

The LINDENWOOD

SPRING 2023 ISSUE



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A DISPLAY OF EXCELLENCE

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REAL
EXPERIENCE

LINDENWOOD
UNIVERSITY

REAL
SUCCESS



CONSERVATION

BUTLER LIBRARY RENOVATION



Preserving Excellence

Since 1929, Butler Library has been one of Lindenwood University's most iconic and beloved buildings, cherished by generations of students. The University's library for nearly 90 years has been closed since the opening of Lindenwood's new Library and Academic Resources Center in 2017. Since that time, Lindenwood has considered the next phase in the life of this campus icon.

As our University continues its upward trajectory toward becoming the next great learner-centric university, we are thrilled to announce a fundraising effort aimed at completing the renovation of Butler Library. Through this initiative, Butler Library will be restored and modernized with amenities making it an attractive venue for students, alumni, and

external events. Perhaps as important, it will once again be restored as a place of respite on campus for students to come together, relax, and study as they had for almost a century.

We have set a fundraising goal of \$1 million to complete this renovation. We hope you will make an investment in preserving this historic building and writing its next chapter by supporting the Butler Library renovation.

Scan the QR code to make your gift to the Butler Library Renovation or contact Assistant Vice President of Advancement Brian Brunner by email, bbrunner@lindenwood.edu, or phone, (636) 949-4903, to learn about some unique naming opportunities involved in this campaign.



GIVE ONLINE TODAY!



Your GUIDE

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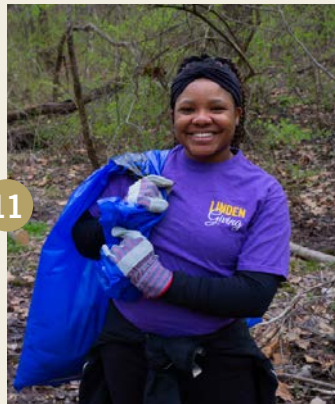
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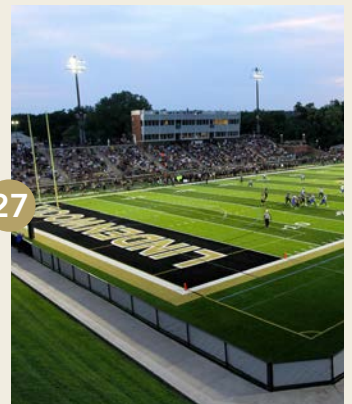
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MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS *Department*

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Letter from the **PRESIDENT**

Dear friends,

It has been another beautiful spring here at Lindenwood University, and I am incredibly proud of our focus on providing a quality educational experience to all students. Each day, I see our University values in action, and I am humbled by the work of our Staff and Faculty. Lindenwood continues to succeed, and we are achieving wonderful things.

Our commitment to excellence is on display every day in our labs and classrooms, through the work of student leaders, and the victories won by our athletic teams. But excellence also extends beyond wins and losses. It is evident in the quality of our student-athlete experience, their remarkable performance in the classrooms, and the generosity they display in giving back to our local community.

In our first year competing at the NCAA Division I level, our coaches, support staff, and student-athletes have risen to the challenge and make us proud. If you have not had a chance to cheer on the Lions in recent months, please join us on campus for an event soon.

Proud to be a Lindenwood Lion,



Sincerely,

JOHN R. PORTER, ED.D.
President, Lindenwood University



COUNTING LEAVES

DATA AND STATISTICS

STUDENT-ATHLETE EXCELLENCE

1,245 total student-athletes across 30 NCAA sports and 19 student-life sports

3.34 cumulative student-athlete GPA during the Fall 2022 semester

265 student-athletes with a 4.0 GPA during the Fall 2022 semester

78% of student-athletes with a 3.0 GPA or higher during the Fall 2022 semester

3.90 Women's Tennis GPA - Highest team GPA during the Fall 2022 semester



Nourishing OUR ROOTS

By Jason Coomer | Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics



The 2022–23 academic year was unforgettable for several reasons. Not only was it my first year at Lindenwood University as Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics, but it also was the inaugural year of NCAA Division I athletics in St. Charles. Our coaches and student-athletes took great pride in representing the 6-3-6, as well as our alumni and friends, while competing at the highest level of intercollegiate athletics. The success our student-athletes found both on the regional and national stages set the course

for more great things to come. In addition, the community support resulted in record-breaking attendance for many of our teams. It is clear St. Charles is a college town, and our fans are creating some great home court/field advantages. Most importantly, our student-athletes continued to find success in the classroom. The average grade-point average of a Lindenwood student-athlete during the fall semester of our first year as a D-I institution was 3.34. This is a testament to our student-athletes, faculty, and academic advisors, who put the academic success of all students first. This is a time of excellence for LU Athletics, and we are excited to build this with you!

WELCOME LETTER

SEEDS OF *Greatness*

FEATURE STORY

AN INAUGURAL SEASON, A DISPLAY OF EXCELLENCE

For nearly a decade, Lindenwood University flourished as an NCAA Division II institution. Last summer, it officially became a member of the Division I family after joining the Ohio Valley Conference.

In its first year as one of the newest D-I universities, Lindenwood is paving a foundation of success for the future. From Harlen C. Hunter Stadium to Hyland Arena to the Lou Brock Sports Complex to Centene Community Ice Center and everywhere in between, Lindenwood continues to establish a winning culture. Below, we highlight Lindenwood athletics teams' first D-I victories.



FOOTBALL

Lindenwood kicked off the 2022 season in wild fashion with a thrilling 21–20 road victory September 10 at Houston Baptist. The Lions trailed 17–6 at halftime before rallying in the fourth.

Logan Seibert connected on all three of his field goal attempts from 40-plus yards, while Robert Giaimo topped the century mark in rushing yards. Andrew Martin ran for a touchdown and recorded another on special teams, while Tyrone Griffin posted nine tackles, one quarterback sack and broke up two passes on defense.

