



LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE *Network*

JULY 2016

UPCOMING AUGUST EVENTS

- 1 Summer Classes Final Exams
- 2 Summer Classes Final Exams
- 4 **Snoopy!!!**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 5 **Snoopy!!!**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 6 **Hunter Safety Education Course**
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Theater
- Snoopy!!!**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 7 **Snoopy!!!**
2 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 10 **Placement Testing**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- 11 **Faculty/Staff Workshop**
- 12 **Faculty/Staff Workshop**
- 16 **Placement Testing**
4 p.m., Williams Hall 119
- 17 **New Student Orientation**
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Theater/Cafeteria
- Welcome Back Blast**
1-3 p.m., Gym, Pool, Parking Lot
- 18 **Fall Semester Classes Begin**
All Tuition & Fees Due
- 20 **Pearson VUE Testing**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 117-118
- 23 **Nursing Information Session**
2 p.m., Williams Hall 108
- 25 **LTC Foundation Meeting**
12 p.m., Lincoln Room
- 26 **LTC Foundation Concert Series Presents:**
Cody Ray Slaughter (Elvis Show)
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 29 **LSC College Survival 101**
9 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- LSC College Survival 101**
12:30 p.m., Williams Hall 119
- 30 **LSC College Survival 101**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- LSC College Survival 101**
4 p.m., Williams Hall 119
- 31 **LSC College Survival 101**
10 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- LSC College Survival 101**
5 p.m., Williams Hall 119
- Women's Self Defense Class**
6 p.m., Activity Annex

LADY STATESMEN NAMED NJCAA SOFTBALL ACADEMIC TEAM OF THE YEAR



The NJCAA named the Lincoln Trail College Lady Statesmen the Softball Academic Team of the Year. The Lady Statesmen led the nation with a cumulative 3.71 GPA.

“I’m so proud of this team,” says coach Gary Rodgers. “It is really hard to beat an honor like this. They gave everything in both academics and in athletics. It was a total team effort. What more can you ask?”

Rodgers says he stresses academics as soon as his players arrive on campus. “I tell them that academics is the most important thing. It gets you to the next step and it gets you through life.”

Six players on the team earned individual academic honors from the NJCAA. Lexi Aders (Bristow, Ind.), Joslyn Leverett (Greenwood, Ind.), and Miranda Pruitt (Homer, Ill.) were recognized with the Superior Academic Achievement Award. It is given to student athletes earning a GPA of 3.80-3.99.

Hannah Kelly (Plainfield, Ind.), Carlee McFarland (Terre Haute, Ind.), and Erynn Shaw (Hope, Ind.) were recognized with the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award. It is given to student athletes earning a GPA of 3.60-3.79.

Rodgers says student athletes work hard to balance the demands of the classroom with the demands of performing on the field.....*story continues on Page 2.*

LADY STATESMEN NAMED NJCAA SOFTBALL ACADEMIC TEAM OF THE YEAR

...story continues from Page 1...“Our players have practice time, game time and travel time and that means they have to be away from the classroom. We make sure that our players check with their instructors so they know what they need to do to stay on course. I remember watching this group study and work on the way back from games.”

Rodgers says the student athletes at Lincoln Trail College wouldn't be where they are without their support system of instructors and staff that are willing to work with athletes to make sure they are succeeding.

“Our whole campus should be proud of this honor from the NJCAA,” says Rodgers.

The Lincoln Trail College baseball team was an honorable mention selection for the Baseball Academic Team of the Year. The Statesmen had a cumulative GPA of 3.30.

Eight baseball players earned individual honors from the NJCAA. Keaton Sackett (DeWitt, Mich.) earned the Superior Academic Achievement Award. David Blanco (Fishers, Ind.), Brad Busald (Rushville, Ind.), Zach Denney (Russellville, Ky.), Austin Krause (Lansing, Mich.), Jay Prior (Greenwood, Ind.), Seaton Sheldon (Bowling Green, Ky.), and Neil Williams (Effingham, Ill.) earned Exemplary Academic Achievement Awards.

LTC PTK EARNS REGIONAL AWARD



Lincoln Trail College's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa earned an Illinois Regional Award for its Honors in Action Project.

During the 2015-16 academic year, Phi Theta Kappa students did in-depth research on pollinators and found bees to be the most important pollinator. Their research also found that the habitat for bees is in danger.

Phi Theta Kappa students worked with LTC Horticulture instructor Pamela Meier to plant thousands of seeds to produce plants that will nourish bees and other pollinators.

The Lincoln Trail College Foundation gave Phi Theta Kappa permission to plant a small meadow to attract the pollinators and Marathon bought the seeds and soil for the plants. The Phi Theta Kappa students will plant the meadow later this summer.

Drew Halter, Olivia Bender, Jay Akins, Heather Waller, Ashlie Chaisson, Becca Nethery, and Jena Allen were the students the led the project.

Phi Theta Kappa's Honors in Action Projects are designed to let students develop and demonstrate skills that will help them not only in academics, but also in their careers and life. The projects combine academic research with action that is designed to make a lasting impact and contribute to the betterment of society.

