



REND LAKE COLLEGE TIMES

October 1998

By the students, for the students.

Lakota Sioux Warmly Welcomed at RLC

Paula Clouse
Staff Writer

The Lakota Sioux Dance Theatre, directed by Henry Smith of New York, drew double-capacity crowds at RLC.

Over 150 people of all ages stood in the lobby of the theater at 2 p.m., a full hour before the show was scheduled to begin. The North Oasis was opened for those standing in line who didn't want to wait for the theater to open. At 2:20, 150 were in the lobby and 250 stood outside in line ... waiting.

By showtime, nearly 500 people were crammed into a 367 seat theater - standing, sitting on the floor, and doubling up in the seats with children sitting on parents' laps.

The lights dimmed and the scent of cedar and sage smoke filled the air. Ron Good Eagle, a dancing member of the Lakota Sioux, then said a prayer of thanksgiving to "Grandfather" for the beauty of creation. Jason King Bird then sang a song of invocation ... inviting all in the audience and those on stage to "Come to the Center."

"Cokata Upo," or "Come to the Center," is "the signature piece of the company, and is constructed around Lakota creation myths and brings together the finest Native American

dancers, singers and storytellers."

(Information Release, Solaris, New York.)

The dance tribe members wore richly ornamented costumes and headdresses customary to native American tradition.

Part I of the one hour performance created the ceremony of creation: Birth of a Nation. Dances and storytelling were coupled together with singing and flute playing. A video screen at the back of the stage flashed occasional scenes relating to the story being told, which added to the feeling of total immersion into the culture.

"Today we live two lives," Good Eagle said, "we live the white man's way, and get an education, and we live the Indian way through our traditions and ceremony. We have ceremonial dances we cannot show you because they are sacred. But today we will show you everyday life ... we share food, we share life, we make relatives, we come together as one. There was a saying from our elders. They said, 'Our children are our future. They are the ones who will keep our culture

alive.'"

Women and elders are treated with great respect in Native American cultures. Women give birth and are therefore seen as "creators." Women are counted on to be the strength of the family unit. They are to keep the family together, keep them healthy, and to set the emotional tone for the home. Elders are respected and regarded as wise. Storytelling is often a privilege of the elders.

A dance of particular interest was the Buffalo Dance. The male dancers wore buffalo skins and horns on their heads as they danced in the four directions, symbolizing the migration patterns of the buffalo. A buffalo skull was brought out by one of the women, placed on the floor and a bowl of cedar and sage incense was burned to signify the sacredness of the buffalo. The only participants allowed to perform the Buffalo Dance were members of the Buffalo Society, all of whom had a dream of buffalo in their "Vision Quest."

A "Vision Quest" is a holy ceremony in which a young warrior, after a purification process, goes unarmed and without food and water to the "sacred hill" for four days

and four nights. While there, he prays for guidance and visions from the Great Spirit and his ancestors.

"The flags that symbolize the directions," Good Eagle said, "are many colors, like all of us. They symbolize tall man; white, Native American, and others, coming from four directions to gather as one."

The women performed several "Jingle Dances," called such because of the jingling noise made by the elaborate decorations on their costumes.

In Native American culture, there is no distinction between the sacred and the "profane" or secular. All of life, all of creation is sacred and therefore many ceremonies celebrate simple things that may otherwise be taken for granted. The circle, or hoop is sacred as is the eagle. The circle because it represents the "connectedness" of all things: people, animals and nature. The eagle because "he flies closest to the Creator."

The Eagle Dance was especially spectacular, the dancer wearing a full headdress and arm coverings made entirely of eagle feathers. The

circular movement and arm fluctuations mimicked the flight of the eagle ... to such an extent that one may have forgotten a dancer was involved at all!

Ron Good Eagle again closed with a benediction:

"The eagle's staff is always the first to come to the center and the last to leave because it is a symbol of unity and oneness. We will all go back to the four directions from which we came, but we are all related. If the world is going to get better, we need to think that way."

