

Enthusiastic fans show up for the annual Blackout basketball game, played on Feb. 5. The Lions played against Evangel.



Page 6 ▶



Lindenwood's new synchronized swimming team takes first during its first competition.

◀ Page 5

The Legacy

Lindenwood's Student Newspaper

Volume 5, Number 2

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February 11, 2009

Evans to students: fight to keep grants

By Jordan Lanham
Co-Managing Editor

A significant number of students at private colleges and universities in Missouri, including 1,417 at Lindenwood, face losing thousands of dollars a year in financial aid under a proposal being considered by state lawmakers.

An organization fighting the proposal here in Missouri and similar ones across the country, The Keep Me In

College Coalition, estimates that "tens of thousands" of students across the Show-Me State could be affected.

"Funding of public higher education in our state is a problem the Legislature need to address, but this budget problem should not be solved on the back of Missouri's neediest students," the local chapter of the organization says on its Web site, referring to the Access Missouri grant.

Legislation on the mat-

ter has not been introduced, "though there has been discussion among legislators and the governor's office about changing how funds are allocated between students at public and private institutions," said Kathryn Love, public information officer for the Missouri Department of Higher Education.

Access Missouri, a grant established in 2006, is designed to give Missouri students more choice in the

Please see **Grant**, Page 8



President Evans asks students to write to state legislators and let them know how important keeping the Missouri Access grant is to them.

Legacy photo by Chelsea Lewis

Barn Dance



Top: Students step in time while following the instructor's moves at the Barn Dance Thurs., Jan. 29, in the Loft. Right: Lindenwood students also had the opportunity to ride a mechanical bull at the barn dance.



Legacy photo by Natasha Sakovich

Mark Twain scholar to address 'Finn' in Sibley Chapel

By Ashley Elbert
Contributing Reporter

Dr. Cindy Lovell of Quincy University will speak at 7 tonight in the Sibley Chapel on the controversies surrounding Mark Twain's novel "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn."

An associate professor of education at the Quincy, Ill., college, Lovell serves on the board of the Mark Twain Home Foundation and volunteers as the education coordinator at the Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum in Hannibal, Mo.

"Twain really knew human nature, and that makes his writing timeless," Lovell said in a recent interview with EducationNews.org.

"He is brutally honest in his assessment of human nature, and his take on every subject, whether politics, economics, religion — you name it — is always on target."

Lovell, who couldn't be reached for comment, is working on a two-volume encyclopedia entitled "All Things Twain: An Encyclopedia of Twain's World." It will contain roughly 150 cultural topics related to Twain's life and times.

"I have loved Mark Twain since fourth grade ... and I love sharing Mark Twain with others, especially teachers," Lovell says on the Lindenwood Web site promoting her visit.

"I'm excited to be given the opportunity and challenge to provide a more focused cultural context for Twain's life."

In the interview with

EducationNews, Lovell said Twain is still misunderstood, as is the novel, published in 1884. Huck Finn has been banned numerous times since then.

Lovell said Twain "is often falsely accused of racism, but despite all the controversy this novel remains as the definitive verdict on the absurdity and immorality of slavery."

"Huck is a fictional character that does something rarely seen in the real world: he breaks the law and rebukes the customs and traditions with which he was raised to do the right thing," she said.

Lindenwood Professor Keith Russell also said, "Twain's satiric attacks against organized religion and conformity have ... made the novel objectionable to some readers."

Lovell's admiration for the Missouri native drew her to the Quincy area, about 20 miles north of Hannibal on the Illinois side of the Mississippi River.

"All Things Twain" is scheduled for completion in 2010, the 100th anniversary of Twain's death and the 175th anniversary of his birth.

Tonight's event is free. Lindenwood encourages all students and members of the community to attend. More information on Lovell's topic and that of other speakers in the Speaker Series is available at www.lindenwood.edu/academics/speakerSeries.asp.

Summer high school program involves students in the spirit of giving

By Kenny Gerling
Staff Reporter

Lindenwood's Non-Profit Administration program will host a youth leadership summit June 17-19. The summit, called the Lion's Pride Project, is designed for high school students who have completed their freshman, sophomore or junior year and show leadership skills and an

interest in helping others. "We are looking for leaders with a genuine heart for service," said Julie Turner, coordinator of the program and assistant professor in Non-Profit Administration.

According to Turner, the program which is in its first year, is accepting 50 high school students who have a GPA of at least 3.0. Turner said that despite the event

still being months off, the plan is to make it an annual event.

Turner is not alone in the program. Four students from the Non-Profit Administration program will act as counselors and help run the summit. "They will act kind of like RA's and also help with program design," Turner said.

Professor Carla Mueller,

dean of Human Services said, "High school is full of natural leaders—we hope they learn about leadership and see things from a new perspective."

The three days will consist of a variety of events including speakers and field trips, eventually culminating in a "Day of Service" where participants will go to local non-profit agencies and volunteer

their efforts to better the local community. The participants will be housed in the Lindenwood dorms.

"Lindenwood has one of the few non-profit degree programs in the country," Turner said, "Our hope is that they will consider coming to Lindenwood."

Turner expressed the goal of the entire youth summit was not only to draw poten-

tial students, but to educate students about the benefits of non-profit work.