GETTING TO KNOW DR. RYAN GOWER



Dr. Ryan Gower became Lincoln Trail College's President on July 1. LTC Network sat down with Dr. Gower to learn more about his plans for Lincoln Trail College and to find out a little more about him.

What was it about Lincoln Trail College that attracted you to here?

On a personal level, I was drawn to Lincoln Trail College because of the community in which it is located. I have family connections to Robinson and Crawford County, and I have always known it is a good place to live and raise a family.

On a professional level, LTC is one of the strongest community colleges in the State of Illinois. It has a tremendous reputation for academic excellence and innovative career and technical education programs. It was ranked second in the State of Illinois by USA Today and has consistently been ranked among the top community colleges in the nation by the Aspen Group. The prospect of joining a team of talented faculty and staff and collectively finding ways to reach more students and strengthen the local community was very appealing to me.

Along those lines, what's the thing you're most excited about at LTC?

The future. Thanks to excellent leadership - from IECC and our trustees, the LTC Foundation, and countless other people who have invested in the school - we are well positioned for growth. I have a sense that some people think LTC is the best kept secret in Southern Illinois and Indiana. I think it is time for that to change. We will continue to innovate, build community relationships, and refine our programs to meet the needs of employers and four-year institutions.

As you begin your Presidency at LTC, what are your biggest short-term and long-term goals?

As someone new to the school and community, my short term-goal is to establish authentic relationships on campus and in our community. It is enormously helpful to learn what is working and areas in which we might improve. Everyone has a unique insight into how we can move forward.

My long-term goal is pretty straightforward - to expand our impact. The world is changing and we need educated and informed citizens to help lead us forward. Likewise, our economy and the demands on industry are also changing and the need for a well-prepared and competitive work-force has never been higher. Preparing people in these ways is what Lincoln Trail is all about. I fully intend to expand our size, scope and reach over the next five years.

What do you see as the most important thing to make LTC grow?

Nothing is more important than *innovation*. The days of showing up and "doing school" the same way we have always done it are over. Institutions of higher education that are not innovating will not survive in our current economic climate. While I think the entrepreneurial mindset is already present at LTC, we will continue to look for efficiencies, to be good stewards of the public trust, and to find innovative ways to address educational, social and economic issues.

Tell us about your path into higher ed.

As a 17-year-old freshman at the University of Illinois, pursuing a career in...*continues on Page 4.*

GETTING TO KNOW DR. GOWER

...continued from Page 3...higher education (much less a Ph.D.) was the furthest thing from my mind. Like many incoming college students, my goals were pretty simple; a) go to school, b) get a job, and c) make money. While there is nothing wrong with those goals, though my academic and life experiences I learned that the manner in which you work toward those goals is just as important as attaining them. I discovered that I genuinely enjoy working with people and being someone who has an impact on the lives of others. My efforts to do this were recognized at the University and doors continued to open for me there. I worked in advising and career placement, and later joined the faculty. I have found my career in higher education, particularly my more recent administrative experiences, to be enormously rewarding.

Outside of work, what are some of your interests and hobbies?

I enjoy most activities where I have the chance to spend time with my wife or work with my hands. I'm a hands on sort of person and I like to see the results of my labor at the end of the day. I've always enjoyed tinkering with old cars or working in the yard. However, I do have three younger children and I am finding that most of my time is spent at baseball or basketball games lately! I am also an avid reader and have recently been enjoying the abundance of books written about Lincoln and Kennedy.

Tell us a little more about your family.

I'm blessed to have been married to my wife, Tracey, for 15 years! We have three children – Evan (12), Grace (10), and AJ (9). They really are the best part of my life. Being a husband and a father changes your attitude and worldview so much. It is an awesome responsibility that I am humbled and grateful to have been given.

CAST FOR SNOOPY!!! ANNOUNCED

Brennan Seth Tracy, LTC Summer Stage director, has announced a young, but experienced cast for *Snoopy!!! The Musical*, which will be performed on the LTC Zwermann Theater stage August 4-6, 2016 at 7 p.m. and August 7 at 2 p.m. Tickets go on sale July 20.

Lauren Wiseman, whose most recent role was Anybodys in Rose-Hulman's spring production of *West Side Story* will play everyone's favorite beagle, Snoopy, while Jace Logan, plays Snoopy's best human friend, Charlie Brown. Amy Drake returns to the Summer Stage as Sally. MaryAnn Catt and Alan Wiseman

appear as Lucy and Linus, and Resa Fuller plays Peppermint Patty. Abby Siler rounds out the cast as Snoopy's feathered friend, Woodstock.

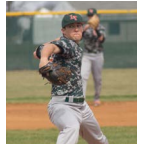
Based on the world renowned "Peanuts" comic strip, *Snoopy!!!* is the musical sequel to *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and opened in 1975 at the Little Fox Theatre in San Francisco. The London Version opened at the West End Duchess Theatre on September 20, 1983. It continues to delight audiences with the quiet knowledge and wit of its characters. Musical numbers include *The Big Bon-Wow*, *Don't Be Anything Less (Than Everything You Can Be)*, *Where Did That Little Dog Go* and *Daisy Hill*.

