



Paul Watson/The Lamp

Jeff Milner, music lab assistant, demonstrates how to connect a microphone to a computer using a digital-audio interface. The interface converts analog frequencies to digital data, sending it to the computer through an USB cable. Milner helps audio production students with digital audio workstation software in the music lab, Menard Hall 2208.

Students schedule classes

Registration open for next semester

By Kaitlyn Lange
Lamp staff

SPRINGFIELD -- As the semester closes and finals approach, students are left with the task of registering for their classes for Spring 2019. Some students come from hundreds of miles away to attend Lincoln Land, while others only travel a short ways up the road. Regardless of where they come from, every student is responsible for choosing what classes they are going to take to benefit their education.

For nursing students and other students who qualify for priority registration, they can begin the process early to ensure that they are put in the classes that they need. Nursing student Lani Reed said that she tries to register for her classes the opening day so that she can get the times she wants with the professors she wants.

"I'll pick a professor who I hear is organized or on top of things and is good with helping you if you have any questions or concerns," Reed said.

Early registration is important for nursing students since they have very specific classes and prerequisites that they need to take in order to obtain the credits for their degree.

"The CNA class fills up quickly. The nursing program has to have CNA, anatomy, physiology; they're prerequisites to get into a program. Any classes that you need to get into a program fill up quickly," said adviser Melissa Franzen.

Jeff Turner, who is an agriculture business major, tries to choose classes based on what his adviser recommends.

"I talk to my adviser throughout the year and keep up to date with him about what I need to take until I'm done with school. I try to sign up early and get the time

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'Saved by Grace'

LLCC student works on award-winning short film

By Paul Watson
Lamp staff

Jeff Milner, a Lincoln Land student studying music, already has an IMDB page. The 19-year-old hasn't graduated college yet, but his resume is already filled with credentials such as sound recordist, teacher and president.

Last summer, Milner worked as an audio engineer on "Saved by Grace," a short drama film that was released last September.

As an audio engineer for the film, Milner operated the boom mic, recorded audio, and operated the microphones for the actors.

Brandan Haskell, a film student at the University of Missouri and Milner's best friend from high school, directed the film.

Milner said the film won two awards, best short film and best actor from the Calcutta International Cult Film Festival.

Milner said there was a difference between recording for a film on location and recording music in a studio.

"It's so weird," Milner said, "if you're in a studio, time is money, but it's not as fast paced as when you are out shooting for a film. It's bam, bam, bam, one thing right after another, you got to get everything done before the sun sets."

To prepare for his role on set, Haskell sent Milner audio equipment manuals to study prior to filming.

"He sent me the manuals of the equipment I'd be using," Milner said. "Except they were the wrong manuals. When I got to the set, I had 15 minutes to learn how all the equipment worked. It was scary, but fun, as well."

Milner's work on Saved by Grace can be found by searching his name on imdb.com.

Milner is a multi-instrumentalist. His main instrument is the drum set but he also plays vibraphone, xylophone, timpani, acoustic guitar, bass and is learning piano.

Besides playing and studying music, Milner is a music performance major who is also enrolled in

LLCC's audio production certificate program.

Milner is LLCC's music lab assistant this semester, he assists in keeping the Digital Audio Workstation software up to date and aids other audio and music students with working on their projects.

"Jeff is really, really helpful," said Karan Robinson. "Jeff has helped me by simplifying aspects of music theory that I have trouble with. I respect his criticism on my music projects."

Milner is the president of the LLCC's Jazz Club and he plays drums with the jazz band when they perform.

Milner is also a member of LLCC's MP3 Club, which is a newly-formed nonperformance music club.

After graduation, he plans to transfer to Western Illinois University to complete a bachelor's degree in audio production.

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Loggers volleyball has strong finish

Team places 8th in NJCAA nationals

By Jacob Fisher
Lamp staff

Ending the season in 8th place nationally, the Loggers volleyball team started their final month of the season with a hot streak, winning eight consecutive matches.

Their record was broken by Mid-West Atlantic Conference's first place Parkland Cobras at the Oct. 13 tournament. Parkland was one of the tougher opponents the team faced this year, as they didn't win any sets against the conference rival.

The Loggers finished out October with a record of 14-3, the three losses came from Parkland and two Kansas teams (Neosho County and Kansas City Kansas).

The Neosho County and Kansas City Kansas

loss came in the Lincoln Land Fall Classic.

However, the Loggers bounced back after suffering both 3-1 match losses to the Kansas colleges. The team went on to win five matches, qualifying them to the Region XXIV Tournament.

Starting with the final match of the Fall Classic, the Loggers defeated Waubensee in a 3-1 match.

The team would then travel to their conference rival Parkland College for a four match

tournament where the Loggers took the first two matches against Catawba Valley and Illinois Valley in four sets.

The Loggers would then cap off the tournament with back-to-back sweeps, defeating Sauk Valley and Carl Sandburg.