"We want those interested to know there is a viable future working in the non-profit world," she said.

Anyone interested in the program can contact Turner at: 636-949-4652 or jturner@lindenwood.edu. All applications must be postmarked by Mar. 15, 2009.

Carrying on the Legacy Balogh teaches students to 'see world in a different way'

By Tabitha Russo
Staff Reporter

Consider the professions of journalist, editor, publisher, musician, karate student and poet.

Now combine them into a single man, and you have Alex Balogh, Lindenwood's vastly experienced assistant professor of English and co-creator of the university's re-emerging literary journal *Untamed Ink*.

Balogh is a man of many talents, all of which he brings to his classrooms at Lindenwood.

His career path is rich with variety and can be viewed as an inspiration to any on the verge of graduation and apprehensive of what he or she may find waiting for them in the real world.

For those of us who are still doubtful of where we are go-

ing, rest assured, Balogh wasn't so certain either.

What first drew Balogh into the profession of journalism was a random incident with a friend in college who was a journalist.

This friend's wallet was stolen but eventually returned. After its return, the friend wrote to the editor of the paper he was working for at the time, "Last week I had an identity crisis." Balogh read the words with amusement. It was such a simple sentence but somehow both profound and moving. It was at this moment he realized how much power words can have over us, and he decided he wanted to be a journalist.

Balogh's path to teaching would come through a different course. "I came through teaching not through the traditional academic route," he said.

"[As a journalist] I covered the education beat in Chicago. I saw the schools from the inner city to the finest public schools in the suburbs." In this way he became familiar with the process of education.

When Balogh moved on to training reporters and realized his success at it, he felt he could transfer this ability to reach others through language at the college level as well.

Balogh said his "vision as an artist and way of looking at the world" are unique skills he feels he brings to Lindenwood.

"Words are my medium. My background as a musi-

cian colors my work as a writer and teacher," he said. "I know what the reality is. I know what type of product is expected, and my students must perform to that level."

As someone who understands the power the press possesses, Balogh would appear the ideal candidate to help redesign Lindenwood's literary journal which has been nonexistent for nearly a decade. Balogh said,

"There's really something to publishing. Every document is not created equal."

It is this goal of producing a literary journal displaying work of the highest quality that enabled Balogh, Assistant Professor of English

Mike Fetters and a small handful of student interns to publish a real work of art titled "Untamed Ink". The journal publishes new writers in and out of the St. Louis area, while also featuring some of Lindenwood's own outstanding authors, such as Michael Castro and Eve Jones, both professors in Lindenwood's M.F.A. program.

Lindenwood graduate and employee Hannah Mitts said working on the journal gave her "more experience with editing." She felt it helped to make her more employable and provided a good excuse to start writing again. She said that Balogh had a "well rounded grasp on poetry, fiction, publishing and editing."

While the time is nearing to publish the second volume of "Untamed Ink", Balogh

said that he and Fetters are "still working on where to go with it" but, ultimately, the goal is "to make each successive issue better than the last."

The same objective can be applied to the new undergraduate literary journal that is being created.

"I want to see the students involved and producing and learning the process," Balogh said. "I want to see the students produce a quality journal while working with authors and polishing poems [and short fiction]."

Balogh said that he thinks experience with publishing will help students to become better writers and artists.

Balogh also said that he believes there is real talent at Lindenwood, and while a quality journal reflects well on the university, "it is for the students and community at large."



Balogh

Spring enrollment hits record high

T.J. Grigone
Staff Reporter

Admissions at Lindenwood are up, as the university saw a record number of students enroll this spring semester. There are 3,472 students on campus, compared with 3,250 last year.

"It was the best spring ever in terms of picking up additional students," said Public Relations Coordinator Chris Duggan.

One reason that can be at-

tributed to the record-breaking influx of students is the school's history.

"A lot of the state schools are minimizing financial assistance for students and simultaneously raising tuition rates," said Joe Parisi, dean of day admissions.

During this economic recession, Parisi thinks students may be choosing Lindenwood because of its history of tuition rates and financial aid.

To handle the increasing

number of students living on campus, Lindenwood continues to build student complexes outside of campus.

"We also have one of the highest graduation rates," said Parisi.

The high number of graduating students naturally leaves room for the number of students enrolling. This is proving to be a winning formula for Lindenwood, as the number of student admissions has increased the last two semesters.

Lights out



Legacy photo by Lauren Kastendieck

Senior Matt Cauley and Freshman Jill Walczak sell T-Shirts on Thursday, Feb. 5 to support that evening's Blackout Game, a basketball game against Evangel. The T-Shirts were sold for \$2 and included a free raffle ticket and temporary lion paw print tattoos.

In brief

American Humanics program receives honors

The efforts of Lindenwood's internship programs and student fundraising were recognized Jan. 4-7 at the American Humanics Management/Leadership Institute (AHMI).

Held in Indianapolis, AHMI acknowledged LU's American Humanics program for "having the greatest percentage of students participating in internships, the greatest integration of American Humanics National

Nonprofit Partners and the greatest community impact."

Also, student Latasha Lawrie was awarded the first-ever Harsook Companies' American Humanics Individual Excellence in Fundraising.

Lawrie raised almost \$35,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital through the student organization "Up 'Til Dawn."