“Our players put together a complete team performance and pulled off an unbelievable comeback that you’d have to see to believe,” Head Coach Jed Stugart said. “We made plays offensively and defensively, and capped it off on special teams, which goes to the heart of our program. We are a family above all, and our kids will go to war for each other. That first win set the tone in our locker room that we belong in Division I. We instilled the mindset in our kids all (Fall) camp long, but when we went down there and beat a storied FCS program, our kids took it and ran, which is what led to the season we had.”

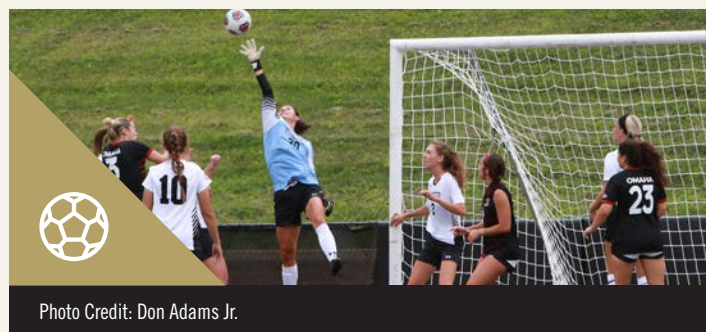


Photo Credit: Don Adams Jr.

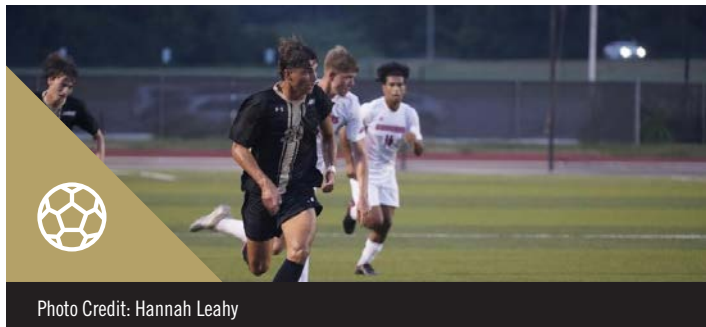
WOMEN'S SOCCER

Mia Corrigan and Rachel Jackson scored second-half goals to lead Lindenwood to a 2–0 season-opening win August 18 at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois.

Jackson gave the Lions the lead in the 54th minute and Corrigan doubled it in the 60th. Goalkeeper Sam Blazek made three saves en route to a shutout.

“Our win against Southern Illinois was the very first in the entire department in this new D-I era,” Lions Head Coach Dave Musso said. “It meant a lot for the entire program, the

history of all the previous successes, and the direction we are headed as an entire University. That night was bigger than our current soccer program. It felt like we were playing for the entire University.”



MEN'S SOCCER

Lindenwood rallied with two second-half goals in a 2–1 triumph September 16 at the University of Southern Indiana. The win snapped a four-match winless streak to open the 2022 season.

Anis Smajlovic tied the match 1–1 on a penalty kick in the 56th minute and Roland Dearborn netted the game-winning tally in the 86th. Smajlovic assisted on the second goal, while Dearborn finished with two shots on goal.

“As most would say, the first D-I win felt like a major achievement,” Lions junior defender Alex Imig said. “I believe it is rare to become a part of history, and we are now a part of Lindenwood’s. It is quite beautiful because nothing can ever change that. Becoming D-I has created many new obstacles and challenges for me and the guys. To me, that’s a blessing. I look forward to new challenges, and many of the guys are the same. Through adversity comes opportunity.”



FIELD HOCKEY

Isabella Shannon, Samantha Garden, and Mia Simpson scored goals as Lindenwood pulled off a 3–1 win over Queens University of Charlotte on October 9 at SportPort International.

Simpson also recorded an assist, while Shannon and Izzy Folan finished with three shots on goal apiece.

“Our first Division I win over Queens University was an incredible feeling,” Head Coach Sarah Baumann said. “It was a historic team win that sets the stage for what we can accomplish at the Division I level in the future. As a coach, I could not be more proud of our team’s resiliency as we approached our first D-I season; that first win is a culmination of the hard work, commitment, and preparation our coaches and players have shown as we drive forward into this new era for our program.”



WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Lindenwood dominated its first two matches as a Division I program, knocking off Canisus College 25–19, 25–17, 25–23 and Western Illinois University 23–25, 25–21, 25–23, 25–17 on August 26 at the Purdue Fort Wayne Invitational.

Nyah Wilson slammed a combined 25 kills to go along with an ace serve and three blocks. Taylor Gentemann recorded 24 kills, four aces and three blocks on the day.

“Going into the season, there was a lot of hesitancy just because of the unknowns about what to expect,” Lions Head Coach Will Condon said. “The team worked hard in preseason to get ready... I was proud of our team’s effort and competitiveness throughout the whole match. We did a good job of accepting this challenge, putting aside our fears and uncertainty and played the game. I was happy for our players because they got to feel the rewards of their hard work in their first match at this level. It paved the way for us to keep battling adversity through the whole season and finish on a high note in the semifinals of the OVC Tournament.”



MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Lions rarely missed the basket during a 78–60 rout over McNeese State University on November 19 in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Chris Childs posted a team-high 21 points, including five 3-point field goals, and four rebounds. Kevin Caldwell Jr. finished with 18 points, six assists and three steals. Cam Burrell and David Ware chipped in with 11 points each.

“What a great feeling for everyone involved, coaches, players, and administration,” Lindenwood Head Coach Kyle Gerdeman said. “The excitement on our players’ faces showed a confidence that they knew they now belonged at this level. I felt the same way. I think the confidence level raised in everyone, and, at the same time, you take a minute to think about how special that moment is in the building of a D-I program.”



MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

David Gagnon scored two goals as Lindenwood rallied from a four-goal deficit to knock off Air Force 7–6 on October 14 at Centene Community Ice Center.

The Lions trailed 6–2 around the midway point of the second period before rattling off five unanswered goals. Kyle Jeffers, Andy Willis, Ryan Finnegan, Hunter Johannes and Max Neill also scored for Lindenwood, which converted three of its five power-play chances. Goaltender Trent Burnham made 39 saves on the night.

“It was a win that I will never give back,” Head Coach Rick Zombo said. “Not because that’s an old coach’s phrase, but it defined my players for the entire season. This team battled. (For) 60 minutes, they gave everything.”



SOFTBALL

Behind a complete-game, five-hit shutout from fifth-year senior Amanda Weyh, Lindenwood earned a 1–0 win over Western Michigan University on February 12 in Monroe, Louisiana.

Weyh was more than efficient, tossing 78 pitches, including 58 strikes. She also recorded four strikeouts. Mya Bethany scored the game’s lone run in the third inning.



WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Lindenwood outlasted reigning Mid-American Conference champion Central Michigan University, 17–15, on February 14 at Hunter Stadium.

The Chippewas raced out to a 7–1 lead after the first quarter before the Lions erupted offensively.

Logann Eldredge posted six goals, while Sam Irwin finished with four. Emma Arnold scored three goals in the win. Eleanor Kast made seven saves.

“It was a historic day for our program,” Lions Head Coach Jack Cribbin said. “It showed we had officially arrived and that we

belong in NCAA Division I. The locker room had water flying everywhere as we celebrated afterwards, it was an amazing scene.”



MEN'S LACROSSE

Lindenwood edged Long Island University 9–8 on February 18 in Brookville, New York.

Flint Thielen, Cam Smith, and Wesley Scurci scored two goals each in the win for the Lions. Ryan Kemp also scored. Lindenwood led 6–4 at the break and held off a late rally by LIU.

“I have been a part of many huge moments for this program in my 20 years as a player and coach here at Lindenwood, but this one was different,” Lions Head Coach Jimmy Lange said. “This one helped put this program, that means so much to me, on the map at a national level like never before! Lindenwood has arrived, and I was lucky enough to be a part of that arrival!”



BASEBALL

The Lions rallied not once but twice before pulling off a 3–2 win over Nicholls State University on February 18 in Thibodaux, Louisiana.

Lindenwood scored twice in the top of the ninth off a pair of singles from Logan Stevens and Tyson Ludwig.

Easton Rakers earned the win for the Lions, who held Nicholls to just four hits on the day.

“The first NCAA D-I victory for the baseball program is certainly validation that the 2023 team can win at this level,” Lindenwood Head Coach Doug Bletcher said. “The ground floor or foundation for all of the program’s future successes is being laid down by this team, and I think the guys recognize that. Years from now, when our players reflect upon the legacy of the program, it has to start with year one, victory one.”



BEACH VOLLEYBALL

Lindenwood secured its first win in program history with a 5–0 sweep over Oklahoma Wesleyan on February 24 at the Ozark Dome.

The Lions’ top duo of Maider Soto and Katie Malzahn recorded a 21–13, 21–12 win that set the tone for the rest of the match.

“In our inaugural season, we get to experience many firsts,” Lions Head Coach Alli Duckworth said. “Our first win was even more special as it was not only our first win as a Division I team, but also our first win as a program. It was a very humbling day and I think the biggest part of it was seeing how so many people followed along and congratulated the team. They felt like that win mattered to so many.”

BASKING IN THE *Light*



COLLEGES OF DISTINCTION RECOGNIZES LINDENWOOD'S AFFORDABILITY

Lindenwood University was named to the inaugural list of Affordable Colleges, released by Colleges of Distinction.

"How to pay for college is a near-universal question at the top of new students' minds," said Tyson Schritter, chief operating officer at Colleges of Distinction. "Lindenwood has demonstrated to us that its students are graduating with manageable debt and careers that help them thrive."

The University was recognized for net price, low median debt, and the mean earnings of graduates.



DR. KATE TESSMER RECOGNIZED AS OUTSTANDING FACULTY

Professor of Exercise

Science Dr. Kate Tessmer was named to the Ohio Valley Conference's inaugural Outstanding Faculty Commitment to Student Success Awards.

Tessmer's accolade recognizes her impact on students, contributions to the department, community involvement, and institutional service. Tessmer also serves as associate dean in the College of Science, Technology, and Health.



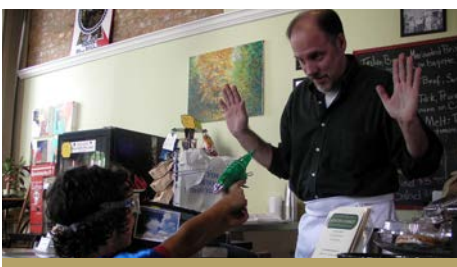
EDUCATION STUDENTS REACH NEW HEIGHTS WITH ENDEAVOR STEM

The College of

Education and Human Services signed a partnership agreement with Endeavor STEM Teaching Certificate Project.

"The collaborative partnership with Endeavor STEM Certificate Project will further enhance the excellent pedagogy already delivered by the College of Education and Human Services and better prepare our graduates to provide STEM education to PK-12 students," Associate Dean Dr. Jill Hutcheson said.

Students will be able to take online Endeavor STEM courses as part of the Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction.



CARLOS WINS AWARD FROM THE PARIS MOVIE FESTIVAL

Cinema Arts Professor Peter

Carlos was awarded Best Narrative Short by The Paris Movie Festival for his film, "Gravity."

Carlos engaged students in the production of the film, which has been shown internationally. His first short film, "Dad's Day," was a selection in the St. Louis Showcase, The St. Louis International Film Festival, and on television in Philadelphia and local St. Louis TV. It won the Audience Award at a California Film Festival.

