



A new semester kicked off on campus last week. College faculty and staff were excited to see students back to work and ready to learn. Don't forget to check out Student Services for information on support services available at RLC. (Nathan Wheeler / RLC Public Information)

REC the Scale challenging campus, community to get in shape

Get started with this challenge.
\$25 and weigh-in
TODAY between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

BY REANNE PALMER

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

If getting in shape and losing those extra holiday pounds are on your to-do list for the new year, then Rend Lake College has a challenge for you. The Rec at RLC and

the Aquatic Center are partnering to start the first REC the Scale Challenge.

Starting Tuesday, Jan. 19, contest participants of any age will weigh in at the Rec and begin the 12-week challenge to lose the highest percentage of body weight. For a \$25 fee,

participants can utilize the Rec and Aquatic Center on the Ina campus at their leisure during this time. The individual with the highest percentage of body weight lost will be the winner and will receive a cash prize.

Rec Director Tyler O'Daniel said, though REC the Scale is a competition, the goal of the event is to help locals reach their fitness goals.

"The REC the Scale Challenge is designed to motivate participants into making healthy changes in their lives, from exercising more to creating better eating habits. To our contestants, we want them to know that are here

to help them every step of the way," said O'Daniel. "This is a competition, and we are all together for the fight for a better life."

Laura Johnston, Aquatics Center Coordinator, added, "The Rend Lake College Aquatics Center is a great way to lose weight as well, it is easier on the joints and can help relieve soreness from working out at The Rec."

Weigh-ins will be held every other week at the Rec and are mandatory. Contestants may weigh-in during Rec hours: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. The final weigh-in is scheduled for Monday, April 11. In the event of a tie, a one-week extension will be given to

the tied contestants.

Additional classes will be available for contestants for an additional \$5 fee per day. Participants are also encouraged to take part in the Warrior 5 and Warrior 8 runs, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 27 and Saturday, April 2 respectively.

For more information, contact O'Daniel at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1279 or odanielt@rlc.edu, or Johnston at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1207 or johnston@rlc.edu. Registration for the REC the Scale Challenge must be done in person at the Rec or Aquatic Center.

Shelby Patterson: A step inside the world of theater

BY JUSTIN WOMACK

CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE STAFFWRITER

The magic of theater is often a mystery, and for some maybe it is all just smoke and mirrors. Rend Lake College's theater however, for the past few years, has had a true touch of magic. Behind the scenes on some of RLC's most anticipated productions is one person that keeps it all together. Shelby Patterson.

Patterson came to RLC a young woman from the small town of Waltonville. She went right out of high school to college trying find out which path she should take. She started with general courses like English, science, and math. Lacking a feeling of fulfillment, Patterson enrolled into the intro to film class where she met Theater Director Tracey Webb. Patterson always had an interest in the theater and went to some of Webb's shows at the college as a young girl. One of the most memorable was the production of "Grease" back in 2006. Webb was a great influence on Patterson and encouraged her

to join the RLC Thespians and eventually Patterson become the stage manager for her shows.

"I approached Tracey about getting involved in theatre. She urged me to start coming to the Thespians club meetings every Friday afternoon to start practicing the art of comedic improvisation. After that, I got hooked on all things theatre."

Once she was involved in the theater she began making many new friends and colleagues. After her first performance her role began to shift over to work behind the curtain and eventually made her way into a stage manager's role. To the audience a stage manager's role in the theater is often unnoticed but for those involved in the production Patterson's influence would prove to be most valuable by taking on tasks such as generating rehearsal and performance reports, paperwork regarding props, set changes, costumes, and

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Shelby Patterson

'Tradition With a Twist'

Artist Profile: Taylor Blankenship

BY WILLIAM MCPHERSON

CLOCKTOWER CHRONICLE STAFFWRITER

Taylor Blankenship is a promising local Southern Illinois artist that has built up an impressive body of work, and acquired a litany of skills – a feat that is made all the more impressive by the fact that she has yet to reach the age of 20. She has created many different interesting pieces, such as pastels, painting with various types of materials, body-painting, drawing, woodworking, stained glass, photography and much more.