Bezemes Family Theater presents student production of "The Wizard of Oz"

The Bezemes Family Theater of the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts is presenting a student production of "The Wizard of Oz."

The 1,200 seat Broadway Style Theater will showcase the works of actors, musicians, artists and the results of several J-term classes.

They will perform the classic story written by L. Frank Baum and made famous by actress Judy Garland on Feb. 20, 21, 27 and 28.

Showings are at 7:30 p.m. with matinees on Feb. 21 and 28 at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices range from \$10-20.

Students are allowed two free tickets for student productions.

Please contact the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts box office at 636-949-4433 for ticket information.

"The Diviners" continues at Emerson Black Box

Playwright Jim Leonard's "The Diviners" was presented by the Lindenwood Theatre Program last week, and will resume at the Emerson Black Box Theatre at the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts on Feb. 13 and 14 at 7:30 p.m. Set during the Great Depression,

the play follows the struggles of a young boy named Buddy, whose left brain was damaged after nearly drowning.

Tickets cost \$10 each and are available at the Scheidegger Center Box Office, or by calling 636-949-4433.

Lost and found recovers items

iPhones, wallets, purses among items retrieved

By Joe Varrone
Staff Reporter

The campus Lost and Found is located in Door G of the First Capitol Center on campus and is home to various misplaced or lost items.

Associate Dean of Students Wade Hampton said he sees a

little bit of everything turned into his office.

"I have all kinds of things turned in here. I've received cell phones, iPods, keys, student ids, wallets, purses, jackets and hats."

Hampton said the items that are turned in are truly astonishing. "We have received iPhones and purses full of valuable items. Many of these items are worth hundreds of dollars."

Despite the value of the items that are turned in, Hampton said the biggest surprise is when he contacts a student to notify them about their missing property and the student never comes in to claim it.

"There have been times where I call a student and tell them I have his or her wallet or purse and they never come in to claim it. These are items that have money in them and important ids, so it's very surprising when they don't claim their belongings."

To verify that the lost items are the property of the rightful owner, Hampton said that when a student comes to claim a belonging they have to fill out a form stating exactly what they are looking to claim.

He then goes through all the items in the lost and found and notifies the student when he finds what they are looking to claim according to the lost and found form.

Because of the fact that some items are not claimed immediately, Hampton said he tries to keep a missing item for the entirety of the current semester.

"Keys are disposed of after one year, but just about everything else is disposed of at the end of the current semester."

Hampton reminds students that information and procedures about how to claim items from the lost and found can be found in the student handbook.

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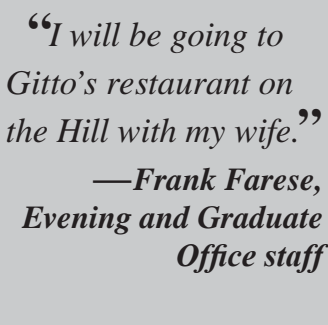
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Current Events Corner

What are your plans for Valentine's Day?

By Lauren Kastendieck and Natasha Sakovich
Staff Writers*"I'm going out of town with the wifey."*—Kerry Cox,
Director of Student Activities*"The student activities group is having a candlelight movie night in the Connection at 8 p.m. so that is where I will be."*—Ashley Kennedy,
grad student*"I'll be having a romantic dinner with my girlfriend."*—Justin Mayer,
senior*"Nothing."*—Andy Ruchalski,
sophomore*"I'm not doing anything."*—Kris Dickson,
senior*"I'll be going to a dance."*—Ja'Lana Clinton,
freshman*"I will be going to Gitto's restaurant on the Hill with my wife."*—Frank Farese,
Evening and Graduate Office staff*"I will spend time with my boyfriend."*—Tiffany Salazar,
freshman*"We will watch romantic movies together and go eat out at a nice restaurant with the girls."*—Jessica Menzies and Dasia Mack,
freshmen

Valentine's Day can bring not-so-romantic surprises

I've never liked Valentine's Day. I hated seeing couples express even more PDA than usual. I hated the displays of romantic stuff at Wal-Mart. Basically, I just hated being alone on that day. However, last year I was looking forward to spending my first Valentine's Day ever with a boyfriend. At the same time, I was afraid it wouldn't be all the attached people made it out to be.

I was living in Springfield, Mo., and my St. Louis-area boyfriend was coming down to spend the weekend with me.

The holiday fell on a Thursday, but I wasn't expecting him until Friday because of his work schedule. Thursday, my roommate texted me saying I had received a package. I was very excited—yay, flowers! What girl doesn't like flowers, right?

I rushed home from class, excited to see what was awaiting me. I ran up the stairs to my second floor apartment and turned the corner. My roommate had left for her class, so I stuck my key in the door to unlock it. Something was off.

Why is the door unlocked?, I thought to myself. Now, if you don't know me, then you don't know that I am the biggest

scaredy-cat you will ever meet.

I took a deep breath, slit my eyes open, and peeked around the door, expecting the worst. I shrieked and started running when I saw the sight in front of my eyes.

My boyfriend was standing in my living room, a day earlier than expected. It was quite possibly the most romantic thing that anyone had ever done for me. Maybe Valentine's Day wasn't so bad after all.