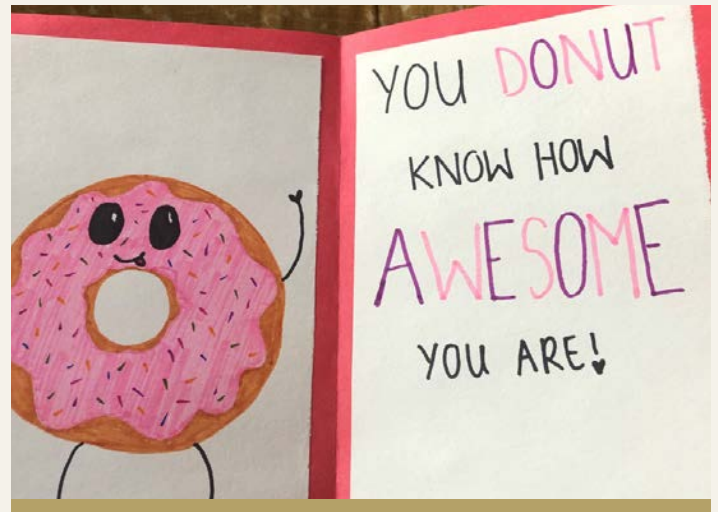
Linden BRANCHES

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

For a second consecutive year, LindenGiving, a community outreach endeavor, prepared a Valentine's Day treat!

"Partnering with Cedarhurst for Valentine's Day is invigorating as Lindenwood students carefully prepare cards for the residents showering them with love, kindness, and goodwill," Chairwoman of LindenGiving Beverly Porter said. "The excitement on the residents' faces as they choose their card and listen to Voices Only, Lindenwood's acapella group, is so gratifying!"

This year, LindenGiving contributed 150 hand-made cards, 100 holiday door decorations, and flowers to brighten Cedarhurst.



CAMPUS VOLUNTEERS AID LOCAL COMMUNITY

Spring into Service was held this spring, and volunteers contributed to nine different projects benefiting the local community and area nonprofits.

"I believe that Spring into Service is the Lindenwood tradition that provides the most benefits to the St. Charles community

as a thank-you for all that they do for Lindenwood students," Lindenwood Student Government Director of Community Outreach Mallery Vasquez said. "By giving the students, faculty, and staff of Lindenwood the chance to get out into the community and make a difference, we are building more empowered leaders on our campus, and getting the chance to help support my peers in their professional development is beyond rewarding."

“

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MALLERY VASQUEZ

The UNDERSTORY

LETTER FROM A STUDENT

Leading The Uproar

For as long as I can remember, sports always have been a passion of mine. Whether it was playing, watching, or cheering from the stands, I never could get enough. At the start of this school year, I was presented with an opportunity to help build a culture at Lindenwood University as a student section leader for The Uproar.

As a student section leader for The Uproar, I had a few key responsibilities at home games: Arrive early, stay late, wear black and gold, and most importantly, GET HYPED! The memories created during this inaugural NCAA Division I year have been second to none. The leadership, collaborative, and

personal skills I have learned and strengthened during my time as a leader are tools I will utilize for the rest of my life.

As a senior, I am sad I only had one year to lead The Uproar. Fortunately, my commitment to The Uproar will not end at graduation. I look forward to proudly representing Lindenwood as a lifelong fan and watching The Uproar blossom into one of the next great student sections in collegiate athletics.



Spencer Goldberg is a senior from St. Louis, Mo., majoring in educational studies. Goldberg is a leader for The Uproar, Lindenwood's student section, and a member of Phi Delta Theta.



FACULTY PROFILE



In 1999, **David Arns** joined the faculty at Lindenwood following a 30-year career in the fields of journalism, sales, public relations, and marketing communications. “While I had lots of great days in my business career, not one compares with any I’ve had in my 25 years at Lindenwood. I really can’t think of another place I’d rather be or anything else I’d rather be doing,” Arns

said. Today, Arns is an associate professor of marketing and serves as the NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative.

“

While I had lots of great days in my business career, not one compares with any I’ve had in my 25 years at Lindenwood. I really can’t think of another place I’d rather be or anything else I’d rather be doing

DAVID ARNS

How do you engage with Lindenwood Athletics and support an excellent student experience?

Among the roles of the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) is helping to ensure a quality student-athlete experience and student-athlete well-being. I serve as an advocate for student-athletes and help promote their success in the classroom and on the playing field. The term “student-athlete” is generally hyphenated. I’m the hyphen!

The faculty’s voice and influence regarding intercollegiate athletics are channeled primarily through the FAR. Part of that role involves working with our administration and faculty to help ensure the academic integrity of the athletics program and our student-athletes.

I was involved in Lindenwood’s transition from NAIA to NCAA Division II in 2010, and again now as we have become D-I. And in all that time, and with all that change, the Lindenwood community always has stepped up to support its student-athletes, appreciating and understanding how vitally important they are to Lindenwood’s mission and success.

What makes Lindenwood University, as a whole, excellent?

We are an entrepreneurial lot. I had a dean once who said if we brought in a problem, we also should bring in two or three solutions. When we have challenges, we (each and every one of us) seem to know we can and should offer solutions.

What makes Lindenwood University Athletics excellent?

I was at one of our baseball games recently and a man walked up to me that I knew, but I couldn’t place his name. He reintroduced himself, and I remembered him as a former student of mine and a member of our basketball team—more than 15 years ago. He told me he was married, had three beautiful kids, a lovely home, and a very satisfying job. I asked if he was happy and if he felt he was a contributing member of his community. He answered yes to both. I asked him if Lindenwood had anything to do with that. Again, affirmative. He helped me realize Lindenwood Athletics doesn’t just build championships; it also builds champions! And I’m very proud to be part of that.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Our students, faculty, and staff have had an amazing spring semester and are looking forward to the Fall events lineup.

