

### Commencement Ceremonies Will Have a New Look and Feel



Graduates and their families attending the Commencement ceremonies at the St. Charles Family Arena [will be in for a different experience from previous ceremonies](#) with changes to stage pieces, lighting, music, and the script to create a better sense of flow and place more focus on the students as they reach the end of their academic journeys.

Emily Jones and Stu Hollis, faculty members of the Theatre Department, were the lead designers of the changes, which were requested by Lindenwood System President Michael Shonrock to tell, through the ceremony, the school's story and the students' story. Behind the traditional school flags will be a multi-piece backdrop depicting the university's historic Alumnae Gate on Kingshighway. The stage will be lit with special lighting to focus attention there, and the visual story of the ceremony will be told in multi-media ([including these messages from faculty](#)) on a suspended 30-by-17-foot video screen.

## ACADEMICS



### Mini Graduation Ceremony

On Sunday, April 23, 2017 a mini graduation was held in the AB Leadership Room for 13 student athletes from Women's Lacrosse and Track and Field. These students are not able to participate in the regularly scheduled commencement due to competition, so they were honored by over 100 family, friends, faculty and staff!

### Student Medial Outlets Luncheon

Dr. Michael Shonrock met with the advisors and 2 student representatives from Lindenwood media outlet (television, radio, newspaper, online). They had a great discussion about how the students and outlets can work together to create a bigger presence on campus and a better experience for the students.



### Student Lands Coveted Internship with NASA

Athletic training student Bryce Ensor has landed an [internship with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration \(NASA\)](#) this summer, one of only three of its kind available nationwide.



### Students Produce Videos for Charity Ball

Students from the spring 2017 class Advanced Video and Producing, taught by Professor Peter Carlos, produced five videos for St. Charles Mayor Sally A. Faith's Annual Charity Ball. Some of the charities will be using the videos on their web sites.



### Two Honors Earned at National Student Advertising Competition

The Lindenwood team at National Student Advertising Competition, offered by the American Advertising Federation, returned with two honors: a Special Judges Citation Award for Most Emotional Connection, and Advisor of the Year (District 9) for Kristy Tucciarone.



### **DECA Team Earns Multiple Awards**

The DECA international team collectively took home 19 awards this year at the 2017 Collegiate International Career Development Conference in Anaheim CA.



### **Belleville Students Work Presented in Media Arts Showcase**

Students from the Humanities Division presented highlights of their work in a public showcase held in the classrooms and hallways of the West Wing. Visitors walked from room to room to see poetry readings, short films, graphic artwork, script recitals, and many other forms of art.



### **Open Water Diver Course In the News**

The Open Water Diver Course, [recently featured in an article in \*The SCUBA News\*](#), is a major first step for making a career out of scientific diving. Global opportunities exist for oceanographers, marine biologists, archaeologists, and even physiologists, among others.

## **ATHLETICS**

### **Student-Athlete Academic Honors Reception**

More than 225 student-athletes with a 3.75 (or above) GPA were recently honored at The Roars Academic Honors Reception at the J. Scheidegger Center. President Shonrock attended the reception to recognize these students for their outstanding academic and athletic performance.



### **Connor Harris Signs NFL Contract with New York Jets**

Former football player Connor [Harris has signed a free agent contract with the New York Jets](#). In the fall, he will look to become the fourth Lion to appear in a NFL contest, joining DeDe Dorsey, Brian Schaefering, and Pierre Desir.





### Defense Shines In Football Spring Game

The [annual spring football game](#) was under new direction with Jed Stugart at the helm of the Lions' program. The offense ran several plays at different spots on the field, practicing multiple game situations, showcasing the new-look squad to its fans.



### Football Program Announces 2017 Schedule

The Lions, who will be playing under new head coach Jed Stugart, will play an [11-game MIAA 2017 schedule](#), which includes six games at Hunter Stadium. The season starts on the road with a contest at Central Oklahoma on August 31.



### No. 2 Women's Lacrosse Wins 17th Straight Game

The women's lacrosse team extended its winning streak to 17 games with a [26-3 senior day victory over Oklahoma Baptist](#). The game was Lindenwood's 31st consecutive victory at Hunter Stadium in St. Charles, MO.



