



Teacher of the Year

Joseph Ervin, English associate professor, was chosen by the Phi Theta Kappa Class of 2016 as the Teacher of the Year. Students said Ervin made classes fun and pushed them to think outside the box. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

PTK Rho Xi inducts 38 into Class of '16

REANNE PALMER RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Thirty-eight Rend Lake College students were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor (PTK) Society Rho Xi chapter on March 30 in the RLC Theatre. In addition to the inductees, one RLC faculty member – Joseph Ervin, English Associate Professor – was named the 2016 Teacher of the Year.

Jena Jensik, Rho Xi Chapter Advisor, welcomed the inductees and audience to the ceremony with a few brief words. Lori Ragland, Vice President of Career Technical Education, also provided a welcome and an opening address.

"During your time at Rend Lake College, I encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities in scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship, and to tap into the resources that are available to you," Ragland said to the inductees. "Whether it's an instructor, your advisor, a custodian, security officer or the president of the college, we are here for you to support your development; to help you up when you fall, encourage you when you want to give up, and cheer for you when you succeed. Congratulations on your academic achievements thus far, and I wish you all the best as you continue your journey."

The 2015 Teacher of the Year Emily Jones, Biological Sciences Associate Professor, also

gave words of advice to the inductees in the form of a quote by bestselling author H. Jackson Brown, Jr., "The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today."

"You're all already doing this, or you wouldn't be getting inducted here today," said Jones. "My word of advice is to enjoy your time now. Don't get so caught up in doing your best that you can't enjoy today. You're here to learn, but believe it or not, you can have fun at the same time. You're here to achieve a big goal, and you all are on the path to doing so. Good luck in all you do."

Ervin, 2016 Teacher of the Year, echoed many of Jones' advice, further adding his shock at receiving the award, which is voted

on and decided by the inductees.

"I'm honored and stunned to be your nominee this year, and I'm honored for a number of reasons," said Ervin. "Rend Lake College is my home; I knew it was where I belonged the moment I stepped foot in Ina. It's a place of learning where students arise to the challenge. But please remember, school is more than what is written in books. Don't forget that and don't be afraid to fail!"

Claire Pytlinski of Waltonville, Rho Xi Chapter President, then called each student to the stage to sign the chapter's record book to conclude the ceremony. After the formal induction, the students enjoyed refreshments and snacks at a reception in the Theatre Lobby. Brett

Gibbs accompanied the ceremony on the piano.

PTK has inducted over 3 million members worldwide since 1918. According to the honor society's website, there are over \$90 million in scholarship opportunities for members. The average grade point average of all members is 3.8 and members see a 92 percent average graduation rate. For more information about PTK, visit www.ptk.org.

To learn more about PTK at RLC, contact Jensik at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1293 or jensikj@rlc.edu.

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Job Search Party tonight in MTV

REANNE PALMER RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Job seekers are invited to visit with nearly 40 employers at Rend Lake College's annual Job Search Party from 3 – 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 5 at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn.

RLC is partnering with WSIL-TV3 to host the event, which drew approximately 400 businesses and applicants to Mt. Vernon last year. Those planning to attend the free event should dress business casual and bring several copies of their résumé. Attendees will also be entered into a drawing for several door

prizes. "Rend Lake College is proud to, once again, partner with WSIL to host the Job Search Party at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn," said Corey Phillips, Director of the RLC MarketPlace in Mt. Vernon. "This is an incredible opportunity for any and all job seekers, students, or even someone looking for a career change. We have an excellent group of employers this year and we are expecting another great turnout this year. We hope to see everyone on April 5th."

The following businesses will have booths at the Job Search Party:

Aisin Illinois Plants, Auto Credit of Southern Illinois, Blachere Illumination USA, Carbondale Police Department, Christopher Rural Health, Continental Tire the Americas LLC, Eaton Cooper B-Line Gratings, Extra Help Inc., Fare Foods Corporation, Fastenal Company, Focal Pointe Outdoor Solutions, Inc., Garon Foods, Illinois

Department of Employment Services, Illinois Department of Human Services - Division of Rehabilitation Services, Lone Star Steak-

Job Search continues on page 2



Employers from Rend Lake Resort speak with a job seeker at the 2015 Job Search Party at the Holiday Inn in Mt. Vernon. Annually, the event draws several hundred individuals looking for employees or to be employed. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

Pytlinski nominated for Campbell Excellence Award

REANNE PALMER RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

After an outstanding year of service, Rend Lake College's outgoing student trustee Claire Pytlinski of Waltonville has been nominated for the Illinois Community College Trustees Association's (ICCTA) Gigi Campbell Student Trustee Excellence Award.