Taylor, a communications major at Rend Lake College who wants to pursue a career in advertising, loves to use her artistic ability to make people think about various cultural issues in a unique and personal manner. She says her art instructors Melissa McClement-Engler and Therese Melena always tell her that they can tell what work is hers because she "has a certain style . . ." While Taylor isn't quite sure how to define her style just yet, some general clues came up later in the conversation that helped better understand where this talented young lady goes for inspiration.

She said no one in her immediate family possesses an artistic bent of any kind. She considers many members of her family to be quite creative, just not in an artistic sense of the word.

"My family is the [traditional] American family. We go to church. We live by certain morals. So, with my art, I like to incorporate that sometimes, but put a twist on it."

That "twist" is the signature that overlaps all of her artistic endeavors and gives Taylor's work its own identifiable style. One can see it on display



Taylor Blankenship

with pieces such as her drawing entitled "Lighten Up" which features an idyllic display of fluttering butterflies broken up by a fist slamming down, sending fragments shooting off of the page at the viewer in an attention-grabbing three dimensional effect.

Taylor agreed that having no direct artistic influences from her parents or grand-parents makes her current style and choices more unique and "out of the box" than your typical 19-year old artist. Her styles and themes all come from her own mind, and are as such completely original pieces, as opposed to repeating any sort of tradition handed down over generations. Taylor says that she sets very high standards for herself in this regard, expressing that she does not try to openly emulate any other artist or style, but strives to produce original thought-provoking work that is all her own.

She comes from a family of nurses. Taylor herself was originally enrolled in the RLC nursing program until one of

Blankenship continues on page 3

Fitness, health the goal of several workshops at RLC

BY REANNE PALMER

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Don't keep putting off your fitness, or physical and emotional health. Rend Lake College is offering a number of workshops to encourage individuals to start working on a better you this spring.

One workshop begins today, though participants shouldn't be intimidated by the title – Boot Camp. Instructor Clint Mayer has designed the class around all fitness levels. He says all exercises in the workshop can be modified to fit the needs of each participant, despite age, fitness level, or gender. Each class will be different and will target different muscles.

Boot Camp will meet from 5 – 6 p.m. Tuesdays from Jan. 19 through May 10 in the Rec on the Ina campus. The class costs \$50.

In two weeks, join Instructor Cathy Lamont for a workshop in Body Toning. This class is a full-body conditioning and strengthening workout designed to help participants improve their functional strength, flexibility, and coordination. Free weights will be used in this

class to help tone the body.

Body Toning costs \$69 and will meet from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays from Jan. 25 through April 20 in the Benton Middle School Choir Room.

Later this month, join health enthusiast Natalie Furman to learn how to prepare nutritious food in a healthy, quick, and easy way in Healthy Everyday Cooking. The recipes will change for each class, starting with healthy cookies, and followed by veggie burgers, salad, and smoothies consecutively. During each workshop, individuals will complete the recipe and have something delicious to take home.

The class will meet from 6 – 8 p.m. on the following Tuesdays: Jan. 26, Feb. 2, Feb. 9, and March 1; all in the Student Center, Room 103, on the Ina campus. Each meeting of the Healthy Everyday Cooking class costs \$10, plus a supply fee.

The University of Illinois Extension is also hosting two workshops this spring

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Spring tech-shops start tomorrow

Microsoft, Quickbooks, Linux, social media on tap

BY REANNE PALMER

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Rend Lake College is doing all things digital this spring with six upcoming computer program workshops and a course designed to focus on social media for businesses.

Start learning about Microsoft products with Beginning Microsoft Word next week. This workshop, which meets from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 20, focuses on the fundamentals of word processing, including how to use the menu system and toolbars; open, reopen, print, save, and close documents; insert and delete text, reverse an edit operation, apply attributes to text, and move text blocks. Time also will be spent learning about the spelling and grammar checker, the thesaurus, the help menu, and the auto correct dictionary.

If you're itching to know more, sign up for Intermediate Microsoft Word. This workshop will expand upon features from the Beginning course in Microsoft Word 2010 to help attendees learn to make writing easier, faster, and more fun. The Intermediate workshop meets from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18.

