



## How safe are you at LU?

Investigation compares campus security policies to other area colleges

### CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

By Chris Smith and Clarissa Behrmann  
#LUSafety

The shooting in Newtown. The stabbing at a Texas community college. The bombings in Boston that led to a fire fight that killed a campus security guard. School safety is in the news and on everyone's minds. Despite law enforcement's best efforts, the United States continues to struggle with the best way to head off attacks.

To better protect students, schools everywhere, including Lindenwood, are stepping up their defenses. Protocols vary depending on the type of threatening situation.

"Security had training in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) active-shooter drill," said John Bowman, head of LU security. "We work closely with St. Charles city and surrounding departments."

But university security guards are unarmed, which could affect how quickly they could respond to an active shooter situation, according to several security officials.

The protocol for bomb threats includes checking the public areas of a building that's being threatened.

"We would also ask the professors to look around their rooms and see if anything's unusual in the classroom," Bowman said.

Security must decide which threats are legitimate or simply ploys to get out of class. Bowman said that whoever answers the call must fill out a checklist that includes exactly what the caller said and the description of any potential devices.

"We can't evacuate on every bomb threat; kids would be doing that just because they didn't have their homework done," he said.

With these larger scale events, Bowman wants Lindenwood students to know the protocol, but educating them on the



Legacy Photo by Dale Hart

Security officer Mike Smythe logs a conversation he just had with a student. Officers are required to log each conversation per LU policy.

proper procedures has been a challenge. Although the information is in the student handbook, many students don't read it, he said.

Bowman said one solution would be for professors to review safety procedures when going over the course syllabus at the beginning of each semester.

On a daily basis, LU's security does its best to keep campus crime to a minimum. Usually, three or four guards work every shift, including nights. All guards have incident command training as well as training in first aid and use of an automatic electronic defibrillator.

In all, 11 full-time and seven part-time guards patrol campus. They also have Work and Learn students who work in the security office.

Lindenwood battles many of the same problems as other college campuses in the area. In the past three years, reported

crimes have included 37 burglaries, two thefts, six assaults and one arson.

Despite these activities, Bowman wants students to feel comfortable around campus.

"We've made improvements and have very little crime," he said. "We've added lighting over by Harmon, increased security patrols and added security radios."

In addition, Lindenwood has more than 160 surveillance cameras placed around campus, most of which are located in public areas, classrooms and parking lots.

Bowman believes a key to campus safety is getting students involved and following school procedures.

"We can't be everywhere," said Bowman. "Those are safety procedures the university has set in place to keep you guys safe."

### LU security vs. other colleges

Lindenwood was in the middle of the pack in a study that compared the university to three other colleges in the metropolitan area. Members of LU's Investigative Reporting class compiled data over the past four months, collecting hundreds of statistics and conducting dozens of interviews.

Perhaps the school most similar to LU is Maryville University. Like LU, Maryville also has a security staff, not a police department. It is situated about 14 miles from Lindenwood in west St. Louis County, and it boasts one of the lowest crime rates for area colleges. Fewer than 20 crimes have happened at Maryville in the past three years.

"Our campus is a safe environment as long as our community members remain aware of their surroundings and practice good safety habits," said Michael Parkinson, director of public safety.

Maryville takes a different approach in that it trains staff with an "all-hazards" emergency plan, which is designed to deal with a variety of emergencies.

"We have been working hard the past few years to get our critical incident management team and our executive policy group trained to respond during a crisis," he said.

While Parkinson feels his staff could handle most situations, some could prove difficult.

"We are not armed so we would have very limited response capabilities in a situation like Virginia Tech," he said. "Campuses that have unarmed officers are reliant on the quick response of local police agencies."

Maryville students are in the process of learning safety measures for their campus and how to react to various campus emergencies.

"We are supportive of the 'run, hide, fight philosophy,'" Parkinson said, "and are trying to incorporate this in the crime prevention programs we provide to the community as well as the development of our individual building emergency plans."

In the future, Parkinson hopes to find innovative ways to train, have a program for first-year students to inform them of the procedures and have better tools for his officers to protect students.

LU's closest college neighbor is St. Charles Community College (SCC), which is 10 miles away in Cottleville, but SCC's approach to security is strikingly different than LU's. SCC has its own police force on campus and also has its own police academy.

Bob Ronkoski, the chief of police for SCC, said that students feel extremely safe on campus.

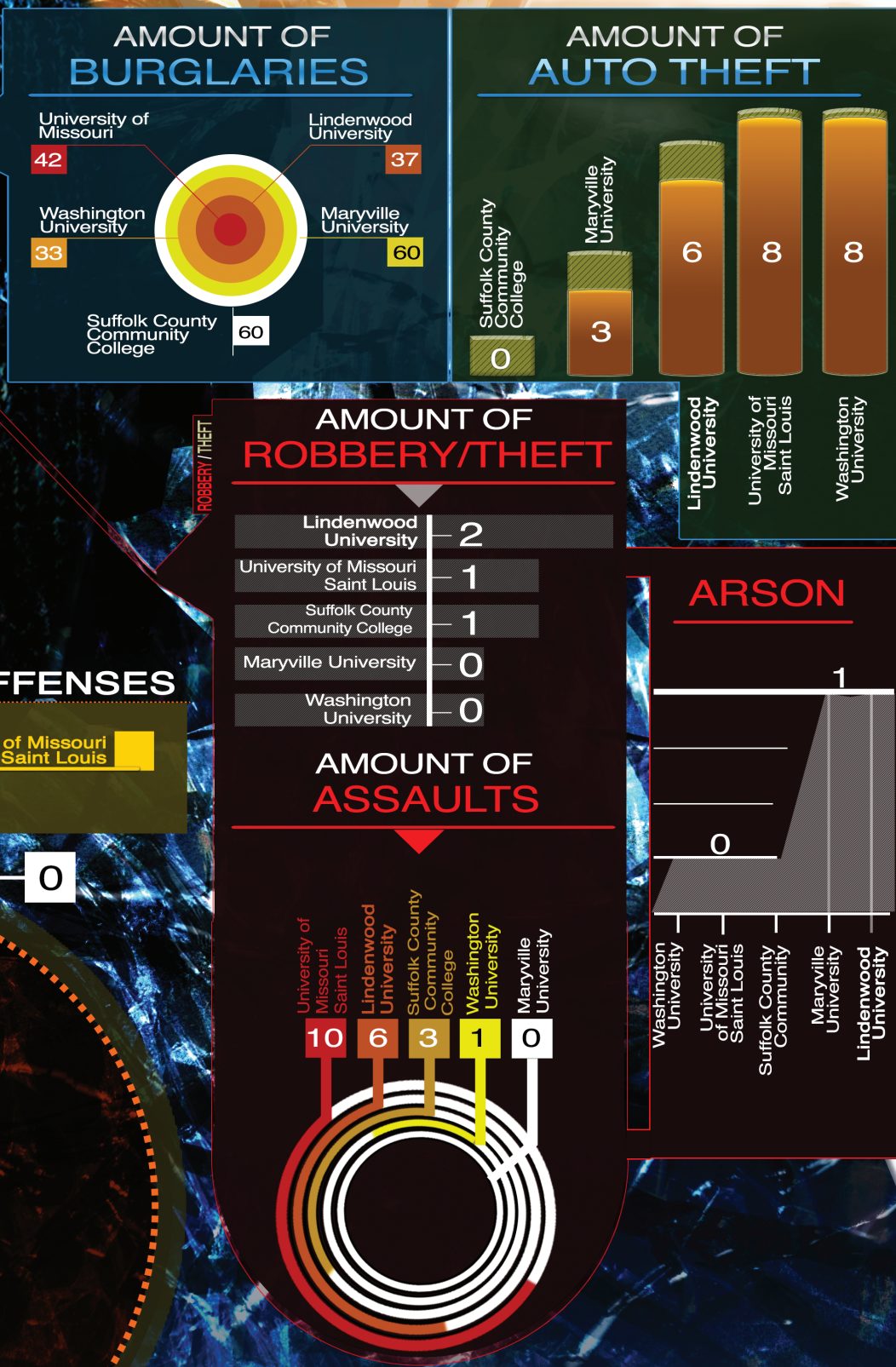
"Students are happy that we have college police officers on duty," he said. "They know that the police officers receive the latest training on how to respond to emergencies and violent intruders."

