

Chem Lab Receives Big Donations

Camille V. Bowman Staff Writer

Advanced technology in science is taking RLC students to the twenty-first century. Walking through the chemistry lab this semester will never be the same. Through the generous donations of several colleges in Illinois, RLC has been able to have some of the most advanced pieces of scientific equipment to date. This year RLC has been given a great gift and it is sure to be of utmost importance to students in all areas of science.

John Fisher, president of the Illinois Chemistry Teachers Association and RLC chemistry teacher, by working closely with different colleges has been able to put the RLC Science Dept. on the cutting edge. With the arrival of this new equipment there will be an extensive reconstruction to the science lab areas. This change will include RLC. Mt. Vernon Township High-School and other teachers and students in the area. This sophisticated equipment is worth well over \$500,000.

This is truly an asset to RLC. Very generous donations have been made now and through the years from SIU Carbondale by Chemistry Dept. Chairman Micheal Kerrs. Also from University of Illinois, donations have flowed freely. Millikin University's Clarence Josephson provided a beautiful donation of high-tech equipment. Also, the Illinois Board of Higher Education has, over the years, continued its support to the RLC science lab.

"Normally a person would have to visit a crime lab, or SIU-C to view this kind of technology," says Fisher.

"This equipment will allow us to decode arson evidence, test material for the presence of drugs, and

unseen contaminates. Without this technology," says Fisher. " students and teachers had access to this kind of equipment only at graduate student levels. Now, RLC students will be able to utilize today's technology in their first two years of college.

"Being exposed to this equipment they may allow them to get a job with places like ARDL, and crime labs," says Fisher "already having hands-on training in these fields of science is a real-benefit to them."

Also teachers from the area will be exposed to science at a personal level, being able to advance their skills as teachers. This program, funded by the Illinois Department of Higher Education, will allow teachers to develop curriculum and formulas they have not been able to in the past, then implementing these programs into high-school classes at an advanced level.

"RLC, so to speak, will be able to get on the map allowing us to offer classes never before offered," says Fisher. "It will allow us to work closely with other departments in science."

These programs will be offered for high school agriculture, science, and chemistry teachers and students all over.

"Not only is this equipment worth well over \$500,000" Fisher said. "this is definitely the most advanced technology we have had to date."

Fisher, is excited about the new and fun things chemistry will now offer. From Herrin, just south of here, Fisher has been a student and teacher of chemistry for almost 40 years. He has been teaching since 1960 when SIU-C opened its doors to him as a graduate student.

Student Ryan Martin spoke of the importance and high tech nature of this equipment.



John Fisher is President of the Illinois Chemistry Teachers Association and Rend Lake College's chemistry instructor. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

"First there is the Gas Chromatograph," Martin said, "which is able to extract the chemical composition of burned materials. Inject the burned material into the machine and it will identify or give a picture of the substance formerly there."

"The Infrared Spectrometer goes by samples you put into the machine," Martin said. "Then it creates a graph that shows what was at the scene of a crime."

Lastly, the Atomic Absorption unit breaks down materials to the billionth particle to find the most insignificant contaminants, poisons, or acids," Martin said.

Through the generous donations of SIU-C, U of I, Millikin University and the Board of Higher Education, RLC will be able to offer high tech science education that most community colleges are unable to offer.

In this edition of RLC Time Meet the Staff	
Student SpotlightPa	ge 3
Graphic Design, STARSPa	ge 4
Campus LifePa	ge 5
EditorialsPa	ge 6
Warrior Athletics	: 7-8



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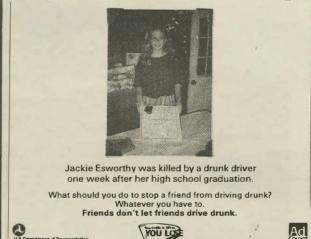
The RLC Times is a student produced publication for the benefit of the student body. Participation in the publication of the RLC Times by anyone readily willing to accept the responsibility, is welcomed.