Pytlinski found out about the award earlier this month and said she is honored to receive the nomination. She will be replaced on the board at April's monthly Board of Trustees meeting, but is appreciative of the time and experience she's received in the last year.



Claire Pytlinski

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Cast of 'Godspell' spring musical small, but mighty

The life and lessons of Jesus will be brought to life by a handful of Rend Lake College students for the rock Spring Musical "Godspell (2012 Revised Version)." Tickets are on sale now with opening night set for 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7, in the RLC Theatre.

The rock musical "Godspell (2012 Revised Version)," written by three-time Grammy and Academy Award winner Stephen Schwartz, focuses around a small group of individuals who help Jesus Christ tell parables from the Book of Matthew. Schwartz is also known as the writer of the Tony award-winning smash hit "WICKED."

Boasting a wide range of chart-topping songs, such as "Day by Day," "Learn Your Lessons Well," and "All for the Best," among others, the characters tell Jesus' life story through song and dance before dissolving into the Last Supper and Crucifixion. In the end, messages of kindness, tolerance, and love come to life for everyone in attendance.

"Godspell (2012 Revised Version)" marks the 10th show for director Sara Alstat, RLC Associate Professor of Music. She said, though the show at first glance seems to be about one religious sect, the audience will have an entirely different

opinion at the closing curtain. "Many people have the misconception that 'Godspell' is a story just for Christians, but it is for everyone. The teachings of the bible are a large part of the shot, but there is an underlying meaning," said Alstat. "This show is more about a group of individuals, from all walks of life, coming together as a community to make the world a better place. A world of peace, love, and joy."

The lead role of Jesus will be portrayed by John Odle of Marion who is no stranger to the stage, or even the role itself. Odle was cast as Jesus in a performance at John A. Logan College several years ago, and is excited to play the part once more for his debut performance at RLC.

"I have played this part once before and I am excited to get one more chance at it," said Odle. "I am most excited to just be on stage again. There is something special about being on any stage performing, but this show is very unique to any other I have done."

Odle continued to say his favorite part so far has been working with the other cast members and crew to help evolve the musical into something distinctive and exceptional.

"This group is continuing to work on

this show and make it as perfect as possible. These parables and lessons are told a little bit different than you have ever heard before," said Odle. "There is something for everyone in this show. I'm looking forward to this cast reaching its full potential on stage. It's going to be exciting."

Sharing the spotlight with Odle this year will be Andrew Lampley of Benton who will portray both John the Baptist and Judas. "Godspell (2012 Revised Version)" marks Lampley's second musical at RLC, having played the role of Jean Valjean in the 2015 musical "Les Misérables." When asked, Lampley said he's been focusing on Judas and his understanding of the role.

"I am excited to convey the transformation and development of Judas. He goes through a great change throughout the show, and I cannot wait to share my interpretation," said Lampley. "I am also looking forward to sharing the cast and crew's hard work with the audience."

"Godspell (2012 Revised Version)" will be a family-friendly performance with plenty of audience interaction, Lampley added.

"The audience is very involved in this show, and it will be so much fun for everyone," said Lampley. "My favorite

part will be singing the music from the show."

In addition to Odle and Lampley, there are 11 actors, all of whom are expected to help build the set in addition to learning songs and dances:

- Olivia Bailey (Mt. Vernon) as Anna Maria
 - Tyler Bourland (Ina) as Reece
 - Bethaney Brown (Mt. Vernon) as Celisse
 - Sierra Harrell (Opdyke) as Lindsay
 - John Hunsell (Herrin) as George
 - Dalton Miller (Mt. Vernon) as Nick
 - Deborah Pettit (Mt. Vernon) as Meredith
 - Lauren Schaubert (Mt. Vernon) as Uzo
 - Krystal Schuch (Newton) as Isabelle
 - Laci Zeidler (Pinckneyville) as Morgan
 - Yuting Zhang (Dahlgren) as Telly
- Behind the scenes, Stage Manager Shelby Patterson of Waltonville will be taking charge in her fifth production at RLC. This spring marks her last semester before graduation, and she's hoping everyone will join her for the exceptional show.