After he explained how he pulled it off, I

made him a poor college student's version of a romantic Valentine's lunch—mac 'n cheese with chicken nuggets. Life just couldn't get much better. Or so I thought.

We decided we would go to dinner later and spend the rest of the night relaxing. Since we both are horrible at making decisions, we were still trying to decide where to eat at 7:30 that night.

Suddenly, he had an idea. He told me, my single roommate, and a single guy friend to get in the car. Great, I thought, group date. Not that we had big plans, but it would have been nice to spend the night by ourselves.



Ashley Christopher

Getting the economy on track
One person's take on the changes in Washington, D.C.

"Change is coming to Washington" is the infamous bumper sticker platform used by the Obama campaign in 2008. I'm sure any informed American would agree some form of change is needed in Washington...but looking at this stimulus package you have to sit back and ask yourself—is this the "change" we need?

When I think of wise methods to stimulate the economy, I tend to think of tax cuts across the board, lowering capital gains, and cutting wasteful government spending. This stimulus is not a stimulus package, it's a spending bill! Millions of taxpayer dollars allocated for contraception, planting new grass in the National Mall, and expanding government employees is not my idea of stimulating the economy.

Many Americans find it all too easy

to take what the government gives to them, creating an unprecedented entitlement system. But a trillion dollars doesn't just grow on trees, people! It's taken by raising taxes on hard working citizens and printing more money, which inflates the dollar.

This fundamental idea that government is there to solve our problems is naive and frankly is the sign of a lazy, uninformed individual. Government is not the solution.

Though the bill still passed, House Republicans and 11 Democrats joined in the spirit of bipartisanship to deny

passage of the stimulus bill. Now all eyes are on the Senate as they debate and amend the package.

Here's what I have to say to the United States Senate—a vote in favor of this bill is a vote in favor of Socialism in America!

Set politics aside and your aspirations for a strong central government, and put the power back where it belongs—in the hands of the free-market and The People.

This is what stimulates an economy and drives a capitalistic society towards success.

So government, get the hell out of the way so we can get this economy back on track!



Tim Meyer

Little connection with Super Bowl

As I walked into the Connection a few minutes before the kickoff of Super Bowl XLIII, I noticed that tables and chairs were missing. I figured that because of last year's

great turnout for the Super Bowl, this year would be the same. The sight before me was almost depressing.

In a corner of the Connection sat a group of maybe 30 students

watching the Arizona Cardinals face the Pittsburgh Steelers in Tampa, Fla. Several paid little if any attention to the game. The chatter of side conversations rose over the sports commentators' voices on the television.

Toward the back of the room was food, including hot wings and pizza. Despite the abundance of food, the group of students was typical for a Sunday evening. Ping-pong and pool players were playing and a few students watched "The Dark Knight" in the opposite corner.

Out of these 30 students actually watching the Super Bowl, a single jersey was

worn in support of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

As both teams ran touchdown plays, only a handful of students seemed aware of the score change. Fewer than five

students clapped enthusiastically and perhaps three were genuinely excited. If I had not been standing directly in front of the screen, I would never have realized that Super Bowl XLIII had ended. The typical uproar of

festivity was muted. I figured the poor turnout was due to the many celebrations taking place at homes with smaller groups of friends. And yet, I wondered if the poor turnout was simply due to little interest.

Last year's Super Bowl featured a match between the ever-popular New England Patriots and the widely-supported underdog, the New York Giants. Was the turnout great last year because the teams playing were more admired? With fame, people are always watching. With anonymity, only the loyal will observe both the great and dire moments.



Sam Werbiski

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Mission Statement:

The Legacy's mission is to provide students and staff with accurate news pertaining to Lindenwood University.

Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily the views of Lindenwood University, its board of directors or the university administration. The student editors and adviser are responsible for the content of the newspaper.

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Super Bowl myths prove false

By T.J. Grigone
Staff Writer

America's yearly premium event is a conglomeration of food, drink, entertainment and advertising – all of it centered on a football game.

It's incredible how the Super Bowl has managed to ingrain itself into American culture. We gather with friends and family to overeat, over drink and watch.

And forget the score of the game, if you can't comment on the commercials Monday at work ("they spent \$6 million on that!"), you've got nothing.

Or the halftime show, where, since the Janet Jackson incident, we all watch attentively looking for a wardrobe malfunction or some kind of mishap.

What intrigued me the most about this year's Super Bowl, though, wasn't the commercials or the entertainment.

An uncle of mine swore that during halftime, sewage systems completely broke down due to the sudden influx of

flushing toilets.

I was skeptical, so I took it upon myself to investigate this urban legend along with numerous other tales associated with the Super Bowl.

According to www.snopes.com, the definitive source on myths and urban legends, the sewage system rumor is false. It goes back quite awhile to large television events, such as the finale of M*A*S*H.

The only occurrence that could be used to support this legend happened during the 1984 Super Bowl. A water main in Salt Lake City broke, but no feasible connection was made between it and the football game.

Another interesting Super Bowl myth claims that two-thirds of all avocados sold in the United States are bought within three weeks of the big game.

This one seems slightly more believable, the idea being people make a lot of

guacamole dip for the event.

But Snopes shoots this legend down as well, saying that Super Bowl Sunday accounts for about 5 percent of avocado sales – not nearly as much sold during Cinco de Mayo.

