

Think before you ink...

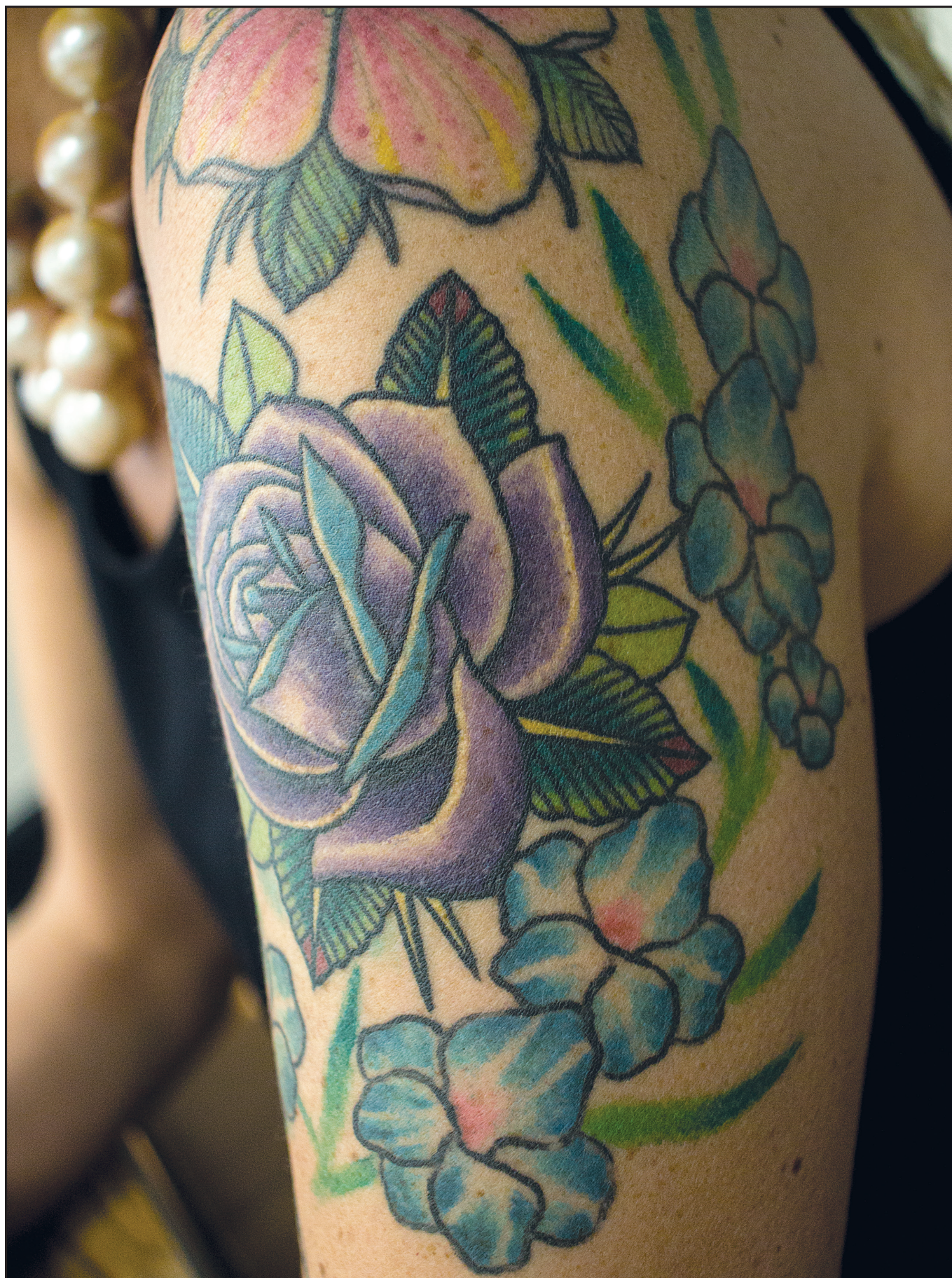


Photo Illustration by Kelby Lorenz
A look at professor Heather Brown-Hudson's floral tattoos that cover the upper part of her left arm.

Tattoos are popular, but still offend some

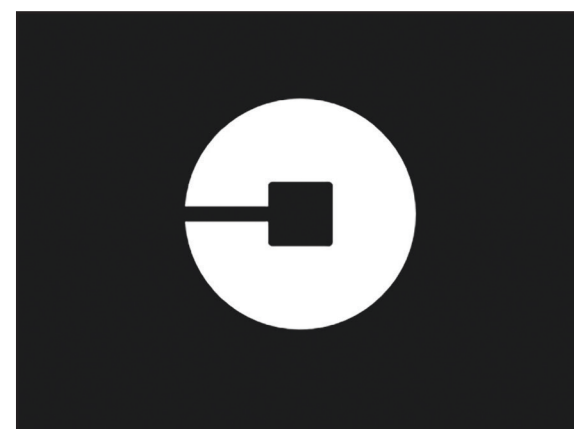
Romane Donadini
Reporter

Heather Brown-Hudson remembers getting a funny end-of-semester evaluation from a student about her tattoos. "This one student said, 'I wish that her tattoos were not so public,' and I just laughed," said Brown-Hudson, associate professor of French and English and chair of the Gender Studies program. At the time, her only visible tattoos were rather small and located on her feet, she said. "I'm guessing some people are actually opposed to the idea of tattoos; they think they are still taboo," she said, adding that she never felt judged because of them.

Tattoos have been on people's bodies in some cultures for thousands of years. The earliest record of tattoos, according to The Guardian, was found on Ötzi the Iceman who lived 5,300 years ago. However, for a long time in the United States, tattooed people often have been looked at with disdain. Joshua Kantola, who works as a piercer at St. Louis Tattoo Company in Chesterfield, said, "Eighty percent of my body is tattooed, and I have been judged by people because, I guess, they are intimidated. It is unfortunate, but I do not let it bother me." Tattoos used to be seen as vulgar, unprofessional and risky for one's working career. For some people, they still seem to have this negative connotation, said Lindenwood management professor Joy Peluchette. Some studies based on customers' reactions to tattooed

employees show that "employers are negatively inclined" to hire people with tattoos, she said. Peluchette said students need to consider what kind of profession they are pursuing before getting tattooed. "There are more negative views from customers when it comes to restaurant staff, financial professionals and health care providers," she said. However, among creative fields, tattoos are more acceptable, she said. Former Lindenwood University student Rihai Cong, who has both of his arms covered with tattoos, said, "I always hide them during job interviews because you never know what the person in front of you thinks about it." Cong said, however, that he has never faced any issues because of his appearance.

