



# The Pressing Times

Ina, Illinois

Monday, November 8, 1971

Vol. 7 No. 2

## Bloodmobile Coming to RLC

Blood is a necessity, not a convenience. This necessity is usually taken for granted until blood starts running out of the body. Then blood becomes the fact of life.

The Red Cross Bloodmobile is coming to the Rend Lake College campus Wed., Nov. 17, from 10 a. m.-3 p. m. in the gym. Donor pledge cards will be available in the Oasis to students, faculty and administration anytime before and including Nov. 17.

### BULLETIN!

The Bloodmobile, originally scheduled for Wed., Nov. 17, has been rescheduled to an unknown (at present) later date because of a conflicting convocation.

Janice Webb, chairman of the drive through the Student Senate, and Rebecca Pettit, faculty sponsor of the drive, met with Merle Fischer, Red Cross representative from St. Louis, and Joan Barinotti, Red Cross chairman from Mt. Vernon to clarify donor requirements.

Anyone 18 through 65 years of age may donate blood in Illinois without parental consent. Prospective donors must weigh at least 110 pounds.

Persons who will not be accepted include: women during pregnancy and for six months postpartum, persons who have had malaria or who have taken

### Enrollment Figures Show Contradictions

James F. Yates, Director of Admissions and Registrar, established the total head count for the fall semester 1971 at 1101 in a report released earlier this month.

This figure is three less than last fall's total of 1104 but includes a rise in full-time students from 815 in 1970 to 850 this fall.

The report showed that men outnumber the women with 587 men and 512 women. The biggest difference occurs in the sophomore class where the ratio of men to women is almost 2:1. However there are only five more freshman men than women.

RLC has more than twice as many freshmen as sophomores with 751 newcomers to 332 upperclassmen and 18 unclassified students.

Part-time enrollment is down by only one from last fall while the total number of evening students (students enrolled in evening classes only) is down from 217 in fall 1970 to 180 this fall.

### DO THIS:

hear—Illinois Speed Press latest album  
read—"Steal This Book."  
see—"The Hellstrom Chronicle."  
sing—"Messiah" practice, West Frankfort library, every Mon. night at 7:30.  
hear—Ten Years After latest album.



The RLC Athletic Dept. have bared their red-blooded arms, and pledged 100% participation when the Bloodmobile comes on Nov. 17. They challenge any other department to do the same. (Photo courtesy of W. T. Brammeir)

anti-malarial drugs within the last two years, diabetics, epileptics, persons with a history of hepatitis or who have had close contact within the preceding six months with a person who has viral hepatitis, persons with definite physical findings of valvular disease (rheumatic fever) and persons who have been tattooed within the preceding six months. Rejection of a donor for other reasons is possible by the doctor in attendance.

Ms. Fischer explained the seven steps involved in donation, "First you register, then your temperature is taken, and a registered nurse takes your blood pressure and a brief medical history. Fourth, a drop of blood from your finger is tested

in solution. A doctor will then check your medical record and if you pass you may then give your blood. The blood donation itself only takes about seven minutes. After that you can relax and have some free coffee and cookies."

Each individual's donation of less than a pint of blood guarantees to him and the members of his family the free replacement of all the blood they may use in any hospital in the United States by the Red Cross.

Assisting Ms. Webb are Carl Skorcz on publicity, Diane Edmonson, Jeannie Miller and Christy Jones. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with the drive in any way should contact Ms. Webb or Ms. Pettit.

## 23 "M. D.s"



On October 27 twenty three students of the RLC automotive class at the Benton campus received "Doctor of Motors" certificates, after successfully completing examinations from the Dana Corporation of Hagerstown, Ind.

This certificate is to show that these students are qualified auto mechanics. Those students who received their awards are pictured: from left to right, Tony Hines, Stephen Cutler, Edward Trail, Ronald Hampton, Gary Rodly, Mike Miller, Mike Lomar, Gary Tolly, and instructor Robert McKinie. Middle row: instructor Dan Jennings, Dwight Summers, Kenneth Daily, Mike Rondal, John Collins, Rick Webb, Walter Wuebels, Maurice Kirsch, Martin Weaver, and Lyndell Chamness, manager of the E. Blankenship and Co., who

made the awards. Front row: Wayne Shirrell, Kurt Sanders, James Nots, Kim Pearson, Bill Paul, Keith Neal, and Jerry Soatz.

Here's your chance music lovers! Real live music in our Oasis. No more canned stuff. On Thursday, Nov. 11, the RLC Jazz Band will present a concert in the Oasis from 11:15 to 12:15.

All those merry, musical madmen will be performing such soul inspiring melodies as "Brass Bugaloo," "Mrs. Robinson," "It's Not Unusual," and "All About the Blues." One of the troubadours may even cut loose with a solo, so don't miss it. It's free and no collection will be taken up.