After coming off a hot month in October, the Loggers remained steady going into the NJCAA Division II Nationals.

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

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Midterm elections result in firsts

Historic barriers broken nationwide

By Emma Shafer
Assistant Editor

The 2018 midterm elections saw mixed results; Democrats gained seats in the House, while Republicans gained seats in the Senate. The predicted "blue wave" was not quite as monumental as many expected it to be.

Nevertheless, the midterm election turnout was the highest that it has been in 50 years. According to the United States Election Project, more than 47 percent of eligible voters cast their ballots in the 2018 election while in 2014, that number was only

36.7 percent.

The Democratic party saw favorable midterm election outcomes statewide in Illinois, with J.B. Pritzker elected governor, Kwame Raoul elected attorney general, Jesse White as secretary of state, Michael Frerichs as treasurer and Susana Mendoza as comptroller.

However, the Democratic party was less favored in the greater Springfield area, with Republican Mike Murphy elected as 99th state representative, Rep. Rodney Davis re-elected as 13th district's representative and Rep. Darin LaHood re-elected as 18th district's representative. Republican Steve McClure also won his race for the 50th state senate seat, vacated by Senator Sam McCann.

Democrats also saw wins nation-

wide as they gained at least 39 seats in the house, retaking the majority that they lost in 2012. Democrats took 51.7 percent of the votes cast nationwide, equating to 54.1 million votes, compared to Republicans' 48.7 million votes.

The midterm elections broke many historic barriers: the first Native American women and Muslim women were elected to Congress, and two 29-year-old women were the youngest women sent to the House. Texas also sent its first Latina women to Congress. Overall, 100 women won their Congressional races.

Records were not only set in Congress, also at the state level. In Colorado, Jared Polis was elected the first openly gay man to become Governor nationwide. The first female Senators from both Tennes-

see and Arizona were elected. Kristi Noem was elected the first female Governor from South Dakota.

Lincoln Land Community College students Alec Poehls and Olivia Whitney were both pleased with the outcomes of the election.

Whitney said that she was happy that the Democratic party won the House, and that there was so much representation of different cultures and sexualities in congress.

Poehls said that the elections went fairly well in his opinion, and he was pleased to see the Democrats taking back ground in Congress. He interpreted that as a good sign for the future.

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Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down from 2018 election process

By the Editorial Board

Thumbs up: To those who chose to spend Nov. 6 volunteering at the polls.

Every election requires a team of people to work the polls from 6 a.m. until they close at 8 p.m. This group is an eclectic mix and is hired through the Sangamon County Clerk's office.

We commend people for being there to make sure that people are able to vote quickly and easily every election. They deserve recognition.

Thumbs Down: The recent voter suppression that has been seen in America.

Native Americans in North Dakota made national news recently after it was discovered that they would be unable to vote in an important Senate race. Many Native Americans who live on settlements do not have street addresses, but have P.O. boxes. A technicality in a North Dakota law requires that those who vote have street addresses.

In Kansas, the mostly Latinx town Dodge City are not able to vote locally. Their only polling place was closed.

Georgia saw thousands of people being unregistered to vote after Secretary of State Brian Kemp's office removed their names from the rolls. 70 percent of the names removed were names of black citizens.

Voter suppression is alive and well in America today, and seems to be affecting a majority people of color. We look upon this unfavorably.

Thumbs up: Those in Springfield who worked so hard to help citizens exercise their democratic rights on Nov. 6.

Groups like Faith Coalition for the Common Good registered hundreds of people to vote this election season, and have knocked on more than 1,000 doors reminding people to vote in the upcoming midterm election.

They are not affiliated with a political party and do not endorse specific candidates.

Don Gray, the Sangamon County Clerk, has also extended early voting hours this season. The clerk's office was open Monday through Sunday, and saw record amounts of people early voting this cycle.

Thumbs down: Campaigns who

are running attack ads against their opponents.

Many campaigns in Central Illinois faced stiff competition, and turned to running attack ads against their opponents later in the campaign season, often including outlandish arguments and unverifiable claims.

Rodney Davis, an incumbent who won his re-election in the 13th Congressional district, ran an ad against his opponent Betsy Dirksen Londrigan claiming she had something to do with getting a Lincoln hat at the Presidential Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum that was not able to be tied to President Lincoln.

Governor Rauner ran an ad against Governor-elect J.B. Pritzker depicting a marriage ceremony between Pritzker and Illinois Speaker of the House Michael J Madigan. It featured profanity and a message that was unclear.

These attack ads do nothing constructive for the candidates who run them; they simply stir up anger and hate in their bases.

This editorial was written by Emma Shafer as a collective opinion of Tyler Buske, Avery Cook, Meredith Howard and Shafer.

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slots I want with the teachers I want. My adviser knows me pretty well and how I learn so he suggests teachers to me that he thinks I would do well with," Turner said.

Franzen says that since every student is an individual, there isn't a set system that most students follow when choosing classes. Some come prepared with the classes, times and professors that they want, while others let the advisers help them build their schedule from scratch.