See Tattoo | Page A3



Screenshot from the Uber app
The logo for ride-hailing company Uber.

Ride-hailing may come to St. Charles

Lena Kirchner
Reporter

Lindenwood students could begin using ride-hailing companies like Uber this summer if a bill in the state legislature passes, according to local officials. The bill already has passed the Missouri House and is currently waiting for senate approval. It would allow transportation network companies, which are accessible through a smartphone app or the web, to operate in the entire state, said St. Charles County Council member Mike Elam. "Right now it looks good and does not have any opposition in Jefferson City," Elam said. Uber already can operate in most of St. Charles County, but the company has held off because St. Charles city has failed to create a different set of rules for Uber than it applies to taxicab drivers. Uber officials have said they want its service to begin at the same time throughout the county. As far as Uber and similar services causing safety concerns, John Bowman, director of Public Safety and Security at Lindenwood, said he has never heard about any issues

See Uber | Page A2

New sign-up system debuts for housing

Phil Scherer
Reporter

Choosing a room on campus will be a "faster and more efficient process" thanks to a new online housing system, university officials said. The system, set to go live for students between March 7 and 10, will be used to select housing assignments for the fall 2017 semester. The new system, known as StarRez, markets itself as the "world-leader in providing student housing software," according to its website. The system is being used by universities around the country, including Gonzaga University, the University of Georgia and Southern Illinois University. Lindenwood Dean of Students Shane Williamson said one of the main motivations for going to this system was creating an environment that is "as stress-free for our students as possible, where they don't have to worry about missing any of their classes" to sign up. Housing sign-ups originally were set to begin on Feb. 1, but Terry Russell, director of Residential Life, said the university decided to delay the launch so it could thoroughly test the system to avoid any glitches or bugs. In addition, the university had to pass over large amounts of data to StarRez, including a "complete 100 percent data drop" of every student currently enrolled in the university. Detailed descriptions of the rooms featured in every housing option on campus also were submitted, Russell said. This information included the size and capacity of each room, along with bathroom arrangements, to allow students to make the choices that best fit their needs.

See StarRez | Page A3



Game design major slated for fall of 2017. See more on Page A3.



Should drug use be decriminalized? See more on Page A4.



Women's rugby team succeeds on and off field. See more on Page B1.



'Heathers' to take audience back to '80s. See more on Page B3.

NEWS



Photo from lindenwood.edu
The Nursing and Allied Health Services building in Dardenne Prairie will close at the end of the month. It housed Lindenwood University and St. Charles Community College programs.

Dardenne Prairie facility to shutter at end of month

Nick Feakes
Reporter

Lindenwood University will bid farewell to its Nursing and Allied Health Services building in Dardenne Prairie at a closing ceremony at 1 p.m. Feb. 24.

The university originally purchased the facility, the former Barat Academy prep school, in September 2012 for \$8.1 million.

Lindenwood had been sharing the building with St. Charles Community College; both institutions used it for their respective nursing programs.

But on Dec. 5, the St. Charles Community College Board of Trustees met to purchase the 69,000 square-foot facility from Lindenwood for \$9.45 million, according to *Mid Rivers Magazine*. Previously, the community college paid Lindenwood \$175,000 a year to lease the facility.

Lindenwood moved its



Photo by from lindenwood.edu
President Michael Shonrock



Photo from lindenwood.edu
Chris Duggan

nursing classes to its St. Charles campus at the beginning of the fall 2016 semester.

According to a press release from Lindenwood officials, convenience and location was a major factor in the decision to sell the facility and relocate the nursing program to the main campus.

"The decision was made that the students in that program would be better served

if it was housed on our St. Charles campus," said Chris Duggan, Lindenwood's public relations coordinator.

President Michael Shonrock said in the press release that he was happy about the deal.

"We believe that this move is ultimately beneficial for both institutions," he said. "We look forward to our continued partnership with St. Charles Community college, like no other."

Security Briefs

Feb. 11

Campus security was alerted to an incident of leaving the scene of an accident in the Reynolds Hall parking lot. The accident occurred between 5:40 p.m. and 9:50 p.m. No suspects or witnesses were located.

Feb. 12

An unknown subject was reported jumping on a vehicle and causing damage in the Evans Commons parking lot. Campus security reports the time of occurrence between 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Feb. 14

An incident of domestic violence occurred at the Linden Lodge between 6:00 p.m. and 6:50 p.m. The St. Charles Police Department was notified and one person was arrested. The case has been forwarded to the Office of Student Development for further review.

Feb. 16

A minor in possession of alcohol was reported at Calvert Rogers Hall at 7:15 p.m. The case has been forwarded to the Office of Student Development for further review.

Clarifications & Corrections

In the Feb. 14 issue of the *Legacy*, in the story "New degree program keys on digital content," it was stated that the digital content strategy major had been approved. However, it still needs approval from the Higher Learning Commission before being added to the 2017-2018 academic catalog.

The art of negotiation



Photo by Madi Nolte
Tahnee Alves and Marcela Amaya practice their negotiation skills during the Leadership Series Thursday in Evans Commons 3020.

Free trolley returning to St. Charles in March

Mili Mena
Design Chief

The St. Charles tourist trolley will be back March 16, after a six-year hiatus caused by budget concerns, Mayor Sally Faith said.

The St. Charles City Council set aside money in this year's budget to restore the free shuttle.

According to Faith, the trolley will operate until after Christmas Eve at a cost of \$18,000 a year.

"It's a whole new city now; we have city of St. Charles, SSM Health St. Joseph Hospital, new apartment, traffic improvements," she said. "And we need something that connects all that vibrancy."

The trolley had been linking the Main Street shopping district with other areas of the city on and off since 1989.

The trolley will run Mon-



Photo from stcharlestrolley.com
Trolley on Main Street picking up passengers on its route.

days through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There will be three stops in the city's Main Street business district, including the Foundry Art Centre on the street's north end.

Other stops will be the St. Charles Convention Center, Ameristar Casino, the Lew-

is and Clark Boathouse and Nature Center, the Frenchtown Heritage Museum and the Mark Twain Village shopping complex, which includes the Bass Pro store.

The firm plans to use two 28-passenger trolleys, with one to be called Lewis and the other Clark.

Uber | Continued from A1

crime-wise that arose with the service in other large communities.

Uber does require background checks on its drivers, who pick up customers in their private vehicles.