Also offered next month will be Beginning QuickBooks. This often-confusing program will be discussed to help participants make their accounting effortless. Some of the topics will include instruction in setting up a chart of accounts; reconciling a checking account; creating and printing invoices, receipts, and statements; tracking income, expenses, and inventory; and generating reports. Beginning QuickBooks meets from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 3 through 24.

Later this spring, Beginning Microsoft Excel will take attendees through a world of numbers, making spreadsheets as easy as 1-2-3. In this workshop, students will learn how to use the menu system and toolbars; open, reopen, print, and close workbooks; and enter labels. The instructor will also cover the secrets to adding values and formulas into worksheets, formatting spreadsheets by adjusting the size of columns and rows, using borders and shading, and changing the page set-up. The Beginning workshop meets from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 21.

Once you've mastered the basics, consider enrolling in Intermediate Microsoft Excel to improve on your knowledge of spreadsheets. This course will provide helpful tips about working with large spreadsheets, templates, and graphics to make professional projects complete. Participants will learn how to protect workbooks and manage multiple-sheet works, as well as how to understand the secrets to links, hyperlinks, tables, and outlines. Intermediate Microsoft Excel meets from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday, April 11.

Each of the computer workshops listed above will meet in the RLC MarketPlace, Room 338, in Mt. Vernon. Each class costs \$40, with the exception of Beginning QuickBooks, which costs \$80.

In the last computer program workshop of the spring, Instructor James Featherstone will introduce students to Linux Mint, an easy-to-use operating system in his Linux for the Home User course. This free system offers excellent security and provides the basic programs needed to surf the web, send emails, create documents, produce presentations, and much more. Linux also offers countless applications to download for free, giving the user limitless options to customize and personalize their machine.

In this workshop, attendees will receive their own machine to customize and, thanks to local donations, everyone will be able to keep their computer excluding the monitor. Featherstone will be on-hand to help students connect to the Internet, help with downloading and using programs and applications, and answer any questions. The class costs \$50 and will meet from 5 – 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, in the Advanced Technology Center, Room 165, on the Ina campus.

Business owners, marketing professionals, and anyone with a social media account is invited to attend the Social Media for Business workshop with Pamela Schallhorn of the University of Illinois Extension. This two-hour workshop focuses on how to get the most out of each social media platform, including LinkedIn, Blogging for Business, Facebook, and others. A special emphasis will be on marketing techniques and the "promote post" features on each site.

Schallhorn recommends that each participant already have a social media account before attending. The workshop costs \$10 and will meet from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, in the Academic Building, Room 215, on the Ina campus.

To learn more about these courses, contact RLC's Community and Corporate Education Division at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1714, or at comcorp@rlc.edu.

Hobby workshops this month

REANNE PALMER

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Take on your favorite hobby head-first this spring with six workshops at Rend Lake College. Learn to do everything from painting and beading to building a street rod.

Back by popular demand, RLC's Principles of Street Rodding workshop gets participants right in the middle of building a safe street rod. A 1939 Chevy Coupe is used for demonstrating a number of topics, such as selecting the right project, choosing chassis and suspension options, picking engines and transmissions, and selecting the right brakes and wheel-tire combinations. Instructor Jody Martin encourages attendees to wear long pants and close-toed shoes. Safety glasses and welding glasses or hoods are also required.

The workshop is open to anyone over the age of 16, unless accompanied by an adult. Attendees can participate in one or both sessions for new hands-on opportunities for \$89 each. Session one meets from 6 – 9 p.m. Tuesdays from Jan. 26 through March 1. Session two follows from 6 – 9 p.m. Tuesdays from March 15 through April 19. Both sessions meet in the Vocational Building, Room 125, on the Ina campus.

No painting or drawing experience is needed for RLC's Fun with Acrylics workshop. Instructor Sharon Corn will guide all participants step-by-step to creating a 16-inch by 20-inch masterpiece to take home. All supplies will be provided for each session, which cost \$15, plus a supply fee.

There will be three sessions, and attendees can choose to take one, two, or three, from 6 – 9 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center, Room 103, on the Ina campus. A roster will be the focus of the first session on Feb. 23. Ball jar cone-flowers will be painted on March 22, followed by a tropical sunset session on April 19.

