



Feminists unite

Hundreds rally in downtown Springfield

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Love! What is it?



Cosmetic supplies.

Welcome week

Photos by Niko Robledo

As the spring semester starts, Student Life celebrated the first week of the new term with free food and haircuts in the A. Lincoln Commons.

Readings to take place on Feb. 17

By Avery Cook
The Lamp

What do you think of when you say the word love? This is a question that Lincoln Land Community College's Professor Deborah Brothers is asking us to answer.

Last year, LLCC put on a rendition of the Vagina Monologues an episodic play delves into consensual and nonconsensual sexual experiences, body image, genital mutilation, direct and indirect encounters with reproduction, sex work, and several other topics through the eyes of women.

Brothers has been doing the Vagina Monologues at LLCC for years, but the English professor decided to do something different this year, partly because she wanted to hear the students own stories rather than just repeat the monologues from the play.

Brothers said that last year they had a sort of prologue to the Vagina monologues where the students gave their own stories, and that they were so interesting that she thought "next year that's what we're going to do"

So this year that is exactly what is going happen as students on Feb. 17 will give their own independent monologues, stories and poems on the subject of love and what it means to them. Brothers said that the reason they used 'love' as the subject

"Because the subject is so big and varied yet everyone has their own idea of it"

This activity is open to the entire LLCC campus all brothers asks is that the students let her know what direction they are going with their monologue, story or poem so that she can try to create an order for the stories.

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Barber Anthony Renods, 27, a student at the University of Spa and Cosmetology Arts, gives LLCC student Simon Okbazghi, 27, a fresh haircut.



Dan Herbst, from Herbcoe Fun Foods, serves walking-tacos to LLCC students on Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Nominations open for 2018 Pearson Master Teacher award

By Zach Aiello
Lamp Editor

SPRINGFIELD - It's that time of year again! Voting has begun for the 2018 Pearson Master Teacher Award and the LLCC Foundation is looking for students, faculty, staff, alumni and retirees to nominate an outstanding tenured faculty member for this year's award.

This award, which was started by Drs. Raymond and Ann Pearson, rewards and recognizes an exceptional

LLCC staff member for their contributions to students here at LLCC.

"For me, receiving the Pearson Master Teacher award was humbling experience and a confirmation that what I have done and continue to do as a teacher has been effective and well-received," said Jason Dockter, English professor and 2016 award recipient.

Dockter, a professor at LLCC for 12 years now, expressed how his passion for teaching and helping students

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LINCOLN LAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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

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Women march to the polls

Feminism revitalizes movement, core values in rally

By Kallie Cox
Lamp staff

SPRINGFIELD — More than 500 people rallied at the Illinois State Capitol, marching downtown on Saturday, Jan. 20, in the spirit of the women's march that took place last year.

"I am fed up with what is going on in this country," said rally participant Nancy B., a middle-aged woman who had just moved to Springfield.

The mantra for this year's march was, "Last year, we marched. This year, we run to the polls!"

The original march focused on renewing interest in feminism and showing that it is still an important movement. Topics of importance last year were fighting for women's reproductive rights, taking on the Trump administration, and keeping a spotlight on allegations of sexual misconduct against Donald Trump.

Last year for the Women's march millions of people gathered in cities all across the country to protest as one. It was one of the largest marches in US history.

A year later millions more protesters took to the streets once again for the anniversary of the historic march to protest



Photos by Kallie Cox/The Lamp

The protest was held in Springfield. The female activist group held signs and marched the streets for their views.

a new issue and to show that they are still present.

This year's rallies were focused on encouraging women to run for political office, and to push more women to vote.

They also took on issues with the dream act and a balanced budget.

"We must keep resisting everyday," said State Comptroller Susana Mendoza, the

Democratic keynote speaker.

Among the protesters, many wielded signs that discussed immigration, the "Me Too" movement, racism, reproductive freedom,

acceptance of the LGBT+ community, Planned Parenthood, female officials running for office, justice for transgender youth who have been murdered, DACA, and dozens of signs calling out the president.

Keith J., a 14-year-old boy, said, "The people who can't defend themselves need help to defend their rights."

Mirroring his comments, Kaitlyn Hoskins-Orr said, "There is a need to fight for the injustice of others who cannot fight for themselves, and to make a better place for future generations."

During the rally portion of the event, many activists and politicians addressed the people on issues such as policy change and hate crimes.

