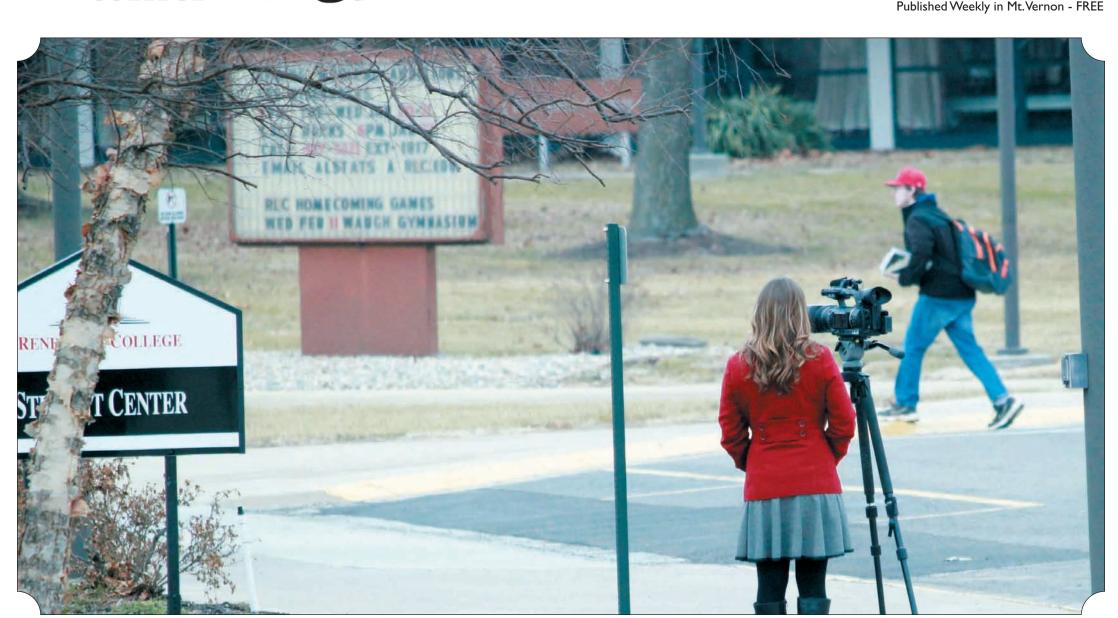
Centralia, IL Permit #25

Volume 3,

Number 19





Campus news
A reporter with WSIL TV3 spent time on campus last week, shooting "B Roll" and interviewing students for a story. (Taylor Blankenship / Clocktower **Chronicle Staff Photographer)**

What the tech? RLC joins area high schools in upgrade grant

BY REANNE PALMER
RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

end Lake College and several surrounding high schools are receiving an upgrade to their videoconferencing equipment, thanks to the 2014 Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Project, administered by the Rural Utilities Service.

The \$439,425 grant will be divided between four Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market (SICCM) members — RLC, Kaskaskia College, Shawnee Community College, and Southeastern Illinois College — and Southern Illinois University Carbondale to install and upgrade videoconferencing equipment in the surrounding area.

RLC will upgrade current equipment on the main Ina campus and the Murphy-Wall Pinckneyville Campus. Additional funds will upgrade equipment at Thompsonville, Waltonville, Wayne City, and Webber Township high schools, as well as install state-of-the-art equipment at Hamilton County Senior High

"Most of the videoconferencing equipment in the Rend Lake College district is approximately 10 years old," said Andrea Witthoft, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness. "Due to the age of the current equipment, technical failures have increased over the past few years and these issues impact the quality of the teaching and learning



Webber Township is one high school that will get tech upgrades from a Rural Utilities Service grant of nearly \$440,000.

experiences. The participating SICCM institutions are very grateful to receive the funding to replace the aging equipment."

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program is

designed to assist rural communities in obtaining distance learning and telemedical technologies for local teachers to utilize.

The grant funds will connect community college faculty, high

school teachers, and high school and adult students for the delivery of college-level courses, thus

Grant continues on page 2



President Obama has mentioned the America's College Promise a lot lately — even from the kitchen, pre-game at the Super Bowl. RLC students respond to the idea of free community college for all in today's story by Billy McPherson. (Photo courtesy of The White House)

Campus weighs in on Obama's promise of free community college for all

BY BILLY MCPHERSON RLC CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE STAFFWRITER

n Jan. 20, in his annual State of the Union address, President Barack Obama introduced his new incentive aimed at reducing the cost of community college "to zero." The plan, known as "America's College Promise," aims to make a

two-year community college education as commonplace and affordable for Americans as public high school.