"Godspell" is a wonderfully delightful show. This script gives us the chance for creative license and open interpretation,

something not found often. We are putting in a lot of humor and the choreography is really fun and will be a treat for the audience," said Patterson. "This show is full of emotion and will be well worth the money to come see."

Patterson has experience both on and off stage, having been a cast member in the spring "Flummoxed Fairy Tales" for RLC and the 2013 fall play "Treasure Island." She's also served as the sound designer, board operator, and props master over the years. Last year, in addition to her work on RLC's stage, she stage managed at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and the Benton Civic Center. "Godspell (2012 Revised Version)" marks one of the smaller casts she's worked with, but still finds them inspiring.

"My favorite part so far about working on 'Godspell' has been working with the cast," said Patterson. "There are only thirteen this time, so it's nice to work with a small group. Each cast member is extremely talented and we've already formed an intimate sense of family within the group. They rely heavily on each other to make the show come together and also each get their own shining moment."

"Godspell (2012 Revised Version)"

will be on the RLC Theatre stage at 7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 7 - 9 and 2 p.m. Sunday, April 10. Tickets are on sale for \$12 each. They can be purchased by calling the RLC Box Office at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1467. Some tickets may also be available at the door on show night, if not sold out.

According to MTI Shows, "Godspell (2012 Revised Version)" is a musical rendition of the Christian Gospel, primarily the book of Matthew but also some selections from Luke and one from John - with a contemporary soundtrack and aesthetic. It was created by John-Michael Tebelak, who wrote it as his master's thesis at Carnegie Mellon University, but after its successful debut, its producers hired an up-and-coming composer named Stephen Schwartz to rework the music. It was a second break-out success for Schwartz, after "Pippin" which he worked on alongside Bob Fosse, winning him two Grammys and paving the way for further successes, such as some of the DreamWorks cartoons, the movie "Enchanted," and the musical "WICKED."

For more information, visit www.rlc.edu/springmusical. To learn more about the show, visit www.mtishows.com/godspell.

Phi Theta Kappa inductees (related story on page 1)



JEFFERSON COUNTY - These Rend Lake College students are Phi Theta Kappa Rho Xi inductees from Jefferson County. Pictured is, **FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT, Colleen Skobel (Mt. Vernon), Alexandra Ritchey (Mt. Vernon), Jamie Rizzo (Woodlawn), Rebecca Clark (Mt. Vernon), and Brittany Lomax (Mt. Vernon); BACK ROW, FROM LEFT, Victoria Skobel (Mt. Vernon), Christina Conner (Ashley), Joshua Miller (Ina), and Jared Cross (Mt. Vernon).** (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)



FRANKLIN and MARION COUNTY - These Rend Lake College students are Phi Theta Kappa Rho Xi inductees from Franklin and Marion counties. Pictured are, **FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT, Amy Kovarik (Benton), Cris Cawthon (Centralia), Andrea Shaw (Benton), Courtney Jay (Benton), and Cynthia Jaco (Benton); BACK ROW, FROM LEFT, Nicholas Marlo (Sesser), Kieran White (Sesser), Brittany Ferris (Benton), Valerie Potmas (Zeigler), Wade Hutchens (Ewing), and Jacob Young (Benton).** (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)



OTHER COUNTIES - These Rend Lake College students are Phi Theta Kappa Rho Xi inductees from Champaign, Hamilton, Jefferson, Washington, Wayne, White, and Williamson counties. Pictured is, **FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT, Shelby Collins (Bluford), Maude Wheeler (McLeansboro), Megan Rubenacker (Dahlgren), Amber Hadley (Marion), and Alexis Hadley (Marion); BACK ROW, FROM LEFT, Hannah Zyk (Du Bois), Jada Caston (Champaign), Sherri Smith (Wayne City), Kyle Sell (Norris City), and Kaleb Burris (McLeansboro).** (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)



Loucks honored

Deborah Loucks of Sesser was named the Rend Lake College Foundation Outstanding Student for the month of February. She is currently seeking her Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees in Music and Theatre from RLC. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)



Kickstart

Sesser-Valier sophomores Desiree Pavletich and Paul Walker played with the chance cards during the Reality Store game - just one feature of RLC's Kickstart Your Journey event for local high school freshmen and sophomores. In the game, students were given a career based on different education levels and then they had to visit a number of booths to either purchase or receive money. The goal was to teach the students about budgeting and finances. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)

Culinary Arts Showcase takes you 'Around the World in 15 Days'

REANNE PALMER
RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Take a trip around the world during a five-course meal at Rend Lake College's Culinary Arts Showcase, returning this spring for its fourth annual event. The Showcase runs through Friday, May 6.