Nevertheless, students should be cautious, Bowman said, and let someone know where they are going and whom they are catching a ride from.

Shane Williamson, dean of students, said she supports initiatives that will provide students with a positive experience, but cannot provide a more detailed response at this time.

Now Hiring

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NEWS

New program gets students ready for future careers in game design

Matt Hampton
Reporter

Lindenwood will be rolling out a 54-credit major in game design next semester in response to interest from faculty and students.

The program will begin with a “re-structured and revised” version of the existing Intro to Game Design course, according to online programs director James Hutson of the School of Arts, Media and Communication. Students in this course will study and create analog games, such as board games or card games and examine the math behind them.

Hutson said that game design majors also will learn software skills, which will then be applied in classes, including Level Design and Concept Design, which is going to be a class dedicated to building out archetypal characters and fleshing them out from concepts to realization.

They will also be required to take courses in video-game history and theory as well as literature and art entrepreneurship. The major will be capped off with the Project and Portfolio class.

“In Project and Portfolio, you work with a team, so upperclassmen [...] will be the head of a given team, where-



Illustration by Edu Ariste

as freshmen and sophomores will be put in charge of individual aspects of a game,” said Hutson.

The game design major was created out of and in response to the popularity of the game design minor, which provides basic video-game design skills.

“It developed out of a J-term class that Andrew Allen Smith taught, which was Video Games as Art, and then

it developed into a minor of about 18 credits,” said Hutson.

Along with other faculty, he wanted a program for accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

“We knew that we wanted to design it with NASAD accreditation standards in mind,” said Hutson. “We looked at other degrees we had designed for NASAD such as studio art, fashion de-

sign and graphic design.”

Along with Smith, Professor Jeremiah Ratican is primarily responsible for the genesis of the game design major. He has a master’s in game development and planned the specifics of the content and focus of the program.

Ratican has previously taught game design at IIT Tech and Sanford-Brown College and said that working for these for-profit colleges gave

him a unique perspective of the successes and failures of different game-design programs.

“I had a chance to kind of see how their curriculum has developed and how their classes developed and what kind of skills people are looking into,” Ratican said.

Ratican wants to give students the skills through the program that are in demand in the current job market,

and the degree will have an art and design focus. He said he observed a shortage of video-game artists at the Global Game Jam, an annual game-development competition at UMSL.

“If you go in there and ask around, there’s, you know, seven coders to one artist,” he said.

The game design program also aims to equip majors with a skillset for St. Louis. It will include an internship with St. Louis game developers, but it has not been determined yet which companies will be giving these internships.

Ratican said students can prepare for careers as level designers or game artists in the commercial, indie or freelance fields. They also can become creative directors, independent developers or enter other software careers.

He said that students he has taught at other colleges have become 3-D animators for medical training and worked for companies that have designed games which have been commended by Time Magazine.

According to Hutson, although the program is still “pending final approval,” students will be able to apply for the proposed game design classes when registration opens.

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Screenshot from starrez.com
A screenshot showing what the StarRez system could look like for Lindenwood students.

StarRez | Continued from A1

When the system goes live, an email will be sent to current students with a link to the housing portal and the information they will need to begin the application process.

Much like signing up for classes, this process will be done based on seniority. Each group will have access for 48 hours before the next group's window begins.

Once students log in, they will begin creating their housing profile, which includes a series of questions to determine compatible roommates, such as what time you go to sleep as well as your study habits.

Students will be matched with five potential roommates based on their responses. They then will have the option of messaging those profiles to find the right match for them.

If, however, the student already has an idea of who they would like to room with, they will be able to send an invitation to that person.

At the time of sign-up, students only will be shown the residences they are eligible to live in, meaning men will only be shown men's housing and vice versa. In addition, students involved in Greek Life will be shown the floor of whichever dorm their fraternities or sororities are based.

In addition to picking a room and finding a roommate, students also have to submit their housing deposits while signing up.

Students also will choose their meal plans for the fall 2017 semester on the StarRez system.

In the future, students will

be able to buy their parking pass on the portal as well.

In total, Russell said the entire process will take around seven minutes to complete and can be done on any device.

Russell said the university wanted to switch to a paperless housing sign-up system for the past three or four years but had not found the right system until now.

One of the big reasons for the change is that in the past, students had begun forming lines at 5 a.m. and skipping their classes to get the housing assignment they wanted.

Russell said he is glad that everything now will be done in a more efficient and timely manner.

“We really need to get everything into the new century,” Russell said.

Tattoos | Continued from A1

“Except for my mom, nobody has ever told me anything against my tattoos,” he said. “I actually think it is kind of a myth that you are not going to get employed if you have tattoos.”

According to a survey by statisticsbrain.com last summer, 36 percent of U.S. adults aged 18-25 have at least one tattoo.

Mike Whaley, dean of Lindenwood's School of Hu-

manities, said he doesn't believe that tattoos represent a stumbling block in today's society.

“Every generation, what people think is attractive changes,” he said. “I told my students, ‘When I was your age, the only people with tattoos were in the Navy or in prison.’ Now they are popular.”

Brown-Hudson said she thinks getting a tattoo has

almost become a rite of passage for Americans.

“Many young people will get one to sort of symbolize something, whether it is the death of someone, in memory of someone or the birth of a child,” she said.

She believes her tattoos have never been an obstacle in her career or daily life.

“If anything, I think they have worked in my favor,” she said.

OPINIONS

The Legacy/ Lindenlink

Staff:

Editor-in-Chief:
Kelby Lorenz

Lindenlink Editor:
Phil Brahm

Design Chief:
Mili Mena

News Editor:
Michelle Sprout

Opinions Editor:
Tyler Tousley

Sports Editor:
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A&E Editor:
Essi Auguste Virtanen

Business Manager:
Ashley Ator

Promotions Manager:
Elsa Mort

Faculty Advisers:
Susan Weich
Neil Ralston

Spellmann Center 3095 /
3100
209 S. Kingshighway
St. Charles, Mo. 63301
Telephone: 636-949-4336
Email: lulegacy@
lindenwood.edu

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Bring war on drugs to a halt

Tyler Tousley
Opinions Editor

In the early 1970s, President Richard Nixon coined the term “The War on Drugs” when discussing his policies to prohibit drugs, often using military force to do so.

In 2017, we are still familiar with this phrase, and, aside from a few states legalizing marijuana, we are still perpetuating it. If our goal is to create a safer, healthier country, then I suggest we put this war on hold and try a new tactic to tackle harmful drug abuse.