Jonna Cooley, executive director of the Phoenix Center, said, "Hate crimes are on the rise. Last year, 28 transgender women were killed in this country. It's only January 20th and already four transgendered women have been murdered in this country this year."

After the rally, the group marched down Adams Street to the Old State Capitol where the demonstration ended.

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2017: Year of disappointment?

Last year was an eventful one, but was not all that bad

By Tess Peterson
Lamp Staff

Many people think 2017 may have been one of the worst years ever, full of political disappointments and horrifying natural disasters, but maybe it wasn't.

The past year could also be labeled as the year of the Breakout. The same week Donald Trump was inaugurated as the 45th President, millions of Americans took to the streets starting the "Resistance". Women, men, black, white, gay and straight came together to resist. Political tides began to turn in the off-year elections.

One example of a political breakout was the election of Doug

Jones, a Democrat, who won a Senate seat in Alabama. Jones is the first Democrat state-wide office winner in Alabama in a quarter of a century. Other political breakouts occurred in the Virginia Governor and State Legislature races with an overwhelming Democratic victory sweep. Another unlikely breakout occurred in Minnesota when Ilhan Omar was sworn into the State House of Representatives in January 2017. Omar is the first Somali Muslim woman ever to be elected a State legislator.

Who could forget the powerful hurricanes of 2017? One example of a powerful breakout following these natural disasters is Carmen Yulin Cruz, the female Mayor of

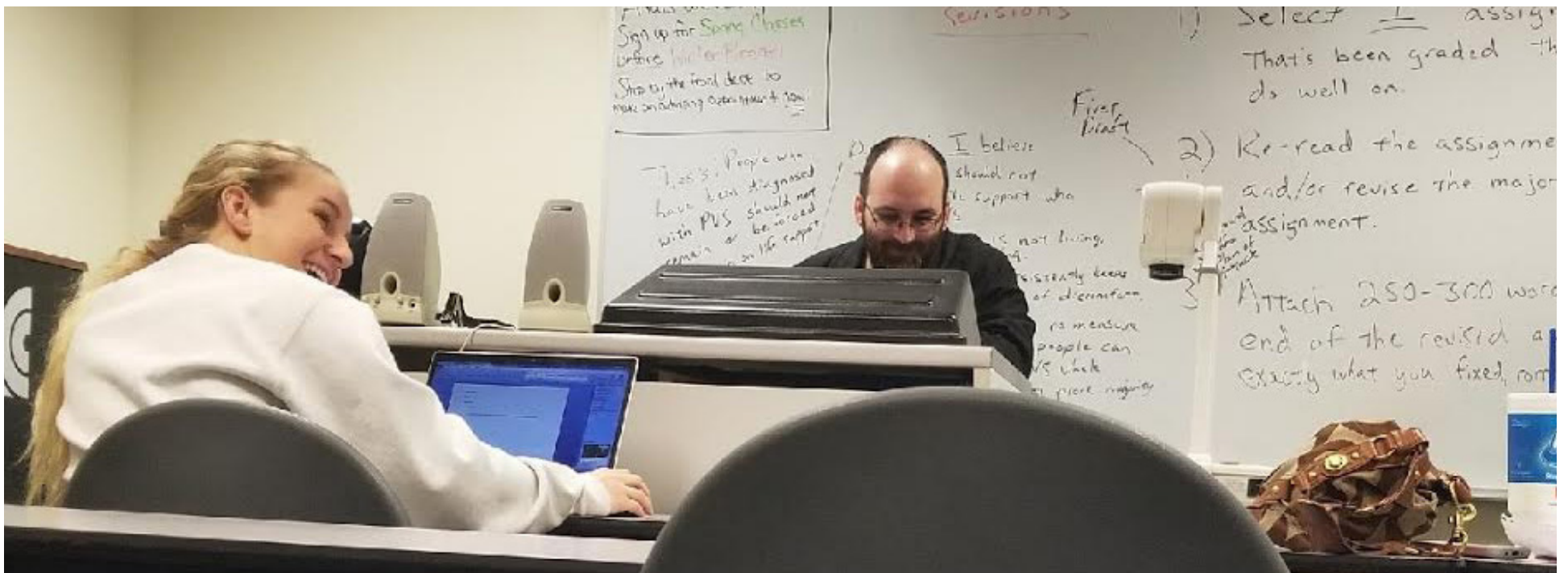
San Juan Puerto Rico, who against demonstrated passionate leadership and empathy for her people forcing the US federal government and the world to come to the aid of her city and Puerto Rico. A long rebuilding process is underway, now, because of her courage.