The Campus Activities Board (CAB), under the direction of Student Involvement, packed the spring semester with special events for our students. Welcome Back Week featured a Lindenwood Scavenger Hunt, Winter-Lingo (Limbo meets Bingo), Organization Fair, and Jellyfish Air plants. Spring Fling week was a blast with a delicious food truck day, Cinema fieldtrip, and the St. Patty's with Cabbies event. The students are looking forward to CAB and Student Involvement's end-of-the-year celebration—the Biggest Late-Night Breakfast to date.



GET EXCITED FOR FALL!

Many amazing events are scheduled for this fall.
Please mark your calendars for these upcoming dates!

September 30

Community Day Tailgate and Football Game

October 7

Family Day, Tailgate, and Football Game

October 27

Dark Carnival, returning to the Heritage side of campus

November 3

Lindenwood University Gala

November 4

Homecoming Parade, Tailgate, and Football Game

November 11

Hometown Heroes Tailgate and Football Game

December 3

Winterfest

For information on these events and more, contact Lindenwood's Manager of Special Events, Emily Sebourn by emailing esebourn@lindenwood.edu.

CAMPUS LIFE





BROADENING YOUNG MINDS THROUGH THE ARTS

In Fall 2022, the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts launched its first professional theater series specifically programed for elementary and secondary school students.

The Lindenwood University K–12 Matinée Series brought over 1,000 students from 21 area schools into the Lindenwood Theater to enhance school curriculums and benefit students both inside and outside the classroom. Research indicates children who engaged with the performing arts had a more optimistic outlook toward their future, including helping them envision attending college. Exposure to live theater also impacts academic success, while shaping their future as more self-aware, compassionate, and empathetic adults. This matinee series strives to be a part of the community effort that helps turn young people into the next generation of leaders and citizens.

The Scheidegger Center was proud to welcome young people into our theater and give them an excellent experience with the arts and, hopefully, a lasting memory of Lindenwood.



ATHLETICS

LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY



MEN'S GOLF

The Lindenwood men's golf team earned its first tournament victory at the NCAA Division I level February 10–11 with a first-place finish at the Carpenter-Chaney Classic in Mims, Florida.

Lindenwood defeated Omaha, Missouri State, and Morehead State to capture the tournament title. After rolling past Omaha 4–0–1 in its first match, the final two matches for Lindenwood were a little tighter. The contest against Missouri State came down to the last pairing for the Lions as Mackenzie Holmes birdied the final two holes to seal the victory. The championship match against Morehead State followed the same storyline as Lindenwood needed a birdie from Renato Filho on the 18th hole to push the Lions over the top. Filho sank a 28-foot birdie to capture the victory for the Lions. Filho was later named Ohio Valley Conference Golfer of the Week.

“Obviously, extremely proud of the guys,” Lions Head Coach Derek Schaub said. “Three matches that all came down to

the final holes truly shows the resiliency and fire these guys have to not only compete but win at the D-I level. Truly gutsy performances from all six guys this week. So happy this group made history and will be remembered as the team that won the first D-I tournament at Lindenwood.”

“

... So happy this group made history and will be remembered as the team that won the first D-I tournament at Lindenwood.

DEREK SCHAUB





SWIMMING AND DIVING

The Lindenwood swimming and diving program, which was picked second and third, respectively, in the Summit League preseason poll, delivered by putting together a strong weekend at its first-ever Summit League Championships in Minneapolis. During the season, Lindenwood student-athletes broke 21 program records and achieved seven NCAA Division I “B” cuts.

“In our inaugural Division I season and first season in the Summit League, we were able to find success on multiple levels,” Lions Head Coach Jason Owen said. “We took on many new opponents and performed well under pressure.”

The Lions had 19 members across both squads garner all-league honors after the men’s team took second place, while the women finished third. For their performance at the championships, four student-athletes earned major awards. Owen was tabbed men’s swimming Coach of the

Year, while Elliott Irwin was named men’s swimming MVP of the championships, David Molina-Fregenal won men’s Diving MVP and Johan Cue Carrillo received Newcomer of the championships honors. Stephanie Marks took home the women’s Scholar Athlete of the Championships.

“I am proud of our athletes for responding to the challenges this season,” Owen said. “We are focused on improving our standing within the Summit League and the Division I in future seasons and this season provided momentum to reach our future goals.”

The Lions crowned five conference champions and broke five conference records. The team saw continued success at their first National Invitational Championship, crowning two national champions, as the men finished sixth and the women took 32nd.



We are focused on improving our standing within the Summit League and the Division I in future seasons and this season provided momentum to reach our future goals.

JASON OWEN



The Mighty CANOPY

HOME AWAY FROM HOME: BEHLS SHARE FAMILY BOND

Zack and Reagan Behl have quite the bond.

Both brother and sister attend Lindenwood University: Zack is a senior studying marketing and graphic design, and Reagan is majoring in exercise science, pre-chiropractic, and dance.

Yet their journey to Lindenwood is what's unique.

Natives of Bloomington, Illinois, the Behls first heard about Lindenwood from a friend's son, who was recruited to wrestle for the Lions. The Behls were told about all the opportunities Lindenwood offers.

After meeting Tom Emery from Admissions, Zack decided to attend Lindenwood. His sister soon followed. Parents Chris and Kim have fallen in love with the campus, which is nearly three hours away from their hometown.

"We joke that Lindenwood is our home away from home," Kim said. "We attend many sporting events, concerts and other events our kids invite us to attend. We thought they may get tired of us visiting but that has not happened yet, and we enjoy seeing their friends (and their parents), co-workers, professors, and coaches."



Both Behl kids are very involved in various campus activities.

Zack has been a Student Ambassador for three years, served as the president of Delta Tau Delta, and is a member of both the Firm (graphic design club) and the Catholic Student Union. Reagan also is a Student Ambassador, a member of the Lionettes Dance team, the Synergy dance group, and CRU. She also attends Matthias Lot Church.