To start, there is no such thing as a “war on drugs.” There cannot be a war on inanimate objects that are not fighting back. This means that the war on drugs is really more of a war on drug users. Since the '70s, John Ehrlichman, the White House Domestic Affairs adviser under Nixon, has had no problem admitting that this really was the motive behind this supposed war.

“The Nixon campaign in 1968, and the Nixon White House after that, had two enemies: the antiwar left and

black people,” said Ehrlichman in an interview with Harper’s Magazine.

“You understand what I’m saying? We knew we couldn’t make it illegal to be either against the war or black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and blacks with heroin and then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities.”

He went on to add, “We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did.”

The goal was not to help Americans live healthier and safer lives, but minority- and liberal-free lives. Now I hope that the majority of Americans have moved past this and really do just want everybody to stop using drugs — like heroin — that have horrifying impacts on those who use them.

This assumption may be a bit optimistic, but if this is what we’re working toward,



Design by Bryan Velasquez

then I actually suggest we decriminalize all drugs. Why? Currently, if heroin abusers want to stop using and get help, there is a good chance that they will end up in prison for possession instead of rehab for help. After they are released from prison, they have a difficult time finding work, making it more likely for them to turn toward illegal ways of making money.

If we, instead, offered free,

clean needles at health clinics to prevent the spread of disease, regulate the drugs so they cannot be cut with even more dangerous ingredients and, most importantly, offer help and support to drug abusers to help them toward recovery, we may be able to significantly reduce the amount of drug-related deaths.

This worked for Portugal, which decriminalized most drugs in 2001 and since has

become the country with the second-lowest amount of drug-related deaths in the EU, with just three in every one million people dying from overdosing.

We need to put a stop to the disgustingly racist motives behind the war on drugs and explore other options, such as drug decriminalization, toward healing one of the most broken groups of citizens in America.

Rate My Professors is not an accurate tool to pick courses

Michelle Sprout
News Editor

Many students determine whose class they would like to take based off a website called RateMyProfessors.com.

In reality, Rate My Professors does not give an accurate depiction of a professor’s teaching abilities and students should avoid it. It is a purely subjective and unreliable website.

Rate My Professors allows users to anonymously rate their instructors based on whether they’d take their classes again, their levels of difficulty and even how attractive they are.

Other information given for each professor includes attendance policies, textbook information and the grade the user received in the class.

The website was created in 1999 with the intention of having university students give their professors ratings on campuses in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. According to its Facebook page, Rate My Professors has reviews of over 1.4 million professors at more than 7,000 schools.

Regardless of how many people use the website, it is still not a proper tool that accurately depicts the teachers.

A USA Today article from 2012 mentions that “In order for a survey to be an accurate tool, there must be a large number of responses.”

Rate My Professors does not take into account the fact that teachers have taught hundreds of students and might only have a handful of ratings on the website.

There is no accurate way of depicting the teacher’s quality with reviews coming from two of several hundred students.

Heather Rosson, a Lindenwood senior, said that the website is reliable for the most part.

“With mixed reviews I tend to ask around to see what other

“With mixed reviews I tend to ask around to see what other people think of the professor.”
-Heather Rosson,
Lindenwood Senior

people think of the professor,” she said.

The lack of reviews is not the biggest issue with Rate My Professors.

There is no possible way of knowing whether the person who wrote a review was in the class. There’s also no way of knowing if the person who wrote the review is actually a student.

In that same USA Today article, an instructor at a university in Minnesota admitted that he, along with other professors at the university, have “written fake reviews of each other as a form of entertainment.”

Finding that perfect professor can be difficult. However, this website is not the answer to your problems.

At Lindenwood University, students write reviews of their teachers at the end of the semester. Those reviews should be released to students so they can base their professor decisions off of feedback from students.

This would be more reliable than Rate My Professors because they are definitely written by students, and they are data based on when the students took the class.

Relying on Rate My Professors denies the professors the chance to interact with their students and make a name for themselves.

Because of this website, students could be missing out on the best classes of their lives, all based on an anonymous rating posted on the internet.

Men need to support fight for equal rights

Tyler Tousley
Opinions Editor

The United States has come a long way for gender equality, but contrary to what some may believe, there is still a long way to go.

Full equality between men and women cannot and will not be reached until men join the fight and help women achieve equal rights.

It is no secret that women tend to make less than men while working full time — about 20 percent less according to Forbes — or that health care coverage for women could be more expansive to include things they have no control over, such as tampons and pads.

Three million people marched on behalf of equality for women right after President Donald Trump’s inauguration. Notably, many of these marchers were men showing their support.

The push for equality has to come from somewhere other than the oppressed group.

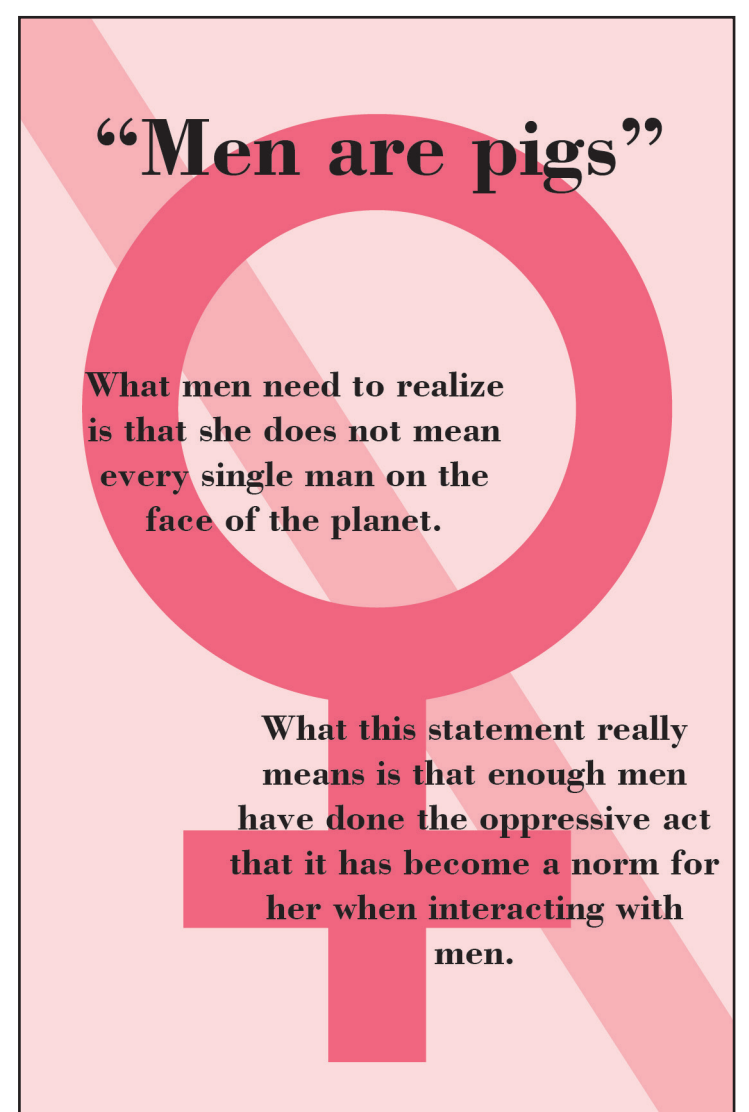
When men are actively oppressing women, they are not going to listen to the women about how they are oppressed.