Advisers have also started helping students create an educational plan, which gives students an idea what their career at Lincoln Land will look like. Whether it be a two-year or four-year plan, advisers are prepared to help students map out their future on campus.

With registration now open, students are encouraged to begin registering for their Spring semester as soon as possible. This can be done by visiting the Advising and Counseling office located on the first floor of Menard Hall, or by calling 217-786-2292 during their business hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.

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Military students face unique challenges

By Kierra Harris
Lamp staff

The military is a good job opportunity and an easy way to pay for college. However, soldiers that return from either training or deployment often struggle with their new perspective.

Sgt. Ian Withrow, a public affairs specialist of the 139th Mobile Public Affairs Department (MPAD), has been in the Army national guard for nine years. He first enlisted as a cook, and reclassified in 2013 to public affairs. Withrow states that returning home from training wasn't bad and he didn't have a hard time being a civilian again.

"You go and have this experience that not many other people are gonna have," Withrow said. "You see your friends who are still doing the same old thing, and you've been broken and built back up, and you feel different, and your friends don't expect you to be a different

person. You come back, and you have different priorities."

Withrow has gone through a total of 35 weeks of training time. He spent 19 weeks at basic combat training, and his first AIT, Advanced Individual Training. He then did four months of public affairs training at the Defense Information School. In 2015 he spent 10 months in the Guantanamo Bay.

Once a person leaves for basic training, the goal of the drill sergeants is to break down the trainee so that the trainee can be rebuilt into a soldier. The process of breaking down the new soldier is the beginning of a new life, a new way of thinking and a new family.

Sgt. Charlie Helmholt has served beside Withrow since 2013 in the 139th MPAD. He started in the active-duty infantry. He first left for basic in 1999, and his training took six months in total. He transferred to the Illinois National

Guard, with public affairs in 2010. He was on the Gitmo deployment as well, but throughout his time when he left, he said that he didn't have a hard time fitting back in with the civilians and was just happy to be home.

"I got back in May 2010 from Iraq," Spc. Dan Lograsso, public affairs broadcaster with the 139th MPAD. "It was fairly difficult when I got back. I had no interest in school. I took classes to stay busy and have something to do and lived off of my deployment money."

While Withrow was deployed, he got a traumatic brain injury that affected his memory, personality and parts of his marriage.

"His memory and confidence and a bit of personality took a hit with his brain injury," said Tish Withrow, Withrow's wife of 10 years.

Tish Withrow said that after deployment that absence makes the heart

grow fonder, but that the brain injury makes things a little rough sometimes because it's hard not having the full Ian Withrow.

The army offers counseling for soldiers and their families.

"The Army is better at pushing counseling," said Helmholt. "But they could be better. I know guys who have seen some things, the same things I've seen. But they're messed up because they didn't talk to anybody but I did."

Connor Fagan enlisted in the Army in 2016, and left in May 2017 for Fort Benning to train to be an infantryman. He returned to Petersburg in Sept. 2017.

"For awhile, I didn't like it how people praised me for passing," said Fagan. "It was just basic. I'm still the same Connor from when I left, I just wear camo now."

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Anderson joins LLCC staff

Professor looks to grow art program

By Regina Ivy
Lamp staff

One of Lincoln Land's new hires is Laura Anderson, an assistant art professor.

Anderson is from Lansing, Illinois. However, she is no stranger to life outside of small suburbs. After college, she lived in Chicago, Kansas and even the sunny state of California before finding her place at LLCC.

Her educational background includes Eastern Illinois University, where she studied Fine Arts and developed her talents in painting, sculpting, drawing, ceramics and design. Anderson spent 20 years in careers that required these skills before teaching at Lincoln Land.

Since she is originally from the Midwest, Anderson found accepting a job here felt familiar and comfortable. Since Lincoln Land is one of the largest schools in the area, Anderson knew it would be a great place to be a part of a growing and expanding a community of art students. Anderson said she is eager to help this specific community develop more as students and as a department as a professor at Lincoln Land Community College.

Anderson now lives in Springfield. She lives with her dog, Lupe, and her two cats, Smokey and Finn. When Anderson has down



Avery Cook/The Lamp

Laura Anderson, a new member of the art faculty at Lincoln Land, poses in her office. Anderson hopes to grow the art community at LLCC.

time she enjoys nature scenes and hiking trails.

Anderson's students will learn that

she is very passionate about art and excited to be sharing her knowledge on the topic with students. She's

looking forward to growing the design and art program at Lincoln Land and expanding on what's already

being offered.

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Bird banding gives valued insight

By Karl Densmore
Lamp staff

Lincoln Land Community College students and community members are trapping and banding the birds migrating through Central Illinois.

The Lincoln Land Association of Bird Banders is conducting a scientific study of birds, using the LLCC Bird Banding Station, located north of the batting cages. The station is run by Biology Professor Tony Rothering and the banding association's president, Vernon Kleen.