## Three Ag. Students Receive Individual RLC Scholarships

On September 23, two RLC students attending classes on the Bonnie campus were awarded individual \$100 RLC scholarships.

Agriculture students Keith Ray, of Dahlgren, and Dwain Smith of Salem, received their scholarships in an informal ceremony from A. W. Bird, on behalf of Ora Snider, assistant manager of the Southern Illinois Power Cooperative in Marion and Chairman of Sect. 25 of the Illinois Foundation of the F.F.A.

Agriculture student Dick Petrea of Iuka, was awarded the Jack C. Nesbit Scholarship, which involves \$500 worth of funds made possible by the American Jersey Cattle Club, on October 9.

Petrea was chosen to receive the scholarship from among ten individuals who had been selected for consideration by the organization. In order to qualify, the applicants needed to be individuals under 21 years of age who own and raise the Jersey



Pictured from left to right in the above picture are: Dennis Dazey, state president of the Future Farmers of America; Victor Kelten, director of member services Southwestern Electric Cooperative in Greenville and chairman of Sect. 21 of the Illinois Foundation of the FFA; Dwain Smith, agriculture mechanics major; Keith Ray, agriculture business major; A. W. Byrd, member service supervisor Tri County Electric Cooperative of Mt. Vernon, and director-at-large of the Illinois Foundation of the FFA and Mark Kern, of the Agriculture Department. (Picture courtesy A. W. Byrd)

In order to qualify for such a scholarship, the applying students must be enrolled in a junior college, they must be majoring in one of the various areas of agriculture, they must be an outstanding student in agriculture, and they must be an outstanding member of the Future Farmers of America.

The recipients of the RLC scholarships are free to use the scholarship funds for tuition and book fees that may arise during the time they attend this school.

breed of cattle. Further qualification is judged upon the basis of what they have done within the community.

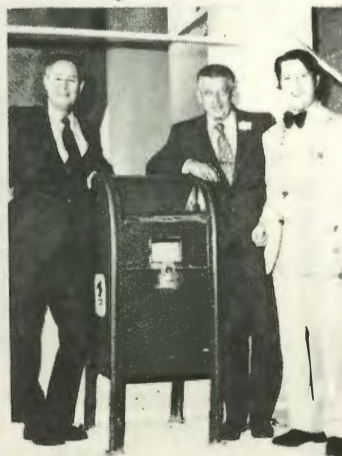
Petrea said that after his graduation from RLC, he will probably continue work with his father, Bob Petrea. The Petrea's own and raise eighty head of Jersey cattle. Petrea, who is majoring in ag mechanics, went on to say that someday he would like to work with the Peace Corps in Turkey or India.

## New Mailbox on Campus Brings "Blessin" From Ina

"Neither rain nor sleet nor snow nor gloom of night" shall delay Ed Blessin from delivering or picking up the mail at RLC at his appointed time. Mr. Blessin is a rural mail carrier and RLC is included on his route.

Through the combined efforts of Mr. Blessin, RLC president, Dr. James Snyder, and Congressman Kenneth Gray, RLC now has a mailbox placed on campus. This is a real convenience for the college and postal workers as well.

Mr. Blessin and Congressman Gray talked Dr. Snyder into taking time out from the dedication service to pose with them by the new mailbox on campus.



by the new mailbox on campus.

# ANTI-SENATE?

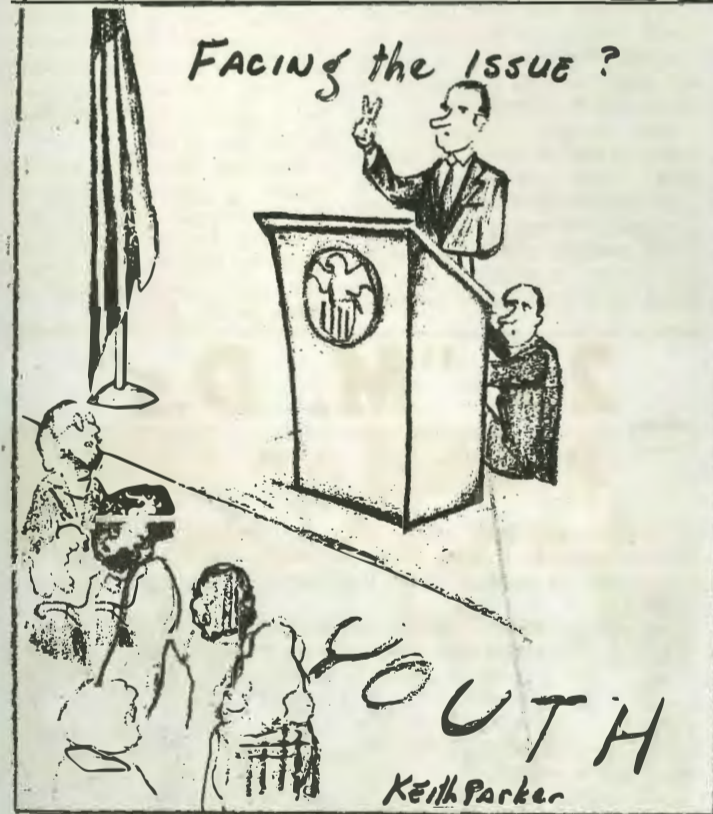
Somebody asked us the usual question again today, "What goes on down there in the Oasis besides card-playing?" The answer, "not much." Lately there's been a lot of talk about an "anti-senate." The students are dissatisfied because the Student Senate concerns itself with concrete benches instead of taking positions on the major issues at this college. The Senate, they feel, is an arm of the administration which keeps them busy picking convo speakers who are really "relevant" and thinks it has its finger on the pulse of the student body. Not so! Many RLC students feel they are not being represented.