If these men valued the opinions and feelings of women, then they would not be actively oppressing them in the first place.

This is why men, such as those who showed up to the march, are so important to the women’s rights movement.

There also are behaviors that men are taught growing up that add to the oppression of women, like how we tend to interrupt them when they talk.

It is understandable that



Design by Tyler Tousley

because these repeated behaviors become part of who we are that we, as men, may not think about the impact we have.

What we need to do in this case is actually listen. If a woman says that she hates an oppressive behavior, then do your best to be conscious of whether or not you do it as well as watching your male peers.

There is also a tendency of some men to get offended when this behavior is corrected, or when a woman makes a statement about “men” in general.

What you need to realize is that she does not mean every single man on the face of the planet.

What this statement re-

ally means is that enough men have done the oppressive act that it has become a norm for her when interacting with men.

If you do not do this behavior, good for you, but you then need to take the next step in standing up for the women it is oppressing.

If we expect to see further steps toward gender equality, men need to be conscious of what they are doing and listen to how they are making women feel.

Women need to be the leaders of this movement, but men need to be part of the support system.

Unless the privileged begin to work with the oppressed, equality will not be reached anytime soon.

SPORTS



Photo by Carly Fristoe
Lindenwood women's rugby team lines out against Life University on Nov. 22, 2016, in Hunter Stadium. The game ended in a historic first-time win for the Lions against the Running Eagles.

Rugby excels on and off pitch

Nick Feakes

Reporter

The Lindenwood women's rugby team has been excelling in the classroom and doing its best to serve the community.

On the field, coach Billy Nicholas is building a top-caliber program that includes Olympian Richelle Stephens, Venezuelan national team member Caring De Freitas and All-Americans Natalie Kosko, McKen-

zie Hawkins and AnnaKaren Pedraza.

Aiding the Lions' success on the field is its studious habits. Kendall McCracken, Jennese Bacon, Tiana Aumua, Laura Enk and Dana Olsen were named to USA Rugby's Academic All-American list on Friday. To get on the list, students must get a 3.5 GPA or above and play varsity for Lindenwood.

"It is to be commended when our student athletes use such great time-man-

agement skills, hard work and dedication in both their studies and sport," Nicholas said.

The Lions also are active members of the community. During their weekends, they have been running rugby clinics for beginner players around St. Charles and St. Louis.

"Teaching the kids to play rugby is really enjoyable," Stephens said. "Their excitement and enthusiasm are contagious. I hope they gained as much as I did

from this experience."

Nicholas was happy to help grow the game in Missouri.

"The love we can spread to others for our sport at the youth level is necessary to grow the game at the national level," he said.

The Lions are coming off a 10-1 record a semester ago, which included a milestone first win over Life University. Life beat Lindenwood in the final of both the Collegiate Rugby Championship Sevens tournament

and USA Rugby's Sevens National Championship in May 2016. Avenging those losses was a huge success for the Lions.

The only loss from the fall semester came against defending national champions Penn State University.

This semester, the Lions are scheduled to play perennial heavyweights Brigham Young University and the elite women's club Glendale Raptors.

The real treat of the semester is the Lions' oppor-

tunity to explore a different country. The women have a tour of Ireland from March 12 to March 20.

"We are excited to take our first international trip as a program," Nicholas said. "We have a great group of people attending that are

looking to push their game to the next level, enjoy the teambuilding experience travel creates and get us ready for spring playoffs, which are a few weeks after we return back to the United States."

International athletes adapt to US-style play

Miguel Rincand

Reporter

International students who also are athletes are trying to adapt not only to a new country with new teammates and new coaches, but sometimes, even new game rules.

Often, another challenge is the language barrier, said Eduardo Ariste from Spain, a right wing for the Lindenwood water polo team.

"Language barrier and culture shock were the hardest for me; at the beginning it's hard to come to a new country with new culture," Ariste said. "It takes time to get used to it."

Having different gameplays or systems is also something international students have to learn to adapt to and embrace.

"Back home [Switzerland] it's more about being a hobby, and here is more about competition and money," said Labinot Arapi, a linebacker for the Lindenwood football team.

"Also, coaches here work more; back home it felt like it was more amateur," he added.

Rules may also be different depending on the coun-

"They are all my brothers, and they learn from me as much as I learn from them."

**-Labinot Arapi,
Lindenwood
football player**

try the sport is played in, and international students need to learn the new rules. If they don't, they run the risk of making naïve mistakes in the middle of a game or at practice.

"In Spain I feel water polo is played more aggressive, but here is more tactical and technical," Ariste said. "In Spain if someone has the ball, you can steal it from behind, but here that is a foul no matter what, and that's something I had to get used to because I did it a lot back home."

Another issue international student athletes may encounter is delays in eligibility.

According to ncaa.org, there are currently over 17,000 international student athletes participating in NCAA athletics. Each of

these athletes must provide the NCAA with proper documentation to ensure eligibility, just like athletes born in the United States.

However, they must go through the additional work of making sure these documents are properly translated from native languages to avoid issues concerning their eligibility.

Having international students on the team can also be beneficial because it allows the team to embrace many different cultures and learn from all of them.

Many international students identify with the teams as their families.

"They are all my brothers, and they learn from me as much as I learn from them," Arapi said.