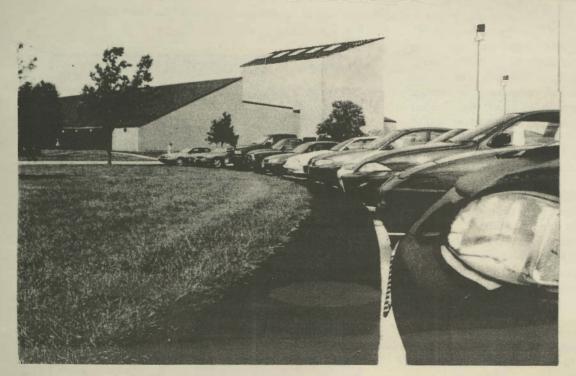
Advertising rates, as well as classified rates are available upon request. All ads, whether classified or non-classified, need to be submitted one week prior to publication and must be pre-paid. Opinions expressed or implied are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the entire staff, student body, faculty, administration, or Board of Trustees.

The RLC Times welcomes comments by the students. All comments need to be addressed to the editor; typed and accompanied by the author's signature one week before publication. The editor reserves all rights to edit material that may be unsuitable for print.



Clinton Jones, from Valier, is a student editor for the RLCTimes..(Photo Credit Sara Cairns)





Parking, still a problem at RLC. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

Meet The Staff

Clinton Jones Student Editor Longtime Sophomore Major: Computer Networking/English Residence: Valier **Favorite Sport:** Hockey (St. Louis Blues) Favorite Movie: Army of Darkness **Favorite Authors:** J.R.R. Tolkien and Robert Jordan Most Vivid Memory: The Challenger explosion. Plans after RLC:

write a book.

Motto to live by:
"Be happy in whatever you decide to do. Do not listen to closed minds. Most of all, treat everyone equally. The barriers that we have constructed between each other, will one day

Go into buisness for myself and one day

To park or not to park?

be our demise."

Jacqui Morris Staff Writer

Here we are in the fifth week of classes and we are still having problems finding a parking spot in the mornings. Usually by now, the situation resolves itself.

But not this year, it actually appears to be worse this year than in the past.

With fall enrollment down, why are we having this problem? Could it be lack of adequate parking, construction blocking spaces, not enough people car pooling, or to many walk ways taking up spaces?

Actually with over 1000 parking spaces available there shouldn't be that much of a problem. As for the construction that is taking place on campus, the workers nor the equipment being used is taking up student parking. There is a few spaces that are or have been occupied by debris, due to the construction. However, that is not enough to be responsible for the shortage of spaces.

As for the walkways, if they

weren't there, then people would complain about the lack of walkways. They are a needed asset to the parking areas. After all there is not an overabundance of walkways. Walking through mud, snow, and pudd'es would not make many people happy. Either way people are going to complain about the walkways.

So it would appear the largest hindrance would be lack of car pooling. Car pooling would not only help with the lack of parking, it would also save everyone money.

It would appear that Monday and Wednesday mornings are the worst for parking. It can take as long as fifteen minutes to find a parking spot. Car pooling would eliminate that problem.

The Administration Department is aware of the parking situation, and they are discussing ways to alleviate the problem.

However, they will not be able to "fix" the problem overnight. It is going to take the cooperation of everyone to get through this trying situation

Getting down to business at Rend Lake College

August 14 (Mondau) -Fall textbooks available for rental/sale

September 1 (Friday) -Last day to drop Fall class(es) with refund

September 15 (Friday) -Last day to obtain supplies &/or books for Fall and still charge to grant accounts

October 16 (Monday) -Registration begins for Spring 2001 classes

October 24 (Tuesday) -Grant & scholarship refund checks issued

November 17 (Friday) -Last day to drop Fall class(es)

December 8 (Friday) -Spring tuition/fees due for those registering early

December 21 (Thursday) -Last day to return Fall rental textbooks

QUESTIONS?