Of the staff at SCC, 90 percent are police officers, and 10 percent are security officers. The police officers are armed while the security officers are not.

"The police officers are armed with .40-caliber Glock semi-automatic pistols and carry a minimum of 46 rounds of ammunition at all

### CRIME STATISTIC 2009-2011

More Detailed information below



Graphic courtesy of Legacy Staff

Continued on page 8



## Tips to stay safe walking back to campus after dark

By Madison Burke  
#LUSafety

Over 40 registered sex offenders live within one mile of Lindenwood's campus. This information is easily found on web sites like familywatchdog.com, but most students would never think to look it up.

Students freely walk around campus and the surrounding community late at night, but are they safe? Are sexual predators posing a silent danger that has gone unnoticed? What steps should students be taking to ensure their safety?

Officer Erik Lawrenz of the St. Charles Police Department gives this advice: "Choose well-lighted streets and bus stops, staying near the curb," he said. "Avoid alleys and shrubbery. Invite a friend to walk with you."

Lindenwood Junior Anna Srbovska said she sometimes gets scared walking back to Lindenwood from Main Street at night after the bars are closed.

"I am always with a group of people, but still it can be so dark and creepy on that walk home," she said. "You always wonder if there's anyone out there that would hurt you."

Lawrenz said it is best to walk in pairs or a group at night. If you are alone and feel threatened, follow these tips.

- If you are being followed, get away fast.
- Change direction or head for open businesses.
- If approached by a stranger, run to the center of the street.
- Don't hesitate to call for help.

It also is important not to be walking at nighttime when under the influence of alcohol, drugs or even if you are exhausted, Lawrenz said. Most people who are walking home from Main Street are at least two of those things. Being under the influence is easily recognizable by predators, and they are more likely to go for an easy target, he said.

Sometimes going out at night can be unavoidable if a student has to get to his or her car.

Lawrenz offered this guidance to stay safe. Keep your car doors locked and windows rolled up at all times; always check the rear seat before entering your car, he said.

Have your key in hand before reaching car; don't put identification on your key ring. In addition, use well-lighted main thoroughfares and always park in well-lighted ar-



Legacy Photo by Annette Schaefer

An LU Emergency phone is located in the parking lot near the Spellmann Center. These phones have blue lights so they are easily seen, and they can be used in case of an attack or other emergencies.

***"Keep your car doors locked and windows rolled up at all times; always check the rear seat before entering your car."***

**-Erik Lawrenz**  
Public Information Officer  
St. Charles Police Department

eas. Do not hitchhike or pick up a hitchhiker.

Finally, if you are being followed by another car, don't go home. Head for a well-lighted, well-populated area or drive to the police station and blow the horn. Get a description of the vehicle.

Being aware of dangers around you can be scary at first, Lawrenz said, but it is important to know the risks and take proper measures to ensure your safety. Knowledge is an important tool to protect yourself.

## LindenLeaks changes the game for IT Dept.

By Jonathan Garrison  
#LUSafety

During the spring of 2012, a hacker breached Lindenwood University's server, and the 2011 fall suspension list was leaked to the World Wide Web.

Nearly 200 students were on that list along with their student IDs, names, GPAs, grade levels, majors, addresses, phone numbers and e-mails.

The person facing charges for leaking the list is ex-LU student Addison Todd.

According to police he used a mobile device and a file-sharing site to procure the list and make it public on Twitter.

In a post Todd is accused of making, he claimed the release was only a show of what kind of information he had access to and that those affected by the list were "unavoidable" casualties.

Since then, LU's IT Department said it has taken great lengths to better secure student information; however, when given a list of questions concerning the changes that were made with internet security and future plans with it, they declined to comment.

Several weeks ago, the IT Department implemented a new firewall that was a preventative measure for torrents and

file-sharing sites used to illegally download copyrighted material.

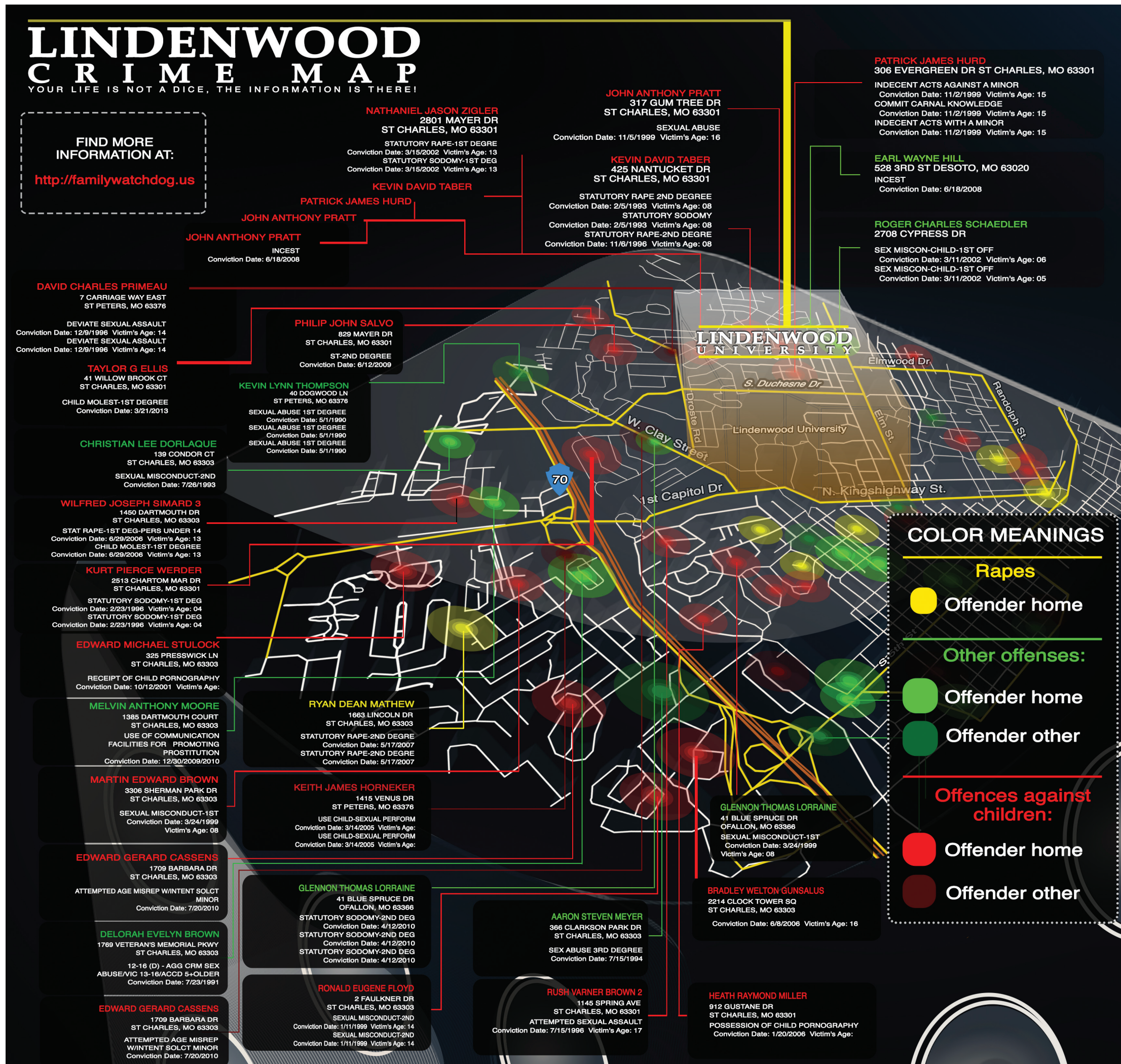
However, the software began blocking an immense number of websites that were mostly categorized as "pornography." Some of these websites were Deviantart.com and Tumblr.com, which are popular for the art that users can view and post on.