### Women's Lacrosse Scores 13-12 Victory

The women's lacrosse team [knocked off its top RMAC rival](#) at Hunter Stadium in St. Charles, MO. The Lady Lions secured a thrilling 13-12 victory over the Regis Rangers to capture the RMAC regular season title.



### Abbott and Benzing Headline RMAC Academic Awards

Erin Abbott and Rachel Benzing of the women's lacrosse team landed on the [RMAC first-team all-academic squad](#). Ten other Lady Lions received selections to the RMAC honor roll.



### Benzing Named RMAC Offensive Player of the Week

Women's lacrosse player Rachel [Benzing was selected as the RMAC Offensive Player of the Week](#). Benzing's award comes after two recent wins, pushing the team's record to 17-0 to begin the season.



### Huge Second Half Drives Men's Lacrosse Past Lake Erie

The No. 10-ranked men's lacrosse team [used a seven consecutive goal spree to squeeze past Lake Erie](#) by a final score of 9-8.



### **Men's Lacrosse Takes Down Maryville**

The No. 15-ranked men's lacrosse team closed out the regular season with a [14-4 victory over Maryville](#) on senior night from Hunter Stadium.



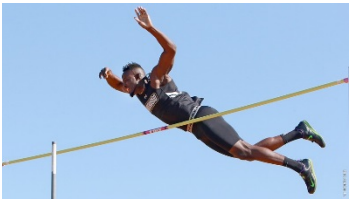
### **Softball Splits At Southwest Baptist**

The softball team [split with Southwest Baptist](#) in Bolivar, MO. The Lindenwood offense stalled in the nightcap, as the SBU offense scored in four different innings en route to the 6-0 victory.



### **Boland Vaults to First-Place Finish at Kansas Relays**

The men's and women's track and field competed at the Kansas Relays in Lawrence, KS. During the three day competition, Xavier [Boland secured a program record and a first-place finish](#) in the men's pole vault competition.



### **Boland Named MIAA Men's Field Athlete of the Week**

Xavier Boland was named the [MIAA Men's Field Athlete of the Week](#).



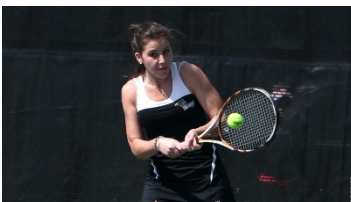
### **Men's Tennis Closes Out Season With A Victory**

The men's tennis concluded its 2016-17 season with a [6-3 win over the University of Missouri-St. Louis](#) at home. They finished the year holding an overall record of 8-11



### **Bogic, El Idrissi Earn Spots on All-MIAA Tennis Team**

Men's tennis players Filip Bogic and Naoufal El Idrissi [received All-MIAA honors](#) for both singles and doubles. Both players earned spots on the second-team All-MIAA team as the No. 1 and 2 representatives.



### **Piccamiglio Earns Honorable Mention**

Women's tennis player Clara Piccamiglio was [selected as an honorable mention](#) for the All-MIAA Tennis team. Competing primarily at No. 4 singles for the Lady Lions, Piccamiglio registered an overall record of 13-10 including five wins within the MIAA.



### Tennis Head Coach Bill Vahle Retires From Coaching

Men's and women's tennis head coach [Bill Vahle will retire from his coaching position](#). "The individual seasons have always had their ups and downs," said Vahle. "In the end, it's the relationships that matter, certainly with the student-athletes, but also with support staff, other coaches, trainers, administrators, and others"

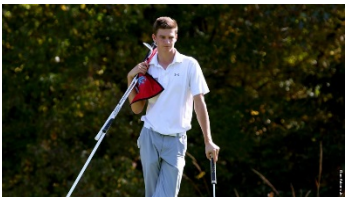


**Men's Golf Continues Impressive Stretch** The men's golf team [concluded the regular season portion of its schedule with a second-place finish](#) at the Tiger Classic. Lindenwood has now finished in first or second place in each of its last four tournaments.