The Culinary Arts Showcase is an event that resembles a fine dining restaurant run by RLC Culinary Arts students enrolled in the Restaurant Management course. Using the bi-level kitchen and dining area in the Student Center on the Ina campus, students work in a variety of roles, ranging from executive chef, sous chef, server, runner, Maitre D', and many more to get hands-on experience in all aspects of the restaurant business.

"The Restaurant Operations course is unique in that it gives our students the chance to learn about the different aspects of working in or owning a restaurant business in a hands-on approach," said Jeff Fairbanks, RLC Culinary Arts Associate Professor. "Our 'Around the World in 15 Days' theme this year will offer patrons specials from across the globe throughout the Showcase. The students are prepping now to be well-prepared for opening night in March, and

we're excited to be offering a wide-range of options not commonly found in Southern Illinois for the community. We invite everyone to spend an evening helping our students and tasting some delicious menu items."

This year, the Showcase will feature specials from different countries and regions, alongside a set menu. Simpler menu choices will be available for children. Guests will have a choice of:

- Appetizers**
- Charcuterie Board:** In-House Cured Summer Sausage, Smoked Salmon, Specialty Pickles, Smoked Gouda, with Mustard Aioli, served with Crostini
- Balsamic Bruschetta:** Toasted French Bread topped with Parmesan, Garlic, and Basil
- Bison Tostadas:** Shredded Smoked Bison with Sour Cream, Queso Fresco, and House-Made Salsa
- Soup or Salad**
- House Specialty Soup:** French Onion Soup served in a Freshly-Made Bread Bowl
- Soup du Jour:** See the server for the soup of the day
- House Salad:** Romaine, Watercress, Shaved Radicchio, Red Onion, and Cherry Tomatoes, with a Parmesan-Garlic Vinaigrette

- Special Salad:** A Wedge Salad with a Bacon Blue Cheese Dressing
 - Entrées**
 - Smoked Pork Tenderloin:** Slowly-Smoked with Peach and Bourbon Wood topped with a Peach Bourbon Glaze, served with Roasted Reds and Grilled Asparagus
 - Twin Surf n Turf Skewers:** Teriyaki Steak Skewer paired with an Herbed-Shrimp Skewer, served with Wild Rice and Grilled Asparagus
 - Cajun Mahi:** Blackened Mahi Steak with a Cajun Cream Sauce, served with Wild Rice and a Vegetable Medley
 - Thyme-Roasted Duck:** Roasted Duck with Thyme, Cherries, Shallots, and a Hint of Rosemary with a Pan-Seared Reduction, served with a Cauliflower Mash and Brussel Sprouts
 - Gnocchi Pasta:** Basil Gnocchi Pasta with a Pesto Cream Sauce
 - Desserts**
 - Various desserts available weekly
- The Culinary Arts Showcase will be open from 5 - 8 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays. Tickets cost \$25. For more information or to make a reservation, call the RLC Community and Corporate Education Department at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1714.

Evening advisement hours set for RLC, MarketPlace campuses

REANNE PALMER
RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

To assist potential students who can't get to campus during the day, Rend Lake College academic advisors have set up some dates to hold meetings in the evening. Evening hours at both the

Mt. Vernon and Ina campuses have been scheduled to help students register for Summer or Fall 2016 semesters.

Advisors will be available by appointment-only between 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. on Mondays, April 25, and May

23, in the MarketPlace, Office 396, in Mt. Vernon. While making an appointment, advisors will schedule students for testing, if necessary.

A student who attended another institution should bring their unofficial transcript or placement scores to register. New students who are seeking a degree will need to take the placement test, unless they have scores from the past five years. Certificate-seeking students do not need placement scores and should be eligible for registration.

Students can also visit the Administration Building on the Ina campus from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, April 26, and May 31 to be registered.