If your body is your canvas, consider RLC's Makeup 101 workshop, hosted by Instructors Kay Keelin and Ardyn Huff. This hands-on workshop will teach participants how to correctly apply foundation, contour, and eye makeup for day or night; and will give other helpful tips to enhance the individual's natural beauty.

Attendees are asked to bring their own makeup and utensils to the workshop where instructors will give step-by-step instruction and answer any questions. The course costs \$15 and will meet from 5:30 – 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 22, at Natalie Joseph's in McLeansboro.

Continue your crafting hobbies with The Art of Homesteading, led by Instructor Anne May who has a vast knowledge of homesteading practices learned from her travel to five continents. May will focus much of the sessions on homesteading, or self-sufficient living, and how to make it a lifestyle choice. These topics include basic homesteading techniques used in both rural and urban settings, city versus country gardening, brambles and perennial crops, easy meal prep, and much more. Special subjects will also include managing a small-scale poultry flock, producing high protein meats, canning, harvesting, and making homemade laundry soap.

The workshop costs \$45 and will meet from 6 – 9 p.m. Tuesdays from March 8 through 22 at the Historic Schoolhouse on the Ina campus.

Participants have until March 29 to decide if they want to learn the Methods of Soap Making with Instructor Verlinda Newton, who will talk about the history of soap making, as well as teach the six methods of soap crafting, about the tools and ingredients needed, and the benefits of each method. Everyone who attends will have supplies to take home afterward.

The workshop costs \$10 plus a supply fee and will meet from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, in the Historic Schoolhouse on the Ina campus.

Learn how to make beautiful one-of-a-kind beaded bracelets with RLC's Sociology Instructor Sarah Draper during Beaded Jewelry Basics. In this workshop, participants will learn the basics of making beaded jewelry by choosing to make either a bracelet or necklace with a pair of matching earrings.

Each workshop session costs \$15 plus a supply fee and is open to anyone over the age of 12. The first session meets from 5 – 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, in the Historic Schoolhouse on the Ina campus, and the second session meets at the same time on Tuesday, May 3 at Hamilton County Senior High School, Room B157, in McLeansboro.

To learn more about these courses, contact RLC's Community and Corporate Education Division at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1714, or at comcorp@rlc.edu.



'Building a City'

Blankenship

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her high school teachers convinced her to follow her artistic desires and, she said, pushed her outside of her comfort zone. She says her first real awakening to art as anything other than just a fun hobby came when her high school hired a new art instructor - Seiger Shurtz. Shurtz teaches art in grades 9-through-12 at Christopher High School. He says on his LinkedIn page that he teaches both the basics of art as well as the importance of art history, and hopes to help students "apply creative thinking to their everyday lives."

Shurtz showed her the possibilities of the talents she possessed. "Why aren't you going for art? Isn't that what you want to do?" Shurtz told her when he found out Taylor was still planning on enrolling in nursing classes instead of majoring in some kind of art-related program. With that motivation, Taylor decided to make a major change in her life. She is attending RLC on an art scholarship. The scholarship itself is a unique one, with the funds being completely raised by fellow art students like Taylor who created and donated original pieces of work to the yearly "Students for Students Art Auction," sponsored by the RLC Art League.

In the spring semester last year, Taylor won both the Portfolio and the Purchase awards at the RLC Student Art Show sponsored by the RLC Art League.

"I really was proud of that, because I didn't see it coming!"

The contest was judged by world-renown artist Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, who is the Lead Fine Arts Instructor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where Taylor plans to transfer once she completes her classes at RLC. Abdul-Musawwir said of the overall quality of art at this year's RLC student contest, of

which Taylor's received top honors, was "some of the best" he had ever seen.

The piece that won her those accolades was a totem-poll sculpture called "Alice and Wonderland" featuring a paper-mâché version of Alice resting atop a large stack of books, littered with playing cards, with a part that bares the inscription "We're All Mad Here." This originally began as a totem-pole assignment in her Design II class under McClement-Engler.

"[My classmates and I] were all kind of silently competing, to see how creative we could be."