"America's College Promise" is modeled closely after "The Tennessee Promise" — a program implemented in the state of

Obama continues on page 2

SICCM, Nursing, Rad Tech programs testing deadlines approaching

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION NA, III. (Feb. 3, 2015) — Students have only weeks left to complete applications and test for placement into several Rend Lake College programs, including Nursing, Radiologic Technology, Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT), Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA), Surgical Technology, and

Veterinary Technology. The first deadlines are for the SICCM (Southern Illinois Collegiate Common Market) programs — MLT, OTA, Surgical Technology, and Veterinary Technology - with applications and testing due by March 1 for the Fall 2015 semester. Applications for RLC's associate degree Radiologic Technology and Nursing programs are due the fol-

lowing month, by April 1. As a part of the applications, students are required to take the Psychological Service Bureau (PSB) test in RLC's testing center, located in the Academic Advisement Center in the Administration Building.

PSB TEST DATES AND TIMES

For students interested in the SICCM programs, one test date remains before the application deadline: 9 a.m. or 1:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 13. Students interested in RLC's Radiologic Technology program may also test on this day or at 9 a.m.

Testing continues on page 3

Americans who likes a good tailgate party, it's entirely possible that it's the highlight of game day for you. In a survey conducted by McCormick Grill Mates during the 2014 football season, 44 percent of respondents said they enjoyed the tailgating more than they enjoyed the game.

ing sage observation: "Is

a game is going on?"

[hunting] really a sport if you

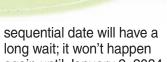
have all the equipment and

your opponent doesn't know

• If you're one of the many

• Just like your fingerprint, your tongue print is unique.

 Spring is traditionally considered the most popular time for weddings, but 2014 saw a spike in nuptials in mid-December. More than 13,000 couples in the U.S. tied the knot on Dec. 13, due in large part to the fact that 12/13/14 fell on a Saturday. Anyone else who would like to marry on a number-



<u>BY SAMANTHA WEAVER</u> • It was comedian Bill again until January 2, 2034. Maher who made the follow-

Strange But TRIF

• If you're feeling a bit chilled and can't wait for springtime, consider this: On the planet Uranus, winter lasts for 21 years.

 You might be surprised to learn that Pennsylvania was not named after William Penn, one of the colony's founders; in fact, King Charles II granted the land charter to William Penn in repayment of a debt to Penn's father, Admiral William Penn, and created the name of the sizable land grant by combining the name of the naval officer with the Latin word "sylvania," which means "woods." The younger Penn was embarrassed and feared that people would think he named the colony after himself. He petitioned the crown to change the name, but the king refused.

Thought for the Day: "Bigamy is having one wife too many. Monogamy is the same." — Oscar Wilde

INC	F۰

Obama

continued from page 1 Tennessee that gives high school seniors access to a free community college education at the in-district institution of their choice. According to a press release from The White House, roughly 90 percent of last spring's high school gradu-

ates in the state have applied for the program. Obama says federal funding "will cover three-quarters of the average cost of community college." States that choose to participate will be expected to contribute the remaining funds necessary to eliminate community college tuition for eligible stu-

press release states. He compared this program to the GI Bill in the 1940s, which enabled millions of World War II veterans to receive an education after the war.

dents, a whitehouse.gov

"I want to spread that idea all across America, so that two years of college becomes as free and universal in America as high school is today," added the President.

The White House has listed some criteria for the program, such as students must attend at least half-time.

THEN BATTEN DOWN THE

HATCHES 'CUZ IT'S GONNA GET

maintain a 2.5 GPA while in college, and make steady progress toward completing their program. But skeptics of the proposal want to hear exactly how proponents plan to pull off such a promise.