Possibly the most emotional and enduring 2017 breakout is the "Me Too" movement which has empowered women to finally confront powerful men in business, politics, and entertainment. This grassroots movement has created a cultural moment for our country. Who would have thought that Oprah would be a potential candidate for President in 2020!

All these small, large and major

victories gave us hope that someday we might care more about the people we are around than the latest Facebook post. We might take time to go out and peacefully protest instead of going to our favorite brunch spot. We might take a class in political science or American government to learn more about our judicial system and the balance of power. Also, we might truly learn to respect each other no matter the color of our skin, our sexuality, religion, the people we hang out with or our family backgrounds. Then maybe we can finally be the united nation that the Statue of Liberty stands for.

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Photos by Noah Miers/The Lamp

Professor Ben Cox talks to students in one of his English classes. Cox was greatly impacted by testicular cancer as an undergraduate.

Professor discusses cancer diagnosis

Ben Cox's treatment played major role in undergrad experience, life

By Noah Miers
Lamp staff

"I don't see myself as a survivor," former cancer patient Benjamin Cox said.

The English professor at Lincoln Land Community College in Jacksonville and Beardstown survived testicular cancer while an undergraduate student. He went on to work as a journalist for 10 years, and despite worries that cancer would keep him from having children, he is a father of two with a third on the way.

Cox first found out he had cancer during a weekend break in October.

Cox's family has a history of cancer, his first cousin is unable to have children after having stage 3 testicular cancer. For that reason, Cox had regular self-checks and found a lump. He went to the family doctor who diagnosed him with stage 1 testicular cancer.

"I was taking the most radiation a person can take" Cox said.

Cox said he lost all of his hair from the chest down due to the radiation. Due to the lack of ability to eat during treatments, Cox lost 30 pounds

in a month.

While he was undergoing treatments, Cox was taking a full class schedule at the U of I, although he did gain a handicap excuse allowing for guided individual studies.

Cox was given aggressive radiation treatments as a preventable measure in the lymph nodes. He was given 30 treatments because they wanted to try to preserve his ability to have children later on in life.

He did have his sperm frozen as a precaution, but today, he has a 2-year-old and a 3-year-old, with one more on the way.

Cox said it was a lonely time. The one person he did enjoy talking to was the nurse, with whom he made friends, exchanging numbers and conversing via text and email.

Cox said he ended up going through the treatments alone because he pushed his mom away from him during this time. He said he thought he needed to go through this by himself. Before he was diagnosed, he had a very close relationship with his mother, but when he told her that he wanted to go through this alone, it hurt their

relationship for a time.

Cox said he did also have a few close friends at the time, but they kept their distance "because they didn't know how to treat him," he said.

Before the cancer, he was also religious, but he lost respect for a lot of people that went to his church during that time because they abandoned him when he needed their help.

"I actually gained more respect for people outside of my religion as my doctor was a Hindu and used to say to me during treatments 'You have a good Chakra on you,'" he said.

Before he was diagnosed with testicular cancer, he had also been diagnosed with clinical depression during his high school years. Throughout the middle portion of the treatments, he started drinking and couldn't stop for a time. He also stopped going into class and started procrastinating after skipping said classes and went from the Dean's list to Academic probation.

"I didn't have the balance and it took a full calendar year for me to get it back to where it should've

been," Cox said.

Thomas Beck, a clinical supervisor with a master's in counseling, said people who are diagnosed with serious diseases tend to fall into bad habits like drinking heavily or doing drugs. Beck also said that regret is the main motivator for people who get addicted to drugs after a traumatic event like surviving cancer. The regret can come from many things, but the most common reason why they feel regretful about surviving an event like this is because they feel like they didn't deserve to, that there are better people in the same situation that should've survived instead.

Cox believes he was able to survive because he caught the cancer early. He was given a 98 percent chance of surviving. He said while in the waiting room for treatment, he encountered little kids playing with toys who were pretty much doomed.

People tell him to go ahead and talk to others about what it feels to survive cancer, he refuses to because "I wasn't changed permanently like those that barely survive." Cox said he never lost an organ or went bald



and believes that those people that go through that are the real survivors.