Several online games were also blocked, such as the popular League of Legends, and even Xbox Live users were prevented from accessing online play options.

On April 12, the Help Desk sent out an e-mail in response to the students' concerns with the new firewall, and shortly thereafter, the previously blocked sites were no longer blocked, with the exception of file-sharing and torrent sites.

As for Todd, he is awaiting trial for four misdemeanor charges – two counts of tampering with computer data, one count of tampering with computer user/s to defraud or obtain property and one count of assault of a law enforcement officer.

Todd declined to comment. His next court date is May 1.







# Theft is among the top concerns for LU students living on campus

*Dorms are safe as long as students follow security procedures*

By Jennifer Bruhn  
#LUSafety

A dorm is a student's home away from home, but is it as safe?

While students complain about theft and intruders, John Bowman, Director of Public Safety and Security at Lindenwood University, says these incidents rarely happen. Bowman said dorms are safe as long as security procedures are followed.

"They are secured, they have desk sitters and the only way to get in is when students let the door open," he said.

Despite security procedures, incidents do occur on campus, which makes dorm safety a concern. However, most are minor happenings such as lock outs, alarms and maintenance issues.

According to a recent student poll, theft is among the top concerns of students at LU. Senior Steve Kornfeld has lived in the dorms for all four years he has attended the university. While a theft has never occurred to him, he believes it could be easily done.

"The dorm doors are often held open by trash cans, and someone could easily walk in as another person is leaving," he said. "I've known keys to some people's rooms can unlock other doors on different floors."

Some students also noticed that they could use their key cards to open doors of dorms they didn't live in.

Assistant Housing Director Constance West said the key card problem should only occur if a student changes housing, and it should only be short-lived.

"Typically, the card changes immediately," she said.

Freshman Mary Killman, who lives in women's housing, recounted an incident during fall semester where a man broke into a friend's house. The woman flipped out, Killman said.

"Who wouldn't [feel that way] with a guy chilling in the dark in your room at 4 a.m.?" she said.

Bowman said students can prevent this type of incident by making sure that windows are locked and by leaving the lights on when they are not home.

Senior Hannah Victor, who lives in women's housing, also



Legacy Photo by Jennifer Bruhn

Students walk and visit outside of Niccolls Hall, one of the female dormitories situated on the Heritage campus of Lindenwood University. A lot of people come and go during the day so it is not always possible to control who is walking in despite security measures.

had an experience with an uninvited guest in October.

"I was making dinner with my roommate and waiting for some friends to come over," she said. "They came in the back door and were startled to find a man standing on our back deck. He ran away when he saw them, and they came in and told us what they saw."

Victor called security, who installed a light, but they never figured out who the man was.

"It made me more paranoid and definitely more aware of my surroundings," she said. "I feel less safe than before and use extra caution, especially at night."

**"We want to treat you like adults... But you still have to follow the rules"**

**-John Bowman**  
Director of Public Safety and Security

Other students said they've never had any problems with housing security.

"I feel safe because we always lock our door at night," said Senior Romina Mueller, who lives in women's housing.

Bowman said security tries to keep students safe.

"The houses are on public streets and are in neighborhoods with everybody else," he said. "We try to control that as much as we can."

While intruders are a concern, five burglaries have been reported in student housing this year—two in dorms and three in other housing.

Last month, someone stole a \$1,400 laptop from a student's room in Pfremer Hall. The student left his dorm room unlocked because he didn't have his key, and when he returned two hours later, his laptop was gone, said Bowman.

"You cannot leave doors open; you are inviting trouble in," Bowman said. "We have a lot of good students, but the campus is open."

Bowman said students should also record the serial numbers on valuables in case they are stolen; otherwise there may be no way to prove ownership of property that's recovered.

Bowman said the most important tip to stay safe is simple—follow the guidelines.

"We want to treat you like adults; we don't want to have security at all doors," he said. "But you still have to follow the rules."



Legacy Photo by Jennifer Bruhn

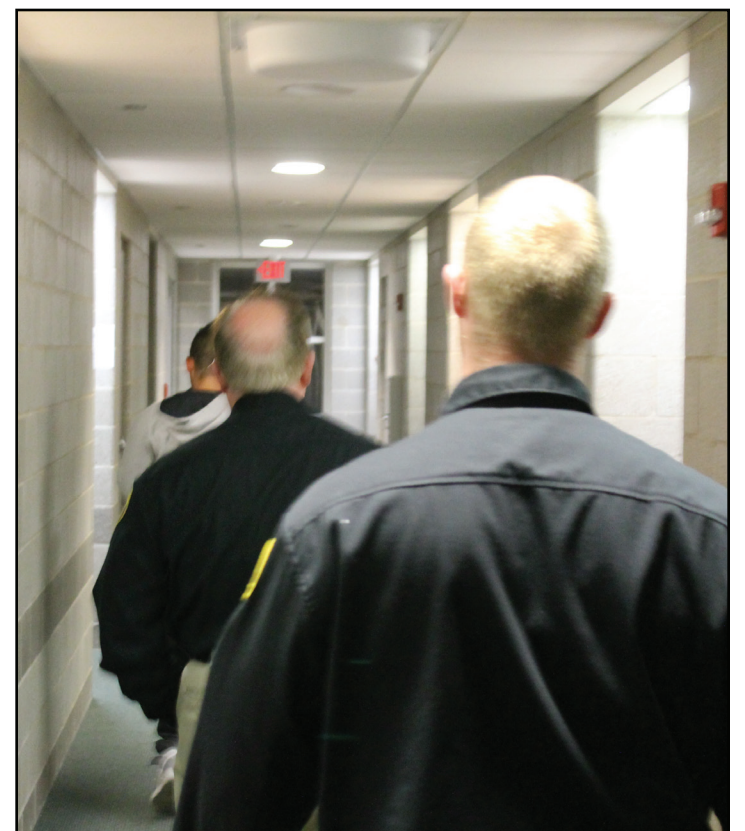
Door propped open at Flowers Hall. The door is held open by a window screen, easy for students who don't live in the dorm to access.