RLC student Tim Naas, a history major now in his second semester, stated, "I am against it because of the cost of such a proposal. The money has to come from somewhere." Devin Williams, a third-semester student majoring in automotive technology, said, "I think it's great to give everyone an opportunity to learn, but the prices of everything else will skyrocket." Alicia McPherson, a sophomore early childhood education major at RLC, added, "It would definitely be a good thing to have, but on the other hand I think it would be harder to find the job you went to school for because everyone will have a degree." She thinks some

"This is an investment in our nation's future. People want to invest in roads, bridges, but the real future is in the young people," said Jesse Hinds, a history major now in his third year at RLC. "That is the real infrastructure we should be concerned with. Investing in the youth is something that will

employers may lower wages

for community college grad-

uates who received free col-

pay for itself." According to a recent report by the Wall Street Journal, the proposed plan is estimated to cost taxpayers \$60 billion over the next 10 years. Critics of the program have challenged it by saying that community college is already free — or very affordable — for most who need it. According to Seton Hall University Professor Robert Kelchin, 38 percent of community college

Grant continued from page 1

improving dual enrollment partnerships and enhancing college course offerings at several extension sites. This videoconferencing technology can

help to reduce transportation and distance barriers for rural community residents while increasing their access to a college education.

For more information, contact Rend Lake College at (618) 437-5321.

by Mike Marland



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SO, DAD, WHAT

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- 21 Word with "slide" o "golden"
- 23 Pinsk pancake
- 24 Attack the lawn
- 27 Get stronger
- 31 Cracksman 33 Anno Domini
- alternative 35 Stand by
- 37 Quod demonstrandum
- 38 Fed. air-quality
- watchdog 41 Striped antelope
- 42 Psychic "gift"
- 44 Bravo's cousin 45 What one little pig had
- 47 Varmint
- 50 NYC power co.
- 52 Torso muscles 55 Film critic Gene
- 56 Thespian's org. 58 "Give it ___!" ("Try!")
- 60 Explorer Hedin
- 62 One's external world 64 Summon
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- 70 Circle lines 71 Wide-eyed wonder
- 72 LePew et al.
- 73 Astronaut John
- 74 Sidekick of Stimpy 75 Chromosome choice

20

- 1 Nuclear blockbuster, briefly
- 3 Snookums
- 4 Scoreboard divisions
- 6 Every one of
- 8 Hunting cry
- and Recreation"
- 18 Denver omelet
- ingredient 22 Greatest

- Down
- 2 How mud might move
- 5 Long March leader
- 7 Top ___ (the best)
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- 11 Final word, often 12 Big body of water
- 14 Band performance
- 25 Takes place
 - - 26 Stir-fry fryer
 - 29 Mountain range in
 - Kazakhstan
 - 30 Meat paste
 - 32 "I'm leaving," in

 - 36 Stimulate 38 SASEs, perhaps

 - 43 Ginger
 - 46 Leather from the sea
 - of Homer 49 Take again
- 51 Enter quickly, as a
- 28 Designer Saarinen

- chatrooms
- 34 Highest point in Sicily
- 39 Pal of Owl and Rabbit
- 40 Actress Kendrick
- 48 Legendary burial isle
- pool 53 Scuzzball
- 54 Petition supporter
- 57 U.S. economic measure
- 59 Sidewalk game
- 61 Asheville's st.
- 63 Alley-___ (court play)
- 64 Work unit 65 Actor Kilmer

lines

- 66 Dedicated flowery
- 68 Have a mortgage 69 R&B's Boyz II _

Solution to Crossword puzzle printed on page 3.

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students had their tuition and fees entirely covered by grant aid. Kelchin gets his data from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS), a nationally representative sample of students enrolled in the 2011-12 academic year.

"An additional 33 percent of students paid less than \$1,000 out of pocket for tuition and fees," Kelchin

Federal college grants are

currently offered through the Pell program. RLC Financial Aid Director Cheri Rushing said roughly 35 to 40 percent of RLC's students this past semester are here on Pell Grants. She said a student who qualifies for the maximum Pell Grant will typically have all of his or her classes and books paid for by the program. She estimates RLC currently has about 800 students who receive Pell.

Sherry Summary, the financial aid director for John A. Logan College, said the institution's neediest students have all of their costs met and receive a refund if

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they live in the district. According to Summary, Logan's district — bigger than RLC's — had 1,650 students receive Pell Grants the last fall semester. On the proposed program itself she added, "I agree that community college should be free, but I don't know how the federal or state governments

could pay for it." Nationally, about eight million students attend community colleges, according to figures provided by the American Association of Community Colleges. That figure is expected to rise even higher in the near future, according to the AACC.