The piece took Taylor two full weeks to complete, and was one of her most challenging so far in the functional aspect of working with and repurposing real-world items such as books, and getting them to structurally cooperate with her artistic vision.

"I was initially going to carve into the books, but that kind of presented a problem so I changed it around – and I really wanted to do something that told a story."

She says her main goal was to tell a story using a non-traditional totem-poll building method – something other than wood carving, and the first story that came to mind was "Alice in Wonderland."

Taylor mentioned that originally she wasn't great at drawing people, but thanks to the discipline and tips she picked up in Melena's Drawing II class, she now feels much more comfortable with that kind of art. Among her proudest pieces are two recent pastel portraits of a young man, and another of a young woman. These two portraits of existing photographs took two modern college students, and without changing anything in the picture directly, transformed them into characters that look like they would be perfectly at home in a 1950s Art-Deco or Gooogie environment.

Among the more unique forms of art Taylor has pursued is body-painting. She mentioned that this is an interesting form of art due to the nature of having to rely



'Lighten Up'

upon another person as a canvas. It's also a very temporal form of expression, as regardless of the amount of time and energy Taylor puts into a body-painting she knows it is all destined to swirl down a shower drain. She enjoys this form of art because of its eye-popping nature.

"When you see an actual person, and you see the actual design on them, it definitely grabs your attention."

One of her most striking uses of body paint was on a piece she called "Prove Yourself." With this piece Taylor used a mixture of light and dark colors to add depth and texture to her living canvas. Inside the heart, the veins and other body parts are painted a vibrant flame-like blue and yellow which gives the piece an illuminating contrast to the graphic realism of the outer edges.

"I like to do weird stuff," Taylor said of her work - not gory or dark, but in a way that gets people's attention and makes them stop and think about the psychological aspect of what they're looking at. What draws Taylor to a particular project is "when a piece of art tells a story. I love bold colors in all sorts of different mediums too. And, of course, I like the different stuff that you don't see every day."

Taylor noted that her biggest artistic influences so far have been her teachers; Shurtz, who first pushed her to pursue her hobby as something more serious, and her RLC instructors Melena and McClement-Engler.



'Alice and Wonderland'

work, her main goal was to "make people stop and think" and also to showcase a quality of purpose for the hands in the image. Depending upon the frame of mind of the viewer, the hands in the image, she said, can represent either a positive rebuilding or destructive force upon the city they hold.

"I basically wanted the viewer to interpret it however they wanted. The hands were either rebuilding the city, picking up the aftermath of what had been damaged, or the hands could have caused the damage."

Taylor has already produced a wide variety of artwork for someone her age. She has also produced beautiful stained glass work, wood work and even a cardboard piece called "Modern Rocking Chair." She was asked to choose a favorite technique. It was like asking a mother to pick out a favorite child. Taylor says she could never see herself sticking to only one form of artistic expression, noting that the medium she chooses for any given piece depends largely on her mood and the sporadic impulses of the moment. She says her three current favorites include painting, drawing, and stained glass work though. Whatever kind of work she does, she always brings a uniquely personal and innovative style that lets you know the piece is a Taylor Blankenship original. That style is a mix

of her basic traditional Southern Illinois family values interspersed with an appreciation for the dark and bizarre elements of life that she uses as a commentary on those values.

She plans on taking more art classes once she transfers to SIU, such as drawing classes she needs to complete her communications/design degree. Although she plans on pursuing a career in advertising and marketing, she says art will always be a major part of her life, and that she plans on continuing to make original pieces on her own time and entering them into local crafts shows and other venues. Taylor said her long term goal is to have a career where she wakes up excited for work each morning. She believes advertising and design is a creative outlet that can provide a way to support herself.

"Therese and Melissa both push me to be really creative," she said. However, the biggest push comes from Taylor herself. She is constantly learning new disciplines and techniques with which to express her ideas and draw people to psychologically explore the themes and subject matters of her work. Her signature style and creativity, combined with the desire to learn and achieve all that she can, makes her one of this area's most engaging and fascinating artists, and somebody to watch for years to come.