"We're trying to see what kinds of birds are here. We're looking for changes in sex, age and demographics," Rothering said.

Bird banding works by retrieving the captured birds from the nets and attaching small metal bands with nine-digit numbers to the legs of the birds before releasing them back into the wild.

Kleen has been banding birds for about 50 years.

"The birds remain calm in the nets," Kleen said. "And it only takes 10 to 15 minutes to band each bird. People often ask if it hurts the birds, but they can't even feel it. It's like jewelry."

The banding association operates under permits issued by the U.S. Geological Survey to Rothering and Kleen. They have around 25 to 30 mist nets in operation. The nets stretch 12 meters in length with a height of 2.13 meters and are designed to catch the birds without causing them harm.

"Birds are considered to be indicator species," Rothering said. "We can learn a lot about their migratory



Tyler Buske/The Lamp

A small bird is seen at the Lincoln Land Community College campus on Wednesday, Nov. 28.

patterns, and from that we can learn about a lot of other things as well, such as climate change."

The banding association has been operating at Lincoln Land in 2012 and has had the bird banding station since 2013.

"We're really grateful for the

college for providing us with the resources we need. For example, the workforce program built us the bird banding station," Rothering said.

They recruit volunteers for help, such as Chad Cremer, who demonstrated the process of banding a bird and releasing it back into the wild.

"Here's a really cool one," Cremer said, as he then showed how to handle the bird properly and how to release it into the wild.

"We have a Facebook. We also have a film available online called Hope is a Thing with Feathers," Rothering said.

Pamphlets are available at the bird banding station. People interested in taking part or donating to the Lincoln Land Association of Bird Banders can contact Kleen at vkleen@comcast.net.

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Solar energy leader

Workforce program prepares students for new careers

By Teresa Brummett
Lamp staff

The Lincoln Land Community College Workforce Careers Center assists students in achieving their goals.

After taking a program that is provided at the Workforce, students will have the training they need to give them better knowledge of the specific course. They also have a much better chance of getting a job working in that field.

Julie Rourke, the director of workforce management, knows exactly what students need to do to accomplish their goals. Rourke has been with Lincoln Land Community College for 21 years and has been with working with the Workforce for 10 of those years.

Rourke thinks that newer building has really helped boost the program.

Those interested in working as an electrician can learn how to wire a new or used home and how to do basic maintenance on updating wiring.

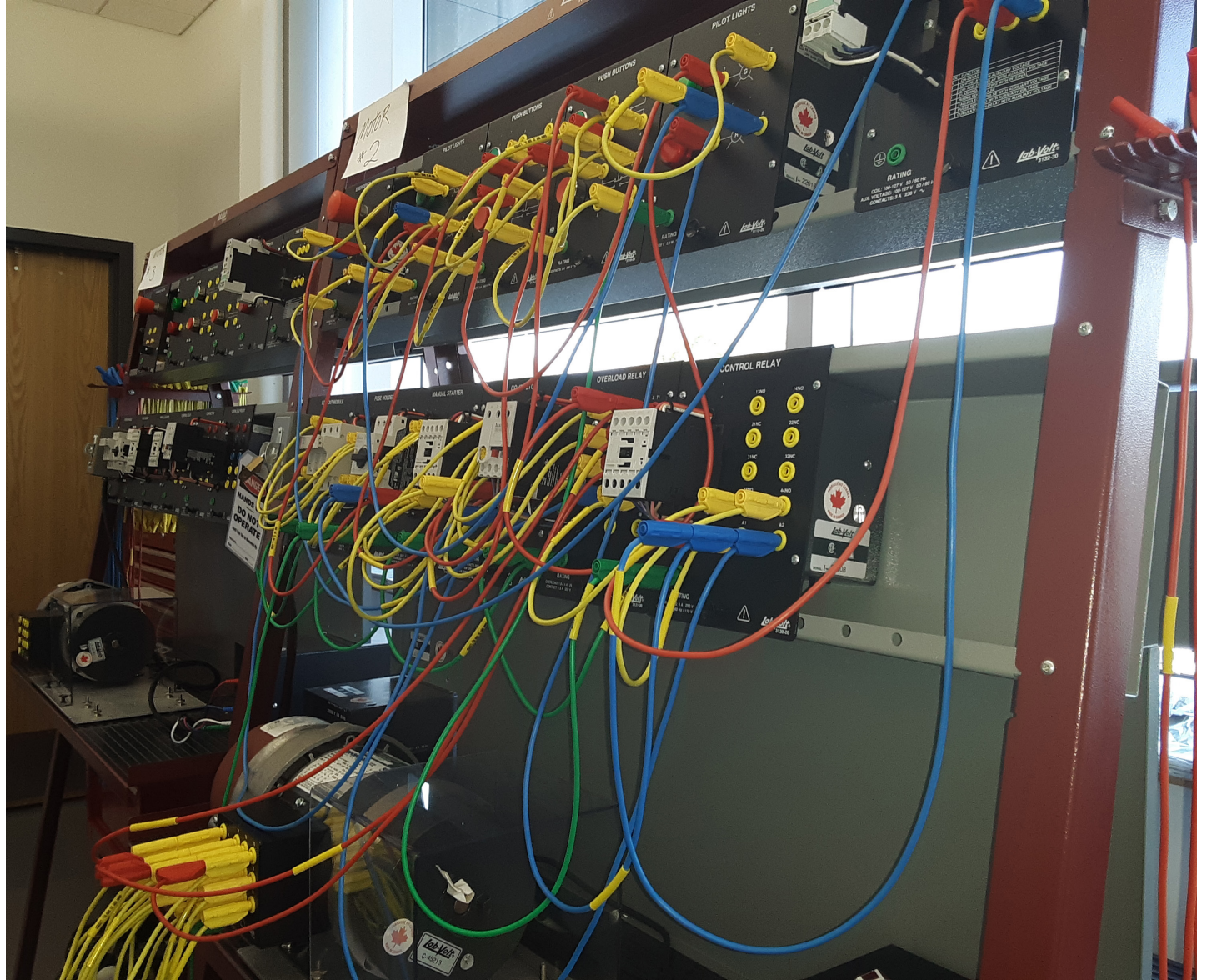
The Future Energy Job Act, FEJA, has chosen Lincoln Land as one of only six schools in Illinois to provide a solar energy program. This course allows not only LLCC students but high school students to use Lincoln Land facilities while learning about solar energy. An introduction class teaches the basics; how to increase solar power while using renewable energy. There's also a part of the program where one can learn more about community solar energy.