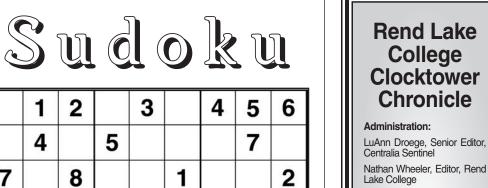
America's College Promise calls for community colleges to "offer programs that either are academic programs that fully transfer to local public four-year colleges and universities — giving students a chance to earn half of the credit they need for a four-year degree or are occupational training programs with high graduation rates and that lead to degrees and certificates that

are in demand among employers."

RLC, which was founded in the 60s with a focus on occupational training, recently received national attention for having one of the best completion rates among its peers.

RLC President Terry Wilkerson said, "We have been following the news about the Tennessee Promise and America's College Promise, and it will be interesting to see how those things progress. We will keep our eves out for more details on the specifics of President Obama's proposal in the coming weeks. Free college for everyone certainly sounds great, and we'd like to see what plans are in place in terms of maintaining eligibility, a funding formula

and other details." For more information on the program, visit www.whitehouse.gov. Students concerned with paying for college can contact RLC's financial aid department in the Administration Building at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1238.



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Solution to Sudoku puzzle printed on page 3.

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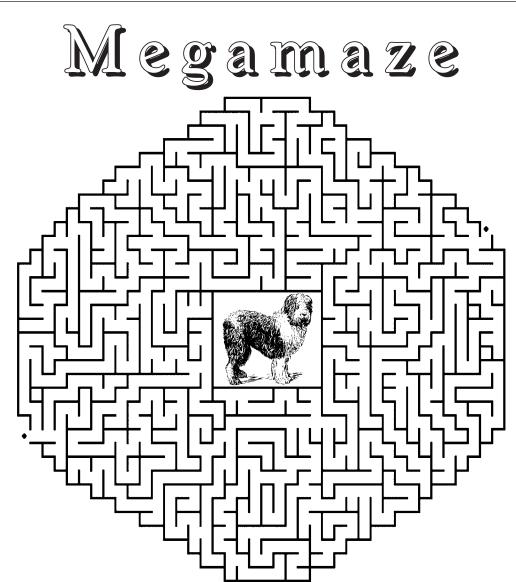
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\$20 for a one-year subscription; free on RLC campuses Circulation: Subscription and delivery information is available by call-



Solution to Megamaze puzzle printed on page 3.



"A Salem Tradition"



Testing continued from page 1

or 1:30 p.m., Thursday,

March 5. Students applying to RLC's Nursing program can take the PSB test at 9 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. on the following dates: Wednesday, Feb. 11; Monday, March 2; Tuesday, March 3; or Wednesday, March 4.

The PSB test costs \$30 and is due at the time of registration, which must be done in person in the Academic Advisement Center. Testing will occur in the Administration Building, Room 215. Students should bring photo identification for admission to the test

The PSB is a five-part, computerized, timed test that is also a criterion for admission into the several Allied Health programs at RLC. The

exam may be taken twice during an application year, once in the fall and once in the spring, and scores will be issued on the day of the test. The five parts vary depending on the student's program of choice and may include academic aptitude, spelling,

science, vocational adjustment, judgment and comprehension in practical nursing situations, or vocation adjustment.

For questions about the PSB test, contact the Academic Advisement Center at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1268.

SICCM PROGRAMS

The Medical Laboratory Technician program accepts five RLC students every year to study for employment in a variety of health care offices and hospitals. MLTs perform

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reading, natural

rotations in local hospitals or clinics during the second year of study for the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree. After completing the MLT program, students can sit for a national examination offered by several national agencies. Within the next seven years, there will be 70,600 jobs added to the MLT industry across the country, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

testing on blood and bodily

fluids under the supervision

well as do maintenance on

equipment and instruments

Students in the MLT pro-

gram will complete clinical

in the workplace.

of a medical professional, as

(BLS). The Occupational Therapy Assistant program also selects five RLC students to participate in the AAS degree. OTAs provide services to clients who have functional loss due to physical, neurological, social, emotional, cognitive, or developmental disabilities. Students will learn how to tailor rehabilitation for individual clients in lecture and hands-on laboratory instruction.

Graduates can sit for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy national examination. OTA jobs will grow by 41 percent between now and 2022, adding 15,900 jobs across the country, states the BLS.