Contact RLC personnel ... (618) 437-5321

Toll-free (in-district) 1-800-369-5321 Franklin County 435-2817 / 435-2918 Textbook Rental/Sales Ext. 320 Ext. 330

Business Office e-mail ~ feira@rlc.cc.il.us

www.rlc.cc.il.us

(Important dates for students to keep in mind) (Important dates for students to keep in mind)

2001

January 2 (Tuesday) -Spring textbooks available for rental/sale

January 19 (Friday) -Last day to drop Spring class(es) with refund

3ebruary 2 (3riday) Last day to obtain supplies &/or books for Spring and still charge to grant accounts

3ebruary 5 (Monday) -Balance of Spring tuition/fees due

March 9 (Friday) -Grant & scholarship refund checks issued

March 16 (Friday) -Fall scholarship application deadline

April 12 (Thursday) -Last day to drop Spring class(es)

May 15 (Tuesday) -Last day to return Spring rental textbooks

May 18 (Friday) -Summer tuition/fees due for those registering early

June 4 (Monday) -Summer textbooks available for rental/sale June 22 (Friday) -

Last day to obtain supplies &/or books for Summer and still charge to grant accounts

July 9 (Monday) -Balance of Summer tuition/fees due

July 27 (Friday) -Fall tuition/fees due for those registering early

August 8 (Wednesday) -Last day to return Summer rental textbooks

Jacqui Morris Staff Writer

Meet Doris Ingles, RLC Times Student Spotlight. At 59 years old, she is the eldest freshman at Rend Lake College.

Ingles has been a coal miner since 1978. She is currently taking six credit hours toward her Business Administration Degree. Ingles has three children and four grandchildren, who are very proud of her decision to return to school. Ingles has been a widow for 10 years, after 24 and a half years of married bliss. She currently resides

After years of hard labor in the coal mine, she decided she needed an easier job with better benefits. After talking with the staff at the Administration Office, JTPA, and other members of the faculty, she decided that Rend Lake College was the best school, that met all of her needs and expectations.

As of press time Ingles has "no complaints" for RLC. In fact all she can do is sing the praises of the staff and students alike. "Everyone is very friendly and helpful," says Ingles.

As the eldest freshman, she offers these words of wisdom. questions, and don't be afraid."



Doris Ingles, a coal miner from Sesser, is Rend Lake College's Oldest Freshman at the age of 59. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)



TAO provides the tunes during Welcome Week

Quote of the Month

"If you believe and retrieve, you can achieve." -- Ryan Dodson

Student Spotlight

Staff Writer

This year students were welcomed to RLC in a good way. Prizes, free stuff, and rock music were provided to make the students feel welcome.

The gifts started flowing at the very beginning. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday the college provided free lunch.

"Lunch was good," students said. "It was pretty cool," they continued, "But I wish there could have been more things to do."

Wednesday, RLC was visited by the radio station 105.1 TAO. "Rolling Thunder," the TAO musical van, provided tunes for a good part of the morning.

There were also prizes that were offered. "They were decent prizes," students said. The prizes offered were a television, T-shirts, a boombox, and a camera. Students lined up to have a chance at winning the various prizes.

Even with all the prizes and music, a few students were not thrilled with Welcome Week.

"Not much of a welcome," said one RLC student, "Last year's was

However, most students seemed to enjoy this Welcome Week.

HELP WANTED

Rend Lake College

Imaging Specialist

This individual should have strong organizational skills and an ability to pay attention to detail. Duties include: seanning and indexing student applications, registration forms, adds, drops and otherstudent forms as directed by the Director of Student Records; scanning and indexing mid-term and final class lists; verifying that documents have been properly imaged, indexed and stamped; compelting and maintaining daily and weekly backups according to Records Retention; developing new templates for documents that will be scanned in the future, and assisting on special projects as assigned. Must maintain confidentiality. If Part-time position — 24 hours per week.

QUALIF CATIONS

• Minimum of an Associate Degree from an accredited institution required.

• Computer skills and scanning experience preferred.

SALARY and HENEFITS

Free tuition for employee after four semesters
 THE APPLICATION PROCESS

468 N Ken Gray FAW (618) 437-5321, Ext. 228

REND AKE GULEEE

Reception Sept. 25 for retiring Bob Ross

A reception to honor Director of Resource Development Bob Ross, who is retiring at the end of the month, will be held Monday, September 25, at 2 p.m. in the Student Center.

The campus community is encouraged to attend.