Before coming in for registration, potential students should apply online at www.rlc.edu/admissions. RLC boasts an open-door admission policy and the one-page application takes only minutes to complete. When applying, students should also submit ACT or SAT scores, as well as official high school or other college transcripts to the RLC Records office.

All students are also encouraged to file a free financial aid application online at www.fafsa.gov.

RLC offers over 120 associate degree and occupational certificate programs. These programs include traditional classroom settings in addition to online and hybrid courses. Check out all of these programs and more at www.rlc.edu/Journey.

To schedule an advisement appointment for either location, contact Academic Advisement at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1226.

Job Search

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house, Lowe's, Man-Tra-Con, Manpower, Mt. Vernon Police Department, Patient

Innovation Center, Pepsi Mid-America, Phoenix Modular Elevator, Primerica Financial Services, Priority Professional Group, Priority Staffing Group LTD, Regions Bank, Rend Lake College - AmeriCorps, Roll-n-Up Smoke Shop &

Liquor, Shoe Stop, Southern Illinois Healthcare, Stringer Creative, Studio RLC, TDL Group, Transamerica Agency Network, UniQue Personnel Consultants, United Methodist Children's Home, United States Army, and Withers Broadcast-

ing. Additional employers are expected to be on hand.

For more information, contact Whitney Schulte at (618) 244-9525, Ext. 2000 or schultew@rlc.edu.

Studio RLC highlighting new workspace at open house April 19

Students interested in becoming cosmetologists, barbers, nail technicians, estheticians, or instructors can learn about Rend Lake College's Studio RLC during an open house. The recently-renovated studio will be open from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 19.

Upon arriving, students and parents will enjoy a tour of the school and studio area while receiving information about the programs. Current RLC students and faculty will be on-hand to answer questions. Attendees will also be entered into a drawing to receive a free haircut and a gift basket.

The associate degree programs take two years, or four semesters, to complete, while some of the certifi-

icates can be completed in as little as one semester.

Graduates with a teacher occupational certificate may also have the chance to return as instructors at Studio RLC.

Studio RLC will also offer early registration for the Fall 2016 semester. Those interested should bring a current driver's license or state identification card and a copy of their high school diploma or GED. Financial Aid representatives will be available to help students with the FAFSA and other financial concerns.

To RSVP to the event or find out more information, contact Daphne Mitchell at (618) 242-8459 or mitchelld@rlc.edu.



ATHLETICS

SECTION

Zach Becherer's remarkable season over

20-year-old RHP will have Tommy John surgery on partial tear

WILLIAM MCPHERSON
CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

NA, Ill. (April 1, 2016) – For baseball fans and players alike, April 14 was going to be a marquee day for Rend Lake College athletics.

A group of RLC Warriors out at Eovaldi field, watching the Benton Rangers play the Mt. Vernon Rams, talked amongst themselves about what a "circus" it was going to be. Scouts are expected from every single MLB team to watch a classic pitching duel between John A. Logan's Matthias Dietz and RLC's Zach Becherer.

That all changed in a game just under a week ago. Becherer said he felt his elbow "just kind of pop." At first he believed he could work through it, but it didn't take long to notice something was seriously wrong when his normal 98-mph fastball that had acquired so much interest from pro scouts, was barely registering in the low 80s. It was the telltale sign of an ulnar collateral ligament injury (UCL) and MRI results confirmed a partial tear.

Becherer, who recently signed a deal to play for Delta State, will require Tommy John surgery, so named after the MLB pitcher who was the first to have the procedure performed. Becherer says that he is expected to be out anywhere from eight to 12 months, according to doctors. To his RLC teammates, Becherer added, "Good luck and take it as far as you can, because I think we have a good program this year."

RLC baseball coach Tony Etnier noted that losing Becherer is both a crushing blow and also a great opportunity for other players on the team to prove themselves.

"Any time you lose an arm like that it's going to be a huge hit, but this is something that we've talked about before when others have gotten hurt,"

Etnier said. "When one door closes, another one opens."

"Zach's been a really good teammate, and a really good kid, and he still has a really bright future in baseball. It's just not going to be at Rend Lake, unfortunately," said Etnier. "He had an outstanding season going. He was striking out almost two guys per inning, which is almost unheard of. He's legitimately one of the best arms in the country at the junior college level."