The one-year Surgical Technology occupational cer-

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tificate teaches participants to assist surgeons and other medical professionals in hospital operating rooms and other environments. By 2022, there will be an additional 127,800 jobs for surgical technicians nationwide, according to the BLS. Graduates from this program can sit for the National Certifying examination given annually

The last SICCM program,

by appointment.

Veterinary Technology, is a two-year AAS degree that readies students to assist a veterinarian in all phases of medical and surgical work with small, large, exotic, and lab animals with theoreticalbased classroom learning and extensive hands-on experience through practicums. The program prepares graduates to sit for the annual national accreditation examination. The BLS states there will be an additional 25,000 jobs available for veterinary technicians by 2022.

Most general education courses for the SICCM programs are taught on RLC campuses with program-specific courses taught at the SICCM facility in Herrin. More information about the SICCM programs can be found online at www.rlc.edu/alliedhealth or by calling (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1251.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING

RLC's Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program is

designed as a conceptbased method of instruction focusing on critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, clinical reasoning, and nursing judgment. Students will learn how to give quality nursing care to clients as well as work as a member of nursing and health care teams.

The 64-credit-hour program is approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. Upon graduation, students are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Regis-

tered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Graduates will be prepared to practice professional nursing in a variety of health care settings. According to the BLS, registered nurses (RNs) work in a number of health care settings, including hospitals, physicians' offices, nursing facilities, correctional facilities, schools, and in the military.

The BLS also states there will be 526,800 new jobs added to the field by 2022 a growth rate of 19 percent. This faster-than-average growth will bring the total jobs for RNs to 2.7 million across the country.

Typically, the median salary for an RN is \$65,470.

To learn more about RLC's Associate Degree Nursing program, visit online at www.rlc.edu/alliedhealth/nursing or contact the

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Melisa Berendson, RLC Director of Nursing, at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1705.

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

The Radiologic Technology program is designed to prepare students for fastpaced careers as radiologic technicians in hospitals or other health care facilities. In preparation, students will learn about the different operations of radiologic equipment and the study of human anatomy, as well as complete clinical experience in local hospitals.

Upon successful completion of the 71.5-credit-hour program, students will be eligible to take the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists Certification examination. RLC's program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology.

There will be approximately 48,600 new jobs for radiologic technicians by 2022, according to the BLS. This 21 percent growth will total nearly 230,000 job opportunities across the country, mainly in

hospitals or other emergency care facilities. The median salary is \$54,620.

To learn more about RLC's Radiologic Technology program, visit online at www.rlc.edu/radtech or contact Holly Heisner at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1778.

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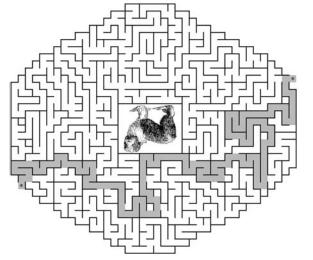
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Solution to page 2

Sudoku puzzle.

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Solution to page 2 Megamaze puzzle.



Solution to page 2 Crossword puzzle.

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RLC Track and field contend at Prin Relays

BY REANNE PALMER
RIC SPORTS INFORMATION

NA, III. (Feb. 2, 2015) — The Rend Lake College Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field teams competed in their second meet of the season Saturday — the Prin Relays at Principia College in Elsah, III.

Lady Warriors Mallory Bergbower (Bluford) and Erina Moore (Belle Rive) competed in the 3000 meter run and 60m dash respectively. Bergbower shaved off some time in the 3000m run from the John Craft Invitational last weekend, finishing with a time of 12:18.4. Moore competed in the 60m dash for the first time this year, finishing with a time of 8.62.

Several RLC Warriors competed in new events on Saturday as well, including Devonte Ware (Charleston, Mo.) in the 60m dash with a time of 7.09, Crayton Turner (Mt. Vernon) in the 60m dash with a time of 7.87, and Karson Hahn (Mt. Vernon) in the 500m dash with a time of 1:08.31. Also new events for the team were the 1600 sprint medley, 4x200m relay, and 4x800m relay. Prestunn Bolton (Flossmoor), Robert Grider (Dix), Austin Reed (Murphysboro), and Jake Wilson (Mt. Vernon) finished the 1600 sprint medley with a time of 4:03.65. Bolton, Grider, and Reed joined Turner in the 4x200m relay

the 4x800m relay, Hahn and sophomore Tony Lyerla (Murphysboro) teamed up with freshmen Nick Ryker (Mt. Vernon) and Jordan Wilemon (Mt. Vernon) for a time of 8:37.16.