Finally, another urban legend alleges that Super Bowl Sunday is an ideal time to visit Disneyland because the amusement park will be practically empty.

Another myth that Snopes discredits. They say that the winter months are always slow for the theme park. The Super Bowl Sunday crowd will be similar to any crowd on a February weekend.

In fact, some people think the legend was once true, but too many people caught on to it, and the myth eventually invalidated itself.

Another year, another Super Bowl in the books.

The game was exciting, the commercials were entertaining, and I was surprised how good Springsteen looked for being almost 60.

And although my research was interesting, the most I got out of it was an intense craving for guacamole.

Springsteen rocks 'safe performance'

By Kenny Gerling
Staff Writer

Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band lit up the halftime show of Super Bowl XLIII on Feb. 1 in Tampa, Fla.

Springsteen played 12 minutes, tearing through a medley of hits, both old and new, with youthful energy.

The band started out silhouetted against a bright-white, lit background.

Springsteen gave the instruction to "Turn your television all the way up!" before busting into one of his signature hits.

Crowd participation played a big part of the Boss' set. He often put the microphone into the crowd or initiated call and response with the audience.

Springsteen appeared confident and genuinely happy to be performing. At one point he even knee-slid right into a camera. He was smiling the whole time and his voice was strong.

Pyrotechnic displays and lights set the background as the legendary artist sang classics such as "Born to Run" and the new "Working on a Dream."

He was joined halfway through by approximately



Kenny Gerling

three dozen robed members of a gospel choir that added harmony and temporarily blocked the view of the E Street Band.

It all culminated in an impressive fireworks display while Springsteen swung his guitar several times before raising his signature Telecaster guitar in triumph.

Overall, Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band delivered one of the most confident – and some may say best – Super Bowl halftime performances in recent memory.

The entire set lacked some of the flash that has come to be expected of the event.

Despite that, it was an assured and safe performance, and in a post "wardrobe malfunction" world that is probably exactly what the NFL wants.

Horror film remake gets big bucks at box office

3-D version of 'My Bloody Valentine' more for laughs than scares

By Stephanie Polizzi
Staff Reporter

So I went to see "My Bloody Valentine: 3-D" with some friends last Friday. The movie was released on Jan. 16 and has made more than \$44 million as of Feb. 2.

That's not too bad, considering I wasn't expecting much from the remake of the 1981 film.

I would have to say that I haven't laughed so much during a movie since "Superbad".

"My Bloody Valentine: 3-D" has the classic chase scenes where someone inevi-

tably falls down, the cheesy dialogue and a masked antagonist, similar to the "Friday the 13th" movies and "Halloween".

The story takes place in the small town of Harmony, where everyone knows everyone.

And the 'bad guy' is a miner who was almost killed by an accident in the

mine, but wakes up a year later from a coma and goes on a killing spree.

It is said that he was killed by the police and buried, but ten years later the miner re-

appears to slaughter more.

At the box office, I was pretty shocked to find out that the glasses weren't included in the \$9 ticket price. So \$9 became \$11.50.

But I didn't get the expected, little paper 3-D glasses with one red and one blue plastic lens.

Instead, I got a pair of cheap 3-D glasses like sunglasses for the showing so I could maybe use them for another 3-D movie.

I've never been to a 3-D movie before, so when the movie got started I was wowed by some of the 3-D effects, like the pick axe coming at the audience through the screen and explosions happening over the audience's heads.

But the rest of the movie

was pretty pathetic on the horror level.

So if you're in the mood to be scared by a horror movie, do not go see "My Bloody Valentine: 3-D."

But if you're in the mood for a good laugh, you will be pleasantly surprised.

'Slumdog' film dwells on India's stereotypes

By Sakshi Bagai
Contributing Writer

Director Danny Boyle took the bare bones from Vikas Swarup's novel and turned the film "Slumdog Millionaire" into electric entertainment for the year 2008.

Boyle used blood, sweat and tears to build the harsh truth about India.

The story revolves around an uneducated guy who grew up on streets in the slums of Mumbai.

The main character, Jamal, appears in the Indian version of "Who wants to be a Millionaire" and amazes everyone by answering all the questions right, even though he is just a Tiffin boy at a call center.

When the police accuse him of cheating, Jamal begins his story with a series of flashbacks, explaining how he knew all the answers.

When I saw this movie, I

was a little disheartened. The name "Slumdog Millionaire" itself seemed offensive, de-

meaning and insulting to my country's dignity.

But no matter what I say, people still liked the movie. Fair enough.

Everybody has different thoughts and perceptions.

I personally was disappointed because director Boyle has portrayed almost all the negative, harsh truths about India in this film.

Everything about the poverty and life in slums has been depicted in a bad light. Basically, the film fuels "Western stereotypes" about poverty in India.

To some extent, these stereotypes are true. But based only on few facts, the entire structure of the film seemed unrealistic to me.

I would point out that throughout the corruption,

insensitivity and irresponsibility in the movie about police officers or the call center employees, or even the blinding of kids by the mafia to make them beg and earn money, Boyle ignores the most expensive house on earth located in the same city, Mumbai, built by Mr. Anil Ambani and worth one billion U.S. dollars.

It's all facts. By pointing out a country's crime, violence or other negative aspects, a movie may win awards, but it also adds to the effects on the audience.