Refreshments will be served. Ross was a member of the Early School Leaver program when he first joined the RLC staff in 1981

Graphics Design now offered at RLC

Sara Cairns
Staff Writer | Photographer

This year at Rend Lake College, a new program is being added to the list of classes because of high demand created by the students. A Graphic Design program is now offered to those wishing to join that field. The program offers an Associate Degree in Applied Science. Computer technology has expanded to include graphic arts as a preferred method of enhancement for both print and video media. It is recognized as a form of art utilized on business and industry for advertisement and presentations. The instructors chosen to teach the starting classes are Jennifer Tarantino and Connie Eldridge.

Tarantino is a graphic design instructor and also is a marketing assistant here at Rend Lake and Connie Eldridge is a graphic design instructor.

"Graphic Design is problem solving. It is the use of combining words (type), pictures, and other graphic elements to visually communicate a message," says Tarantino, "It's around us everyday from television commercials to the label on the ketchup bottle and it becomes a creator of the visual artifacts of our environment and pop culture." Eldridge adds, "Graphic Design is the arrangement of type and visual elements along with specifications for paper, ink colors, and printing processes that, when combined, convey a visual message. "

Right now three classes are being offered - Introduction to Graphic design, Typography and Color Theory, and Production Methods I. At this point eight other classes are set to be offered in the future. These classes are Advertising Design, Web Page Design, QUIPS I (Quark - Illustrator - Photoshop), QUIPS II, QUIPS III, Electronic Prepress, Computer Type Design, and Package Design. For anyone interested in the Graphic Design Program additional information may be found in the Rend Lake handbook or you can talk to Administration.

Graphic Design is a field that anyone of any age can get into. The good thing about design is that there is a steady mix of ages, whether you're 18 and fresh out of high school or older looking for a career change.

"Even though anyone can get into design," Tarantino said "the majority tends to lean toward the more traditional student straight out

of high school. "

Another good thing about Graphic Design is that it has been in demand since people have made products for other people. Tarantino brought to my attention that the demand has increased over the last few years with technological advances.

She says, "A whole new door has opened with web design, video animation - which is on the rise due to technology, web advertising, and such are in demand by animators." She adds, "It is our duty as designers to be trained in the techniques and skills to produce and pleasing and functional designs before it hits the masses."

With the availability of software programs, accessibility and transpondence created by the computer advancements - the demand will continue to increase.

Graphic Design is the basis for most visual arts - web design, newspapers, magazines, department stores, music companies, TV stations, video graphics/animation, printing facilities, etc...

Eldridge said, " jobs in this field can be found at advertising agencies, newspapers, television, book publishing, colleges, Universities that have printing services and / or presses or need design instructors, corporations, design studios, packaging design, signage, free-lance, and lots more."

Jobs like these have duties such as creating ads and logos for clients.

Advertising duties such as creating newspaper ads, posters, include meeting tight deadlines, creating news graphics for television, designing and producing brochures, and designing book covers. Unfortunately, the majority of jobs are found in bigger cities such as Chicago, Dallas, San Francisco, and St. Louis. This is because there are more businesses which means an increased demand to visually communicate their products and services to the consumers. Of course, larger cities tend to have a higher demand for graphic design artists, but it isn't always the case anymore. Jobs in graphic design are becoming more prevalent in this region. Technological advances have allowed more people to be involved in designing and in printing which in turn is creating more opportunities.

So whether you are an 18 year old student straight out of high school or a 40 year old wanting to make a career change, Graphic Design may be for you.

STARS ready to help first generation students



(L-R) Tammy Tadlock - Administrative Assistant, Julie Mumbower - Director, and Sandy Shock. Coordinator/Connselor. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

Peggy E. Morris Staff Writer

The Student Transfer and Retention Support Program (STARS) is designed to help RLC students achieve success in their academic endeavors in obtaining a college degree.

Julie Mumbower, director along with Sandy Shook, coordinator, mentor, advisor and counselor, will do whatever it takes to help each student attain their academic dreams.

The STARS Program offers an array of support services to help students stay in college, graduate and transfer to a four year college.

Just some of the services offered are: Academic counseling, Career counseling, Personal counseling, Financial Aid counseling, Tutorial services and Peer mentoring. Study Skills Workshops are offered to help students use their time more efficiently, and /or improve academic skills.