Set in the air, hit anywhere

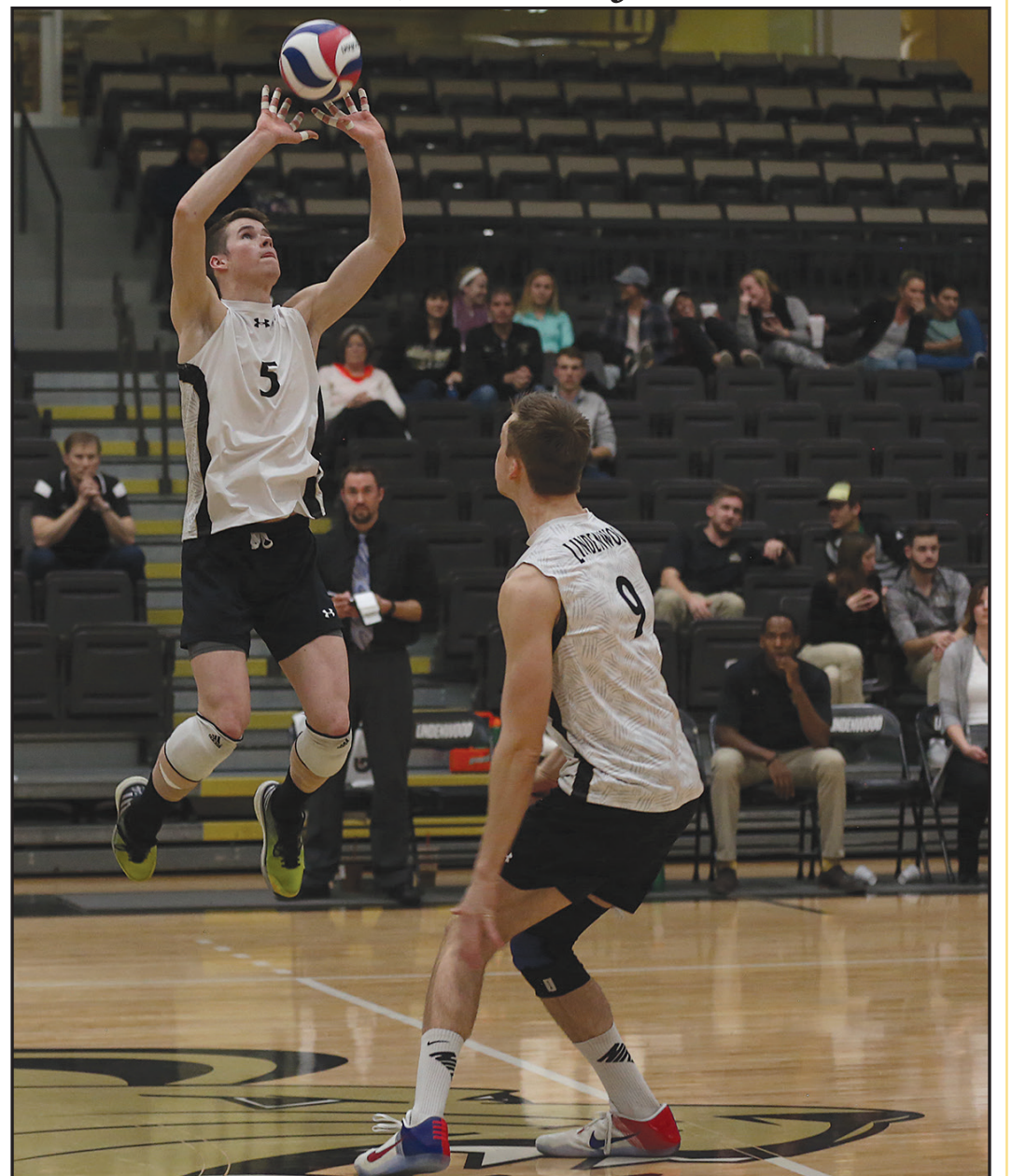


Photo by Carly Fristoe
Adam Brewster sets up a hit in a Feb. 15 game against the University of Hawaii at Hyland Arena.

Weekly Sports Recap

Feb. 17-19

<p>Men's Ice Hockey 9-0 win vs. University of Arkansas 8-2 win vs. University of Arkansas</p>	<p>Softball 4-1 loss vs. University of Montevallo 12-2 win vs. Bellarmine University</p>	<p>Men's Lacrosse 6-5 win vs. University of Tampa</p>
<p>Women's Water Polo 14-7 loss vs. Ohio State University 7-5 win vs. Michigan State University</p>	<p>Baseball 2-0 win vs. Augustana University 3-2 loss vs. Augustana University</p>	<p>Women's Lacrosse 15-12 win at Florida Tech</p>

SPORTS

Track laces up for outdoor season

Phil Scherer
Reporter

As the indoor portion of track and field season comes to a close, head coach Scott Roberts said he is proud of the progress his young team has made and is looking forward to beginning the highly competitive outdoor season.

"I think the talent level on our team is a lot better than it was a year ago," Roberts said. "We had some meets early on in the year when I thought we did extremely well."

He mentioned that the team has been highly successful in a number of meets this year that they may have struggled in a year ago, specifically pointing out a meet at Principia College in late January where the team was victorious in 14 events, and was able to walk away with a number of records in that facility.

Throughout this indoor season, the team has seen a number of its participants turn in great individual performances, allowing the team as a whole to benefit from their success. Among the greatest successes has been having a number of the team's participants provisionally qualifying for the NCAA indoor national track and field competition, set to take place March 10 and 11 in Birmingham, Alabama.

Among those currently slat-



Photo by Carly Fristoe
Track and field jumpers Kendra Smith and Joy Kanengiser train for the indoor season in the Lindenwood Field House Feb. 16.

ed to take part in that competition are junior sprinter and jumper Michael Mlambo and freshman jumper Anna Tyan as well as junior distance runner Omar Es Salmouny.

Senior sprinter and jumper Kendra Smith and thrower Michelle Kyle have each hit automatic national qualifying marks in their events as well.

Roberts said each of them, as well as their other teammates who have provisionally qualified, have had outstanding seasons, many of them building upon already decorated careers.

Last season, Mlambo finished in the top 15 nationally in the outdoor long jump event, while Smith was fourth in the

country in the triple jump in the outdoor competition.

Tyan is a young competitor who has shown improvement throughout indoor season, and Roberts expects big things from her moving forward.

Es Salmouny has distinguished himself over the past few years in the outdoor steep-plechase, but Roberts has been

impressed with his ability to anchor the team's school-record-holding distance medley this season.

It is important to note that each of these competitors have qualified provisionally, meaning they may fall out of contention for the event if their time is surpassed by too many other competitors before the nation-

al competition.

Despite these many successes, Roberts believes the team will experience even more success when outdoor track and field begins in late March.

"We are more of an outdoor team," Roberts said. "I think we are really looking forward to that season starting."