Other Warriors returned to the same events as the Craft Invitational hoping to knock off some time and qualify for National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCĂA) Nationals, to be held in Albuquerque, N.M. later this spring. Reed beat his 8.92 time at the Craft Invite 60m hurdles with a new time of 8.83. Ryker and Wilemon both competed in the 1 mile run. Wilemon took off half a second to finish at 4:43.38. Ryker added two seconds to his time at 4:47.25. Dixon, Ky. native Jeremy Garrett added some time to his 3000m run to finish at 11:45.74.

Though already qualified for NJCAA Nationals in March, high jumper Alex King (Metropolis) and pole vaulter Joseph McDaniel (Mt. Vernon) practiced their skills at the Prin Relays. King jumped 2.07m (6' 9.5"), again over the 2.00m needed to qualify. McDaniel finished the day at 4.27m (14")

RLC will compete at the 2015 Jim Green Invitational at Illinois College in Jacksonville this Saturday. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/war-

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RLC Women's Basketball win four straight with victory over Shawnee

BY REANNE PALMER

NA, III. (Jan. 29, 2015) — The Rend Lake College Women's Basketball team hit a four-game winning streak after a 96-47 win over Shawnee Community College (SCC) Jan. 27 at home. They improved to 8-8 for the season.

Leading the Lady Warriors in the scoring column was Brianna Hawkins (Louisville, Ky.) with 23 points. She was followed by Valencia Chandler (Joliet) with 18 points, Mykhaela Tolds (Pearland, Texas) with 16 points, Jada Ballew

(Cincinnati, Ohio) with 15 points, Savannah Enlow (Corydon, Ind.) with 11 points, Jenae Rowe (Joliet) with 7 points, and Jordann

Bruenton (Cincinnati, Ohio) with 6 points.

The Lady Warriors will play in the Homecoming game against Wabash Valley at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit RLC online at www.rlc.edu/warriors.





Jada Ballew of Cincinnati, Ohio, ABOVE, LEFT, makes a play during the Lady Warriors game against SCC. Ballew was a force on both sides of the court, scoring 15 points for RLC. LEFT, Freshman Brianna Hawkins of Louisville, Ky., RIGHT, lines up a shot against SCC in Waugh Gymnasium. Hawkins scored a game-high 23 points. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC **Sports Information**)

Warriors win in overtime against SWIC

RLC SPORTS INFORMATION

NA. III. (Feb. 2, 2015) - The Rend Lake College Men's Basketball team won in overtime Saturday against Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) 73-69. The win moves them to 11-10 for the season and 3-6 in the Great Rivers Athletic Conference (GRAC). Top scorers for the Warriors

were Dedric Byrd (Champaign) with 22 points, Armani Iowns (Columbus, Ohio) with 20, and Greg McLain (Chicago) with 14. **RLC** will host Wabash

Valley on Feb. 11 for the Homecoming game and last regular season game of the year. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors



Herrin native Taylor Nugent signs to Lady Warriors Golf team INA, III. (Feb. 2, 2015) — Herrin High School (HHS) senior Taylor Nugent, SITTING, SECOND FROM LEFT, signed a national letter of intent to play for the 2015-16 Rend Lake College Women's Golf team last week. She is pictured with, FRONT, FROM LEFT, her father John Nugent, Taylor Nugent, her mother Deidra Nugent, and RLC Head Coach Cindy Corn; BACK, FROM LEFT, HHS Athletic Director Mike Mooneyham, HHS Assistant Coach Missy Frankel, HHS Head Coach Mike Steh, foreign exchange student Leire Ornaetxea, and her sister Sydney Nugent. (Submitted photo)



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Women's Basketball: Lady Warriors fall to

BY REANNE PALMER RLC SPORTS INFORMATION

NA, III. (Feb. 2, 2015) The Rend Lake College Women's Basketball team lost 58-61 Saturday to Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC). They move to 8-9 for the season and 4-5 in the Great Rivers Athletic Conference (GRAC).

Top scorers for the Lady Warriors were Brianna Hawkins (Louisville, Ky.) with 16 points and Jada Ballew (Cincinnati, Ohio) with 14 points.

RLC will host Wabash Valley on Feb. 11 for the Homecoming game. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Edward **Jones**°

SWIC 58-61

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