Why? By all appearances, the Senate members are elected democratically. Anyone can run. With the small voter turnout, anyone can round up enough friends to come reasonably close to being elected. But once in office, it seems to the average student, the Senate members work feverishly planning proms. Sometimes it looks like a classic case of papromania. Wouldn't it be terrible to reach your level of incompetence as chairman of the prom committee? Some students were very upset last year because the Senate did not back them in their fight to save the trees. Said one student, "it's time the Senate members realize they shouldn't answer to Mrs. Ward, but to the students who elected them."

The other side: The Pressing Times staff has had plenty of people come to us complaining about the Senate activities. Our response—if there's something you don't like about this school, tell us in a letter to the editor. If it doesn't contain profanity or libelous statements we'll probably print it. So far, no letters. We can only conclude that these grippers are not sufficiently motivated by these alleged injustices, or they think we are an arm of the administration too. If they've given the Senate the same opportunities to represent them as they have us, maybe they had better try again. Since the Senate is a representative body, the students must go to the Senate instead of waiting for the Senate to come to them.

There must be many ways to solve this very minor problem in the world. For one thing, RLC is a junior college, designed to be a step between high school and the university; and our Senate is a step between the high school student council and the university student body officers. Soon we'll all be at a larger school where we can impeach the Senate president if we like. One solution might be the direct election of Senate officers by the students and enlarging the Senate. They might set up a student relations committee if they are concerned about their image. The students could lobby if they don't think they are being represented. On large campuses, the clubs and organizations create a lot of pressure on the Senate with their treasuries and their membership. We haven't heard any of the clubs at RLC take a stand on major issues either.

Everyone is going to have to decide whether he wants to get involved or not, which, incidentally, takes a lot of time, energy, and talent. Students and Senate both could use a little motivation. Let's have some letters on this question from motivated people.



## Love Rides the Rails Again

By Floyd Brookman

Imagine yourself in the early 1900's. A theatre filled with an impatient audience. The lights go down — and a rhythmic pounding of melodramatic music dances out of the piano. You set back, to enjoy the music, then without warning, the curtain opens to show a kind old lady setting in her cozy "Home Sweet Home" type living room.

Then things start happening. The plot starts to form and you find yourself laughing away at probably one of the best comedies to hit RLC.

Despite some small mistakes, which are normally present in these productions, the play, "Love Rides the Rails" was undoubtedly a success.

The two main protagonists Prudence Hopewill (Barbara

Doctramen) and Truman Pendennis (Kurt Strothmann) were played exceptionally well. Barbara played the perfect Prudence, a name which should describe itself, and Kurt did very well considering it was his first acting experience, which I am sure, will lead to many more. Kurt was supported tremendously by a superb performance by (Bob Hobbs) who played Truman Pendennis's "side-kick," Harold Stanfast. And, when one deals with a play such as this, there naturally must be a nasty villain. Fred Vallowe played the nasty villain. Simon Darkway, in "Love Rides the Rails" and played it excellently, and like Kurt, had great backing from the supporting role, Dirk Sneath (Calvin McClintock), as they both tried to gain possession of the deed to the home of

Letters to the Editor are encouraged and welcome. The letters must be signed. Just drop them in a basket in the P.T. office.

## The Imperfect Fourth

By Courtney Cox

Many people think rock musicians lead rather "exotic" and sometimes "immoral" lives, and it may be true. John and Yoko have shocked many, but bore many more of us. Once you get it all off there's nothing left. The late Jim Morrison of the Doors tried to improve on this attempt but was promptly reproved by our boys in blue. Need I say more about what we already know?