Along with the many services offered above, RLC students are offered opportunities to broaden their cultural experiences by participating in activities on and off campus. The Stars students had the opportunity to visit our nation's capital May, 2000. This semester there are several field trips being

offered; from a look at other colleges, lectures from an array of interesting speakers (e.g. Margaret Thatcher; former Prime minister of Great Britain.), plays and concerts.

How do I become a member of STARS? To qualify, you must be a first-generation college student and meet the federal income guidelines or have a physical disability.

Shook says they still have some openings this year, so visit her over at the STARS department located in the Administration Building to get your application. It's a great opportunity to help you to succeed, so don't pass this up.

STARS Calendar

September 23 3:00 p.m.

Russian American Kid Circus at Shryock Auditorium, SIU Campus

September 27 8:00 p.m . Guest Speaker: Mark Shields at Powell Hall Symphony, St. Louis,

October 26 8:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Former Prime Minister of Great Britain, Margaret
Thatcher at Powell Hall Symphony, St. Louis, MO

November 26 3:00 p.m.
The Nutcracker at Shyrock Auditorium, SIU Campus

December 7 8:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker Beverly Sills at Powell Hall Symphony, St. Louis



Students take a break from classes and relax for a while. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

Campus



(Photo Credit Sara Cairns)



A student enjoys a nice day outside, while

studying for classes. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

Animal and Jennifer Tarantino enjoying Welcome Week.
(Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

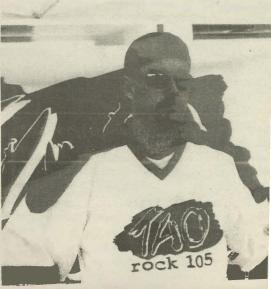




Animal & Chris Kuberski talk about RLC and all that it offers students.(Photo Credit Sara Cairns)



Students mingle in between classes. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)



Animal contemplates the meaning of life (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

EDITORIAL

Rvan Dodson Student Editor

Welcome back, everyone for another exciting semester at Rend Lake College. Can you feel the sarcasm? Freshman and transfer students, welcome to Rend Lake College. If there is one thing that you get out of this article, remember not to park on the lines. Otherwise your wallet will be five bucks lighter every time.

If you are reading this, that means you are actually interested in our schools' award winning newspaper. As the student editor, I am very excited about this semester's publication of the RLC Times. Some changes have been made and it's a new beginning for our school's newspaper.

Along with covering the major events around campus, new monthly sections have been added. This adds versatility to the newspaper, allowing us to focus on more than just headlines.

Each month, one student will be selected at random for our monthly "Student Spotlight," featuring information on students you may or may not know, allowing every student the possibility of exposure to the community, a chance at recognition most students never

Also each month, an RLC Times staff member will be featured for our "Meet the Staff" section, so you can put a face with the articles being published. Anticipate more additions to the newspaper as the year progresses, and we will continue our efforts to bring you the latest news and coverage involving Rend Lake College.

Be on the lookout each month for the latest installment of the RLC Times. The official newspaper for Rend Lake College.



Students relax while waiting for classes to begin during welcome week. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

EDITORIAL

Clinton Jones Student Editor

Life today is very different than life ten years ago. The terms "World Wide Web" or "Internet" were scarcely heard in the main stream world. Back then we did not hop "on-line" to purchase a book. We did not check our e-mail daily, and we did not make a fortune by trading stocks on-line. The internet has changed our everyday lives. It has changed how we do business and how we get our pleasure. The internet was hailed as a source of free information and freedom. However, lately the internet has come under fire concerning its access to certain materials. Among those areas, music and movies have been most heavily targeted as of lately.

In the past months, businesses such as Napster and Scour.com have been threatened by the music and movie industries for copyright infringement.

Napster is a web-site and computer program that allows it's users to search the computers of thousands of other Napster users for MP3s, compact and high quality music files.

Take a moment to think of a song. By using Napster, you would enter the song title into a search box. In a few seconds a list of on-line users who have that song on their computers will appear. It is then just a matter of waiting for the song to transfer to your computer until you have it for

Keep in mind that Napster does not charge for this service. Users of Napster say that they are merely "sharing," much in the same way you would share a CD with a friend down the street.