For Becherer, the game against JALC was going to be a great opportunity to show people what was possible for athletes who play at RLC. The game is also set to be RLC's "Junior Day" in which high school juniors from around the area get a chance to tour the campus and take in a game.

"Obviously when you put two of the top arms in the country on the same field, that's going to draw some attention," Etnier said. "The actual game itself, it would have meant the same as any other conference game, but it is a nice recruiting tool to be able to show people that this kind of buzz is possible here at Rend Lake."

"At this point for [Zach], every game he threw was the biggest game of his life. This year, every game he threw there were more and more scouts. The game he was injured in, there were 18 scouts there that day. That's more than half the Major League teams represented, and that number was just continuing to grow every week."

Becherer said that the pressure from scouts did not faze him, and was not a factor in his injury, which occurred throwing one of his trademark fastballs.

"I don't really think about it when I'm out there. I just throw my game," added Becherer.

Etnier mentioned that the added attention Becherer brought with him was also great for many other members of the Warrior team, noting that while not all may have drawn professional offers, that pro-scouts often mingle with college scouts which increases the chances for everyone to advance in their careers.



'Good luck and take it as far as you can, because I think we have a good program this year.' – Zach Becherer, a 20-year-old pitcher from Troy, Ill., to his teammates after suffering a season-ending partial tear to his UCL.

RLC catcher Aiden McMahan, of Wolf Lake, IL was one player that Etnier singled out as benefitting most from the added attention. McMahan has also had pro-scout interest. He said of his teammates' injury, "[Zach] won't be back for us, but it was good while it lasted. He was doing a really good job and it's just heartbreaking for him to have an injury like that."

Both Etnier and Becherer said that the injury was very sudden and there was little that could have been done to prevent it.

"There were zero symptoms," Etnier said. "It was a complete shock. Sometimes that's the way it happens. Sometimes there's elbow pain reported beforehand, but there was nothing that we knew about that we could have prevented. The bottom line is that throwing a baseball is not a natural movement, and anytime you are throwing a baseball – especially the harder you throw – it's a high-stress movement on your arm, so there's always a chance for injury."

Becherer said that he is grateful for all the support and well-wishes he has received since his injury. He said he's determined to come back and work harder than ever to realize his full potential on the mound.

Hammerton leads women's golf to 14th at Saluki Invite

CARBONDALE, Ill. – The Rend Lake College Women's Golf team moved up a place at the Saluki Invitational, hosted by Southern Illinois University (SIU) Carbondale at Hickory Ridge Golf Course in Carbondale. The Lady Warriors finished the tournament in 14th place with a team score of 706 (360-346).

The Lady Warriors were led by sophomore Alexis Hammerton of Peoria who tied in 32nd place with a two-day score of 160 (79-81). She was followed by Shelby Johnson (Greenwood, Ind.) with a score of 176 (90-86). Effingham-native Morgan Wilson moved up ten places to finish with a score of 182 (95-87). Addison Gray of Metropolis was only a few

strokes behind at 188 (96-92). RLC's Taylor Aldridge (Eldorado) wrapped up RLC's team with a score of 199 (97-102).

Assistant Coach Lexie Shoemaker led the charge for RLC in the absence of Head Coach Cindy Corn, making her collegiate coaching debut. Shoemaker said, though the team started off rough, they pulled out a big win by topping local competitor John A. Logan College.

"The first day was okay, but we played so much better today. I'm happy with everyone's scores," said Shoemaker. "We need to practice a little more – it's still early in the season – but our course management is getting a lot better. They're playing it safe and not trying

to hit those tricky shots. I had a lot of fun coaching and I'd love to do it again."

William Woods University of Fulton, Mo. and IUPUI (Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis) tied for first place at the tournament with scores of 610. Host SIU Carbondale fell to third with a team score of 613 (303-310). Austin Peay State University's Jessica Cathey placed first overall individually with a two-day score of 144 (74-70). For full results from the event, visit www.golfstatresults.com.

The Lady Warriors competed at the Washington University Invite Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3 in St. Louis. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.

RLC Rec hosting Summer Smash, Battle at the Crossroads tournaments in June

REANNE PALMER
RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Several team spots are still available for youth to have a ball at the Rend Lake College Rec this summer. The Summer Smash 14U tournaments for baseball and softball will be held June 3-5, and the Battle at the Crossroads 14U softball and high school baseball tournaments will be held June 17-19.