“The campus is gorgeous, and the academics, facilities, and activities are amazing, but what was most unique and unexpected were the leadership opportunities available,” Kim said. “Our kids have embraced those, and we are certain they would not have grown as much if they had attended other schools. We also have so many special stories about their experiences at Lindenwood.”

The Behls hope their giving efforts will support athletics teams and organizations that aren’t revenue drivers.

“We met spectators and choreographers at Dance and Cheer Nationals last year who approached us to compliment and congratulate our teams,” Kim said. “A legacy and reputation has been established and we would like to help support that. We are grateful.”

“A small gift can make an impact. Lindenwood has done so much for our kids. We wanted to support the school and activities they have enjoyed.”



We joke that Lindenwood is our home away from home. ...We attend many sporting events, concerts and other events our kids invite us to attend. We thought they may get tired of us visiting but that has not happened yet, and we enjoy seeing their friends (and their parents), co-workers, professors, and coaches.

KIM BEHL



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KIM BEHL





Earl Austin Jr. bleeds black and gold. And those colors run in his family.

A staple in the St. Louis media and a 1986 Lindenwood University alumnus, Austin Jr. was the first of his family to attend the St. Charles campus, where he studied mass communications and played on the men's basketball team for four years. His sister, Courtney Thompson, was one of the top scorers and rebounders in Lindenwood women's basketball history. A four-year starter from 1986–90, Thompson was inducted into the Lindenwood Sports Hall of Fame in 2008. His brother, Richard Austin, played both basketball and baseball for the Lions.

"It's been connected to our family for generations now," Austin Jr. said.

For nearly the last 30 years, Austin Jr. has served as the sports editor of the St. Louis American newspaper. He's been the color commentator for Saint Louis University men's basketball broadcasts for the last 32 seasons. He also was part of the Lindenwood men's basketball broadcast team for six games during the 2022–23 season.

"That was something I always wanted to do was be a color commentator for college basketball," he said.

When Austin Jr. attended Lindenwood in 1986, the student population was a mere 1,700. Today, it's 7,000 between undergrad and graduate students.

"It's great seeing the campus grow, seeing the school grow," Austin Jr. said. "We were a small campus, but now seeing it have three dozen different sports and to see it have football and to see it grow to a Division II was thing and now to make that ultimate leap to a Division I program, it gives me goosebumps. It's amazing to see."

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EARL AUSTIN JR

Speaking of D-I, Austin Jr. never imagined his alma mater would make that kind of transition in such a short amount of time. During his years at Lindenwood, the University didn't have a football team. Men's and women's basketball, along with men's and women's soccer were considered the top sports. Baseball and softball were club sports at the time.

"We really didn't have much else," he said. "I remember when, about three or four years later, we added football. And it was like, 'Wow!'" That was a major step. And now we have all these other different sports—track and field, field hockey, hockey, volleyball. So, to be Division I now and being able to compete in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament for basketball, seeing that and to see other programs really do well and obviously the cheer and the dance team becoming ... a national power.

They're on TV all the time. You see athletes be in the NFL and the Olympics and do some great things at the professional level is fantastic to see.”

From the broadcast booth to the byline above each article he writes, Austin Jr. always remembers his roots. He built his foundation at Lindenwood, where, like many other media talents, a noteworthy career was born.

“It really means a lot, especially when you look at our field of communications with the experience we’ve been able to have while at Lindenwood. You look at what we call it, broadcasting especially, we call it the ‘Broadcasting Dynasty’ with the people that have come out of (Lindenwood). Myself and Bob Ramsey, we’re the Saint Louis University Billikens broadcast team. Dan McLaughlin was the Cardinals play-by-play broadcaster for 25 years. We’ve got Greg Amsinger, who’s the lead broadcaster for MLB Network. Randy Karraker has been a talk show institution in radio sports talk in St. Louis for many years, and we were in school about the same time. Scott Warmann, you see him on TV all the time. The list goes on and on and that experience that we got the chance to do as part of the communications department at Lindenwood really carries into our community as well.”

“

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EARL AUSTIN JR



1960s

Nahid Bozorgmehri Rachlin '61 graduated from Stanford University '73 with a master's in fine arts.

1970s



Pat Lintzenich Wahler '75, '05 published her latest historical novel, "The Rose of Washington Square: A Novel of Rose O'Neill, Creator of the Kewpie Doll." The book is based on the life of southern Missouri resident, Rose O'Neill, who was known for her artistic and literary accomplishments, as well as for championing causes related to women's rights.

1980s



Rosanne Goad Vrugtman '80 retired from the University of Missouri, University of Missouri-St. Louis, College of Education in 2012. Her most recent historical romance novel (set in the 1600s, English Civil War period) won five writing awards. She currently is a technical writing instructor for a Capstone course at the University of Virginia, School of Engineering and Applied Science. Recently elected president of (40-year-old) Zane Grey's West Society. Published four books in 2022, including "Contemporary Editions" of Zane Grey's "Frontier Trilogy," and a reference work in honor of his 150th birthday.



Charlie Feldman '83 is proud her granddaughter will be a Lindenwood Lion and part of the cheerleading squad.

1990s

Darren Modde '94 is in his fifth year as the accompanist for the Missouri Athletic Club men's choir, The Apollos. In addition, Modde has been named Mathematics Department Chairman for Visitation Academy for the 2023–24 school year and music director at St. Ambrose Catholic Church.

Sam Shapiro '97 is an attorney in Texas and is very happy he had the opportunity to obtain a degree at Lindenwood.

Ryan Wilkie '97 was appointed Chief of Police of the City of Eagle Police Department, Eagle, Idaho, and Chief Wilkie is in his 20th year of law enforcement having served with the City of Pittsburg Police Department, Pittsburg, California, and the Ada County Sheriff's Office, Boise Idaho.