Rourke said that there are only 46 spots per semester for students to enroll in the Future Energy Job Act classes.

A construction program is also offered at the career center. There's a program that offers construction work, building houses or working with iron framework.

Training at the workforce center can be used all over the world and is not specific to Illinois.

Several types of classrooms at the workforce building allow for various types of training, such as testing wires for voltage and trying out an industrial robotic welder.



Various equipment is shown throughout the Workforce Center.

Photos by Teresa Brummett/The Lamp

Several labor grants are available through the programs offered at the workforce center.

The Workforce also has a program that goes through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. This program goes

through First-Aid, defibrillators, helmets, goggles, gloves and other safety precautions while on all types of jobs.

A community garden is at the center, as well. For a small fee, students can rent one of the 48 plots of land.

With each technological development, the workforce center at LLCC is growing and accommodating to those changes.

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World War I remembered

Lincoln Land honors veterans

By Madison Mings
Lamp staff

SPRINGFIELD — One hundred years ago, on Nov. 11, World War I ended. Lincoln Land Community College commemorated the war's conclusion with "Have You Forgotten Yet?" show in the James S. Murray Gallery.

The title quote is from the poem "Aftermath" by Siegfried Sassoon, written in 1919.

The photos and artifacts, combined with a Nov. 7 opening, was hosted by Chris McDonald, a Political Science professor at LLCC.

The gallery was filled with artifacts from the Great War including bullets, helmets, coins, victory medals and postcards. Mannequins were set up wearing war uniforms, and paintings from the Great War were displayed.

A projector was set up showing a slide show of over 1,000 photos and digitalized archive images of those that served in the military being remembered with their family and men with whom they served.

The gallery event was a poetry reading put on by English professors David Leitner and Deborah Brothers.

Leitner read poems from the 19th century, including one by Alan Seegar, a British poet who did not survive the war.

Leitner also read a poem by D.H. Lawrence who married a German woman and was accused of being a British spy. Lawrence was kicked out and sent back to Cornwall.

Brothers shared first that her uncle was only 21 years old when he died fighting in France, and his body wasn't brought back.

Brothers read "I Sit and Sew," a poem by British author Alice Dunbar-Nelson.

"I don't talk about World War I as much while teaching women's literature, and it was amazing how many WWI poems there were, about how hard it was for them to survive through it and read about how women were accused of romanticizing the war," Brothers said.

McDonald has been collecting artifacts for nearly 40 years. He said people donate family photos and postcards or they give him things that they find in antique stores.

Some families just don't know what to do with the artifacts, so McDonald sees himself as the guardian of these pieces of history.

McDonald said he hoped the event would offer visitors the chance to learn "information they never knew before and spark interest."

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Photos by Teresa Brummett/The Lamp

Sports after high school

More athletes consider junior colleges

By Noah Branson
Lamp staff

SPRINGFIELD -- Like at any other college, sports are an important activity at Lincoln Land Community College. However, the flocks of talent that are finding their way to junior colleges everywhere is something relatively new in recent years. While junior college sports are not a new thing, the reasons more talented athletes are choosing them are.

According to the National Junior College Athletic Association, the organization that oversees junior college sports, there were 59,196 junior college athletes in 2016-17. This is up from 50,286 junior college athletes 10 years before in 2006-07.