He said a variety of factors go into that distinction. First of all, it is easier for the team to train for outdoor season, given the facilities Lindenwood has to offer. Another key factor is that many of the team's top competitors mainly compete in events that are only offered in an outdoor setting.

Specifically, Roberts said one of the top events for the team is the discus, which is not performed during indoor season.

Before the team can get to that portion of its season, however, it must finish indoor season, which culminates for most of the team with the MIAA conference meet that is set to take place this upcoming weekend in Joplin, Missouri, which Roberts believes will be highly competitive and valuable for his team.

"Our conference is basically the SEC of Division II," Roberts said. "It's one of the strongest conferences in the country, and I think we've got some good kids in this program, and we want to continue to build onto that."



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Cristian Rodriguez

Sport: Rugby

Age: 20

Birthplace: Artesia, California

Year in school: Sophomore

Major: Recreation Administration




Photo by Kelly Logan

<p>Q: How long have you been playing sports competitively?</p> <p>A: I started playing sports at age 6 but didn't seriously start getting competitive until around 8.</p> <p>Q: What are your game-day routines?</p> <p>A: I don't have a routine, but I do have this pair of undies that I have to wear for every game. I don't really listen to music to pump me up or anything, but you can most likely catch me before any game staying calm and just sitting there.</p> <p>Q: Who have been the most influential people in your sports career?</p> <p>A: My family have been influential in my sports career. My mom in particular has been there for everything, even when she didn't like the sport. She's a great mom, supports me through everything. Cliché, but without my mom, I don't know where I'd be.</p>	<p>Q: Who is your favorite athlete?</p> <p>A: Favorite athlete growing up had to be Shawn Green, right fielder for the Dodgers.</p> <p>Q: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?</p> <p>A: In 10 years I see myself settled down in California, working with kids. It'd be great if I can give kids where I come from the same opportunities I was given. I hope I can create a path where troubled kids can see a change and realize that they can go to college.</p> <p>Q: What is the greatest moment in your sports career so far?</p> <p>A: That's a pretty hard question for me; it's always hard to pick one. I'd say I enjoy the moments the most when you get a close team who can win a championship together. You can never beat that feeling of winning something with a group of people who you just put a whole bunch of work in with to get there.</p>
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Information from Phil Scherer

A&E

Musical takes audience back to '80s

Essi A. Virtanen
A&E Editor

The Lindenwood Theater will turn into a time machine that takes the audience back to the '80s and high school as the dark comedy "Heathers: The Musical" flashes on the stage this Thursday.

"Heathers: The Musical" is based on a 1988 movie of the same name that starred Winona Ryder and Christian Slater. It tells a story of 17-year-old Veronica Sawyer who goes to Westenberg High School, which is ruled by a shoulder-padded, scrunchie-wearing trio of girls called the Heathers.

However, director Nick Kelly said the story is not just about Sawyer's journey wanting to be popular, but about everyone in the school trying to find where they belong.

"You matter," Kelly said. "Everyone that is alive and a part of that school, you have a place there. It's this whole fighting for status, realizing where you fit in the world."

For musical theater senior Natalie Krivokuca, "Heathers" is her last show at Lindenwood, and Sawyer is her "absolute dream role."

"I have never wanted a role this much since I did 'Legally Blonde,'" Krivokuca said. "To play the lead role in my favorite show and my



Photo by Lindsey Fiala

(From left to right) Natalie Krivokuca, as Veronica Sawyer, and the three Heathers played by Laura Schulze, Brie Howard and Alyssa Durbin are onstage in a technical rehearsal in the Lindenwood Theater only a week before "Heathers: The Musical" opens.

last show at Lindenwood is amazing."

Besides acting the lead, Krivokuca is also the co-choreographer for the show.

She said Sawyer is an intelligent girl who just does not fit in and looks up to the popular Heathers wanting to

be like them.

Brie Howard, a sophomore in musical theater, is one of them, the leader of the trio, Heather Chandler.

Howard said Heather Chandler is the girl that "you love to hate in high school," who knows everything about

everyone, but barely anyone knows anything about her. She is the girl who "orchestrates" the school.

Kelly said her character's costume uses the color red to symbolize her power.

Howard said, "I've worn a red scrunchie all through

rehearsals, and the feeling when I put it on and tuck it into my hair. You're so filled with power. I was so filled with Heather Chandler and the lust and the love and the hate that everyone has for Heather Chandler so strong. I don't believe she could be

any other color than red."

Kelly said, similarly to Chandler, color plays a major part in the show through costumes illustrating the other two Heathers and J.D., the new rebel guy in the school who infatuates Sawyer.

He also said this contemporary adult musical "is something completely new," and it might shock the audience with its extreme language, violence, sex and "heavy subject matters."

Kelly and Howard both think what makes "Heathers" unique is that it gives an opportunity for young actors to perform in roles that are so close to their age and in an environment that is familiar to them. Also, it is still topical today even though it relates back to the '80s.

"A lot of things we were talking about then, kids are still talking about now," Kelly said. "They're still having those same issues."

Krivokuca agreed. "I think now, and in today's society, people, as students, we are always challenged to, do we really like ourselves? And can we accept others?" she said. "So I find this show to be really real and honest how we really feel today."

"Heathers: The Musical" starts at 7:30 p.m. and runs Feb. 23 - 25 in the Lindenwood Theater.

SPONSORED BY THE HAMMOND INSTITUTE FOR FREE ENTERPRISE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GENDER STUDIES PROGRAM AT LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY.

FROM BOYZ 2 MEN:

TOO MUCH OR TOO LITTLE MASCULINITY?

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A&E

Theater design series:
Part 3

Sound makes scenes reality

Kyle Rainey

Reporter

Sound designers can immerse audiences to wherever the production wants to take them, whether it's through the explosions of the Vietnam War or the eerie abyss of an unknown universe.

Brian Bird, the audio director of the Lindenwood theater department, said the purpose of sound design is to make people feel like they're being transported to wherever a play or musical wants to take them. Sound design is merging ideas with implementation to create environments. Sound design for shows has no rules, and no two shows are the same.

"Every time, I have a blank canvas," he said.

For this spring's performance, "A Piece of My Heart," a story about six women in the Vietnam War, Bird said he told the show's student sound designer, Kaitlynn Ferris, to find sounds that people who have experienced the war would have heard.

"It's supposed to resemble real life," Ferris said. "It should really bring in the play."

Ferris said one of the first things she does to help the show come alive is to decide where to place the speakers.