"It made me more empathetic and appreciative of life and personal strength knowing I could get through any obstacle," Cox said.

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Pearson

Continued from page 1

achieve success through the classroom and his online teaching methods

Dockter added, "My goal is always to help students learn the content and position themselves to succeed throughout their future. This award helped me recognize that I have developed successful ways of achieving that goal."

The winner in 2017, Beth Hoffman expressed her gratitude for what the award brings to teachers here at LLCC.

"It's very nice to be recognized for doing job you love. We should reward and commend teachers who inspire their students in the classroom" said Hoffman, who teaches speech.

Hoffman added, "It's an award I'm happy to be a part of. It has a long rich history here at Lincoln

Land, and I hope it continues for many years to come."

This award not only gives recognition to teachers but also rewards them in money that is put towards their specific program here at the school. Agriculture Professor Bill Harmon explained how his win in 2014 helped his program.

"The funds provided by the Pearsons helped us obtain some equipment for the agriculture program that we would otherwise not have been able to purchase," he said.

Harmon added: "I have received a number of recognitions over my career, but the Pearson award stands out, as every professional would like to be rated a "master" at their craft."

Dr. Claire Gordon, 2007 award winner, used the money she won toward her very first laptop.

Gordon like others, are often nominated many times but after countless nominations she won in 2007.

"I was nominated many times as a finalist before I won," said Gordon. "It's pretty competitive."

Dockter said it is an important award for faculty, saying: "The importance of the award for faculty is twofold: 1) The process that faculty go through as nominees for the award offers the opportunity to do a lot of self-reflection about teaching and learning. That has always helped me to consider what areas of my teaching are effective and how I can continue to improve at what I do. 2). The award itself is confirmation that others appreciate and recognize the dedication and hard work that the nominated teachers put into their teaching."

Any students or faculty who are interested in nominating a staff member must do it online through Blackboard, with the deadline being Wednesday, Feb. 7.

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LLCC Theatre to hold auditions

To all the would-be swashbucklers and make-believe adventurers Mark Hardiman has a play for you. On Feb 4 and 5 Lincoln Land Community College, in collaboration with Cutlass Artists, will be holding auditions for "Revenge: Treasure Island" a new script written and directed by Mark Hardiman, professor of theatre that will be a sequel to the well-loved "Treasure Island"

Auditions will be from 7-9 p.m. in Sangamon South Room 0015 on the LLCC Springfield campus. The outdoor production will run May 11, 12, 13, 19 and 20

Feb. 3 event gives discount to LLCC students

SPRINGFIELD — Lincoln Land students looking to prepare for interviews can get a discount on professional clothing at J.C. Penney Co. Inc. on Saturday, Feb. 3.

LLCC Counselling and Career Services is partnering with the store to give a 40 percent discount on professional clothing from 8 a.m. to noon on that day. The discount applies to including shoes and accessories.

at 8 p.m. in the Helen Hamilton area near the campus lake.

The plot takes place some years after Jim and crew return to England. The play has leading roles for both men and woman.

"Just as the original that I adapted two years ago was a young man's coming of age story, "Revenge: Treasure Island" aims to be a coming of age tale for the present. It empowers women and reveals that collaboration and cooperation between sexes wins the day," says Hardiman.

Student IDs are required.

The discount also applies to items already on sale

On top of the discount, Sephora will be doing free mini-makeovers, consultations and hair touch-ups.

Prizes and giveaways will also be awarded while students prepare for whatever the professional world has to throw at them.

Who will win?

New England Patriots take on Philadelphia Eagles in Superbowl

Jack Pugh
Lamp staff

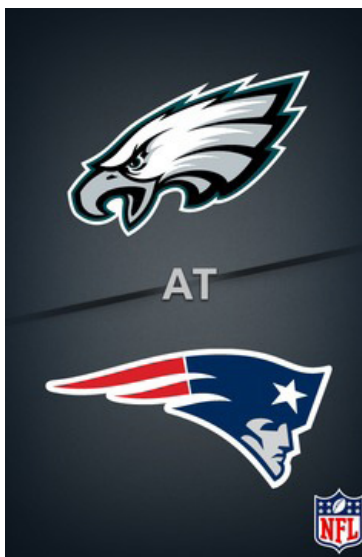
With the NFL's Championship games behind us this season, the road to Super Bowl is drawing to a close. With the New England Patriots beating the Jacksonville Jaguars, 24-20; they will now face the Philadelphia Eagles after their win against the Minnesota Vikings, 38-7.