India is one of the most beautiful countries in the world, especially the past few decades with its growing economy and nationwide development. It has attracted people from all over the world.

Boyle's effort definitely is being appreciated by many Indians and people all over the world.

At the same time, a film like "Slumdog Millionaire" that boasts being realistic does have flaws that cannot be overlooked.



Stephanie Polizzi



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Courtesy photo

The Lindenwood Synchronized Swimming team competes during its first-ever competition, a victory over Ohio State and Miami of Ohio.

Synchro squad starts strong

New program swims to victory in first-ever competition

By Kyle Friesenhahn
Contributing Writer

Swimming, flipping and sculling in almost perfect synchronization, Lindenwood's synchronized swimming team won its first competition ever, Jan. 31, edging out Ohio State University and Miami of Ohio University by one point.

The Lady Lions went into the meet at the St. Peters Rec-Plex as the underdogs but held on for the narrow victory.

"I am very proud of the Synchro swimmers," said Lori Eaton, first year head coach. "For our first competition in a first year program, I couldn't be happier. This is awesome."

Captain Devah Leenheer placed first in the solo performance. Leenheer and Mikayla Francese placed first in the duet portion of the competition.

Kari Madden and Stewart Shoemaker combined for a fourth place performance.

In the team competition, the Lady Lions finished in second place behind Ohio State, securing the narrow victory in a competition where every

"For our first competition in a first year program, I couldn't be happier."

—Coach Eaton

team member contributed.

"Not one person stood out," Eaton said. "The entire team stepped up to the plate and delivered. They all performed with heart and determination."

Though they were confident they would perform well, the victory came as a shock to some on the team.

"Honestly, I didn't expect the [victory] at all," Leenheer said.

"I had just joked about it with the team and seconds later I hear '2nd place Ohio State,' meaning we got first. I was very surprised and happy."

The team has been working hard all season to get into shape, doing land conditioning, strength/flexibility exercises and their water workouts with

weight training.

"I feel that all the work we are putting in to the sport is not only making us better swimmers, but allowing us to be more confident in ourselves," freshman Robin Pirik said.

"We are putting a lot of time and effort into what we do and I believe that so far it is paying off."

Although they are happy with their performance, the squad is still looking to improve.

"There is always room for improvement," Eaton said. "It is only the beginning of the season, and each week we hope to gain more power, strength and height."

In the upcoming months the schedule will continue to pick up.

The Lady Lions have meets almost every single weekend on their way to nationals in late March.

The swimmers feel they are ready for the competition.

"Although we [made] some changes in the routine, I know I can trust in my practice and have a good swim," freshman Federica Bertolini said.

The Lady Lions will compete this Saturday against the University of Richmond, Va.

My Take

Scoring the goal: Graduation

A couple weeks ago, I perused through some sports statistics and noticed a random category: college football NCAA graduation rates.

This peaked my interest, and I came upon a startling statistic. The University of Texas Longhorns, a well-respected football powerhouse, had a putrid graduation rate of 40 percent. Yes, 40 percent. That's 216th in the nation.

Downright appalling. The fact that any team could graduate only four out of every 10 members is pathetic, especially when most of these "students" received generous athletic scholarships.

The purpose of the student-athlete seems to be to make the university money, rather than learn a skill and acquire a degree. You see, it's the little secret in big-time NCAA universities that everyone knows, but no one talks about.

Some may contend that this means the professors at these Division-I universities are more stringent in their courses, that standards are higher.

But maybe it's because these athletes are recruited for their 40-yard dash time and not their basic reading/writing skills.

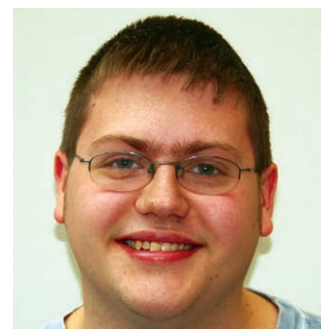
Academics should be a priority for every student, athlete or not.

And that's what Lindenwood University encourages. As the sports editor of this newspaper, I've seen my share of the 45 varsity sports that this school offers. Many of these teams compete in the NAIA, while some compete in other non-NCAA conferences.

Lindenwood puts an emphasis on athletics, but at the same time it certainly doesn't overlook what is truly important: academics.

As a matter of fact, it prioritizes it.

Students come to Lindenwood "for academics, and then athletics is secondary. That has to be the primary goal in recruiting somebody," said Athletics Director John Creer, adding that coaches are responsible for encouraging their athletes to strive for scholastic



Micah Woodard
Sports Editor

excellence.

And LU verifies that student athletes hold quality academic standards. Just last year, the university employed a "checks and balances" system. Every athlete's attendance is monitored, grades are observed and strong expectations are set. If athletes fail to meet these requirements, then the university excuses them from the team (although appeals are granted).

Between athletics, schoolwork, social life and part-time jobs, student athletes have to stay focused and keep their priorities in order. And

"Ultimately everything comes back to the athletes being responsible for themselves."

—John Creer
Athletics Director

Lindenwood's professors go the extra mile to accommodate missed classes, assignments and tests due to athletic events.