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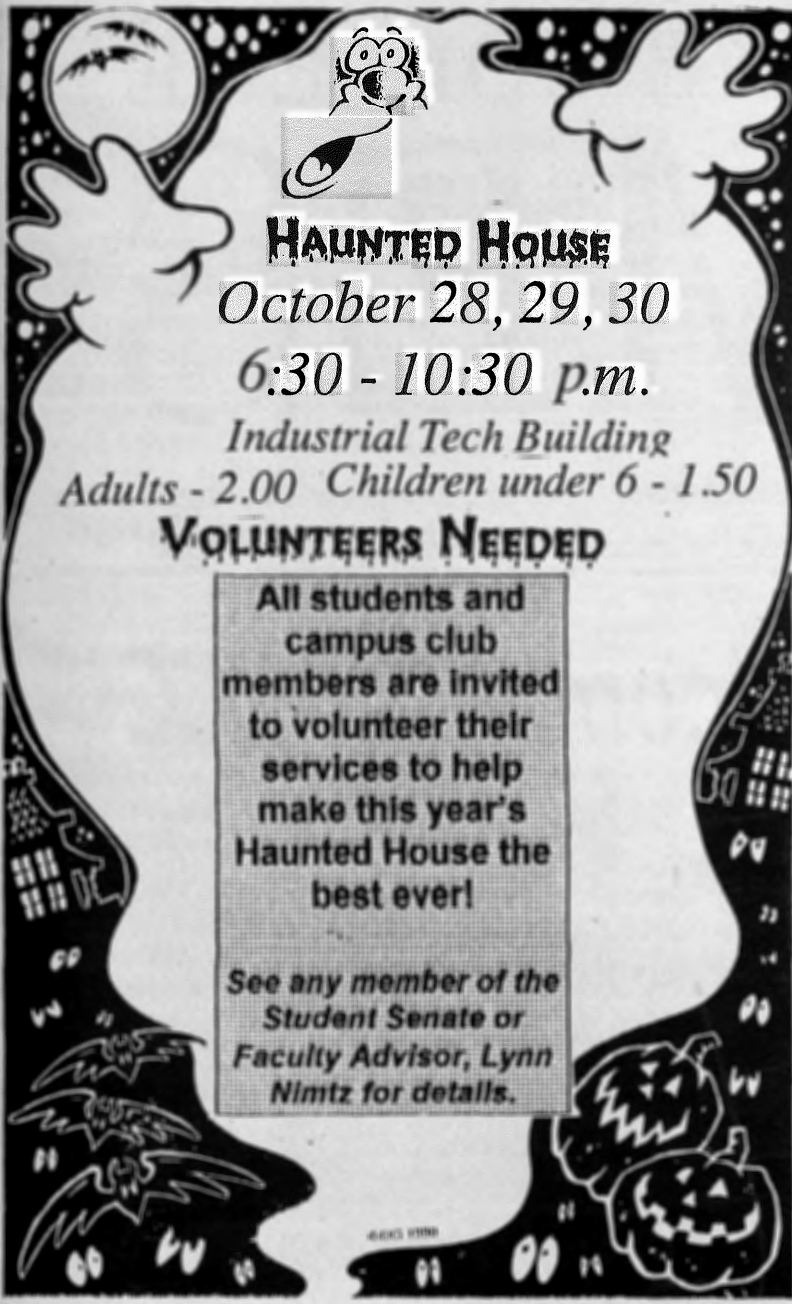
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HAUNTED HOUSE
October 28, 29, 30
6:30 - 10:30 p.m.
Industrial Tech Building
 Adults - 2.00 Children under 6 - 1.50

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All students and campus club members are invited to volunteer their services to help make this year's Haunted House the best ever!

See any member of the Student Senate or Faculty Advisor, Lynn Nimtz for details.

Scholarships

Paula Clouse
Staff Writer

Are you interested in doing a free (or low fee) scholarship search? The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) offers students a way to search for possible scholarships for which they are able to apply. A student who has access to an e-mail address can log on to the ISAC website, www.isac-online.org, to reach Higher EdNet. This is a free service that provides information about federal, state, institutional and private sources of financial aid. This service is also available through a paper process, but would then cost the student ten dollars.

Students can check out another ISAC website, www.isac1.org, for the Info Cafe. Through this service students can access "House Specialties" to learn how to apply for financial aid, or "Healthy Choices" to estimate state and federal aid eligibility.

Travis Donoho
Student Editor

The RLC Foundation is offering a \$500 scholarship to be used as partial payment for SOSC 2101, History and Culture of Mexico.

The class's curriculum involves travelling to Mexico in the summer of 1999. The recipient of the scholarship must enroll in SOSC 2101, secure the remaining funding for the class and cancellation insurance on their own.

Applicants must be full-time students at RLC during the 1998/99 school year to be eligible.

A committee of RLC faculty will select the recipients from the eligible applications received. Applications will be submitted to this committee without identifying information (such as name and area of residence) and will be judged on the basis of stated student goals, grade point average, and financial situation. In the event that a scholarship recipient is not able to make use of this opportunity, the scholarship will be awarded to the first runner up as selected by the faculty committee.

The application must be typed and submitted on two pages. The first page should provide the following information: name, address, telephone number, whether or not you are a full-time student at RLC, your grade point average during the year most recently completed in school, and at what school the GPA

was earned. This page will be removed prior to being submitted to the faculty committee.