The Patriots in the Belichick/Brady/Kraft era of their franchise, will be competing for their 6th Super Bowl win in this historic era of football. The Eagles have had a history of good records, but are perceived to be the underdogs in this match up.

It seems to be the "David vs. Goliath" scenario. One thing is for sure. Both teams are here for a reason, they have both worked hard to get to this point. It should be an interesting game, no matter the victor.

No matter what team is being rooted for, nothing screams "America" like a patriotic football game between the Eagles and the Patriots playing in the Super Bowl. With the Patriots from the New England area, and the Eagles from the Philly area, this is a very interesting and a fun match up with these two franchises going head to head.

Invite your friends, reserve the La-Z-Boy, get some chicken with chips and dip, and enjoy this Superbowl LII (52). It should be one to remember.



Tell us what you think?

With this in mind, The Lamp is doing a survey on the final score. Who do you feel will win? What is the final score? And do you have any comments about either team on why which one should win over the other?

Let's start a Facebook discussion on The Lamp's Facebook page. It's [Facebook.com/Lamp.Newspaper](https://www.facebook.com/Lamp.Newspaper).

Jack Pugh can be reached at lamp@llcc.edu

The past. The present. The future.

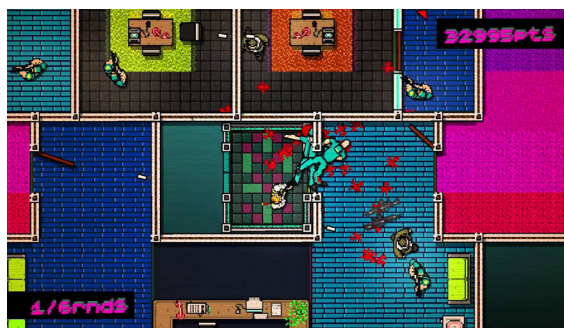
By Niko Robledo
Editor of Photography

There are some great games out right now. Great games also came out a while ago. Great games also are coming in the future. I have three games here. I picked an older game, a recent game, and a game yet to come out. Collectively harnessing the powers of the past, present and future. Behold, as I share some of the games I think are pretty cool.

The Past: Hotline Miami

Metacritic Score: 85

Hotline Miami brings so much to the table in terms of creativity and challenge. The gameplay and the music compliment each other so beautifully. You're this dude in 1989 who goes around killing Russian mafia members in



different kinds of animal-themed masks. Each mask grants you a different abil-

ity like walk faster or quiet gunshots. These abilities make replaying levels feel

new with each mask.

Dennaton Games made a 16-bit work of art filled to the brim with beautiful colors and dozens of enemies. The soundtrack might even be better than the gameplay. PC Gamer gave it the "Best Music of the Year" award in 2012.

The increasingly groovy soundtrack in combination with quick combat gives Hotline Miami a special place in my heart.



The Present: Human Fall Flat

Metacritic Score:70

Human fall Flat has quickly become one of my favorite games as of winter break. So basically, this guy keeps falling in his dreams and his dreams are full of puzzles.

Your character controls like a drunk stuffed animal, using the camera to move your arms up and down. Multiplayer wise, it has eight-person co-op on PC and 2-person split screen on consoles. Playing with people makes it even better because the level design is wildly open-ended. This pushes people to find their own style of playing and level completion. I haven't felt this satisfied by a puzzle game since portal. It has all the right levels of wholesome, challenging and fun.

The Future: Spider-Man (2018)

Insomniac Games is going for their first licensed title and it looks like it might be the one to redeem me after playing The Amazing Spider-Man 2. You might remember Insomniac from your childhood. They made Spyro the Dragon, Ratchet

and Clank and Resistance: Fall of Man. I love Insomniac, they developed a critical part of my childhood with the Spyro series. This gave me hope when I heard that they're doing a completely independent story with the Spider-Man series. It will focus on both the life of a more mature Spider-Man and Peter Parker. Mr.Negative and Kingpin are going to

be in it, so that will be the classic beating up thugs Spidey gameplay. Insomniac community director James Stevenson says we will be seeing Miles Morales. Which is sweet because he takes up the mantle of Spider-Man after Peter Parker dies in the comics. Insomniac says that it will be out in the first half of 2018, but we have yet to get an official release date.



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