## DORM THEFT PROTECTION TIPS

- Make sure you live with people you trust. If you feel like a roommate or suitemate might have sticky fingers, get a new room assignment.
- Only bring and leave essentials in your dorm. If you have a valuable item that is not necessary to your everyday life, then just leave it with Mom and Dad.
- Hollow out an old book or use a plant pot to hide and disguise your valuable items.
- Buy a locked trunk, or mini safe if you can not keep it hidden.
- Always lock your door when you are not in your room or when you are sleeping.
- Take advantage of the safes that the school provides.
- Keep Laptops and other valuable things out of sight; put them in a drawer, box, under the bed or in the closet.
- Buy a security cable to tie down valuable things.
- Do not leave cash or credit cards lying around; keep them with you.

**IF A DORM THEFT HAPPENS, REPORT IT AND SPEAK WITH CAMPUS SECURITY**

*Graphic courtesy of Legacy Staff*



Legacy Photo by Dale Hart

Security officers help a student get back into his locked dorm room. If you get locked out, call the security office at 636-262-4622.



## Dim lighting, theft lead concerns, survey says

By Mariah Stewart  
#LUSafety

Dim lighting and theft are the top concerns of Lindenwood University students, a recent poll about campus safety revealed.

Of the 94 students who participated in the survey, more than 80 percent identified issues of lighting, natural weather disaster and theft as their main concern.

"Better lighting at night would help ensure the security of all students," said graduate student Danny Simms.



Danny Simms

The poll, which asked students a total of 12 questions on a variety of security issues, provided a glimpse into the general attitude toward safety on Lindenwood's main campus. The poll was a project of Adjunct Professor Susan Weich's Investigative Reporting class, and data was used to drive coverage throughout this special edition.

The poll was available for students to take through an online site between Feb. 5 and April 15. Participants could remain anonymous if they wished.

The survey, entitled, "How Safe Is Lindenwood?" allowed participants to answer questions by selecting from a list of options and also provided space for them to leave additional comments.

Fifty-three percent of the

students answered that they believe the campus is moderately safe. Thirty of those students were women, and 20 were men. Only six students, less than 1 percent, said that campus was not safe at all; five of them were men.

Besides poor lighting, another major safety concern was theft. More than 10 percent of the students who took the survey said they had been a victim of theft either from their dorm room or from their car while it was parked on campus. Other students mentioned knowing someone who has had something stolen from their possession while at Lindenwood.

"I feel like people can't have nice things on campus anymore," said one male responder who didn't want to be identified. "If I confronted anyone doing something like an act of vandalism, security wouldn't be there quickly enough. They've taken 25 minutes before to come unlock my front door when I didn't have a room key."

More than 50 percent of the students surveyed said their biggest concerns were weather and shootings.

When analyzing the effectiveness of Rave alerts, only 11 students, or 19 percent, said Rave alerts were not useful. Half of the students who said they are signed up on the system said they do not receive messages.

Other students said that threats to LU's other campuses shouldn't be broadcast to everyone. For instance, a shooting at a downtown St. Louis college generated a Rave alert to everyone, when it should have only gone to students and staff on the Belleville campus, students said.

"I just don't see the off

campus issues as important, like the downtown shooting, it just causes panic for no reason," said another student, who wanted to remain anonymous.



Adam Martinez

Another concern highlighted in the survey was the safety of women on campus. Many of the men who responded said they felt moderately safe on campus, however, they worried that women on campus may not have a sense of security.



Isaiah Jenkins

Students Isaiah Jenkins and Adam Martinez suggested one way to change that is for security to adopt quicker response times for housing patrols.

"Lots of girls are out at night, and there is no lighting," said Jenkins. "There just needs to be better security period."

## LU seeks to update Rave Alerts

By Luiz Rodrigues  
#LUSafety

Two months before the mass shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School caused a public outcry about school security, officials at Lindenwood University were working on plans to keep students safer.

The Campus Task Force, formed in October, is headed by the director of Public Safety and Security, John Bowman, who is new to LU this school year.

Bowman said a key area he is working to improve is communication in the event of an emergency. The group is forming guidelines to make sure every student knows the location of safety areas in the case of tornados, how to find fire extinguishers in the event of a fire and how to proceed to exits in case of an emergency.

They are also buying radios for security staff, classrooms and dorms, he said. In addition, Bowman plans to offer classes to first-year students about safety issues.

Other changes to security procedures and policies are being compiled and will be published on Lindenwood's website and Facebook page before fall semester.

Besides Bowman, the task force includes Dean of Students Terry Russell, Scott Queen, the director of community and public relations at Lindenwood, plus vice-presidents and several faculty members.

Queen said his role, together with Bowman, has been to review the Rave system and to try to improve it.

Rave was implemented at Lindenwood five years ago after the shooting at Virginia Tech. The initial idea was to communicate events and student life, but priorities have changed.

The internet-based tool allows the task force to communicate with students through text messaging, Twitter, Facebook and e-mail, spreading any safety message to all of Lindenwood's campuses and related community.

Since December, 12 alerts have been issued by Rave. Besides test messages, they included information about tornado warnings, cancellation

The Lindenwood-Belleville campus has been locked down due to a subject with a gun at Union School. Please exercise extreme caution. More updates forthcoming.

2:43PM, Dec 18

Law enforcement authorities have issued an all-clear and lifted the lockdown at Lindenwood-Belleville. Classes this evening will go on as scheduled.

2:50PM, Dec 18

Legacy Image by Mariah Stewart

Screenshot of a text with the Rave alert message sent to a student's phone.

of classes due to a snowstorm, a lockdown on Belleville's campus and a warning about Stevens Institute's shooting in St. Louis.

Queen wants to make Rave more efficient.

"We are working with the IT department to target the message properly," he said. "So if we have a tornado warning near Lindenwood's site in O'Fallon, there's no need to alarm all campuses."

More than 10,000 people currently are registered in Rave's database. Once a student becomes enrolled at Lindenwood, his or her information is automatically migrated to the system.

One glitch is students who don't provide a cellphone number when they first apply. They won't get text messages unless they register later on the student portal. E-mails, however, will be sent to all students.

"I really think they are useful," said Rayza Saenz, a MBA in accounting student. "I'm always with my cellphone, so I've seen all the alerts right on time."

Queen said Bowman, who has a background in law enforcement, has lots of ideas about how to improve safety, and students should see lots of changes happening in the final months of school.