Photo by Lindsey Fiala

Sound Designer Scotty Watson runs sound cues during a technical rehearsal for "Heathers: The Musical" on Thursday, Feb. 16.

In spaces like the Emerson Black Box Theater, which is a bare black box-shaped theater space with no actual stage, sound designers can place their speakers virtually anywhere.

For example, in "A Piece of My Heart," Ferris placed speakers around the top of the theater above the audience to create a surround-sound effect.

She said when designing, she has to pay attention that she won't block any lighting instruments while placing her speakers. In addition, while adjusting sound effects, she spends a lot of time asking the director conceptual questions so she can make sure her work mirrors the director's vision.

Graduate Assistant Rosalia Portillo said that from a director's standpoint, sound

is absolutely essential. In "A Piece of My Heart," she used minimal costumes and set, so she used sound to create the atmospheres, from hospitals to battlefields.

She said from the sounds actors make to walking on set to putting people on mics, collaboration between costume, sound, lights and props is essential.

Portillo said that when she

looks at a production conceptually, she needs to look at the feeling and meaning of each moment.

"The choice to have or not have sound is just as important as what the sound is," she said.

Ferris said people don't pay attention to most sounds in their daily lives, unless they're alarming, such as explosions.

"I see sound as something

an audience hears but not necessarily should always take note of," Ferris said.

The sound of wind and the clamoring of people in a busy airport are examples of sounds that many people often don't notice.

Bird said silence can be as "huge or even bigger than some of the biggest sound effects."

"Done right and placed in the appropriate place in time, it can draw out the emotion you need," he said.

In "Next to Normal" that was performed last fall, Bird said that no sound played while the audience members took their seats, unlike most of Lindenwood's shows. The silence was meant to create a feeling of discomfort for the audience and to set the tone for the show as early as possible.

"Understanding your [sound] system and what it does allows you to be more creative in a space, to bring it to life, to make it more real," Bird said.

He said that knowing a show's audience is important because different sounds mean different things to different people. Sound isn't physical in the same way set and costume are.

"[It's] how am I going to move the air?" Bird said.



Photo by Lindsey Fiala

Campus Activities Board Event Coordinators Kayla Drake and T.J. Tipton hold the Diversity Week banner with different cut-out hands with people's comments on what makes them diverse.

Diversity Week celebrates unity, differences in people

Lindsey Fiala

Reporter

The Campus Activities Board is hosting its first Diversity Week to showcase Lindenwood's diversity and educate students about different cultures.

The idea for Diversity Week came from Ethan Miller, graduate adviser for the CAB.

"When I started in this position back in August, I decided that Lindenwood needed to honor our diversity a little more than what we have in the past," Miller said.

CAB Event Coordinator T.J. Tipton said having an entire week dedicated to diversity, rather than just a day or two, is a must.

"Diversity is something we are trying to cherish," said Tipton. "We are trying to showcase all of these cultures, and you can't do that in one day."

The week of events that

started Sunday consists of several events: Lion's Lyrics, a poetry night where students and a poet, Odd?Rod, reads; ISF Henna Tattoos, where you can get temporary Henna tattoos from a guest artist; BSU Greek Yard Show, where you can come watch the sororities and fraternities perform at the Butler Loft; and lastly, "They Call Me Q" play, which is a one-actor show about cultural pressures.

Kayla Drake, a CAB event coordinator, said, "Obviously you can't have an event for every culture, but we tried to get a very diverse [group of] culture."

Tipton agreed and added, "And still have some [events] that make people feel included at the same time."

Drake said that there were many CAB members who worked together to come up with all of the events.

CAB members are also passing out bags of "diversity beans," which is a small bag of assorted jelly beans with

messages inside that say, "This candy is just like people; you can't determine what is on the inside by simply looking at the outside. It reminds us to experience people one at a time and enjoy their unique qualities. Diversity is strength!"

Throughout the week, there will be a large banner hanging in Evans Commons displaying different-colored cut-out hands students wrote on, saying what makes them diverse.

CAB's reason for hosting Diversity Week is to raise awareness about how all people are different.

"Lindenwood has a lot of people that are different than you, and we really want to showcase that," said Miller. "We want to show that we are proud of the students and let them know that we are thinking of them."

For more information about the Diversity Week events, go to the events page on Involve U through your student portal.

One-actor play shows cultural pressures, immigrant experience

Matt Hampton

Reporter

Lindenwood's first Diversity Week will conclude with the one-woman play "They Call Me Q" Friday.

Indian-American actress and playwright Qurrat Ann Kadwani portrays 13 different characters as she tells the story of her life as an immigrant in this hour-long "emotionally charged comedy."

According to the show's website, the play is the first off-Broadway solo play starring a South Asian female and portrays the story of Kadwani's life when she moved from India to New York as a child. Growing up, she had to deal with conflicting cultural pressures from her traditionalist family and culturally dynamic peers and find her personal identity.

In a video on the show's website, Kadwani describes being given "the most difficult name for anyone to pronounce," and as a result, her classmates in the U.S. referred to her as "Q," where the name of the play comes from.

Kadwani later studied theatre at SUNY Geneseo and



Photo from Qurrat Ann Kadwani

produced the one-act monologue, which debuted in 2014 at St. Luke's Theatre in New York and has since been performed more than 150 times in over 30 states.

She travels to colleges and schools to perform her play to educate and inspire students about the immigrant experience, and she has also performed for UNICEF and other non-profit organizations.

Kadwani is involved in the charitable project "A Slice of Hope," which provides pizza parties to homeless shelters, and her play has won several awards, including one from

the Harvest Theatre Festival (best actress). She has also appeared on television programs including "Law and Order: SVU" and "All My Children."

Ethan Miller, the graduate adviser for the Lindenwood Campus Activities Board, said he met Kadwani at a National Association for Campus Activities conference and thought her work would be good to bring to campus for Diversity Week.

"I hope that through the play, people are a little shocked and realize that some of the things that they say are stereotypical," said Miller.

Diversity Week is CAB's organized week of events to raise awareness about diversity.

Miller is optimistic about this unique piece of theater and the cultural messages about diversity it will bring to the student body.

"It's something that we've never done before, it's something that people haven't seen yet, and I'm hoping that they really enjoy it," he said.

Kadwani will bring "They Call Me Q" to Butler Loft Friday at 7 p.m., which is a free, non-ticketed event.

"I hope that through the play, people are a little shocked and realize that some of the things that they say are stereotypical."

**-Ethan Miller,
Campus Activities Board
graduate adviser**