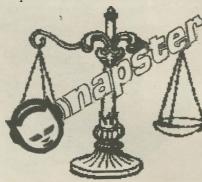
The music industry has not taken the program, and others like it, well. Multiple lawsuits have been filed against Napster and MP3.com. As of now, Napster has been lucky, with the lawsuits either being dismissed or overturned.

Similar charges have been brought against Scour.com, a website that offers its users a program similar to that of Napster's. However, Scour's program also offers the ability to search for full length movies on the web. Once you find the movie you wish to download, the movie will be transferred to your computer after a lengthy download.

A lawsuit has also recently been filed against Scour.com on the behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America and the trial is pending.

What do you think about this? Have you ever used Napster? Are the users of programs such as these innocently "sharing?" Or are they committing a serious crime of copyright infringement and illegal distribution? Do the music and movie industries have a legitimate argument, or are they simply greedy and whining over a little loss of money? Let us know what you What measures do you think should be taken in these

Let your voice be heard. E-mail us at rlctimes@rlc.cc.il.us. Or drop it off in our office, which is located in the North Oasis, room #154. Please include your name, city in which you reside, and your opinions about the above article.



Express your thoughts, opinions, and feelings on any issue facing the college or world by writing a letter to the editor. All letters should be sent to the RLC Times office located in the North Oasis 154, or sent via e-mail to rlctimes@rlc.cc.il..us titled letters to the editor. A name, phone number, and hometown must accompany your letter if desired to be published. All letters are subject to editing by the editors.

Changes abundant at RLC

Ryan Dodson Student Editor

As the semester progresses, there have been a lot of changes made already. Victoria Duncan has joined the ranks of the RLC faculty, replacing the retiring Bob Ross. The hiring of Amanda Austin, and promotion of Jody Johnson have all taken place as well.

Victoria Duncan was appointed as Resource Development Specialist on a full-time, nontenure-track contract, effective September 21.

Duncan received her Bachelor's Degree from Southern Illinois University of Carbondale. Since 1987, Duncan has worked for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Duncan replaces Bob Ross as the Resource Development Specialist. Ross has decided to retire at the end of September.

Amanda Austin has been named Specialist on a full-time, grant investment firm in St. Louis.

funded, nontenure-track contract, effective September 18.

Austin has been the Exceptional Family Member Program Coordinator in recent months for the Army Community Service. Austin received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Southern Illinois University of Carbondale.

Jody Johnson was named Director of Educational Programs for RLC at Big Muddy Correctional Center on a full-time, contract-funded, nontenure-track, effective September 13.

Johnson has been the college's Business Management instructor at the facility since 1994. Johnson received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Southern Illinois University of Carbondale. Johnson was selected from the ten applicants for the position.

Johnson succeeds Brent King, whose resignation was accepted by the board after accepting a the new Data and Technology management position with an

Rend Lake College Foundation invites you to attend...

Sixth Annual Students for Students Art Auction

Rend Lake Resort Convention Center Tbursday, September 28, 2000

Art Preview 5:00p.m. Including Hors d'oeuvres and Entertainment

Art Auction 6:00 p.m.

To RSVP for Tickets (\$10.00 per person) Call 618-437-5321, ext. 213 Proceeds will benefit RLC Art Scholarships

Volleyball team looking good on & off the court

Alexis Wampler Staff Writer

The Lady Warriors volleyball team started their season on August 31st. The team is twelve members strong and has a new head coach, Laura Johnston. The two returning players are Lindsey Shurtz and Sarah Bogacki, who played under Brian Laur during last year's season.

As it stands only eleven players have been sitting on the bench. Jessica Hunter, the twelveth player, will be joining the team after softball season ends sometime in

"Jessica, plus the two returning members, eight freshman, "said Laura Johnston, "and one transfer from Southnorth round out this year's team."

During the season opener against Florrissant Valley, the team played an exciting game winning the match in the fifth game rally. Coach Johnston commented on her players saying her team is well rounded with good depth. She also inputs with pride that everyone gets a chance to play.