## Outside intruder threat worries some students

By Brittany Velasco  
#LUSafety

An open college campus surrounded by a large community increases the threat of suspicious visitors lurking on Lindenwood University's grounds. Although police reports show few reports of crimes committed by outside intruders, it still is a concern for students.

Devinne Walters, RA of Calvert-Rogers Hall, said one of her major worries is being sexually assaulted, even though in the past three years there have been no recorded reports of a sexual assault occurring on Lindenwood's campus.

"As an RA I do my best to make sure suspicious strangers aren't in my dorm," she said.

Concerns about sexual predators seem to increase among students housed in Lindenwood's women's housing. One graduate student said she had a re-occurring "peeping Tom" stalking her home.

"It's such an anxiety attack when I walk out to my car, and I just pray that someone is walking out at the same time so I have someone to feel safe."

-Rebecca Berin  
Lindenwood Resident

bricks outside of her window, supposedly so someone could look in."

Heying said more lighting in housing areas, as well as double locks on the exterior doors and windows could make students safer.

"Lots of rumors are spread through housing about safety issues like these," she said. "I would maybe recommend security do some sort of safety campaign to inform students of safety measures and emphasize calling security if anything happens so issues can be addressed."

Earlier this school year, unwanted intruders also broke into Niccolls Dorm Hall. One resident, Casey Freeman, said she felt uninformed about the situation.



Legacy Photo by: Jennifer Bruhn

An unidentified Lindenwood student heads to class from women's residential housing at the intersection of Patma Street and Karen Street.

"I still don't know the whole story, just that two guys broke into the dorm," she said. "I'd like to know whether the issue was, or should have been serious enough for Lindenwood to send an e-mail to the dorm's residents."

Freeman generally does feel safe while living in the dorm, though.

"We lock our door at night, so I can't say that I'm extremely concerned, but I'm trying to figure out exactly how they got in," she said.

According to police reports, burglaries were the highest reported crime on Lindenwood's campus with 37. Other reported crimes included one assault and one arson.

Another student, Rebecca Berin, said she feels unsafe going home to her Lindenwood house at night and wishes security would have a heavier presence after dark.

"You know they're always around to make sure they can give out parking tickets whenever they feel like, but they're never around at night when I'm getting out of a late class or when I'm getting out of my rehearsal at

10:30, 11 o'clock at night on old campus," she said.

Others, like Walters, said they are happy with security's response.

"Every time I've called them for something, they've responded promptly," she said.

Berin believes more lighting on campus would add to her peace of mind.

"It's such an anxiety attack when I walk out to my car, and I just pray that someone is walking out at the same time so I have someone to feel safe," she said.

Students at Lindenwood University are encouraged to contact the security office in case of an emergency, but if the situation is extreme, call 911.

Lindenwood also has phone towers available all around campus that allow students to contact security immediately if they believe they are in danger. You can also contact LU Security 24 hours at 636-262-4622.





# News media must re-examine role in shooting coverage



**By Kayleigh Harrower**  
#LUSafety

The media's extensive coverage of mass shootings exposes the public to an overdrive of information that potentially changes its ideas about these circumstances.

"It is so graphic in nature I sometimes find it difficult to watch," said Lindenwood University Senior Hazal Celik.

If mentally healthy people find it difficult to digest the media's information frenzy, then what influence will it hold on those who desire to commit such atrocities?

When these tragedies happen, news stations begin distributing an influx of information that is not required. Diagrams of how the shooter entered, where the bullets hit and where people were killed, scar our television screens.

Interviews designed to gain emotional feedback are played continuously.

Children in school shootings are interviewed on national television after witnessing horrific scenes. They are too shocked to relay any information of importance and merely cast a light on the horrific nature of the event. It is not necessary but draws people in.

Andrew Allen Smith, a media professor at Lindenwood University said: "It makes people think the world is significantly more violent than it is. People who go on to do these things, see the publicity as something they want."

I think if you are unstable enough to consider doing something like this, the dramatized coverage will only encourage the behavior. Every shooting is covered in this way, and these people see this publicity and this pattern. These killers become famous in a matter of hours, which is disturbing.

News sources should focus on the facts of the story to stop casting these events in this light. Not only does it desensitize the public to these gruesome events, but it does show these killers the celebrity status they can achieve through these shootings.

Perhaps the media should focus more on publicizing the sentencing rather than focusing on the nature of the event. If they localize it and only distribute the bare bones information, it will prevent people from hearing about these occurrences repeatedly.

Many people believe the world is getting more violent, but in reality, news is much more widely accessible and is distributed more frequently than ever before. These crimes are showcased as soon as they happen anywhere in the world, creating this environment.

The media needs to take some responsibility for this. News outlets should present the raw and basic facts from these events instead of distributing them globally in 24-hour cycles.

The story should contain the information the public needs, and updates should be continued as more information is provided on the story.

# LU can change these things to improve campus safety



**By Annette Schaefer**  
#LUSafety

Lindenwood has made several recent additions to campus security, including emergency phones and surveillance cameras, and while these are great improvements, they fall short of being all LU can do to keep students safe.

For the most part, Lindenwood is a safe place to be. It's situated in a fairly nice part of St. Charles, with lower crime rates than many communities in the St. Louis area.

This semester the Investigative Reporting class has researched some of the

safety issues on campus. We have heard from students and staff alike to come up with a list of changes that should be implemented here at Lindenwood.

A poll of 94 students and dozens of interviews on campus have revealed that top concerns among students are the lack of lighting around campus and the inefficient placement of the emergency phones.

While the emergency phones, or "blue lights," were supposed to help students feel safe walking around campus, these lights were placed in both odd areas and not enough areas. It would make more sense to have them placed in areas that are not as well lit rather than the areas that are, where they are currently situated.

Second, lighting on campus overall seems to be dim and would open possibilities for people to get away with breaching the safety of our school. More lights need to



Legacy Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn  
LU security officer Mike Smythe speaks to a student during a recent shift.

be installed.

Many students also think the installation of surveillance cameras was helpful but not enough. Most cameras are not obvious in the locations they are placed, so they aren't a deterrent, and although Lindenwood has 160 such cameras, more need to be installed, especially outside of dorms, where many students travel frequently.

In addition, the surveillance cameras currently are only looked at if a crime has occurred; they should be monitored constantly to stop crime before it happens.

Since John Bowman became head of security at LU this year, more security officers have been added, but again, the numbers are still short of providing adequate security. As the student population grows, so should its security force.

In addition to adding more guards, security personnel need more and better training and they need to be more visible, something that could be accomplished by making regular checks in dorms or more foot patrols.

Based on the security practices of other campuses it is apparent that Lindenwood is lacking in its ability to protect its students. Many colleges either enlist the local police to help them out or have security officers who are armed. While it may not

be necessary for our officers to carry guns, it would be helpful if they at least were able to use non-lethal weapons such as tasers.

Other changes that could make the campus safer include having regular seminars about personal safety and offering more self-defense classes, perhaps even as part of an exercise class at Evans Commons. Bowman said in an interview that better ways need to be found to get out safety information, and these would accomplish that.