On the second page, answer the following questions:

1. How will participation in SOSC 2101, The History and Culture of Mexico, further your career or educational goals?

2. Why is financial assistance necessary for your participation in this course?

3. Have you previously been awarded an RLC Foundation Scholarship? If so when and for what amount?

Please return completed applications to Sue Tomlin (154 South Oasis) or Carolyn Stewart (148 South Oasis) before Monday, November 2. Recipients will be announced November 20.

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A Gathering Of Magic



Clinton Jones
Staff Writer

A new club is getting started at RLC. The Rend Lake College Gaming Society has been established. The society is dedicated to the playing of strategic and role-playing games. Magic: The Gathering is the game of choice within the gaming society.

Magic: The Gathering is a CCG (Collectable Card Game) involving strategy, skill, and luck, set in a mystical and magical world filled with magical cards which are adorned with art from world famous fantasy artists. Magic has been featured on ESPN and is recognized as the most collectable card game in the world. The game is centered

around players using a deck of cards. The players then "duel" and try to eliminate the other player or players before the same happens to them.

The gaming society is looking for more members to join. If you have never played, and are just curious, don't worry. The society members will help you along. The society will meet twice a month and will hold friendly games and tournaments.

If you would like to see what Magic: The Gathering is all about, all one needs is an imagination, and to attend a meeting.

If you have any questions contact either Dustin Cammack, Clinton Jones, Joe Bluemeyer, Jodie Tegeler or Gaming Society sponsor Rob Little in the North Oasis, room 143, EXT. 379.

Doyle's Haven is Music

Ellen M. Tripp
Staff Writer

K. B. Doyle played his sixth concert at Rend Lake College on October 7, 1998, in the RLC Theatre. "I'm always appreciative to be asked back. Lynn Nimtz "persuaded" me to perform at Rend Lake College then the Student Senate approved it and asked me back every year."

Doyle has played for Governor Thompson and Congressman Ken Gray, The Rend Lake Golf Course and the Rend Lake Resort. He played three pieces he arranged and composed. His two favorite composers are Franz Liszt and Chopin.

"I'd like to thank the student senate, maintenance, security, the Art department, Sara Capps and Therese Howard for allowing me to practice," Doyle said, "I thank the college for allowing me to pursue a childhood dream."

Doyle has always wanted to learn how to play. He had musical influence in his family. His father, a college voice teacher, influenced his choice in music.

Between 1977 and 1993, he didn't study new pieces. This is when he pursued a full-time career with U.P.S.

"He looks like a U.P.S. driver but I can't believe he plays piano" was among comments others made referring to his hobby. In

beginning with piano lessons when he was eight years old. Doyle has always had college trained teachers. He earned a Baccalaureate degree in piano performance from Union University at Jackson, Tennessee.

"Music has been a haven for me and I avoid engineering in too many performances that would make it just another limited physical practice each week, but I spend as many hours as I can in my head. I remember the score and try to feel my hands playing the piano away from the instrument. I avoid mindless repetitions and force myself to think putting more thought and less physical time into it. This is more beneficial.

Romantic Period is his favorite.

The 1993, he began performing at the college and other places.

College Bowl is a Sport of Mind

Jessica Luschen
Staff writer

The College Bowl team is having a memorable year.

The game itself is similar to Jeopardy, also known as the "varsity sport of mind." The team competes against other schools and is asked questions about various topics, ranging from Art to History.

"The students are asked everything from Art and English, to Math and History," said Rebecca Biggs, coach. "The questions can be difficult, or quite simple."

The team practices every Wed. at 5 pm. Anyone who is interested is welcome to come and sit in on a meeting.

"At our practices, we just play fake games and ask each other questions," said Biggs. "We usually play four on a team, so everyone gets a chance to play."

Although the team itself only has four meets in the fall, three in the spring, and the regional tournament, hard work and dedication is a must.

Currently, the team has five very dedicated members,

whom all seem to be doing very well this year.

"We are doing pretty well so far," said Biggs. "Last year, they got third in the league competition, so we are hoping to do even better this year."

With this being Biggs' first year as coach, she hopes to learn a lot and have an excellent team.

Biggs encourages anyone who is interested in being on the team to sit in on a meeting or contact her in room 123 in the North Oasis or at ext.357.

The Class is Crime

Travis Donoho
Student Editor

"Do you need a kiss? Do you need a hug? You're mad. Be light and happy," Theatre Director Tracey Brouillette comforts and jokingly chides a cast member who has forgotten a line. When the mood is relaxed, the lines begin to flow out naturally.