13 STATESMEN TO CONTINUE COLLEGE CAREERS

Thirteen Lincoln Trail College baseball players will continue their playing careers at four-year schools, including nine at the Division I level.



LHP Zach Barker committed to Western Kentucky University. “Zach was our most consistent arm,” says Statesmen coach Kevin Bowers. He spent most of his time as the team’s number one starter. He compiled a 3-1 record with one save and a 2.98 ERA.

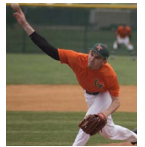


LHP Austin Batka committed to the University of Michigan. Batka spent time as both a starter and the closer for the Statesmen and was one of the team’s leaders in saves and strikeouts.



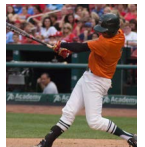
MIF Eli Boggess committed to Morehead State University. He was a two-year starter for Lincoln Trail College. “He followed up an outstanding freshman season with an even better sophomore campaign,” says Bowers. “He was in the top three in every major offensive category, including 18-20 in stolen bases.”

RHP Chance Carner committed to Murray State University, where he’ll join former Statesmen Jack Hranek and Cody Hall. Carner went 4-1 with a save while splitting time between the starting rotation and the bullpen.



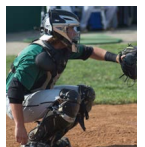
RHP Zach Denney committed to the University of Tennessee-Martin. “He was one of our top arms out of the pen and provided great innings down the stretch,” says Bowers.

OF Jack Holden committed to Eastern Illinois University. Holden was a two-year starter in the outfield for the Statesmen. “The speedy outfielder was one of the team’s leaders in RBI’s and runs scored hitting out of the leadoff spot,” says Bowers.



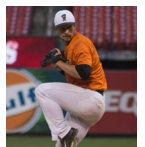
C Jeff Scott committed to Bowling Green University. “Jeff was an ironman for the Statesmen,” says Bowers. “He caught 47 of a possible 56 games. He possesses a shutdown arm behind the plate, causing teams to not run on us this spring. He’s also a true tough guy, leading the Statesmen in hits by pitch with 14.”

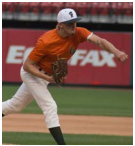
C Seaton Sheldon committed to Western Kentucky University. Sheldon’s season was cut short for the second year in a row with an arm injury, but Bowers says he has potential. “Seaton has a live bat with home run potential and soft hands behind the plate with plus receiving skills.”



RHP Thomas Waning committed to Ohio State University. He was one of the top relievers in the league, leading the Statesmen in appearances and ERA. “He has a unique knack for keeping the ball on the infield and getting groundballs,” says Bowers.

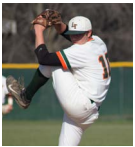
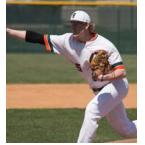
RHP Brad Barker committed to Indiana University-South Bend. “A sinker slider guy, Brad provided big innings out of the pen for LTC,” says Bowers. Barker went 1-1 with 13 strikeouts while only walking three.





LHP Konner Eck committed to St. Catharine College. Eck led the Statesmen in strikeouts and innings pitched. “The big lefty has a fastball that tops out at 92,” says Bowers. “He has a chance to play beyond college.”

RHP Chad O’Bryan committed to St. Joseph’s College. The groundball specialist spent most of the season recovering from a surgical procedure. “He was able to provide a big boost out of the pen down the stretch and he was a vital part of the 2015 conference championship,” says Bowers.



RHP Jay Prior committed to Lee University. Prior had a back injury most of his freshman year, but recovered to go 6-1 as a sophomore. “He is a true leader on and off the field,” says Bowers.

CRUM JOINS LTC BASKETBALL COACHING STAFF



Kevin Crum, Jr. brings an extensive background in basketball to Lincoln Trail College.

Prior to arriving at Lincoln Trail College, Crum was the Athletic Director at Liberty Christian Preparatory School in Taveres, Fla. He also served as an assistant basketball coach and was the head coach of the middle school.

Crum worked with Statesmen Coach Luke Stuckey as an assistant coach for the Central Florida Marvel professional basketball team.

That’s not the only professional experience for Crum. He served as a Basketball Operations Intern with the Philadelphia 76ers, where he helped the coaching staff with game day preparations.

Additionally, Crum has coached at high schools in Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee. He’s also served as a summer camp coach at Baylor University, Georgetown University, Ohio State University, and Vanderbilt University.

Crum earned a M.A. in Sport and Fitness Administration/Management from Tennessee State University. He earned a B.S. in Physical Education, Teaching and Coaching from Lane College, where he was a member of the Men’s Basketball team. He also played basketball at Northeast Mississippi Community College.

LT Baseball at Busch
OCTOBER 2
 FOR TICKET INFORMATION, CONTACT KEVIN BOWERS