"The faculty here are great. They really bend over backward to work with us," Creer

said. "As long as they see the student athlete putting in the effort, they're going to do what they can to make them successful."

Creer emphasized that student athletes must apply themselves to their studies in order to succeed in the classroom, as well as on the field.

"We create steps to help them, but ultimately everything comes back to the athletes being responsible for themselves," he said.

And that separates Lindenwood from NCAA Division I schools such as Texas or the University of Florida. Students are not here just to play sports; they are here foremost to gain skills and knowledge that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

Want to sound off about Lindenwood sports and have your thoughts published in a future edition? Look below for details.

Lions set sights on World Series victory

By Alex Jahncke
Assistant Sports Editor

This year Lindenwood's baseball team will settle for nothing less than an outstanding season. After last year's fantastic season ending due to the weather, the players want to prove that they are legitimate. Head coach Doug Bletcher says he would be disappointed with anything less than a World Series victory.

"It's hard for people to understand our mind-set, but we have real lofty goals. We are going to do everything we can to get back on top," said Bletcher.

In the off season they worked hard to build up a top-of-the-line team. One focus this year was recruiting, something they did not do last year. There were nearly 40 transfers alone.

The goal was to increase talent base, and they did just that. The things that will drive them through this season are effort and passion.

This year it looks as if the pitching will be leading the team, but that does not take

away from any of the other positions. The Lions also have more depth at catcher than ever before.

This helps out a lot in injury situations. The outfield also has strengthened in the off season. All around, they have only improved.

"This is easily the best team I have coached as far as the amount of talent," said Bletcher.

Although the season does not start until Feb. 13 they are working to be the best. Being Conference champions last year was exciting, but that would mean next to nothing to them this year if it was not followed by another championship. With that as the focus, Bletcher is not concerned with opening the season fast out of the gate. There is still a lot of work to do to be a complete team.

"We still aren't in the right shape. This is not like the majors, so we don't have a spring training. Therefore the beginning of the season is our training," he said.

"We still don't have all the answers, so if we don't win



Legacy photo by Masashi Kinjo

A Lion fields a grounder during a practice at Hunter Stadium on Jan. 21.

the first few it won't be the end of the world."

Bletcher added, "The 2007 team proved they could win a championship. Our story has

yet to be written.

"I think we are a pretty talented team," he said.

"Therefore, we have to set our goals high."

We Want Your Take

Want your thoughts published in the *Legacy*? Sound off about Lindenwood sports by sending your thoughts to:

journallab@lindenwood.edu

Please address your emails to Micah Woodard. We look forward to hearing from you!

After strong first half of season, Lions stumble

Shooting suffers as LU loses Black Out game

By Andrew Tessmer
Staff Reporter

Strong out of the gate, the Lions have taken a step backward in the second half of the season, losing six of their last nine games after starting 12-3.

And in the annual Black Out game held Thursday, Feb. 5, the Lions fell 81-69 to the Evangel Crusaders.

Among the black-filled stands at the Hyland P.A., the Lions' shooting efforts suffered. Because of LU's poor shooting, the Evangel Crusaders took a 10-0 lead and continued to run the floor.

They scored 39 points in the first half, but the

Lions managed only 23. During the second half, the Lions were forced to work very hard to get back into the competition.

Putting up a seven point run, the Lions started the fight early in the half, and continued a massive scoring drive until the black out re-entered the shooting equation.

In the last five minutes the Crusaders outscored the Lions 18-9 to put the game away.

Despite the recent losing stretch, the Lions are still in good position due to their strong start.

The 2008-09 squad has reached 14 wins in only 21 games, seven less than it

took last season to reach the same mark.

Not only is this year's squad poised to win more games, but they are also doing so in a higher division than last year.

This year's Lions made the jump from NAAI's Division II up to Division I for the current season.

The Lions are ready to re-take their winning season by employing pressure on both offense and on defense.

The squad is on their way to an impressive season and conference record with six games to go.

The Lions' next game will be a conference match at Benedictine on Thursday. The Lions defeated them 74-70 earlier in the season.



Legacy photo by David Haas Junior forward Shane Williams snatches a rebound at the annual Black Out game held on Thursday, Feb. 5.

Event of the Week

On Friday, Feb. 13, the Men's lacrosse team will be taking on the Fontbonne Griffins at Hunter Stadium at 7 p.m. Come over and show your Lion pride!

SCOREBOARD

Table containing Men's Hockey schedule (e.g., Sep 26- North Dakota State, W 15-2) and ACHA Standings (e.g., Lindenwood 31-2-1-0-63).

Table containing Michigan-Dearborn and Ohio hockey results, Team Leaders for men's hockey, Goals, Assists, and Women's Ice Hockey schedule.

Table containing CCWHA Standings for Lindenwood and other schools, Team Leaders for women's hockey, Goals, Assists, and Men's/Women's Table Tennis schedule.

Table containing Women's Wrestling schedule (e.g., Sep 19- World Team Trials) and Men's Basketball schedule (e.g., Oct 31- Doane Classic).

Table containing Team Leaders for basketball (e.g., Richard Rose 13.3 points per game) and Women's Basketball schedule (e.g., Nov 1- Hannibal).