Stephanie Pope '98 has received the new position of vice president and chief financial officer of Boeing Commercial Airplanes since December 2020. She previously had been vice president and CFO of Global Services since its inception in 2017. In her two decades with Boeing, she also has held leadership posts in financial planning and analysis and in investor relations. Pope holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Southwest Missouri State University and an MBA from Lindenwood University.

2000s

Jason Crady '03 is the founder of a locally owned and operated cannabis dispensary, Missouri Wild Alchemy LLC. In February 2023, Missouri Wild Alchemy was approved by the Division of Cannabis Regulation of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to operate as a comprehensive dispensary and will serve the needs of medical patients and adult use patients (21 years of age and up) without a medical card.



Lee Furnace '05 was promoted to operations director for Aim High St. Louis, a nonprofit summer enrichment and mentoring program for St. Louis middle school-aged students. He also is the seventh and eighth grade physical education teacher and head wrestling coach for John Burroughs School.



Rob Carol '06 is a member of the Union Ironworkers Local 396, and his family is excited to support him.



Nancy Oakley Adrian '07 is the executive assistant to the COO at the Christian Minister, The Timothy Initiative in Raleigh, N.C.

Dr. Mary Ruettggers '07, '13 is a new financial advisor with Edward Jones. Her office is in O'Fallon, Ill.



Josh Scott '08, '10 received the 2022 Bruce D. Whitehead Distinguished Service Award at the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) national conference.



Jonathon Moberly '08, '10 has been named dean of the Robert W. Plaster School of Business at Columbia College following a nationwide search. Moberly will assume the position May 31, 2023.

“I am thrilled to begin the journey of leading the Robert W. Plaster School of Business at Columbia College,” Moberly said. He has more than 16 years of experience in higher education, including as an adjunct instructor and full-time professor for several institutions throughout the Midwest.

Julie Williams '09 and her husband started a nonprofit called Honoring Our Heroes. They host appreciation nights and fundraising events for local first responders and healthcare workers. Their next event will be a dance and vocal showcase July 14–16. They would love to connect with more dancers, choreographers, and sponsors who would like to get involved.

2010s



Tyler Martin '10 is a certified personal trainer, marketer, former high school wrestling coach, and collegiate-level athlete. Martin published his new fitness book in March titled, “The Friction Factor: The Busy Person’s Guide to Sustainable Diet and Exercise.” The book provides a practical and tested road map to build healthy diet and exercise habits that will last a lifetime and enable readers to achieve their goals by eliminating friction, the inefficient use of time, and energy.

Dr. Jason Holmes '11 launched his Young Adult Historical Novel, “And Then There Was Golf! Lost Legend of The Great Game,” on March 17.



Dr. Travis Shaw '11 currently is an executive director of operations of Springfield Public School District and will serve as the district’s deputy superintendent of operations effective July 1.



Lydia Elking Novas '13 married Ignacio “Nacho” Novas, a member of Lindenwood’s national champion soccer team in 2004. The couple has four children (Luliana 9, Camila 7, Karina 5, and Mateo 2). Nacho runs the Carshield FC soccer club and Lydia is the assistant athletics director and PE teacher at Cor Jesu Academy.



Laura Witty '12 graduated with a master’s in music education in May 2022 from Central Methodist University.



Katie Ritter '13 is the production manager for the Family Fun Xperience Theater at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront, and she recently got engaged to her boyfriend, Alvin Lloyd. Katie and Alvin are thrilled to be taking this next step toward building a life together.



Joseph Puleo '14 is a documentarian and has previously completed two feature-length documentaries, *America’s Last Little Italy: The Hill* (2020) about the Italian American neighborhood in St. Louis, and *A New Home* (2022) about the city’s large Bosnian refugee population.



Greg Clark '15 is certified professional services marketer and creative services manager at Tarlton Corp. As Tarlton creative services manager, Clark, a licensed drone pilot, works in a variety of roles across multiple departments to introduce and enhance the firm’s expertise in virtual design and construction technology, including mapping and site-specific orientations of job sites, to instructional videos for human resources and recruitment.



Kaecey McCormick '16 had a second poetry book, “Sleeping with Demons,” published by Finishing Line Press. The book is now available at the publisher’s website.



Ashley Hill '16 joined Geile/Leon Marketing Communications as business manager. The St. Louis agency serves clients in a variety of industries, from manufacturing and construction to higher education and entertainment. Hill earned a master's in education from Lindenwood University.



Dr. Katie Kensinger '16, '21 serves students as the coordinator of College and Career Readiness within the Springfield Public District. Dr. Kensinger was announced as the 2022–23 New Administrator of the Year for the Missouri Council of Career & Technical Administrators (MCCTA). The statewide honor highlights the contributions of a new leader of career and technical education in the state of Missouri, celebrating the unique and innovative contributions made by an educator in Missouri.



Karlee Bulla-Boehme '18 married Adam Boehme. Karlee and Adam met while at Lindenwood and dedicated their time and efforts to the LARC and writing center. They were married at White Iron Ridge near Kansas City, where they now live, on October 27, 2022.

Stephon Jenkins '19, '21 earned B.S. Business Administration and MBA at Lindenwood and is very appreciative of Lindenwood.

2020s

Setareh Fleming '20 was promoted from a help desk role to an IT operations engineer.



Kimberlee Mendoza '20 the book she worked on, "The Torn Slipper: A Backwards Cinderella Story," releases for publication December 13.

Jamie Kussman '20 accepted a new job as manager of institutional giving at Opera Theatre of Saint Louis.

Katelyn Beach '20 gave birth to son John-William Walter Beach on October 4, 2022.



Michaela Watson Quaas '20 married Mike Quaas on October 22, 2022.



Ana Bejarano Carrián '21 works as a sport scientist at the Spanish Olympic training center.