LLCC is part of the trend of attracting more athletes, recruiting from beyond its district.

"Lincoln Land has always been a great program, the facilities are nice and from what I have heard everyone just has nice things to say

about the coaches and the program so I figured I couldn't go wrong if I went here," said Cade Sestak, a sophomore baseball player who is originally from Champaign.

Sestak added: "For someone like me that wants to keep playing baseball after this, I think Lincoln Land definitely prepares you for the next level and I think the coaches do a good job of that specifically."

Another athlete from out of the college's district, Jordan Brooks, a basketball player who is a graduate of St. Joseph-Ogden High School near Champaign, also decided to choose LLCC for this fall. When asked about what LLCC has done for him as a freshman playing JuCo ball he said, "I think it is better competition than going to a D-3 four-year, and I am getting good exposure as a player, in school you're more on your own with things like time management."

With other offers to schools such as Aurora University, Brooks decided that going the JuCo route was best for him.

"Transferring out of JuCo, I can work on my game more and help me develop, plus with JuCo you can play against good players to help

me get better," said Brooks when asked on what playing JuCo will do for him when transferring to a four-year to continue basketball.

While LLCC does a great job at attracting athletes from places outside of Springfield, they also do a great job at local recruiting. With two great local conferences that are the Central State Eight and the Sangamon Conference, it is not too hard to find talented athletes. However, convincing them to stay home for another two years can be a tough challenge.

"It's close to home, and the fact that your local friends and family can come watch you and you have support," said sophomore softball player and basketball player Nicole Robinson.

Robinson, who graduated from Rochester High School in 2017, was a key part to the state runs for both the softball team and women's basketball team her senior year. Robinson decided to stay home and be a dual sport athlete yet again, however, after LLCC she plans to transfer out and has confidence moving forward because of the experience she gained while at LLCC.

"I think I would like to go somewhere farther

away to a bigger university because I do have the JuCo exposure, so I find that I'm more prepared to go there and not be overwhelmed," Robinson said.

With multiple schools in the area producing talented athletes, LLCC has attracted multiple local area athletes this year.

When asked what made him decide to go to LLCC, Jake Pennell, a sophomore basketball player, said, "Location, and I knew I was going to have the opportunity to play right away."

"I can get all the gen ed classes out of the way and it helps get me ready for what to do in college. I know I won't be overwhelmed when I decide to go somewhere else, I will be prepared to do well at a four-year university," Pennell.

JuCo sports are growing and only time will tell if the growth is a passing trend or whether it is something that will become increasingly common. Either way, LLCC is setting up students and athletes for continued success.

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Softball look to build off rough fall season

By Noah Branson
Lamp staff

LLCC has a history of successful softball teams and last spring was no exception. With a national tournament appearance a year ago, the Loggers are looking to build off a rough fall season this coming spring.

Finishing off the fall with a disappointing record of 5-12, the Loggers will look to try and make some noise with a large group of freshmen and a small yet experienced sophomore group.

"Something we have this year is speed which can really change the game and put more pressure on teams," said sophomore Nicole Robinson when asked about strengths the team has this season.

While speed is a great asset to have in any sport, it will still be difficult for the Loggers as their talented but young group of freshmen try and get acclimated to college softball as quickly as possible.

"There are a lot of new players that most of us haven't played with, we have to learn to play with chemistry and together as we will figure out how to play off of each other and come together as a team," said Robinson when asked about the lack of experience the freshmen have.

A disappointing fall season can be frustrating and sometimes take confidence away from teams going into the winter and into the main spring season. It can be especially difficult for younger groups who have yet to experience the high level of difficulty, but the Loggers aren't letting the adversity knock them down.

"Even after struggling there were some bright spots like being able to improve each game and fight even after we were down some games," said Robinson.

"We have to build on stringing hits together and figuring out what type of team we are going to be, because last year we went to nationals with a completely dif-

ferent group than this year."

In addition to a strong group of sophomores who have a national tournament appearance under their belts, the Loggers will look to a talented group of freshmen to help carry some of the load this spring.

"We had our ups and downs, but based on everyone's talent and work ethic we should have a successful spring season as long as everyone works hard," said freshman infielder Abigail Walters.

"I think we need to stay positive and not get down on ourselves. Once we did things kind of went downhill from there, so I think positivity is the main thing," Walters said.

Whether it be solo work or what they call "PIP" (Personal Improvement) days, the Loggers are ready to hit the offseason full speed and really make some big leaps into the spring.

PIP days break down the players individually with the coaches so they can work specifically on what they need to improve on. Some may have baserunning while others hitting, fielding, etc. The main goal is help each player improve individually so they can be more successful as a team.

Rough falls can sometimes provide the exact motivation needed to have amazing spring seasons. The Loggers' confidence will endure as they try and make yet another national tournament appearance.

"I think we are capable of competing and winning many games this year. We have a lot of good players...even though there are more freshmen on the team than sophomores, we have a lot of experience," Robinson said.