But alas, our rock heroes are not alone in the swinging life of the morally displaced. Let's consider the life of Richard Wagner. Who's Wagner? Suffice it to say that he wrote opera of a rather grand scale. He had a strange habit of falling in love with women, which would not be strange at all except that they were almost always married women. The Meistersinger moved in strange ways!

One time Wagner called J. S. Bach "the most stupendous miracle in all music." Bach had twenty children by two wives, which may be the miracle of which our German friend speaks. When I told my youngest brother this little known fact, he quite candidly asked "Where did he find time to write all that music?" Needless to say, Bach wrote most of his music for the organ.

Chopin made Paris gay, not necessarily because he was so much fun. Despite his own effeminate manners, or perhaps because of them, he took up residence with a woman who used a man's name, a man's clothes, and a man's cigar for her own, George Sand. They weren't married! Shocking, isn't it?

Some of you may be ready to break my tuba stand for defaming the name of these great men. But, let me quickly qualify myself. I use these examples only to prove this point. Our rock idols are not doing anything new, perhaps more colorful, but not new. Bach, Chopin, and Wagner are among the greatest musicians who will ever live, but they were still men.

"Get thee back John Lennon, the Meistersinger has arrived." Another fallen hero. "Alas poor Lennon, I knew him well." Perhaps too well.

Prudence's mother; played by Becki Blonci. Although Becki did the role of the old lady relatively well, at times I could neither hear nor understand her.

Truman Pendennis got some additional help from Carlotta Cortez (Diane Ferreira), a wicked and seductive lady who works at the local bar. Diane, as usual, turned out a spectacular performance, and gave the audience a chance to truly respond. Carlotta also had a supporting role, Fifi, her French maid, as played by Jane Morton. I felt Jane dragged noticeably throughout the night as I could not see Fifi on stage; just Jane Morton.

If this quality of play is maintained for the remainder of the productions, I think that one would be foolish in finding an excuse not to attend.



The trees are going, we hear, despite valiant efforts of some RLC students last year. Some sophomores will remember the campers who were forced to leave for violating a local fire regulations. Watch next issue for followup. (Photo courtesy of Larry Upchurch)

## JE PENSE

Keith Parker

I didn't do a damn thing this weekend. At least no one gave me credit for what I did and what I saw and what I heard. And since I received no credit for my weekend's experiences. I didn't do a damn thing. Poppycock!

Our music has lost a "chord". And our sense of harmony is hurting for it.

We've substituted an ugly "note" of credit to our music to justify all the things we do. We judge these things relevant or irrelevant according to whether some sort of credit is gained.

The perfect example is of course education. It's a shame, but through going to school we are putting ourselves further and further out of hearing distance of the "lost chord" I referred to. Examine the relevance and irrelevance of our education. We take a course for a grade, (We must have a grade or suffer the consequence of not having a damn thing!) We are given the relevant material, take the relevant test, and then are classified as A, B, C, D or irrelevant students.

### What is Relevant?

An education is simply an extension of the experiences we compile in our lifetime. We experience what we do in life. We don't experience the credit subjected or given to us. Relevancy is what we do, not what we are credited with.

Our "lost chord" is lost in the irrelevancy — of doing things, not for the sake of experience, but to get the credit for the experience.

Don't get screwed around with reward but instead say I'm going to school or I'm going to my job or I'm simply being because I want to and my gain and only reward is my experien-

ce. The chord won't be lost anymore.

*This God & Universe vibrates complete, some make it a sound so sweet.*

*Vibrations reach up to become light, & then through Gamma out of sight. Between the eyes & ears there lie, the sounds of color, and the light of a sigh. To hear the sun, what a thing to believe, but it's all around if we could but perceive.*

*To know ultra-violet, infra-red & X-ray*

*beauty to find in so many ways. Moody Blues in Search of a Lost Chord)*

## Poet's Corner

Larry Upchurch, RLC student, is a very unusual man. Who else around here has been around the world three times—underwater? He has seen life and death; and, very important, has had the time and solitude to think about what man is doing to himself. This poem is untitled, because a title, Upchurch said, would limit its meaning.

You will soon drop your chains, And your burden will fall to the earth.

You will walk down dew laden paths,

And make love near the hearth.

And you will forget me,

And pairs of pictures past,

Of hate and war and prejudice,

Of famine and fast,

Your silence will be death to me,

Or at least a part of me will die . . .

Within the earth's grass repertoire,

Even I must sometimes cry.

## THE PRESSING TIMES

Published fortnightly by the staff of The Pressing Times, Rend Lake College, Ina, Illinois, with a mini-office in the student oasis.

Printed by the BENTON EVENING NEWS.