In addition, efforts should be made to reach out to international students, who often are unfamiliar with Midwest weather, like tornadoes and snow. The Rave alerts exist but are not always effective. Often messages are sent too late or are never sent at all. The texts and emails could also mention the safety procedures taken during dangerous weather situations.

Safety procedures also should be emphasized in the Freshman Experience class, and offered to transfer and graduate students as well.

Students who are better prepared to defend themselves in a critical situation will also be more likely to recognize a dangerous situation and be able to avoid it. LU can and should take these steps to become the safest campus it can possibly be.



Legacy Photo by Lindsey Rae Vaughn  
LU Security Guard Mike Smythe inspects the recently stripped field house on his rounds earlier this month. He checks the area every night to lock the building doors.

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This special edition of *The Legacy* was reported, written, photographed and edited as a special project of the Investigative Reporting class taught by Adjunct Professor Susan Weich.



Legacy Photo by Branden Swyers  
Members of the Investigative Reporting class. Top row from left: Kayleigh Harrower, Madison Burke, Jessica Hartman, Dale Hart, Paige Hill and Jennifer Bruhn. Bottom row from left: Adjunct Professor Susan Weich, Mariah Stewart, Annette Schaefer and Jonathan Garrison. Not pictured: Chris Smith, Clarissa Behrmann, Luiz Rodrigues and Brittany Velasco.

For the past three months, members of the class collected crime statistics, conducted a poll of students and interviewed dozens of school administrators, law enforcement officials and students about Lindenwood University's security.

The class would like to get feedback about

this issue from LU students, staff and faculty members. Please email any comments to [lujournalismclub@gmail.com](mailto:lujournalismclub@gmail.com) or post a message on the Lindenwood Legacy Facebook page or Twitter with #LUSafety. Be watching future editions of *The Legacy* for any follow-ups regarding LU's security.



# International students face challenges



Courtesy Photo by Caitlin Baker

Lindenwood University students gather together in the basement of a dorm during a tornado warning.

By Luiz Rodrigues  
#LUSafety



Jacqueline Lazzarotto arrived at LU in January from Brazil and since then, two tornado warnings were issued by Rave.

Lazzarotto said those experiences filled her with fear. She had no information about how to proceed during the warning.

“Nothing compares to this crazy weather; I didn’t even know that we should stay away from windows during the storm,” she said.

Lazzarotto said she got really scared during the tornado warning earlier this month.

“Luckily, I was calmed down by my roommate because she is from Missouri and knows how to deal with severe weather,” she said.

The Business and Administration major lives in McCluer Hall and said nobody knocked on her door to tell her about the warning.

She could have had access to this safety information during the Freshman Experience class, but as a transfer student, she never took the class.

Currently, Freshman Experience classes include information about life on campus, institutional policies and procedures and very little regarding safety procedures. Adding security information to the sessions would make them a lot more relevant and would probably increase attendance.

Consider that 1,066 students at Lindenwood are from outside of the United States – not to mention the U.S. students aren’t from the Midwest – and have never experienced a tornado outside a movie theater.

Add to that freak weather occurrences, like the 14-inch snowfall last month, and you can see why some students might be little frightened by the area’s unpredictable weather.

Scott Queen, the director of community and public relations at Lindenwood, said he

learned this year that many international students don’t have a clue about what tornadoes are and what to do in case of such an emergency.

The office of International Students & Scholars is seeking a closer working relationship with the Campus Task Force formed in October, and, hopefully, administrators will agree to meet the concerns of these students.

In addition, LU should enhance its services to transfer and graduate students and make sure they are aware of safety procedures and policies. An entire semester of classes wouldn’t be necessary, but a few sessions on topics like self-defense and what students should do in the events of fire, tornadoes or floods, would be well-attended.

Lindenwood’s new director of Public Safety and Security, John Bowman, said he is working to train people to serve as coordinators for each building in an emergency. He also notes that the security department is becoming more proactive and trying to improve communication through the Rave system.

These are all welcome measures, but Bowman and others need to make sure that students are included in the process and allowed to give feedback since they are the main reason for the procedures in the first place.

# Does gun control work in other countries?

By Dale Hart  
#LUSafety



The recently fired-up issue of gun-control took a big turn last Wednesday as attempts at reform were blocked by a defiant Senate.

Expansions on background checks, a ban on high-capacity magazines and a ban on assault weapons all fell short of the 60 votes required to send them to the House.

With pro-reform officials on Capitol Hill now left scratching their heads, perhaps it’s time to look outside of our borders for answers. What are international students saying about the issue?

“I think guns are far too accessible here in the states,” said Joe Owen, a British sports management major studying here at Lindenwood. “The laws simply aren’t strict enough.”

Britain, the globally recognized stalwart for gun-control, suffered just 155 firearms-related deaths in 2010 compared to the 31,672 here in the United States – that’s a staggering difference.

Owen’s father, Pete, legally owns a shotgun

and is required by law to undergo two annual inspections of his weapon, keeping it locked up out of view.

“The main difference is my dad owns a gun because he likes pheasant and duck; here it’s more of a power/protection issue that we simply don’t suffer from,” said Owen.

Colombia, a nation whose past is riddled with violence and gun crime, is now protected by a stringent gun-control legislature that bans pistols and revolvers of calibers superior to 9.652 mm, automatic arms and semi-automatic rifles.

“I think Americans are too paranoid about being attacked,” said Santiago Rojas, a Colombian business major also studying at Lindenwood. “They are too concerned about having their rights violated when they should be sitting down and seriously discussing this issue.”

Rojas’s father served in the military and as a result was able to keep his automatic weapon.

“Yes my dad has a gun, but it’s just a relic, a memory of his time in the service, nothing more,” he said.

On Feb. 1, 2012, newly-elected Bogota Mayor Gustavo Petro introduced a three-month ban on carrying guns in the nation’s capital. It saw a 31 percent decrease in homicides, the lowest numbers recorded for 15 years -- hard proof that a ban can have an effect.

Arguably America’s closest relative, Canada, would provide a good cross-analysis. It has 10 million registered firearms, ranking it 12th in the world, with semi-automatics and pistols available legally with a license. However, there were just 173 firearm homicides in 2009 (0.5% per 100,000 people), a stark difference to the 12,179 in the U.S (4.01 %).

“Guns are so deeply tied to their culture you’re never going to root it out,” said Christie Ryan, a 23-year-old Canadian student studying veterinary medicine at the University of Guelph. “I think maybe tougher licensing for owning a gun, that’s what we have, I believe.”

Indeed they do, with several background checks required, as well as third-party interviews with friends and relatives required before a permit can be granted.