The Loggers will need to overcome the freshmen's lack of experience to try and make another national tournament appearance this spring.

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Volleyball

Continued from Page 1

The team went on to sweep Rend Lake and Illinois Central. They made it into the sixth seed of the tournament, but their only win came by Lake Sumter.

The team would lose to Johnson County (30-28, 23-25, 25-22, 25-17), pushing the Loggers out of the Elite Eight.

The next two matches also weren't in the Logger's favor. Grand Rapids defeated them (23-25, 25-14, 25-12, 25-16).

The Loggers still couldn't find their momentum, ending their Nationals' run with a loss at the hands of 9-seed Northeast Nebraska (21-25, 25-15, 25-17, 25-20).

The Loggers went on to place 8th in the NJCAA Nationals.

Kiley Brunstein was named to the all nationals tourna-

ment team. Brunstein finished the four all nationals matches with a total of 60 kills.

Lincoln Land's Bobana Marusic ended in the MWAC Top 5 leaders for digs at 521.

Within the Top 20 were Molly Tauke (342), Lainey Jackson (344), Taylor Thomas (281) and Jakya Pealer (187) and Brunstein (166).

Brunstein also finished the season in the conferences' top 3 for kills at 452.

Lincoln Land had two more players in the Top 10 for kills, Molly Tauke (386) and Erika Miller (281).

While setting a new Lincoln Land single-match assist record on Oct. 19 against Grand Rapids, Lainey Jackson placed in the top 2 in assists with 1,531.

Pealer made the Top 10 with 80 assists.

Miller (33) and Marusic (32) made the Top 20.

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Soccer season improves this year

By Dylan Suprenant
Lamp staff

Coach Peter Christofilakos said this was a good year for the Loggers soccer team.

The Loggers went 6-12 this season, which was a large improvement compared to last year when they won zero games.

"The character, the discipline, guys going out there and competing, it was fun to go out there and compete with a great group of guys," Christofilakos said. "When you look at our results against ranked teams, you could see the effort. We played hard, solid, close games with against them."

The coach said there were lots of games that they could have won, but he also said that they have im-

proved and continue to improve as a team.

"These guys have great character, and they work harder than any other group of guys I've been around," Christofilakos said. "These guys built great chemistry with each other in order to be successful. I'm proud of how far these guys have come from last year."

But for these guys, the work doesn't stop just because the season ended.

"Coach made a big emphasis on being a student-athlete," said sophomore player Dimitrije Antonijevic. "He wants to exonerate that same energy we have on the practice field in the classroom."

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YouTube vs. Twitch

Streaming services both have pros and cons

By Scott Adams
Lamp staff

Ever since the rise of companies like Atari, video games have played an increasing role in modern society. More people play video games now than ever before, and this industry is no different from others in that it has been fueled by competition.

Today, the competition is between YouTube and Twitch.

YouTube is better known and is a way to view edited videos which vary in length, and video game channels are often the most viewed and subscribed channels.

Twitch, on the other hand, was specifically designed for video game play. Viewers can view livestreaming players.

For many students, YouTube is the preferred service because the content can be edited.

With the rise of popular gamers who stream on Twitch, Twitch is starting to compete with YouTube. There are also esports teams creating significant interest in Twitch.

YouTube has had a difficult time encouraging new content due to changes in its monetization policy. Content creators on this service make most of their money from advertisements that play before and during their video. Until recently, advertisers did not pay very much attention to the videos that their ads were featured in. However, some advertisers soon objected to the content and wanted videos to meet a higher standard.

In theory it was a fair complaint, but in execution some have found error.

“The YouTube monetization changes needed to be put in place, but it was executed poorly in the fact that it hurt a majority of YouTube’s top creators,” said Columbia College student Riley Hulligan.

LLCC student Kenzie Gilmore considers the system to be “broken, it is mostly done by bots (algorithm), not real people.”

The algorithm, the randomized assortment of what you see on the site, does play a part in being monetized, a job that some believe should

be done by people.

Additionally, YouTube’s new policies have led to changes in the content. Because younger children have been a primary audience on YouTube, advertising dollars have been spent there.

“It is annoying because YouTube is meant for teens,” said Collette Wilcox, a current student at LLCC. “But kids don’t listen and watch content that may not be suited for them.”

For many gamers, that is particularly annoying because YouTube has a kid version of the service, and there is no longer a version aimed for gamers in their teens and adults.

On the other hand, Twitch streamers gain money from donations or paid subscriptions, so monetization issues are not often associated with them.

The issue most people who watch Twitch have is that the streamers often focus on one or two games and do not branch out. The game most associated with these complaints is Fortnite.

“A certain type of game (battle royales) are

more popular than others, so developers are focusing more on that game,” said Ryan Kipping, a student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

A few years ago, the popular game genres for streaming were zombies, rock band and motion-control genres.