Benton, Illinois 62812

The views expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect those of the faculty, administration, or student body.

Editor in Chief Karen Book

Sports Editor Mike Wilson

Circulation Manager Brenda Record

Photographer Becky Bondi

Illustrator Keith Parker

Columnists Courtney Cox, Keith Parker, Brenda Record

Reporters Donna Kimmel, Sheryl Guyton,

Kathleen Schutte, Karen Book, Jim Steed,

Calvin McClintock, Mike Wilson

Typists Shirley Mann, Sharon Randall

Proofreader Terri Bagwell

# New History Course Offered

Next semester, RLC is offering a new history course to sophomores—History 214, Contemporary Civilization.

Dr. Richard Doherty, a specialist on modern history and social science education, will teach the evening session on Monday from 6:30-9:30 p. m. Dr. Doherty hopes the night class will draw in "the old in years but young in spirit, as well as the part-time students of the more usual college age."

The one section scheduled during the day will be taught by Robert Jones, who also teaches Asian History and Western Civilization.

The course will cover the period from around 1945 to the present. Not necessarily politically or militarily oriented, the course will cover all facets of contemporary countries including the non-western world.

Two textbooks will be used, but current magazines, newspapers, and tv-radio broadcasts will be utilized.

# TARN Wins First Place

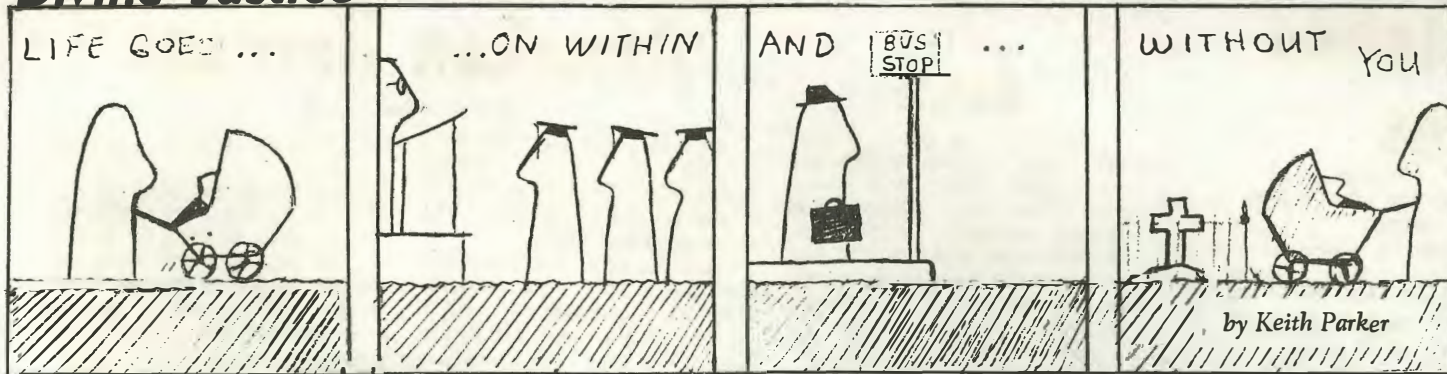
By Jim Steed

On October 15, 1971, this year's Tarn staff was awarded a first place certificate for the outstanding work of last year's yearbook staff on compiling an outstanding yearbook.

Last year, Jean Derges, editor of the Tarn, sent a publication of Tarn to the thirty-seventh annual yearbook critique and contest conducted by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association at Columbia University in New York City.

The Tarn received 893 points out of 1000 possible points used in rating the yearbooks entered in the contest.

Previous standing in contest is not considered in judging the current book. Each book is judged on its own merits. Each entry is compared with the others in its own particular classification and is rated according to its relative standing with reference to other entries in its class. The rating points have been established after a study of what constitutes the typical book.



# Local Cafe Serves as Melting Pot



By Courtney Cox

America is a nation of gaps. Generation gaps, communication gaps, and tolerance gaps. These gaps result in sharp divisions of thinking and life style which affect every American in some way. Truck drivers distrust students; students distrust administration; administration distrusts unions; and unions distrust government.

Very rarely do these people gather under the same roof for any reason. In fact, the belief may be that they never do and never will, but I propose that there is a purpose that does bring them together very near our school, food. This idea may sound ridiculous unless you consider that this is the one factor that all divisions have in common.

A small white-block restaurant owned by Ruth and Blake Burton of Whittington is one of the few places where so many divisions appear at the same time. Because it is located on a major highway, it attracts truck drivers and salesmen; because it is near a farming community, it attracts many farmers and their families; and because it is near a college; it attracts col-

lege students. And not only these people, but businessmen, school administrators, lawyers, and even surgeons gather there.