RLC Board of Trustees – Jan. 12, Meeting Highlights

BY CHAD COPPLE

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

CCE'S MORRIS MOVING ON

The board accepted with regret the resignation of Erin Morris, Community and Corporate Education Specialist, effective Jan. 8. "I am appreciative of the opportunities I've had to grow professionally and personally during my time at Rend Lake College," Morris wrote in her resignation letter.

In other business, the board ...

Approved board policy and proce-

dures addressing discrimination and harassment to include sexual assault, sexual misconduct and relationship violence (first reading).

Authorized the destruction of closed session tapes after being held for 18 months, and opted not to release closed session minutes from January 2014 through May 2014, as per the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Mark your calendars ...

Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Drive, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15.

Visiting Artist Series: Blaine Murphy,

Jan. 18-April 4, RLC Theatre Lobby.

Thespian Comedy Improv, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 28, RLC Theatre.

Poetry Slam, 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 8, King City Books in Mt. Vernon.

Winter Concert, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, RLC Theatre.

RLC Homecoming Basketball Games, 5:30 p.m. (women) and 7:30 p.m. (men), Waugh Gymnasium.

Warrior Series: 5K, 8K and 10K

Runs. 5K to be held Feb. 27, 8K on

April 2, 10K TBA, all at The Rec on campus.

Fitness

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to help locals improve on their mental health. Being Mindful in a Busy World is designed to encourage participants to explore the benefits of mindfulness meditation and learn about simple techniques that reduce stress and increase life satisfaction. Instructor Susan Sloop will focus on paying purposeful attention to the present moment, enjoying life, and reducing stress during the free

workshop.

Being Mindful in a Busy World will meet from noon – 1:30 p.m. Thursday, March 10 at the RLC MarketPlace, Room 354A, in Mt. Vernon and from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Thursday, March 24 at the Pinckneyville Murphy-Wall Campus, Room 101.

Instructor Pamela Schallhorn of the U of I Extension will host Believing in Yourself! twice during the month of April. This two-part workshop will help participants build confidence and self-esteem and use creative problem-solv-

ing to re-train their brain for success. The first session focuses on recognizing and silencing negative self-talk, and session two will center on turning negative thoughts into positive affirmations.

The class costs \$10 and will meet from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, April 12 and 19 in the Academic Building, Room 207, on the Ina campus.

To learn more about these courses, contact RLC's Community and Corporate Education Division at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1714 or at comcorp@rlc.edu.



ATHLETICS

SECTION

RLC Men's Basketball strikes down SIC Falcons 86-84

BY REANNE PALMER

RLC SPORTS INFORMATION

NA, Ill. (Jan 13, 2016) – The Rend Lake College Men's Basketball team pulled out a close win tonight over Southeastern Illinois College (SIC). The Warriors came away with a 86-84 win against their Great Rivers Athletic Conference (GRAC) opponent at home, moving to 9-6 for the season and 3-4 in the GRAC.

Several 3-point shots by freshmen Adrian Smith (Aurora) and Cory Thomas (Louisville, Ky.) contributed to a double-digit lead for RLC at the half at 43-28. Five steals by Detric Byrd (Champaign), Anton Ivy (Peoria), Thomas, and Smith kept the ball on the Warriors' side of the court. In the second half, the Falcons started edging their way back into the game, adding 14 points to the board in the

last few minutes. At 17 seconds, with a score of 85-84, SIC's Gianni Otto (Remseck, Germany) missed a tying free throw shot. RLC's Byrd would sink one on the next play to make the final score 86-84.

Smith totaled 24 points during the game, followed by Thomas with 17 and Ivy with 16. Other top performers included Byrd with 11 points, Wayne Ward (Chicago) with 10 points, Chelby Frazier (South Holland) with four points, and both Jeremy Franklin (Cahokia) and Jamaya Wyatt (Chicago) with two points each. Frazier also logged an impressive three steals and four rebounds with Ward adding an additional five rebounds.

RLC will return home Jan. 20 for three consecutive home games against Parkland, Lincoln Trail, and Olney Central. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.