The Summer Smash tournaments will

be held the weekend of Friday, June 3, through Sunday, June 5, with a three-game guarantee for each team. One spot remains for a softball team and three are open for the baseball tournament. The entry fee is \$325 per team.

Both Battle at the Crossroads tournaments have four team spots available, with a three-game guarantee, for the weekend of Friday, June 17, through Sunday, June 19. The entry fee for the 14U softball tournament is \$325. For

high school baseball, the entry fee is \$350.

Event T-shirts will be available for pre-order and concessions will be sold at the tournaments. Awards will be given to the top two teams at the end of the event.

For more information or to register a team, contact Rec Director Tyler O'Daniel at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1279 or odaniel@rlc.edu. To learn more about the Rec at RLC, visit www.rlc.edu/the-rec or check them out on Facebook.

Warrior softball, JALC split during GRAC match-up

NA, Ill. – The Rend Lake College Softball team split a doubleheader with John A. Logan College on March 29, taking the first game with a landslide 10-2 victory but falling 6-8 in the second. The Lady Warriors are now 12-6 overall and 6-3 in the Great Rivers Athletic Conference (GRAC).

For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Game 1
JUCO Softball
Rend Lake College
v. John A. Logan College
@ Carterville, Ill.
March 29, 2016
RLC - 0 1 0 0 5 0 4 - 10 15 1
JALC - 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 - 2 4 3
Winning Pitcher: Jordan Lodge (Campbell Hill) 7IP, 10K, 1BB, 4H, 2R, 5-3 Record; Catcher Jessica Prange (Campbell Hill)
Hitters for The Lake: Ashley Modglin (Campbell Hill) 2-5; Breyia Cooper (McLeansboro) 3-3; Jordan Lodge (Campbell Hill) 1-4, 1HR, 3RBI; Sara Dixon (Benton) 3-4; Jessica Prange (Campbell Hill) 2-3; Maddie Jones (Pinckneyville) 3-4, 3RBI

Game 2
JUCO Softball
Rend Lake College
v. John A. Logan College
@ Carterville, Ill.
March 29, 2016
RLC - 0 1 0 0 2 0 3 - 6 11 5
JALC - 3 0 2 1 1 1 X - 8 11 5
Losing Pitcher: Hannah Poynter (Louisville, Ky.) 4-3 Record; Catcher Jerrica Money (Carmi)
Hitters for The Lake: Jessica Prange (Campbell Hill) 2-4, 2RBI; Sara Dixon (Benton) 2-3; Maddie Jones (Pinckneyville) 2-4, 1RBI

Warriors baseball takes 13-1 win over SIC, moves to 19-12

REANNE PALMER

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

NA, Ill. (March 30, 2016) – The Rend Lake College Baseball team took a sweeping 13-1 win over Southeastern Illinois College yesterday at home to move to 19-12 for the regular season and 7-3 in the Great Rivers Athletic Conference. The victory marks the ninth for the Warriors out of the last ten games.

RLC will play a doubleheader with Three Rivers Community College at 1 p.m. today. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Game 1
JUCO Baseball
Rend Lake College
v. Southeastern Illinois College
@ Ina, Ill.
March 29, 2016
SLCC - 0 0 0 0 1 0 - 1 0 0
RLC - 3 3 0 1 1 5 X - 13 18 1
Winning Pitcher: Dayton Tripp (Goreville) 7IP, 7H, 1R, 5-1 Record;

Catcher Aiden McMahan (Wolf Lake)
Hitters for The Lake: Nate Williams (Kevil, Ky.) 4-4, 3R, 6RBI; Sam Troyer (Goshen, Ind.) 2-4, 1R, 1RBI; Aiden McMahan (Wolf Lake) 3-5, 1R; Brodie Brown (Carmi) 2-4, 2RBI; Ostin Clark (Camden, Ind.) 1-4, 1R; Martin Ward (Benton) 1-3, 2R; Levi Tanner (Johnston City) 2-4, 1R, 1RBI; Luke McConnell (Shelbyville) 1-1, 2R; Tanner Maskey (Springfield) 2-4, 2R, 2RBI

Children's Health Fair offering 15 exhibits, four presentations for local schoolchildren

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Hundreds of local grade schoolers will soon be crowding the Rend Lake College campus for the Children's Health Fair to learn about their bodies and how to stay healthy. The event, geared toward kindergarteners through sixth graders, is slated for 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Friday, April 8 in the James "Hummer" Waugh Gymnasium.