According to all theories of human behavior, this should result in sharply conflicting ideas and goals when all of these divisions are present, but it doesn't. Why not? The answer probably lies in the type of atmosphere the restaurant presents. Indeed, when a customer enters, he feels as though he were entering the home of a friend. This feeling alone helps to relieve much of the theoretical tension.

The atmosphere is relaxed making the customers relaxed, also. The friendly neighbor attitude of Mr. and Ms. Burton help produce this feeling. Having served customers for 36 years, the Burtons know that their formula is a successful one.

The idea that this restaurant represents is this: Even though Americans are divided by many gaps, each person should look for a common denominator that links himself to another person. A visit to Blake's will help to bring this idea into sharp focus. When is the last time you had lunch with a truck driver? See what I mean?

# Headless Horseman Rides in So. Illinois Legend

Fall has returned to Southern Illinois with its afternoons smelling of burning leaves and nights foggy and cool.

Each year at this time I'm reminded of the classic Chicago Tribune picture of the small boy and the old man burning leaves. It seems as the day grows late, the smoke from their fire turns into dancing Indians.

This all makes well for the season. Fall is the time of haunted houses, old cemeteries and ghost stories. John W. Allen, in his book, *Legends and Lore of Southern Illinois*, tells of such a story that happened in the Rend Lake District.

Many years ago a settler by the name of Lakey, was building a cabin by a creek just east of the present city of McLeansboro. It seems that Mr. Lakey had almost finished his cabin, when one morning he was found quite dead with his head severed. An axe in a nearby stump gave grim testimony to the method employed in the poor man's murder.

No motive could be found for the murder, and the person or persons guilty of the crime were never caught.

However, the story doesn't end here. A day or so later a couple of travelers were riding by Lakey's cabin. It was late evening and as they rode along the bank of the creek, they were joined by another rider on the opposite bank of the creek. To the horror of the travelers, their new companion was riding a large black horse and he seemed to be lacking a head.

Soon more riders in the area were joined by this fearful horseman as they rode along the creek at a late hour. The stories of the headless horse-

man were always the same. The ghost would silently join the travelers and ride parallel with them until they came to the crossing. At the crossing, the ghost would appear to melt into the creek. It is said that ghosts cannot cross running water.

The story of Lakey's ghost persisted for a few generations, but after awhile, people stopped seeing him.

A concrete bridge crosses Lakey's creek now and as Mr. Allen concludes in his story of this terrible horseman, perhaps the speeding automobiles are too fast for the ghost. A likely conclusion is that poor Lakey and his great black steed are terrified at the noise and appearance of the passing cars.

# Six Students Attend BSU Convo

On Friday, October 22, six RLC students left for the campus of Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois to attend the State BSU Fall Convention. The theme of the Fall Convention was "Celebrating His Presence."

Celebrating students from RLC were sophomores Emma Miller, Rhonda Miller, Elaine Walker, Darlene Owens, Jim Steed, and freshman Royce Shoemaker.

Jim Steed attended the State BSU Executive Council meeting to discuss some future plans for the state BSU with fellow campus BSU presidents and representatives.

At 1 p. m. on Sunday, October 24, the conference was over and the BSUers headed back to their respective homes and campuses.

# Students Register to Vote



Naomi Valli and Norma Biby (l to r) from the Franklin County Clerk's Office are shown counseling Andrew Carstensen about his right to vote and registration procedures. About 30 RLC students registered Friday, Oct. 8 as a result of their efforts.

Wed. is

913 So. 10th, Mt. Vernon, Ill.

PRESENTS

HANDS OF

TIME FROM MUNCIE, IND.

Fri. & Sat. Nov. 5th 6th

9:00 till 12:30

# Arnett Shooting for Pros

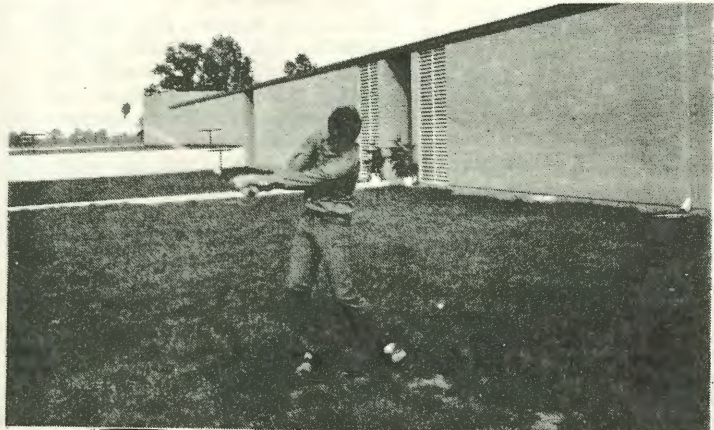
By Marty Cox

Randy Arnett, a RLC sophomore, displayed tremendous golf skills last month, as he placed medalist (low scorer) in a college gold match at Belleville. To Randy, this match was just another step in his constant effort to become good enough to compete on the Men's Professional Golf Tour.

