

Professor Scupin Was Gold Gloves Boxer in His Younger Years

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Those who work with Ray Scupin or take his classes know him as a quiet intellectual with a formidable knowledge of cultural anthropology. Most probably do not know that as a young man Scupin was formidable in other ways as well.



As a boy in a rough working class neighborhood in Detroit, Scupin took up boxing, mainly, he says, because he was too small to compete in other high school sports.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the athletic teams at Lindenwood were first called the Lions in 1970? The actual mascot was not used until many years later.

"I continued boxing and when I was a senior in high school I won the Golden Gloves in 1962 in Detroit at Cobo Hall Arena as a bantamweight," Scupin said.

Scupin continued to train, hoping to participate on the U.S. Olympic team in the Tokyo games in 1964 but was eliminated in Detroit by Ron Harris, who went on to win the bronze medal in Tokyo.

"He was a lightweight boxer and I was really not in the same class as him," Scupin said. "He went into the military and then boxed professionally."

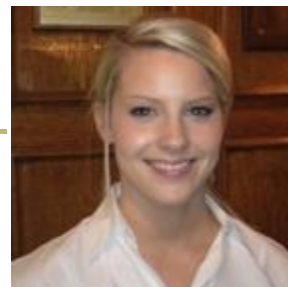
Drafted into the Army in 1966, Scupin spent most of his time in the military in Alaska, where he coached boxing during part of his time there. In a way, Scupin said that boxing helped to kindle his later academic pursuits.

"My experience boxing led in an indirect way to my later interests in anthropology, especially in respect to the topic of race and ethnicity," Scupin said. "Detroit was very segregated in those days (still is), and my coach would take me to inner city gyms to box African Americans. I was usually the only white boy in the gym, and it provided me with a new understanding of race issues."

More recently, three textbooks written or edited by Scupin were published in July. The eighth edition of *Cultural Anthropology: A Global Perspective*, was written by Scupin, and he co-authored the seventh edition of *Anthropology: A Global Perspective* with Christopher R. DeCorse. The second edition of *Race and Ethnicity: The United States and the World*, was edited by Scupin with seven chapters written by him. Scupin was also author or editor of all previous editions of all three books.

Samantha Gahr Selected as Facilities Coordinator

Please stop by the information desk in Roemer Hall to welcome Samantha



Gahr to the Lindenwood University family. Gahr, 23, has been hired as the University's new facilities coordinator.

Gahr earned her bachelor's degree and M.B.A. at Lindenwood and worked as a graduate assistant in accounts payable.

"I was trained by the lovely Rhonda Blankenship," said Gahr. "I am excited about the new position, and I am looking forward to working with everyone."

As facilities coordinator, Gahr's top responsibility is monitoring usage and availability of meeting venues and coordinating the booking of meetings and events. Gahr will work closely with Community Relations Director Charlsie Floyd, and she will oversee scheduling of personnel for the information desk in Roemer Hall. She reports to Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jann Weitzel.

Ayres to Present November 4 at SRCEA Conference

Associate Professor Deb Ayres, Department Chair for Educational Leadership, will present an article November 4 titled "Human Resources: Is it a Department, a University Course, or a Mission?" at the 52nd annual Southwest Regional Council on Education Administrators (SRCEA) conference.

The presentation is at the Doubletree Hotel. The discussion will focus on the importance of building and school district administrators implementing a human resources mission in K-12 schools to ensure that teachers are able and willing to meet the academic challenges before them.

Adjunct Thomeczek Honored as Top Attorney

Lindenwood University adjunct professor Jim Thomeczek has been selected as one of the top five education attorneys from Missouri and Kansas by *Super Lawyers*, an annual Kansas City business publication. Thomeczek teaches Advanced School Law in the Educational Administration Program at Lindenwood.

"We are very fortunate to have someone of his stature teaching our students," said Professor Deb Ayres.

Thomeczek, with the firm Thomeczek & Brink LLC, has represented public school districts in Missouri for 25 years. His practice focuses primarily on special education issues. He has been teaching at Lindenwood for three years.