Matthew Kinsey '20, '21 has started teaching CDL classes at Saint Louis Community College Forest Park on nights and weekends.

Brian Sluga '22 had an essay titled "The Shriek I Do Remember" accepted by CONQUER magazine. CONQUER magazine is the premier forum for patients with cancer initiated by the Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators (AONN+), and features articles written by and for patients with cancer, survivors, nurse navigators, and other oncology team members.



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Stephanie Posey earned her EdS in Education Administration from Lindenwood and serves as principal of Naperville North High School. She was named the 2023 DuPage Region High School Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principals Association.



MEMORIAL

THE ALUMNI COMMUNITY

DOROTHY BOURLIER
Plattsburgh, New York
Class of 1946

RANDAL BRITTON
Weldon Spring, Missouri
Class of 1997

DARREN CARTER
Saint Peters, Missouri
Class of 2001

VERNA DOWNS
Saint Peters, Missouri
Class of 1999

PAULA (PITTS) ELLIOT
St. Louis, Missouri
Class of 1998

EVA FITZ
St. Louis, Missouri
Class of 1954

JANE (FOUST) GILBERT
St. Charles, Missouri
Class of 1949

MARLILYN (ADAIR) GOVER
Clinton, Missouri
Class of 1950

GLORIA (BAKER) GUEST
Dayton, Ohio
Class of 1951

MICHAEL HANLEY
Huntsville, Alabama
Class of 2000

JOSEPH KELLY
St. Charles, Missouri
Class of 1989

JUDITH (STOEHR) KLASING
Slater, Missouri
Class of 1997

JEANNE (SKILLSTAD) KNUDSON
Denver, Colorado
Class of 1954

STEPHANIE (YUNKER) KORDAS
Seven Hills, Ohio
Class of 1964

JOAN (BUCKNER) KRAGE
Sioux City, Iowa
Class of 1954

TENNILLE LANGDON
Boonville, Missouri
Class of 2009

CHARLOTTE MANGES
St. Louis, Missouri
Class of 1974

WOODROW MARTIN
Cuba, Missouri
Class of 1994

DAVID MAYFIELD
Saint Peters, Missouri
Class of 2002

ALYS (BALDWIN) MCCALMONT
Cincinnati, Ohio
Class of 1972

HELEN (GRAYBILL) MILLHOUSE
Grand Blanc, Michigan
Class of 1948

MARY (MATHEWS) MOENKHAUS
Greeley, Ohio
Class of 1960

LOIS (WINDROW) MORRISON
Brownsville, Tennessee
Class of 1949

JEANNE (BERRY) MOSES
St. Charles, Missouri
Class of 2006

SHIRLEY NORFLEET
Ballwin, Missouri
Class of 1991

SEAN O'BRIEN
Columbia, Illinois
Class of 2020

ROBERT PAAREN
Saint Peters, Missouri
Class of 1991

HELEN ROBERTS
Kirkwood, Missouri
Class of 1983

GREGORY RUPARD
Saint Peters, Missouri
Class of 1999

JUDITH (MAIR) WRIGHT
Concord, New Hampshire
Class of 1963

In Memoriam



Future GROWTH

LOOKING FORWARD

LINDENWOOD EDUCATION SYSTEM ACQUIRES DORSEY COLLEGE

Lindenwood Education System, the non-profit parent entity of Lindenwood University, has completed its acquisition of Dorsey College, a nationally accredited institution that provides career-focused education in the healthcare, skilled trades, culinary arts, emergency medical services, and beauty and wellness fields. Lindenwood Education System is now the parent organization of both Dorsey College and its existing Lindenwood University, a regionally accredited university with a 190-year history and more than 75,000 alumni.

Under Lindenwood Education System, Dorsey College and Lindenwood University will operate as separate education institutions, and Dorsey will maintain its name and career-focused programs. Lindenwood University will continue as a regionally accredited, NCAA Division I, liberal arts college offering on-campus and online education.

“This is a historic moment for both institutions which have a shared vision for providing learner-centric education,” said

Dr. John Porter, president and CEO of both Lindenwood Education System and Lindenwood University. “A key part of our strategy is to expand into the ‘just-in-time’ learner space, and Dorsey’s 89-year history of providing exceptional career-focused education is a perfect fit.”

“

This is a historic moment for both institutions which have a shared vision for providing learner-centric education.

DR. JOHN PORTER

LINDENWOOD EDUCATION SYSTEM

LINDENWOOD
UNIVERSITY



 Dorsey
College

Lindenwood ADVANCEMENT

LOOKING FORWARD

LIONS BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

With just one month remaining in the Lions Booster Club Membership Drive, Lindenwood University invites you to join in supporting its more than 1,000 student-athletes.

Membership in the Lions Booster Club is established by any gift that supports Lindenwood Athletics. From investing in your favorite Lions program to supporting student-athlete scholarships, there are a variety of opportunities to make an impact.

As we prepare for our second season at the NCAA Division I level, you can help us continue to elevate our expectations both in the classroom and in competition. At the same time, Lindenwood remains committed to providing a championship-caliber experience for our student-life sports programs as well. The enduring success of so many of these teams continues to allow Lindenwood to shine on the national stage.

Be sure to check out our growing list of benefits that includes access to exclusive hospitality spaces, discounts at local businesses, and more!

We are grateful for the continued support of members of the Lions Booster Club and their investment in the success of Lindenwood student-athletes. Go Lions!

Scan the QR code to make your gift in support of Lindenwood Athletics or contact Director of Athletics Advancement Jen Wunder at jwunder@lindenwood.edu or (636) 949-4952 to learn more about investing in student-athlete success.



**LIONS
BOOSTER CLUB**



LINDENWOOD

U N I V E R S I T Y

209 S Kingshighway St • Saint Charles, MO 63301

The LINDENWOOD

SPRING 2023 ISSUE