### Men's Golf Earns Spot in NCAA Regional Tournament

For the third time in its program history, [the men's golf team qualified for NCAA postseason play](#). The Lions are one of 20 teams selected to compete in the upcoming NCAA Central Region tournament played at Awarii Dunes in Axtell, NE.



### Men's Golf Completes MIAA Championships in Third Place

The men's golf team [completed the MIAA Championships in third place](#) at Sycamore Ridge in Spring Hill, KS. Lindenwood has now finished in the top-three in seven of its twelve events this season.



### Limkemann Finishes First, Women's Golf Takes Second at MIAA Championships

The women's [golf team finished in second place](#) at the MIAA Championships in Kansas City, MO. Sophomore Dakota Limkemann led the way for Lindenwood, winning the tournament's individual championship.



### Men's Basketball Announces Three New Signees

Men's basketball head coach Lance Randall announced that [three players recently signed to play for the Lions for the 2017-18 season](#): Trevell Cunningham, Diego Womack, and Drew Moore.



### Hamm Named 30-Under-30 Award Winner

Men's basketball assistant coach Ryan Hamm was honored today by the National Association of Basketball Coaches, naming Ryan Hamm an Under Armour [30-under-30 honoree](#), which recognizes a group of up and coming young coaches in men's college basketball.





### **Belleville's Winn Named NAIA National Softball Pitcher of the Week**

Belleville's Taylor Winn has been [named NAIA National Softball Pitcher of the Week](#). Winn earned five wins while allowing zero earned runs against Missouri Baptist, Calumet and Cardinal Stritch.



### **Galka, Pauley Named Honorable Mention All-MIAA After Freshmen Campaigns**

Stormee Galka and Austine Pauley were named [All-MIAA honorable mention](#). In order to be an honorable mention player, a player must receive at least one vote among nominees at their respective positions.



### **Women's Rugby Rolls into D1 Elite Semifinals**

Two recent victories with a combined 198-7 point differential sent [women's rugby rolling along into the USA Rugby D1 Elite 15's semifinals](#). The Lady Lions topped Washington State 95-7 in the round of 16 and shutout Stanford 103-0 in the quarterfinals in Stanford, CA.



### **Two Bowlers Advance to Semifinals**

Bryan Dragotta and Michael Coffey [advanced to the semifinals of the 2017 Intercollegiate Singles Championship \(ISC\)](#) at Raising Cane's River Center in Baton Rouge, LA. Dragotta ultimately finished second while Coffey settled for third at the event.



### **Women's Bowling Eliminated, Michelfelder Named All-American**

Women's bowling had a short run in double-elimination bracket play, being ousted in the 2017 Women's Intercollegiate Team Championships (ITC). [Erin Michelfelder was named one of five players nationally to the Honorable Mention team](#).



### **Lions Complete Regular Season with Fourth Straight Win**

The billiards team concluded its regular season by defeating Teacher's Billiards 15-12 at the Lindenwood Billiards Arena in St. Charles, MO. It was the [fourth straight victory for the Lions](#) after falling to that same Teachers team three weeks earlier.



### **Cycling Finishes Second in MWCCC Road Standings**

The cycling team [finished second in road standings in the Midwest Collegiate Cycling Conference \(MWCCC\)](#) after the final week of racing hosted in Madison, WI. The Lions earned five podiums over the weekend and Jonah Mead-VanCort won two races to claim the top spot in the Men's A Omnium.



### **Lady Lions Finish Fourth in Conference Tourney**

Women's water polo won a game and lost two, resulting in a [fourth place finish in the Midwest Division Conference Championship](#) at Rolf's Aquatic Center in South Bend, IN.



### **Olympic Weightlifting Performs Well at Uncharted Meet**

Olympic weightlifting had a [fantastic showing](#) at the Spring Uncharted Meet at Uncharted CrossFit in St. Charles, MO. The competition did not have winners for each weight class but instead had winners for the session all together.



### **Baseball Allows Just Five Runs In Doubleheader Sweep at Northeastern State**

The Lindenwood pitching staff allowed just five runs as the [Lions swept a MIAA baseball doubleheader](#) at Northeastern State.



### **Track & Field Wins At Drake Relays**

Track and field athletes [won two events at the prestigious Drake Relays](#). Omar Es Salmouny won the 3,000m steeplechase and the men's distance medley relay team took first.