It seems there’s overwhelming evidence that both bans and tighter restrictions can reduce

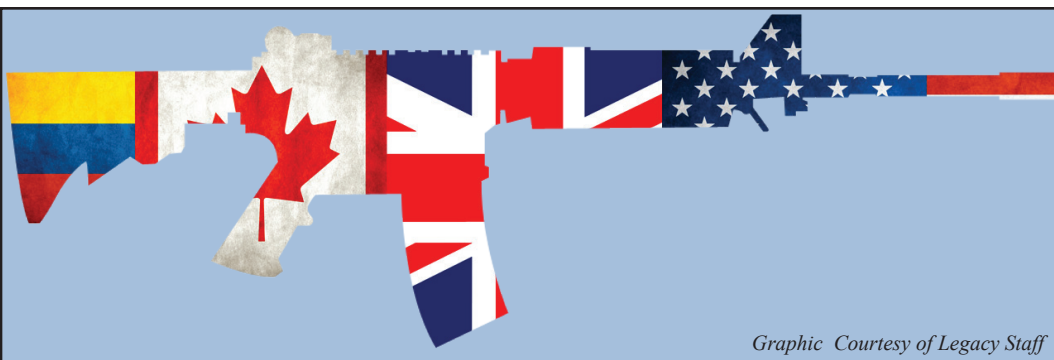
gun-related crime. It’s logic; less guns means less gun crime.

Maybe our international friends have a point. At the very least we’ve got something to think about.



Legacy Photo by Jennifer Bruhn

A sign on Lindenwood’s campus shows weapons are prohibited.



Graphic Courtesy of Legacy Staff

# Freshman’s death rocks campus

Legacy Staff  
#LUSafety

Last week, the death of freshman Michael Black rocked the LU community.

During the early morning hours of April 17, Black apparently jumped from the fourth floor window of his room at Pfremer Hall.

Black of Colorado Springs, Colo., came to LU as a member of the rugby team last fall. His older brother, Tyler, is a sophomore at Lindenwood.

Students, staff and faculty members can help by just caring and watching out for

other students.

It’s unclear what challenges Black was facing, but college can be a stressful time. As the school year comes to a close and finals approach, these pressures may become overwhelming for some.

If you or someone you know needs help, call Student Counseling Services at 636-949-4528.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Black.

Let’s work together to prevent deaths like his from happening at LU again.



Legacy Photo by Jennifer Bruhn

Many students who attended the memorial service for Michael Black expressed their grief with prayers.





# County group suggests locks, health services

By Jessica Hartmann  
#LUSafety

Identifying students with mental health issues and installing locks are just a few of the safety recommendations given to local schools from a countywide task force formed in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary shooting.

Officials from across St. Charles County came together earlier this year to focus on the safety of the county's schools. It was the first time school officials have gathered to focus on procedures related to school shootings.

Vice President of Student Development at Lindenwood University, John Oldani, was part of the task force committee. He said the purpose "was for us to gather information, and once we got that information to disseminate it to the schools and the agencies."

The task force has no government authority, so its report on preventative measures and reaction plans to school shootings are just recommendations.

One of the task force's main focuses was on the early detection of mental health issues in students.

When talking about ways to help prevent tragedies like the Sandy Hook and Columbine shootings, the report states, "It is critical to identify students exhibiting mental health issues at a young age to provide them access to the proper service they need, in the hopes of preventing more serious and dangerous issues as the child grows up."

Lindenwood University's Student Counseling and Resource Center, located at the Cultural Arts Center, was established in January 2007 for that purpose.

As Oldani pointed out, services that would normally cost students thousands of dollars are available to them for free.

Marsha Andreoff, a counselor at Lindenwood, says the center sees an average of 50 to 60 new students each semester. However, she said, the types of students who seek counseling are more likely to have suicidal thoughts than homicidal.

It is up to professors and staff to help recognize troubled students, and although LU doesn't have a specific program for this, Andreoff said "several teachers have contacted her with concerns." Students were then brought in and treated.

The university is making some other changes that were sparked by the organization's recommendations.

"President Dr. Evans has already approved the installation of locks on the inside of every classroom on campus," Dr. Oldani said.

According to John Bowman, director of Public Safety and Security at Lindenwood, 140 locks have been installed so far, and professors will soon be receiving instructions on when to use them in an emergency.

The expense of this project was covered by a general maintenance fund.

Although LU is making an effort to create an even safer learning environment for students, some challenges remain. The university is not like a K-12 school that has minimal movement of students in and out of one building through a restricted number of doors.

The fact that people are constantly moving from building to building on a university's campus makes it impossible to implement suggestions in task force reports like "maintaining controlled access to school facilities."

Bowman said safety procedures are currently being reviewed and updated and will be posted to lindenwood.edu once they are approved.

"Lindenwood takes the safety and security of its students very seriously," Oldani said. "We were involved in the LU Safety Task Force before the Sandy Hook tragedy.

"That tragedy, and every school tragedy, underscores the importance of providing a safe environment for our students."



"Lindenwood takes the safety and security of its students very seriously."

-John Oldani  
Vice President of Student Development

# MO bills aim to protect gun rights

By Paige Hill  
#LUSafety

In response to the shooting tragedies of 2012, legislators across the country have pushed the issue of gun control to the top of their agendas. Even on the federal level, President Barack Obama's administration has opened the door to discussing bans on certain weapons.

At first glance it may seem like the entire country is considering ways to regulate and tighten gun control, but Missouri is actually moving in the opposite direction.

Since the beginning of the year, dozens of bills have been introduced to protect the Second Amendment. Seven state proposals even go so far as making any restrictions approved on the federal level unenforceable in Missouri.

One of the biggest arguments across the country involves high-capacity and assault-style weapons, but only two bills in Missouri would ban these firearms and their magazines. Even some Democratic lawmakers in Missouri are supporting pro-gun trends. Democrat Linda Black of Farmington is a supporter of House Current Resolution 20, which reinforces and



-Dan Brown  
Missouri Rep. Senator



-Linda Black  
Missouri Dem. Representative



-Mike Leara  
Missouri Rep. Representative

strengthens the Second Amendment.

Black said she is not letting the fallout from the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting affect what she values.

"When I took office I swore an oath to the United States Constitution," she said. "The Second Amendment is in the Constitution, and I swore to protect those rights."

Black doesn't argue that gun violence is a problem, but she said that she and her colleagues don't feel that banning guns is going to be successful or necessary.

"Our proposal closes the loopholes in background checks and looks at mental health to target the people who are dangerous to society," she said. "We have to fix the people."

Along with protecting

rights guaranteed in the Constitution, Missouri lawmakers are also taking on the issue of guns in schools for protection.

Republican Sen. Dan Brown has received national attention in response to controversial Senate Bill 75, which would require first graders in Missouri to learn gun safety in school.

While it may seem like a direct response to the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School, the issue has been on Brown's mind for a while.

"I introduced the bill the day before Sandy Hook so it wasn't a knee-jerk reaction," said Brown.

"I have been working on this for a couple of years, but in light of the Sandy Hook shooting, it became a hot item and moved quickly out

of committee."

Brown said that even though some people might view his measure as extreme, he is just trying to take a different approach.

"The program is taught on a first grade level by the NRA's Eddie the Eagle," he said. "He is just a cartoon who shows kids to stop what you are doing, leave the area and tell an adult."

College students could soon be bringing their weapons to school and concealing them on campus.

House Bill 92 proposed by Rep. Chuck Gatschenberger from the Lake Saint Louis area would change the minimum age to get a concealed-carry permit to 19 from 21.

Some state legislators are very passionate about not restricting gun rights. One lawmaker even turned the tables on anti-gun legislators.