This golf tour, commonly referred to as P.G.A., consists of the finest golfers in the world competing for thousands of dollars in prize money. Each major tournament totals between \$100,-

attend the golf school in the near future."

Randy, now 20 years old and married, started playing golf when he was 14. From that time on, he has spent countless hours practicing his game to become qualified to play on the golf tour. Randy played four years for Mt. Vernon's high school golf team, making it to the state finals his sophomore and senior years. Since his high school days, he has played in numerous tournaments, winning 16 and placing near the top in almost all



RANDY ARNETT SHOWING THE FORM THAT HAS BROUGHT HIM SUCCESS.

000 and \$200,000 which is divided up between the golfers according to their individual scores.

Before a person is permitted to play on the tour he must first be granted a P.G.A. tour card. Randy told me, "Before I could play professional golf on the tour, I would need to attend a week long golf school in West Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. There I would need to be in the upper 20 percent of the field to obtain the P.G.A. players card. The school costs \$500 to enter, but if you qualify you are given the \$500 back. If you fail to qualify, you get half of your fee back. Some pros have had to attend the school three or four times before they got their card, and then have gone on to make it big on the tour. A big advantage of the school is that there are many sponsors present, searching for good professional talent. Sponsors, who help the golfer financially, are quite necessary to young golfers who don't have the capital for such an expensive profession to get started in.

"Randy concluded, "I plan to

the others. Randy is a member at Indian Hills golf course in Mt. Vernon, but he enjoys the opportunity to play other courses which have a more professional quality to them.

Randy has caddied in a few professional tournaments for Bobby Payne, a native of Mt. Vernon, who is currently playing on the golf tour. Randy said, "By caddying for Bobby, it made me realize that the golfers in the tours are far superior to those I have played with. Also it showed me the long hours I would need to practice each week to stand a chance against those guys on the tour. Caddying gives a person a special insight to the professional world of golf, because you're right there with the pros all the time.

It would be quite unreasonable to state for a fact that Randy Arnett will someday be known as another Arnold Palmer or Jack Nicholas, but by analyzing his capabilities and past accomplishments, it would be possible to conclude that Randy may in the near future be competing against the finest golfers in the world, on the P.G.A. golf tour.



MIKE WILSON FIRING HIS BEDFORD COUNTY CAP AND BALL RIFLE.

For the first time at RLC, the athletic department has organized an advanced activities program which gives students a half-credit for participation.

The program, headed by Wayne Arnold, has started with a basketball league. The league is divided up into two divisions with a total of nine teams com-

peting.

The basketball play-off series is the week of Nov. 1-5. "In the play-off series, the winner of division A will play the runner-up in division B, and the winner in division B will play the runner-up in division A," stated Coach Arnold. The championship game is to be played at noon Wednesday, Nov. 3.

# The Art of Karate

"Karate is an art, a combat art, much like our modern ballet," stated Andre McWilliams, part time RLC student and karate instructor. McWilliams, in addition to being an RLC student and the head of the Southern Illinois Karate Association, is also a member of the Mt. Vernon police force.

In explaining the art of karate, McWilliams stated that it was developed over 2000 years ago by an Indian monk as a means of self-protection. Karate, which translated means empty hands, then spread to China and finally to Japan where it was organized into the form that it is today.

McWilliams explained that the style of karate which he practices is called Shotokan, a style often referred to as hard and soft meaning that the practitioners of the style have no, calloused hands or other physical deformities derived from the practice of karate.

In Shotokan, the main objectives are not necessarily the winning of matches, but the development of self-control and discipline. McWilliams stated that karate teaches you not only how to fight when the time comes, but more the importance of avoiding a physical conflict. "In five years on the police force I have never had to use my training in karate, but the knowledge that it is there helps when the possibility of a fight arises," said McWilliams.

Another goal and benefit of the practice of karate is the physical fitness derived from it. In karate, the whole body is exercised and a great deal of body dynamics is utilized.

Besides heading the karate club in Mt. Vernon, McWilliams is also teaching a course in karate at RLC. After 5½ years of training, McWilliams is now at the rank of 2nd degree brown belt. Although many years of training are necessary to reach the highest rank, black belt, proficiency in self-defense can usually be obtained in about six months.