"When you get upset, you get nervous and when you get nervous you can't remember anything," explains Brouillette. "So you have to relax."

Relaxing may be easier said than done for the cast of RLC Theatre's presentation of *The Butler Did It*. The show is coming together well, but as I write this, they are preparing for a performance in less than a week. A one Act teaser is going to be featured in the RLC Art Auction on October 24.

The hilarious comedy, written by Tim Kelly, will begin selling tickets on November 1 and shows will be on November 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. and November 22 at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and children.

The play is set at Ravenswood Manor, an isolated estate on Turkey Island, off the coast of San Francisco. Miss Maple, a well known society hostess, is throwing an odd sort of party and inviting only the world's best mystery writers. The twist is that the authors must assume the personality of one of their own characters and solve the mystery set forth by Miss Maple, portrayed by

Sara Wilkinson. A brilliant plan... until someone is really murdered. As Columbo-esque character Chandler Marlow, played by Steve McInnes, says, "Murder ain't no parlour game."

Chandler is just one of the outrageous characters that the play has to offer. Ten area actors and actresses, four of which are students at RLC, have gathered together to stage the show. Eleven, counting Rehearsal Assistant Chris Pearson, who is on hand to fill in for absent thespians. The play features characters like Jared Osborn's Louie Fan, An Oriental detective that gets carried away with his off the wall deductions, to Julie Pearson's Rita Eyelesbarrow, a social secretary who carries a mysterious hatbox. Also on the cast list are Keith Pearson, portraying a Sherlock Holmes type, Tony Jenkins as a highly educated clergyman who has an eye for detail, Sara Scott as the James Bond-ish Charity Haze, Jim Andros and Georgette Lopez as a sophisticated New England couple and Robin George's Haversham, a young housemaid/convict who is on parole after committing some "unpleasantness with a hatchet."

The cast also gets to experience a little "unpleasantness with a sofa" at their October 19 practice. Brouillette has salvaged a sofa and a chair from their 15 years rest at the storage house. Several thespians get themselves deeply implanted in the ill-supporting and low-to-the-floor furniture and the struggle with the prop becomes almost as

humorous as the actual play. Almost.

Brouillette assures that the furniture will most likely be replaced. After all, Miss Maple's home will be quite the model of luxury, thanks to set design and construction veteran Josh Benson, of DuQuoin. Benson has designed and built sets for plays at RLC, as well as for Southeastern Illinois College, John A. Logan College, DuQuoin High School and the Pyramid Players. Benson and Brouillette plan to set the scene with elaborate French doors with diamond cut windows, an archway entrance, a fireplace, a grand staircase, and even secret passageways. Even though Miss Maple is wealthy, RLC Theatre isn't. After spending over \$1000 so far on materials for set building, Brouillette is hoping residents will donate old furniture and props.

Brouillette tries to stress the point that the house is a place of ritz.

"Maybe you shouldn't sit in that chair," she says to a 'wet' Chandler Marlow.

"You just came in from the rain, and you shouldn't be sitting in her best chair. Why are you sitting in that chair?"

"Because," McInnes retorts in character, "I'm a selfish son of a biscuit-eater and I don't care about her chair."

"He has a point," smiles Jenkins in the scholarly way of Father White.

The show seems to be coming along just fine.

For ticket reservations and details, call the Theatre at (618) 437-5321 ext. 295 or 263. Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

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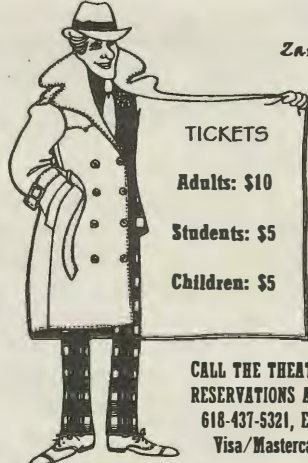
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EDITORIALS

Paula Clouse
Staff Writer

- *Historic Preservation
- *Arts in Education
- *Literacy Programs

And the list goes on and on.

Thousands of artists have been placed in the nation's schools through artist residencies, school performances and master's classes.

The arts help students develop confidence and creativity, motivation and discipline, self understanding, problem solving, reasoning, speaking and writing skills, all needed to compete in the future high-tech workforce.

In our communities, the arts spur business development, generates urban renewal and contribute to the economic vitality of America's cities and town.

Cultural tourism is big business for cities and towns alike encouraging local communities to preserve and celebrate their unique heritage.

The arts also bring together diverse people groups which builds bridges of understanding through folk festivals, school arts programs, and theatre dance and music performances.