The main event at the fair will be the Healthy Body Walk wherein the students will physically travel through the human body, interacting with exhibits and learning about the different systems. RLC students in a variety of different health care programs will lead the students through the walk, teaching

them healthy fitness and nutrition habits along the way.

Students will have their pick from 15 interactive exhibits spread across the gymnasium floor, including a fitness obstacle course, cycle fitness, Jiu Jitsu by iQ Athletics, Zumba, gaming and music fitness, and many more.

Beth Mandrell, Reference Librarian and event organizer, said all of the activities and exhibits will be geared toward children's health.

"We are having cycle fitness, gaming fitness, and Jiu Jitsu exhibits back this year because they were so popular last year," said Mandrell. "It is great that the students will actually be exercising and having fun with it at the same time."

Representatives will also be in atten-

dance from Franklin County Ag in the Classroom, the YMCA of Jefferson County, King's Way Foods, the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts, 4H, the American Heart Association, and Good Samaritan Hospital.

Several of the exhibitors will also host a presentation for the students. The topics and discussions will focus on a trip to the emergency room, meeting a doctor, Internet safety, and anti-bullying.

RLC Associate Degree Nursing students will also be on hand with poster sessions to teach the students about a wide variety of health topics.

"In the 'A Trip to the ER' presentation, students will actually see the equipment used in an ER such as an AED machine, a backboard, and an oxy-

gen mask," said Mandrell. "The idea is to help them be less

afraid if they should have to visit an ER. Two other presentations will include anti-bullying and Internet safety which are topics that we definitely want children to be informed about."

The fair is the result of a successful Health and Wellness Fair last year that was attended by over 350 area grade school students. The goal this year is to help the students gain an early awareness of healthy lifestyle choices.

All activity booths will be located in Waugh Gymnasium, the Aquatic Center lobby, and outside, weather permitting. Interested vendors and school officials may contact Beth Mandrell for more information at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1276 or mandrell@rlc.edu.

Pytlinski continued from page 1

"I've loved getting to know people, especially the staff and the board and even the students. I like to be able to talk to them and find out what they're thinking," said Pytlinski. "I enjoyed this experience and lot, and I hope the next trustee embraces it while they can. It went really fast. I would've loved to slow that time down. I'm super glad that I had the chance to hold this position. I cannot thank Rend Lake College enough. I had a great time."

The Ag Business Production and Management major said her future plans are to transfer to Southern Illinois University this fall after graduation and continue her journey to become a college agriculture teacher.

Pytlinski is the daughter of Bruce and Annette Pytlinski. She has been named to the President's List for a 4.0 grade point average during her every semester at RLC and is a member of RLC's two honor societies, Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Phi.

On the side, Pytlinski is also active in RLC's Collegiate Future Farmers of America (FFA) Club and she was crowned the 2015 Homecoming Queen. Outside of school, Pytlinski enjoys all things outdoors, especially helping on the family farm, bow hunting, and fishing.

Mt. Vernon for their third straight win. The Lady Warriors are now 7-2 for the season. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Lady Warriors tennis moves to 7-2 with win over Kaskaskia

MT. VERNON, Ill. – The Rend Lake College Women's Tennis team defeated Kaskaskia College 8-1, March 29, in

the Gigi Campbell Excellence Award was proposed and created by student trustees in 1996 to recognize exemplary leadership by their peers. The award is named after the late Gigi Campbell of Prairie State College, a student trustee and single mother of five who championed diversity, financial aid awareness, and educational opportunity for all.

According to the ICCTA, nominees are outstanding campus leaders who also serve as strong advocates for students and community colleges. Some of the criteria included the individual make efforts to communicate with students, be a functioning member of the board of trustees in discussions, exhibit effort to serve the best interests of the students and college, and much more.

Other nominees include Alexa Buss from Highland Community College, William Dixon from Oakton Community College, Adam Doty from Lake Land College, Brandi Husch from John A. Logan College, and Yesenia Mata from College of Lake County.

The recipient of the award will be announced at the ICCTA's Annual Convention in Springfield on June 4. The winner will also receive a \$500 scholarship for Fall 2016 educational expenses. For more information, contact the ICCTA at 1 (800) 454-2282 or icctca@communitycolleges.org.