## **FACULTY**

### **Faculty Years-of-Service Recognition**

Twenty-three faculty members are celebrating years-of-service milestones (5 and 10 years) including Charlene Engleking, Rebecca Panagos, Ana Schnellmann, and Christopher Scribner who are celebrating 20 years of service. We congratulate these faculty members and thank them for all that they do for our students!





### **Walker Speaks at Athena Awards**

Patrick Walker, associate professor of nonprofit administration in the Robert W. Plaster School of Business & Entrepreneurship, and his wife, Nicole Roach, were the [keynote speakers at the Athena Leadership Foundation's 30th Annual Leadership Summit](#).

## STAFF



### **Presentation at AAIM Leadership Conference**

Dr. Joe Alsobrook and Dr. Deb Ayres presented, "[The Power and Potential of Data-Driven Employee Performance Evaluation](#)" at the AAIM Leadership Conference in St. Louis, MO. Their presentation focused on the University's journey to develop a mission and evidence-based employee performance evaluation process that supports and exemplifies a culture of continuous professional improvement.

## IN OTHER NEWS

### **Statewide Bill Passes Allowing Transportation Network Companies**

House Bill 130, allowing for Transportation Network Companies (i.e. Uber & Lyft) to operate in Missouri, was recently signed by Governor Greitens. We welcome this new transportation option for our entire Lindenwood community - especially our students.

### **President's Advisory Council – Community Relations**

Dr. Michael Shonrock held the inaugural President's Advisory Council for Community Relations on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Business and government leaders discussed the community's perspective of Lindenwood and how the campus can continue to build its image and partnership with the St. Charles community.



### **Late Night Breakfast A Success**

The Campus Activities Board teamed up with Pedestal Foods to continue the much anticipated tradition of Late Night Breakfast, served from 10:00 PM to 12:00 AM. Thirteen faculty and staff volunteers served students customary breakfast foods, delectable French toast and fruit crepes as well as specialty coffee. Over 1,000 students were able to mingle with friends and take a break from studying.

## Degrees Have Increased Value upon Graduation

A Lindenwood University degree has increased value upon graduation for many students, as Lindenwood has been [ranked on the Student Loan Report's list of the Top 250 Private Colleges that Give Students the Least Private Student Debt](#).

## Interfraternity Council to Add More Organizations



The Interfraternity Council voted to increase the number of men's organization at Lindenwood University from three to six over the next six years. These organizations are: Theta Xi Fraternity (Spring 2018), Sigma Tau Gamma (Spring 2020), and Alpha Sigma Phi (Spring 2022).



### Leadership Series

Students were recently awarded the Leadership Series Certificate for their commitment to leadership development. To receive the certificate, students attended Leadership workshops. For the 2016-2017 academic year, the Student Involvement office was able to offer to 20 Leadership workshops and had over 450 student participate.



### Leadership Awards

Student Involvement held the 4th Annual Leadership Awards to honor student organizations for their hard work. We are proud to announce that student organizations entered 2,060 events in Involve U and completed 7,475 service hours this past year. Thirty-five awards were given to student organizations, their members, and advisors.



### Intramural Champions Crowned

Coed softball champions "Los Papaupas" won a thriller last week to become our spring 2017 champions. Coed sand volleyball champions "The Harambes" beat out a competitive field for the championship. Look for more of this team next year!

## Evans Unlocked

The Campus Activity Board's annual "Evans Unlocked" was a success once again. Approximately 400 students enjoyed over 30 mystical activities, delicious Harry Potter themed food, a magic show, game show, and much more.

### **Submit An Item to *Hear Us Roar***

Do you have an accomplishment or exciting news? Send it to us! To submit an item for inclusion in the *Hear Us Roar* newsletter:

- Email [hearusroar@lindenwood.edu](mailto:hearusroar@lindenwood.edu)
- Include a short headline (7 words or less) and brief write-up (35-50 words) of your item. Phrases like “this week” or “last Tuesday” may not be accurate by the publication date, so please don’t include those.
- Include a JPEG photo and link to more information (whether on our website or an external site) whenever available. One photo per item.

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