Republican Rep. Mike Leara from the south St. Louis County area introduced a bill that would make it a felony for any legislator to even propose anything that would violate the Second Amendment.

Not everyone admires the pro-gun atmosphere in Missouri though. The Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence gives Missouri an F and ranks it 27<sup>th</sup> out of 50 states that have enacted gun violence prevention laws.

According to its 2012 publication, "Gun Laws Matter: Understanding the Link Between Weak Laws and Gun Violence," Missouri does not do much to prevent gun violence.

In data published by Mayors Against Illegal Guns, guns used in crimes in Missouri usually are recovered soon after the original purchase.

With or without gun violence, Missouri has a long history of protecting Second Amendment rights.

Even in light of recent tragedies, it doesn't seem like the overwhelming traditional outlook will waver anytime soon.

## Missouri currently does not:

- Require a background check prior to the transfer of a firearm between unlicensed parties.
- Prohibit the transfer or possession of assault weapons, 50 caliber rifles or large capacity ammunition magazines.
- Require firearms dealers to obtain a state license.
- Require gun owners to obtain a license, register their firearms, or report lost or stolen firearms.
- Limit the number of firearms that may be purchased at one time.
- Impose a waiting period on firearm purchases.
- Regulate unsafe handguns ("junk guns" or "Saturday night specials").
- Significantly regulate ammunition.
- Allow local governments to regulate firearms.
- Give local law enforcement discretions to deny a concealed carry endorsement.

Source: The Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence

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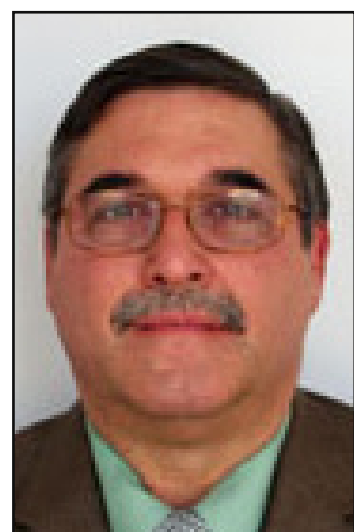
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## Campus security policies draw comparisons



*"We can't evacuate on every bomb threat; kids would be doing that just because they didn't have their homework done."*

**-John Bowman**  
Director of Public Safety and Security

crimes common to dorms like burglary and theft, but they do have a fairly large student population of more than 10,000. Crime on their campus has been extremely low, with only four crimes reported in the last three years.

Another campus in the St. Louis area is University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL). Situated 14 miles from LU near Lambert-St. Louis International Airport, UMSL has a fairly large population with a little over 16,000.

Like Lindenwood, the majority of on-campus crimes are burglaries, with 42 over the past three years. Other crimes included one theft, 10 assaults and eight auto thefts.

Like SCC, UMSL has its

own police force on campus. Capt. Charles Roeseler, commanding officer at the Bureau of Special Operations, said that all officers are trained in active-shooter response.

"My belief is that most students, faculty and staff feel safe on campus," he said. "This is especially true during daylight hours. In the evening there are some concerns by students about lighting and the proximity of the Metro Link stops."

He said the university has been responsive in addressing those concerns, and in conjunction with the police department receives reports of lighting outages as they occur.

UMSL tries to train students for situations that might arise on campus.

"These include rape and violence prevention, verbal Judo (how to talk your way out of a conflict) and what to do in case of emergencies (fires and natural disasters),"

said Roeseler. "Most of these are coordinated through residential life."

When it comes to student safety, school and university campus security take the utmost care. Whether it be protocol to prevent large-scale attacks, or security patrolling campus to prevent small crimes, campus security is important at any university.

"I would hope that they [the students] would feel safe," Bowman said.

*continued from page 1*

times," said Ronkoski. "If there is an emergency on campus involving an active shooter, an unarmed officer would not be able to prevent the shooter from continuing

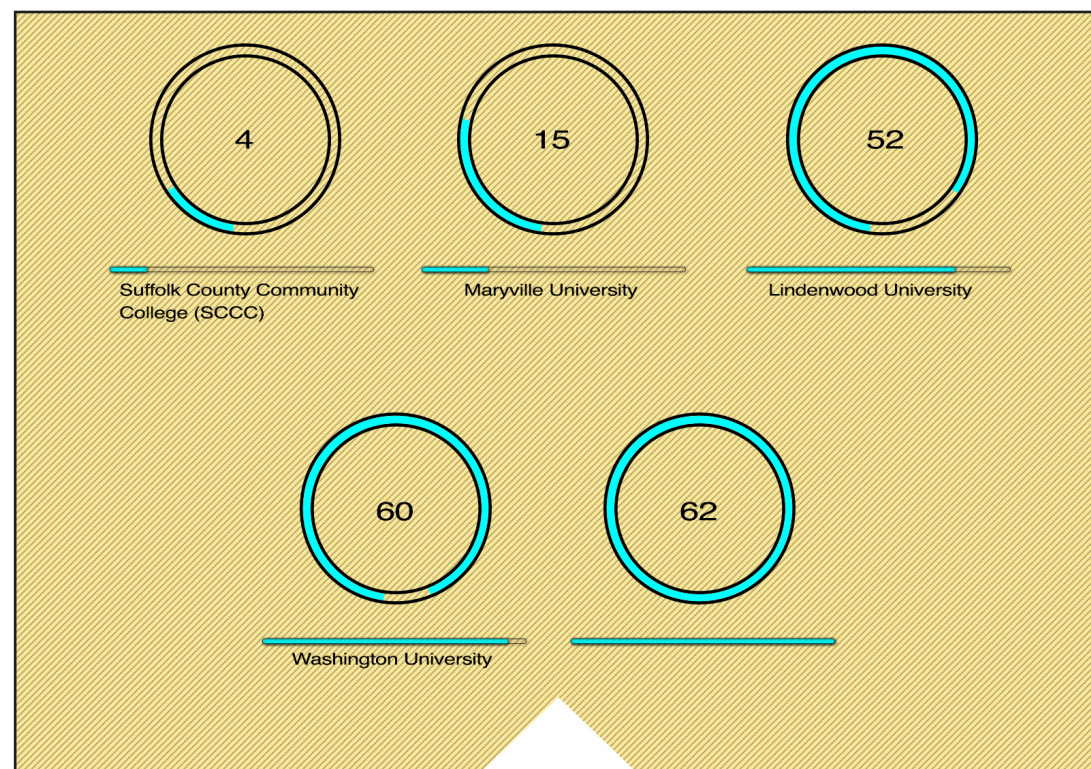
to kill innocent victims. Our police officers are trained to engage the active shooters and eliminate the threat."

St. Charles Community College is a commuter college with no on-campus living, so they don't have some



Photo by Dale Hart

Two LU security guards help a student who had lost his cell phone earlier that day. If you have misplaced an item, you can call 636-262-4622 for assistance.



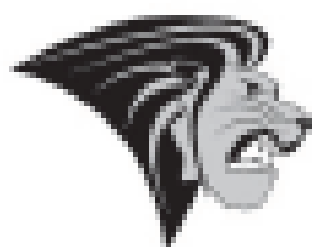
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