The arts are inexplicably interlaced in our identities as individuals and as a culture and country.

Rend Lake's two year Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degree Programs include mandatory enrollment in at least one fine arts class. The goal of the Degree Program is to produce students who are able to "demonstrate competencies in their vocational or academic areas as well as have a knowledge base from a 'variety of disciplines.'" Problem solving skills, critical thinking and decision making abilities are also goals of the program. "In an evolving global society, students will also benefit from the ability to formulate their own values as well as demonstrate an awareness of a wide range of perspectives: opportunities to appreciate and understand the fine arts and to explore individual values in a multicultural world." (*Statement of General Education, Rend Lake College Catalog*).

The arts help to make possible these and other goals for students attending RLC and other colleges that have made a commitment to excellence, learning and understanding.

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*Imagine no possessions,
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brother of man.
Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world
You may say I'm a dreamer
But I'm not the only one
And I hope some day you
will join us
And the world will be as
one...John Lennon*

Imagine a world without music. Imagine a world with no art, no theatre, no poetry or literature. A world with no architects or clothing designers. No creative diversity. No individual expression.

Rend Lake College makes available to students the arts in many genres: theatre classes, music appreciation, art appreciation, painting, literature and communications classes.

At times, art has been the only link to a culture's past...for example, think how much less would be known of ancient Egypt or the Mayans were it not for hieroglyphics and art relics found on archaeological digs.

The director of the national Endowment for the Arts states, "Academics can only take us so far," in our learning experiences. Unless the arts are interwoven into the fabric of life and culture, we miss the very "heart" of academics, which is ideally learning *with* understanding.

In 1965, the United States government felt the arts so intrinsic to who and what we are as a society, the National Endowment for the Arts was commissioned. NEA is an independent agency of the Federal government charged with "fostering the excellence, diversity, and vitality of the arts in the United States and broadening public access to the arts." The Arts Endowment costs each American less than 38 cents yearly. This small investments makes possible such things as:

- *Symphonies and Chamber Music
- *Children's Festivals
- *Operas
- *Poetry Readings
- *Jazz Festivals
- *Dinner Theatres

We, like many students at Rend Lake College, have been "attempting" to coordinate schedules for the spring semester. We say "attempting" because many of us can not seem to get the classes required on the days that we require them. We are full-time students, employees, club member officers, and community volunteers. We simply cannot allow our school week to become a five-day-a-week affair.

Core curriculum requirements seem to be scattered throughout the week

without rhyme or reason. While we realize a lot of planning must take place, both with faculty and facilities, we feel the student's needs should be figured into the mix *somewhere*. We have, with no success, tried to schedule all required classes on MWF, leaving Tu/Thu open for work, family, homework, and other obligations. Class offerings will not allow us to do this. Sometimes two of our remaining classes are offered on MWF, at conflicting times by the way, and two other core classes are

offered as Tu/Thu classes. Evening classes are not an option for many of us due to obligations and commitments.

Our question is this: would it be too much to ask to schedule *all* core requirement classes on *either* MWF or Tu/Thu?

As it stands now, we could easily spend 3-3 1/2 years trying to earn a 2 year degree. Rend Lake is said to "give you more for your money," but we *don't* think this is what they meant.

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Student's Art Auction

Terah Trusty
Staff Writer

The "Students for Students" Art Auction is almost here. Tickets can be purchased at the Rend Lake College Foundation Office for \$25 per person. This classy evening on Saturday, October 24, will be a night to remember.

The fun will start off with an art preview at 6 p.m. along with wine and cheese tasting, and horse-and-buggy carriage rides. At 7 p.m. the mystery dinner theater will begin featuring RLC Theatre Manager, Tracey Brouillette and cast. RLC Music Instructor, Julie Wilkerson

will also be singing. Finally, at 8 p.m. the Art Auction will begin.

All money earned at this event will be returned to the art students through scholarships. The Art League is very excited about this event. Everyone is encouraged to come.

The art work to be auctioned has been donated by faculty, students, and alumni. Sara Capps has several pieces, along with Therese Howard, both of which are RLC Art Instructors. Some students include Sara Scott and Liz Dycus both of Mt. Vernon, Joe Frish of Waltonville, Sharon Voyles of

Carbondale, Sandra Kahl of Thompsonville, Brenda Webster McCollum of Benton, and Carrie Norris of Sesser, along with several others.

According to Sara Scott, Chairperson of the Art League, there will be "something for everyone." No matter what your taste, you will find something you like out of their wide selection.

Come join in on the third annual Rend Lake College Foundation "Students for Students" Art Auction to be held Saturday, October 24, at the Rend Lake Resort Convention Center.