Table containing Rebounds per game (e.g., Shay Chin 9.7), Free Throw Percentage (e.g., Kelsey Jo Vogler 1.00), Men's Wrestling schedule (e.g., Oct 29- Black and Gold Scrimmage), and Men's Roller Hockey schedule (e.g., Nov 1- St. Louis CC).

Advertisement for O.T. Hill's St. Charles Lanes. Features a graphic of bowling pins and a ball. Text: 'Lindenwood Night Every Wednesday! after 10 p.m. 1/2 price Bowling Anytime'. Address: 2187 First Capitol Drive (636) 949-0311.

Table containing HAAC Standings for basketball (e.g., School, HAAC record, Overall) and Team Leaders for roller hockey (e.g., Brandon Barnette- 23 points).

Son of the Samurai by Wes Murrell



Grant

continued from page 1
colleges or universities they attend. Some students at private universities and colleges have been eligible for more aid under the program than students attending state institutions.

Gov. Jay Nixon recently proposed that the Legislature approve setting the maximum amount at \$2,850 for all eligible students.

Now, Access Missouri offers a maximum of \$4,600 to students attending private universities and colleges. Their counterparts attending state schools can receive up to \$2,150 a year.

Some Lindenwood students who receive the grant worry that any reduction could disrupt their futures, either by forcing them to attend college elsewhere, to take out additional loans or to leave school altogether.

"If they cut the grant, I am going to have to pay a lot of money or I might have to change schools," freshman Alizeh Jumani said.

"Or I might have to go to the community college, and they might not provide my major, then I'd have to change my major as well."

The concern has prompted private college and university presidents, including Lindenwood's Dr. James D. Evans, to band together to fight the potential cut.

Evans is scheduled to meet with other private, public and Independent Colleges and Universities of Missouri (ICUM) presidents Thursday at the St. Louis Community College in Wildwood, Mo., to discuss Access Missouri funding.

Love said that she doesn't expect the matter to be resolved at Thursday's meeting.

Evans said that the proposal to change the funding

"The state schools can't afford to accommodate all students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees."

--President Evans

formula was initiated several months ago by Dr. Gary Forsee, president of the University of Missouri System. Forsee was not available for comment.

Jennifer Hollingshead, assistant director of strategic communication for the University of Missouri System, said that Forsee is very supportive of the governor's proposal.

In a news release published earlier this year, Forsee commented on the proposal and said that, "The governor is on the right track to make this a fair and balanced financial aid program that will improve access to higher education for all students."

Evans emphasized that the Access Missouri program not only gives students more choice in selecting a college or university, but also takes the financial load off of state schools.

Without the private sector, state universities would have twice as many students.

"The state schools can't afford to accommodate all students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees," Evans said.

"The average full-time student at a state university receives a direct subsidy of about \$7,000 from the state and then the student ... receives another \$2,000 in Access Missouri funds," he said.

Essentially, it costs state taxpayers twice as much to send a student to a public university, compared with a private one, Evans said.

"If all students were forced to go to [a public institution] — the state system would run out of money, and many students wouldn't be able to go to college," Evans said.

Evans said that in some cases, Lindenwood may have to help students make up the difference in lost funding.

"If they were juniors or seniors and they were good students, that far along, Lindenwood would have to share a bigger proportion of the shortfall," he said. "We wouldn't want good students to have to go elsewhere because they're \$500 short."

Until a decision is reached, Evans will work with other private institutions and members of ICUM.

Since last month, he has urged students who may be affected to join keepmeincollege.com, an advocacy site for students who may lose aid.

This site can be accessed through the university Web site and offers information about Access Missouri, the proposal to cut funding and ways to contact state representatives.

"As many students as possible should write to the governor of the state, state senators and representatives to let the government and legislators know how important this supplemental grant level is in order for them to continue at the university of their choice," Evans said.

Information for this story was contributed by staff reporters Ashley Christopher, Joe Varrone and Hiroko Furuhashi.

Work & Learn students

Work & Learn sign-up sheets for the 2009-2010 school year are now available on the Lindenwood Web site!

To renew your current job, simply print out the Work & Learn Program Contract and return it to the Work & Learn Office between Feb. 20 and March 6.

To apply for a new job, print out the Work & Learn Program Contract and Application and return it to the Work & Learn Office between March 16 and April 30.

For more information, contact the Work & Learn Office at 636-949-4563.

Williams' family starts fashion foundation

By Ashley Christopher
Staff Reporter

Family and friends of Shawn Williams, a Lindenwood graduate who was killed last September after being struck by a car outside of a St. Louis bar, are keeping his dreams alive through the Shawn Christopher Williams foundation.

"Our purpose is to enlighten, inspire, engage and

educate creative minds and souls," said Jacquelyne Craig, a member of Williams' Eye-kon clothing line.

"We are trying to keep his vision afloat by helping young designers become successful in life."

Craig said the foundation will give out four awards per year to up-and-coming designers.

"The foundation will help out all kinds of designers—

not just clothing designers, but artists, too," she said.

The foundation's board of directors will choose who qualifies for the award, she said. Winners will then be recognized at the annual Summer Face Off fashion show.

For more information on EyeKon clothing and the foundation, visit www.myspace.com/stl_fashion_eyekon.



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Correction:

On page 3 of our Jan. 28, 2009 issue, Mayuko Watarai's last name was incorrectly spelled Wadarai.