Adrian Smith (Aurora), BACK, goes up for a 3-point shot early in the RLC game against SIC Wednesday night in Waugh Gymnasium. Smith logged a total of 24 points and two steals against the Falcons. (ReAnne Palmer / RLC Public Information)



STREAMWORK – Members of the baseball team produced the live stream for last week's win over Southeastern Illinois College. The live stream is coordinated by the marketing department on campus. Can't make the game? Check the basketball schedules to see if it's being streamed. The next live stream is tomorrow night against Parkland. (Nathan Wheeler / RLC Public Information)

Ed-workshops abound at RLC this spring

BY REANNE PALMER

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Whether you're a high school student preparing for the ACT or a driver over 50 years old, Rend Lake College has an educational opportunity to help you prepare for the future, or just spend some time having fun.

For high school juniors and seniors, it's never too early to start preparing for the ACT test. RLC's ACT Prep workshop, taught by Instructors Andrea Banach, RLC Dean of the Math and Science Division, and Kathy Peterson, will focus on reading, English, science, and math skills commonly found on the ACT test, as well as test-taking skills. Students who enroll must purchase Barron's ACT 17th Edition textbook, which will be available at the first session for \$20.27. The class itself costs \$35 and will meet from 6 – 9 p.m. Tuesdays between Feb. 23 and March 22 at the Pinckneyville Murphy-Wall Campus, Room 102.

In March, state-certified volunteer instructor Larry Ash will be hosting an AARP Driver Safety Program for anyone

50 years of age or older to help improve on driving skills and the prevention of accidents. Topics in the workshop will include age-related physical changes, declining perceptual skills, the rules of the road, and local driving problems with visual aids, a student manual, and group discussions. Automobile insurance companies in Illinois are required to provide a premium discount to all eligible graduates of this program, and the certificate is good for three years.

The class costs \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. The workshop will be offered in two sessions, though participants should only attend one. The first session will meet from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Monday, March 14, and Wednesday, March 16, at the RLC MarketPlace, Room 354A, in Mt. Vernon. The second session will meet from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 30, in the Student Center, Room 110, on the Ina campus.

Anyone of any age is invited to learn more about other Generations during a workshop of the same name later this spring. This hour-and-a-half course will

involve a group discussion about the different perspectives of different generations and how to communicate effectively between the generations. The free workshop will be hosted by Susan Sloop of the University of Illinois Extension and meets from 12 – 1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14, at the RLC MarketPlace, Room 354A, in Mt. Vernon.

Also in April, locals can visit the Ina campus to learn all about Stars and Constellations with RLC's Greg Hollmann, General Science Associate Professor. The entire family is invited as Hollmann points out the brightest stars and constellations while telling stories of ancient mythology and modern science. Participants will also have the chance to view Saturn through the college's telescope, weather permitting. The class costs \$3 and will meet from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, in the Science Building, Room 110.

To learn more about these courses, contact RLC's Community and Corporate Education Division at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1714, or at commcorp@rlc.edu.



Rubenacker steals.

Lady Warriors prevail over SIC 55-46

BY REANNE PALMER

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

NA, Ill. (Jan. 13, 2016) – The Rend Lake College Women's Basketball team defeated Great Rivers Athletic Conference (GRAC) opponent Southeastern Illinois College (SIC) tonight 55-46 at home. The Lady Warriors are now 7-6 and 4-3 in the GRAC.

The game started off slow finishing 12-10 at the first and tied at 19 at the half. RLC came back in the third strong, pulling into an 11-point lead at 41-29 heading into the fourth quarter.

With three 3-point shots, RLC kept a short distance ahead of the Lady Falcons to pull out a 55-46 win.

Top scorers for the Lady Warriors were Jada Ballew (Cincinnati, Ohio) and Dana Rubenacker (Dahlgren) who both landed 16 points each. Jasmine Washington (Evansville, Ind.) also put up nine. Freshman Dannika Prater (Hopkinsville, Ky.) added another three. Two points were scored by Jordann Bruntont (Cincinnati, Ohio), Cali Carney (Benton), TetreAnah Cross (Chicago), Jenae Foreman (Washington, DC) and Jada

Jackson (Louisville, Ky.). Aurora native Taseandra Parker logged one free throw.