Talent wise, the team is better this year, said Lindsey Shurtz, "and the team will start to win more games once they start working together."

The Lady Warriors next game is at tournament at McKendree College located in Lebanon, IL held on September 15-16.



NOT IF YOU HAVEN'T TOLD YOUR FAMILY.

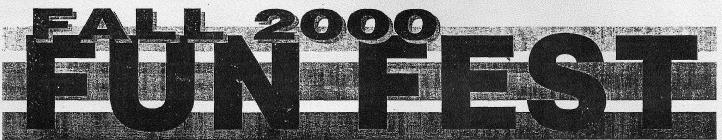
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Wednesday, September 20

Student, Faculty & Staff participation encouraged!!! • SAND VOLLEYBALL • GOLF CART OBSTACLE COURSE

• SCHOLARSHIP GIVEAWAY • PRIZES • AND MORE

The RLC campus is the place to be from Noon-4 p.m.

FREE GOOKOUT, ENTERTAINMENT and FUNER

Granny (Daisy) Moses- Rachel L. Olivier Jed Clampett- Larry Marrs Elly May Clampett- Kelly Schubert Jethro Bodine-Kyle Willmore Cousin Pearl- Mary D. Sursa Mr. Drysdale- Josh Connor Mrs. Drysdale- Marvel Simmons Miss Hathaway- Cassandra Upchurch George Turner/Fireman- Chris Kujawa Mrs. Oglethorpe- Kerry O'Leary Groovy Monahan- Kayti Hall Frank Richards/Fireman- Darren Hutson Fireman/ Party Guest- Kyle Upchurch

Brewster/Fireman- Victor Leber Mrs. Pennyweather- Emily Prusaczyk Percy- Jim Blair Gloria Mundy- Lona Lauramore Emaline Fetty- Jennifer Norman Frederika Collins- Amanda Woodrow Colonel Foxhall- Edgar Irvin Mrs. Stokely-Smythe- Seneca Horton Mr. Oglethorpe- Kris Mason Fireman/ Party Guest- Chris Lowery Party Guest- Holly Tickner Party Guest- Chris Chaney Production Director: Tracey Webb



Warrior Sports



Laura Johnston replaces Brian Laur as the head coach of the RLC Lady Warriors velleyball team. (Photo Credit Sara Cairns)

Johnston takes over as new Volleyball Coach

Alexis Wampler Staff Writer

One of the newest members of the Rend Lake College staff is Laura Johnston. Johnston is a graduate of Southern Illinois University-Carbondale with a major in Physical Education and a minor in Aquatics.

Johnston is the head coach for the RLC Lady Warriors volleyball team replacing last year's head coach, Brian Laur. She also is an assistant aquatics center coordinator and teaches a water aerobics class. The classes are held on Wednesday and Friday from eleven a.m. until noon. They are also held on Tuesday and Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m.

In previous jobs, Johnston was the asssistant coach at the Herrin High School. Johnston also assisted at Mt. Carmel.

Johnston happened upon Rend Lake after moving here from down south with her husband and daughter.

Men's Golf season tees off

Jim Peters
Staff Writer

The Rend Lake Warriors men's golf team has begun its season with the high hopes of continuing its domination over the nation's top Junior College golf teams. Over the past five years, Rend Lake's golf teams have consistently ranked among the top five JUCO golf teams in the United States and its players have earned national recognition for their play. Although the team will be without three of last year's top five golfers, Head Coach Dave Smith (12th season) expects solid performances from this year's golfers.

The Warriors began last season ranked #1 in the nation and finished the season #5 at the national tournament. They were rained out the final day of the tournament. If not for the rain, the team could have finished the season as high as third in the nation.

This season, the team has competed in three tournaments and has finished third, second, and first respectively. "We're getting there," said second year golfer Jason Drew (Sophomore, Benton). Drew was integral in the team's first place finish at John A. Logan this past weekend. Drew led all golfers after the first day and was a top five finisher at tournament's end.

"Drew played well, the whole team played well, we won the tournament," said coach Smith. Although coach Smith is happy with the win, he said he is more concerned with finding an A-team that will consistently put up low scores and win tournaments.

