going to college, on top of the nerves of moving to a new country just a few days before classes begin.

When most of us first thought about going to college, learning how to adapt to a different country was not a concern to us. For two freshman volleyball players though, this was not the case. Bobana Marusic, a libero/outside hitter for the LLCC volleyball team, is from Belgrade, Serbia – 5,160 miles from Springfield. Maree Taig, a middle hitter for the LLCC volleyball team, is from Melbourne, Australia – 9,500 miles from Springfield.

“For me, the biggest change (being in the United States) has been adjusting to having to drive everywhere,” Taig said. Melbourne is a city of around 4.5 million people – much larger than Springfield. In order to get anywhere around her home city, taking a car was not a necessity. “Back home I was used to walking and taking buses and trains to get to most places.”

Like most any collegiate student-athlete, one of the many challenges Maree and Bobana have faced is learning how to perfect time management between volleyball and schoolwork. “You need to manage your time really well and try not to miss anything, especially if you have other obligations like we have volleyball practices, matches, and tournaments.”

For Maree though, the transition from high school to college class wise has not been too difficult. “The classes have been fairly similar in size.” Taig said that her classes have been a “pretty easy ride” thus far.

Bobana on the other hand, has faced a fairly substantial challenge. As she is from Serbia, her native language is Serbian – not at all similar to English.

“It is challenging to be around people who speak English all the time, giving you tasks, assignments, and exams, while still aiming to receive high grades.”

Marusic though, after completing her first three months in the U.S., has remained optimistic. “This is a challenge, and this experience is giving me the opportunity to really get to know myself while becoming independent and mentally stronger.”

The volleyball team, as well as their families, have had a lot to do with the success of Maree and Bobana within their first three months living in the United States.

Unlike the other girls on the volleyball team, Maree and Bobana do not have the luxury of making the drive home if they have an off-weekend or when they are feeling home-sick. “My teammates help me a lot,” Marusic said. “Their parents also care about me and try to make me feel like I am at home. For any break that we have, I am always invited to their homes. They always make me feel very welcome.”

Any sports team is similar to a second family – and the LLCC volleyball team has been monumental in helping these two girls with the process of adapting to both a new school and a new country.

“Having teammates has definitely helped lots in adjusting as it has given me people to bond and make friends with,” Taig said. “In classes it is difficult to make friends when I don’t have a lot in common with my classmates, but my teammates have helped in introducing me to other people and making new friends.”

As many of us students at Lincoln Land are from the Springfield area or at least a driving distance away, it is fairly easy for us to make friends because we have a high chance of having a lot in common with those around us. Also, many students here at Lincoln Land knew a lot of classmates before their first day of school. Some of us may have even graduated high school with the same classmates we have at LLCC. “Without my teammates I would’ve felt much lonelier,” Taig said.

“My biggest reason for coming here was to play volleyball and get better, and that has definitely been the case,” Taig said. “Having the opportunity to play the sport I love almost every day is awesome and I’ve already learned so much.”

Maree and Bobana have adapted to both college and moving to another country extremely well. They have made a large impact on the volleyball team this year, have adjusted well to school, and have met and continue to meet others that assist in making their transitions smoother. Bobana simplified the path for her success – “Manage your time, be responsible, and fight for your academic goals.”

Gracie Schweighart can be reached at [lamp@llcc.edu](mailto:lamp@llcc.edu).



Bobana Marusic, a libero/outside hitter



Maree Taig, a middle hitter

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# Opening season

Are you ready for the hunt? Students prepare for the annual Central Illinois ritual

**By Jack Pugh  
Lamp Staff**

This time of year is no doubt a beautiful season in Central Illinois. The leaves are in a full array of change, the breeze is now cool and crisp, and the days begin to shorten. It's also the beginning of a whole new set of seasons: deer (white-tail), waterfowl (duck) and squirrel seasons.

Driving through rural parts of Central Illinois, one often hears "BANG, CRACK, and POP." Those poor sound effects don't do a justice to actually hearing the shot being fired, or actually being the one to pull the trigger.

A large number of people from Central Illinois enjoy the outdoors, whether it is being outside in nature or to actually be out in the field hunting.

Jared Spengler has been hunting for 11 years. His love for hunting came from his grandpa.

Austin Bell has been into hunting for six years after a friend's dad introduced him to it.

I have been hunting for about 15 years now. My Grandpa and my Dad got me into it when I was only 5 years old.

Despite a shared love for hunting, all of us hunt differently from one another. Spengler really enjoys waterfowl season and loves to bow hunt for whitetail deer. He has a more diverse hunting style because he hunts more types of animals and in different ways.

Bell primarily likes to hunt white-tail during bow season. Bow season is a much tougher hunt when you have to be within a 25 yard distance



from your target.

I personally like to hunt whitetail during shotgun season, my whole family does, and it's what I have grown up doing it. It's the same for Spengler and Bell hunting is something they have grown up doing and have loved doing it.

That's what connects all of us hunters, the passion of the sport and traditions of hunting. Whether it's hunting for fun, sport, meat or the trophy animal, being a hunter is much more than sitting in the woods and killing an animal. It's the time spent preparing for the hunt, the time spent in the field and the time being outdoors surrounded by nature. There is nothing like being in the woods and the cool fall breeze blowing into your face.

For Bell and Spengler, their whitetail season last year was a little unsuccessful and uneventful. They both had the same thoughts, the deer were too small and not mature enough to harvest. Yet, on the other hand, my family tagged out. Seasons vary each year from hunter to hunter, so there is no need to feel discouraged about a uneventful season. There is always next year.

They aren't discouraged, they both feel pretty confident they will see some action this season, as I hope I will have a good season as well.

We can all agree, whether the season is uneventful or action packed, the hunt never gets old. Anyone truly into hunting will say the same thing as us.

Even though some can say hunting is controversial, there an accomplishment to actually do what you set out to do. I would say hunting is up there with graduating high school.

"Deer hunting is rewarding. It's a rewarding feeling: the anticipation, the waiting, and the effort put into the hunt is really rewarding in itself." Spengler said. "You did what you set out to do."

Spencer means the feeling of actually killing the animal you spent all the time and energy to get, is now yours.

For anyone who hasn't hunted, or even killed an animal, hunting is not as easy as waiting and shooting a gun.

Seeing the animal walk out from behind some brush while you have the shot; an entire wave of emotions take over. Adrenaline, excitement, nervousness, anticipation, and then the feeling of sadness overwhelms me and my senses. At the same time, I feel time slows and my senses are heightened, there is a contradictory rush of emotions.

This is my take on the feeling, everyone can feel it differently, but it is a common feeling to have from what I have gathered from fellow hunters, family, and friends.

Target practice and actually shooting an animal suddenly become two different actions.

If you are interested in hunting, here is what Bell's advice "Just go. You can't shoot a deer from your couch at home."

If nothing else, go out there to be in nature, feel that soft fall breeze, see the sights and smell what it's like to be in woods which is a feeling in itself.

Jack Pugh can be reached at [lamp@ilcc.edu](mailto:lamp@ilcc.edu).

## Cartoon by S. E. Black



## Picking a winner for the Painted Rock Contest

Congratulations to Tonya Chase Browning for winning our painted rock contest on facebook and a gift card to Subway.

To our other participants we are sorry you did not win but if it is any consolation you get to keep the rocks.