Carney and Rubenacker also lead the way for the defense, logging a combined 22 rebounds off SIC and one steal each. Ballew and Washington each added another five rebounds each.

The Lady Warriors will take on three home games against Lewis & Clark, Lincoln Trail, and Olney Central colleges in January. For all things athletic at The Lake, visit www.rlc.edu/warriors.

Patterson continued from page 1

lights.

Over the past year, Patterson has been working on the "Lake" magazine with English Literature Professor Peggy Davis. Patterson and Davis will be reviewing submissions next month to see which pieces will be able to grace the pages of the college's art publication. Many of the students and faculty are excited to see what the 2016 year holds for Lake. Patterson is equally enthused to have the opportunity to work on the magazine. Being published in the magazine a few times, Patterson is thrilled to be able to give that same excitement that she felt to other students.

"I have been published in Lake a few times, so it's really fun to get behind the scenes and give others this same chance."

Patterson also directed Dan Steadman's premiere of his new movie "Prox-

imity." Steadman, on his recent visit to RLC, met with Webb's theater class to talk about his new movie and some of the techniques he uses and the business of film. During his visit he spoke to some of the students in the class about being production assistants for his premiere. Patterson, having experience in a stage manager position, was a perfect fit to help direct the red carpet premiere. Patterson said she was very thankful for the opportunity. The premiere was Dec. 18 in Centralia. She believes it is great thing for the Southern Illinois area.

Patterson has already achieved both her Associate of Arts and her Associate of Science degrees at RLC and has been working towards an Associate of Fine Arts. She is planning on transferring to SIU Carbondale in the coming future to start work towards a Bachelor's Degree. She was also able to apply for SIU's Summer Stock program where over the summer she was able to work with different professional actors, designers, and technicians from all across the country.

Her experience here at RLC has helped her fulfill her dreams and led her down a path to success. Patterson encourages other students looking into fields like theater or the arts to keep moving forward.

"There is so much more involved than what people generally think of. In theatre, there's not just actors and directors. There's stage managers, technical directors, props masters, set designers, scenic painters, lighting designers, sound designers . . . and a plethora of people under those departments. There really is something for everyone."

Patterson is one of many students who found success through RLC. Her contribution to the college will echo throughout the halls of the theater for many years. The many connections and good friends that she has made along the way will most definitely propel her forward and into a successful career.

To the students at RLC, she says, "If you are lucky enough to find your passion, don't let anyone tell you that you can't do it."

Parents & children learn to the beat of RLC music workshops

Keyboard, Musikgarten start Jan. 25

BY REANNE PALMER

RLC PUBLIC INFORMATION

Get your child involved in music with one of two workshops this spring at Rend Lake College.

Music Makers at the Keyboard and Musikgarten offer unique sessions for children of all ages to get into the creative spirit.

First up this spring is Music Makers at the Keyboard for children between the ages of six and nine. Instructor April Tennyson takes a fun and holistic approach to learning to play the keyboard by introducing dancing, drumming, and singing – in addition to the

keyboard – to nurture the musician inside each student. The cost of the class is \$25 plus a supply fee, which includes a book, listening CD, and practice CD that each student can take home to practice with each week.

Adults are welcome to attend Music Makers at the Keyboard, but are required to do so for the last 15 minutes of class. The workshop meets from 5 – 6 p.m. Mondays from Jan. 25 through March 7 or from March 14 through April 18. All classes meet in the Learning Resource Center, Room 211, on the Ina campus.

Tennyson will also offer Musikgarten

for babies and toddlers between 0 and 3 1/2 years old. These weekly classes are packed full of energy to help children and their parents explore and learn through music. Parents will be sent home with a CD recorded by a children's choir, a guidebook, and one of three items (rhythm sticks, a Musikgarten rattle, or a scarf) to continue the fun at home.

The workshop costs \$25 plus a supply fee and meets from 9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Mondays from Jan. 25 through March 7 or March 14 through April 18. All classes will meet at the RLC MarketPlace, Room 204, in Mt. Vernon.

To learn more about these courses, contact RLC's Community and Corporate Education Division at (618) 437-5321, Ext. 1714 or at commcorp@rlc.edu.