Students wishing to participate in the karate program at RLC should contact Andre McWilliams. Loose clothing or a gym suit may be worn while

# RLC Students Revive American Heritage

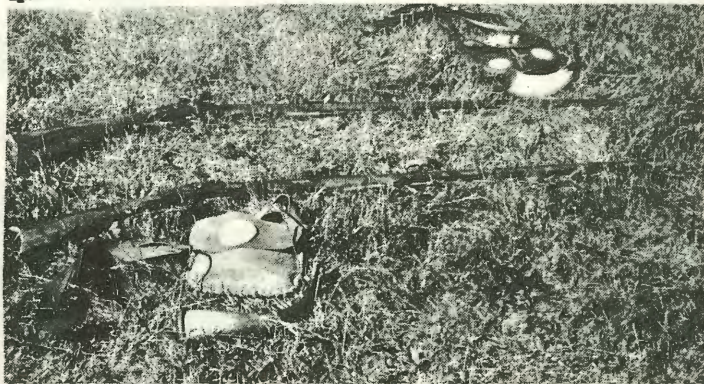
By Calvin McClintock

The sun peers over the hills sending soft rays trickling through the trees and settling in a pool on the valley floor. The air is crisp and clean.

From the door of a tent there emerges a man clad in buckskins and a coonskin cap, carrying an old long rifle. He gently

the difference is in the way they are fixed.

The flintlock, the older of the two, which was used solely until the 1820's, is fixed by means of flint striking steel. After the regular loading is done, a small amount of powder is poured into a shallow receptacle below



TWO MUZZLE LOADING RIFLES USED BY MIKE WILSON WHILE COMPETING IN THE NATIONAL MATCHES.

leans his rifle against a tree and begins preparing his breakfast over an open fire.

After his breakfast, he re-enters the tent and comes out again with a leather pouch and a powder horn slung around his neck. He picks up his rifle and walks softly toward a group of men dressed like him and carrying similar weapons.

No, this is not Daniel Boone. In fact, our hero never met Daniel Boone or ever met anyone who had. This is Mike Wilson, RLC sophomore, at the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association's shooting range nestled in a valley near the small town of Friendship, Indiana.

Each year several thousand people gather in this obscure but beautiful location and try to keep alive the heritage of our frontier, dressing like Dan'l, and engaging in competition with weapons peculiar to his time.

A muzzle-loading rifle is simply one which is loaded through the barrel. After the barrel has been thoroughly swabbed, a certain amount of powder, or charge, is poured in into it. The rifleman then places a small piece of cloth, called a patch, over the barrel and then pushes the ball, a round piece of molded lead, into the barrel so that the top of the ball is flush with the end of the barrel. After cutting away the excess cloth, he uses the ramrod to push the ball and patch down into the barrel securely against the powder.

### Two Types of Rifles

There are basically two types of rifles, the flintlock and percussion or cap and ball. Both are loaded the same way and

practicing or a uniform may be purchased. McWilliams suggests that a physical examination should be taken before starting, but he also pointed out that physical handicaps are usually no problem in the sport of karate.

the hammer. The hammer is merely a clamp which holds a piece of sharp flint. When the trigger is pulled, the hammer strikes a piece of steel causing sparks which ignite the small charge of powder which in turn sends sparks into a hole in the barrel igniting the main charge in the chamber.

The percussion rifle is fired when a cupped hammer strikes an explosive cap which in turn ignites the powder in the chamber. Introduced in the 1820's by a New England clergyman-sportsman, it was definitely a superior means of firing.

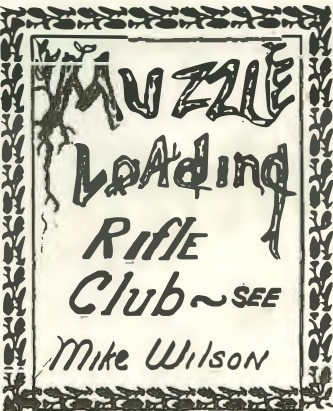
The muzzle loading rifle is still the most accurate weapon at short distances. As a matter of fact, each year since the competition began, some cartridge rifle group, including the U. S. Marines, has challenged muzzle loaders to a match. Only once have the antique riflemen been beaten.

Muzzle-loading rifle restoration and competition is one of the fastest growing sports in the nation. In the mid-1930's, the MNMLRA was founded with about 100 members. Today there are over 13,000 members in 250 local clubs across the nation.

Mike Wilson has been around this sport all his life and has been involved in competition since he was 12 years old. He has won numerous trophies, awards, and prizes since then.

Late this summer, he completed with over 2000 others in the national matches at Friendship. When asked to relate how he stood in the competition, he had no comment.

Wilson is presently involved in helping organize a muzzle-loading rifle club for the Mt. Vernon area. Anyone interested in further information about the club should contact him or Calvin McClintock.



THE PRESSING TIMES  
Rend Lake College  
Ina, Illinois 62846



Non Profit  
Organization