Andy Tezlo (Sophomore,

McComb) plays in the #1 spot. Tezlo finished #18 in last year's national tournament and was one stroke away from being an All-American in 1999. He finished third at last weekend's tournament in Carterville.

Jeremy Simms (Freshman, Carmel, IN.) is in the #2 spot. Simms, a true freshman, finished second in the Indiana boys state amateur championships in 1999.

Chad Stout (Sophomore, Bloomington, IN.) golfs in the #3 slot. Stout finished in 22nd place at the national tournament in 1999. He finished the John A. Logan Tournament with Rend Lake's best finish, in second place.

Eric Brenan (Sophomore, Greenwood, IN.) golfs out of the #4 spot. Brenan won the Dupage Classic at the end of last year and has "a lot of potential," according to coach Smith.

"He can go low and that's what you need out of the number four spot," said Smith.

Jason Drew (Sophomore, Benton) anchors the A-team in the #5 spot. Drew won the Southern Illinois Golf Association Boys Championship over the summer and led the John A. Logan Tournament after the first round shooting a 70, 78 on his way to a top five finish.

Other key members vying to help the team this season are Brandon Vinson (Freshman, Santa Claus, IN.), Jason Svaboda (Freshman, O'Fallon), Jason Spitsmiller (Freshman, Farmington, MO.), Ryal Coutu (Freshman, Loganslake, British Columbia), and Jeff Clark (Freshman, Benton).

Cross Country team takes their first steps towards the finish line

Camille Bowman
Staff Writer

This year RLC is adding a new team to its sport roster. The new RLC Cross-Country Warriors are a new field in sports at RLC. With first rate coaching and a great team, the RLC Warriors are showing their teeth. This year, the administration approved a men's cross-country team, and looks to approve a women's team next year.

Head Coach Brent McClain is an experienced runner himself; he knows what it takes to win. His experience will be of great benefit to RLC and his runners. McClain coached at Benton and Carterville eight or nine years consecutively, doing a wonderful job with the runners. This is his first year at a junior college. The level of intensity he and the team shows is just what we need.

To prepare for this upcoming season, the athletes have molded themselves into Warriors with endurance and power.

"We've been running a lot of miles, between 70 and 80 on an average a week," says McClain, "We do alot of repeats." Repeating backward and forward two miles one way and back.

"I have to hold them back from running too much," McClain boasted. "I say six miles and they want to run more, these guys are very serious."

Like the coach, these athletes have experience under their feet, so to speak.

"We have six guys but we need seven," mentioned Coach McClain. Athletes by name are as follows:

Francisco Tomas, from Alto Pass, is the most experienced runner. He placed 36 out of some 2000 runners at Boston Marathon running for 15 miles. He gives over 6 to 7 years experience to the team.

David Diaz, from West Frankfort is a very versatile and decorated

player. Diaz went all state placing 5th in his category. Tim Koch, of Mt. Vernon, is a freshman who will definitely be an asset to the team. Brett Smith of Benton is a middle distant runner who brings some experience to the team.

"The athletes get along great," says McClain, "they are all good friends and have a winning attitude."

"I appreciate their dedication to the sport," said McClain, "they are a very strong team full of momentum. They definitely have a shot at the nationals since they will all be back next year."

"I would like to thank the administration for being so helpful and supportive," said McClain. "Mark Kern, school president and athletic director Tim Willis, have been great."

All in all this will be a great year for Warrior spirit, so please lend your support to the newest Warriors.

Baseball season is underway

Camille V. Bowman Staff Writer

Rich Campbell, coach of the RLC Warriors baseball team is preparing his team for another great year. Campbell says he is excited about the new drafts he's gotten this year so far.

This year the team is twenty-six players strong. Twenty-one of those players are freshmen. Campbell is giving it his all to make this season a good one.

Last Tuesday, the RLC Warriors battled against the Kaskaskia College Blue Devils in a one win one lose finish. Campbell says the team is definitely starting to find it's rhythm. Early now into the season front line players have not been chosen,"this spring we will know who our front lines-up will be," says coach Campbell.

This spring they will play a maximum of 56 games. So look for RLC to be running circles around its opponents this year.