“Developers are not as willing to invest enough effort into new ideas,” said Ethan Klein, a student at LLCC,

A new idea could work, but effort and good marketing must be put in.

Whatever viewers prefer, it should be known that each have their pros and cons. Viewers should also respect the amount of effort going into them even if they may not play games often. Twitch requires a streamer has at least a personality or incentive to keep the audience. YouTube requires editing and uploading that could take hours or days. Both services appear to be rising in modern use and look to be sustainable for the future.

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Trust

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The term 'fake news' is detrimental to democracy

Lincoln Land students give opinion on state of media

By Meredith Howard
Editor-in-Chief

In February 2017, President Trump tweeted "The FAKE NEWS media (failing @nytimes, @NBCnews, @ABC, @CBS, @CNN) is not my enemy, it is the enemy of the American people!"

What exactly is 'fake news', and is the media our enemy?

The Lamp interviewed 11 Lincoln Land students to hear their views on the news, and 10 of them said they were familiar with the term 'fake news'.

Joe Streder, who said he "never" reads the news, defines fake news as "CNN, mostly".

When The Lamp asked Streder his opinion on Trump's tweet, he said: "I think it's the enemy of all people. Because constantly, people are taking things and throwing it into something that it's not."

Streder rated his trust in the media as a one out of 10, 10 being the most.

Shaye Virgin, another student, defined fake news as "something that can't be verified. Something that doesn't have evidence to back it up. Anything that's on the news that is said once, it doesn't come up again."

Virgin said she watches NBC once a week, and believes that NBC is one of the most credible news sources available.

Claire Farnsworth rated her trust in the media as "a 7 or 6", and she disagreed with Trump's tweet.

"I think it's bogus, I completely disagree with him," Farnsworth said.

"I think that there's a lot of reputable news sources out there and just because they criticize him, or his beliefs or his followers doesn't mean that they're fake news, it just means that they don't agree with him," she said. "There's a lot of other problems that could actually be considered fake news that he just refuses to acknowledge because either they support him or they're not talking about him at all so he doesn't care."

Farnsworth said she gets news daily, from a combination of social media and CNN.

Many American journalists have felt the effects of the president's strong comments about the media, reporting verbal attacks while on assignment. Many also believe Trump's comments encourage those with extreme views about the media.

Five journalists were killed in an attack on the Capital Gazette in 2018. The gunman had a longtime dispute with the local Annapolis paper because one of their reporters once referred to a crime that he had been charged

with.

According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, nine journalists have been killed in the U.S. since the year 2000. This list does not include Rebecca Smith, an advertising sales assistant who was killed in the Annapolis attack.

Out of these nine, six had "murder" listed as their type of death, and the other three had "dangerous assignment."

Mexico was listed as the most dangerous country for journalists in 2017 by the International Press Institute, with at least 14 killed.

Attitudes are changing in the U.S. toward journalists, with 94 percent of Republicans and 42 percent of Democrats reporting that their level of trust in the media has declined over the past decade according to the Knight Foundation.

Jacob Cornett, Lincoln Land student, said that he found Trump's statement extreme, and he disagreed with it.

Cornett then called The New York Times "a pretty sh*tty news outlet" and said that "propaganda is everything" with it.

The Times is one of the news outlets that Trump blasts the most often, and he refers to it as "the failing times".

Glenn Kramon, a former assistant managing editor of the

Times, defines fake news as "falsehoods and rumors spread to advance someone's interests or harm the interests of others".

"What troubles me is that fake news leads to confusion about what is true. For example, nearly half of almost 6,000 American college students surveyed said they lacked confidence in distinguishing between real news and fake news on social media, according to a new study by the Knight Foundation. And more than a third said the threat of misinformation made them trust ALL media less," Kramon said.

Other students disagree with Trump's assertion that the Times and other outlets are "failing".

Kayla Houston, who said she reads the news daily, defines fake news as "something that promotes slander."

Houston favors ABC and believes it is important to have some trust in the media.

"Cause to a degree, we do get news, and it's true, for most of the time," Houston said.

Free speech democracies rely heavily on journalists and media outlets to form their opinions about politics and current events, and U.S. citizens have a responsibility to do their part to defend the media.

There are a few simple rules people can follow to combat

"fake news."

■ Always check your sources before spreading stories.

■ It isn't a good idea to rely on your friends or family to keep you up with the news. They may likely mean well, but most people misread or misinterpret the news at some point, and it is best to read for yourself.

■ Steer clear of media outlets, especially TV news stations, that are known to lean one way politically.

■ Form your own opinions, and don't let your peers tell you what to think.

■ Don't use social media as a main news source.

Instagram, Facebook and Twitter posts are all accessible to everyone with few content restrictions. These models have their pluses, but they were not created to replace newspapers.

Anyone can post a paragraph about Donald Trump on Facebook, but you have to be qualified to write about him in The New York Times.

Social media is great for keeping in touch with friends, and even sharing political opinions, but leave the news to the professional reporters.

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