

50
YEARS
2017

LTC PREPARES FOR 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

MARCH 2019



COREY HALL ELECTED TO SERVE
AS STUDENT TRUSTEE



LTC PREPARES FOR SECOND
PHASE OF THEATER
RENAISSANCE PROJECT

LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE

Network



PLANS FOR LTC FUTURE BECOMING A REALITY

As Lincoln Trail College prepares to mark its fiftieth anniversary, it would be natural for faculty, staff, and students to be focused on the history of the college. “We are proud of our roots and deeply appreciative of the those who have helped Lincoln Trail become what it is today,” says LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower. “We are glad to celebrate the accomplishments of the last fifty years, but the college is more focused on using this anniversary to create a vision of where we want the college to be fifty years from now.” Over the past few years, the college administration has been working with faculty, staff, students and key constituents in the community to develop a master plan for campus development that includes capital projects, student services, and academic programs. “The world around us is changing so quickly, we have to work faster to remain relevant, and most importantly to be sure we are giving all of our students the skills and characteristics they need to succeed in jobs – or solve social problems – that do not even exist right now. This is not the time to rest on our laurels.”

One of the capital projects identified in this master plan recently took one step closer to becoming reality. On February 28, the Lincoln Trail College Foundation unanimously voted to gift 11 acres of farmland to Illinois Eastern Community Colleges for the development of Statesmen Park; a space that will eventually become home to the soccer and softball programs. It was a vote of which LTC Foundation Executive Director Rod Harmon is particularly proud. “Over the past two years we have been challenged to think about what we ought to be doing to help the college become more than it is,” says Harmon. “The idea of making classrooms better and doing more for people in our cities has been most important to us.”

**UPCOMING
APRIL
EVENTS**

- 2 Talent Show Auditions**
5 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 3 Nutrition Series: Eating for Cognitive Health**
5:30 p.m., Library
- 4 Talent Show Auditions**
5 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 6 Pearson Testing**
9 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- Spring Band Concert**
2 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- Spring Classic All-Star Game**
6 p.m., Sports Center
- 9 Senior Blitz**
- Franklin University Visit**
9-12 Williams Hall Foyer
- 10 Employment Seminar**
10-3, Theater, Sports Center
- 12 40th Annual Service Recognition Banquet**
6 p.m., Quail Creek Country Club
- 13 ACT Testing**
8 a.m., Williams Hall 108
- Lincoln Trail College Foundation Talent Show**
6 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 16 IECC Board Meeting**
7 p.m., Statesmen Grill
- 19 COLLEGE CLOSED - Spring Holiday**
- 24 Craze Daze**
9-12 Miller Lake
- LTC Foundation Concert Series Presents: Kalimba: The Spirit of Earth, Wind, & Fire**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 25 LTC Foundation Meeting**
12 p.m., Lincoln Room
- 26 Volleyball Camp**
8 a.m., Sports Center
- Spring Choral Concert**
7 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater
- 27 Pearson Testing**
9 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- Karate Testing**
11 a.m., Sports Center
- Accuplacer Testing**
11 a.m., Williams Hall 119
- 28 Youth Recitals**
1:30 p.m., Zwermann Arts Center Theater

The addition of the 11 acres holds symbolic meaning during the anniversary year. “People need to see that this college is growing and improving,” says Gower. “I’ve said from the onset that in the climate in which we are operating we must avoid indiscriminate growth and that the days of trying to be all things for all people are behind us. At the same time, we cannot simply cut and eliminate and somehow believe we are strengthening our college. We have to innovate and add, strategically, if we want to be relevant fifty years from now.”

Both Gower and Harmon believe that the development of Statesmen Park will have a positive impact on community outreach, academic programs, business functions, and athletic programs at the college. “Youth soccer is really big in our area right now,” says Harmon. “We believe that adding soccer programs, and the draw of our new fields, will help a few local students decide to stay home to get their diploma instead of going maybe out of state.” Gower agrees and is working on arrangements with area soccer clubs to get student-athletes plugged into paid and volunteer positions coaching youth soccer. “Soccer is new to this area so there is a shortage of people who understand the game well enough to coach and develop younger players. Our student-athletes will play a big role in growing youth programs in our area. Strengthening our communities has always been a part of IECC’s mission.”

The addition of Statesmen Park and the men’s and women’s soccer programs will also enhance the academic and business functions of the college. “We talk about scale quite a bit,” says Gower. “A certain size or critical mass is necessary

STATESMEN PARK QUICK FACTS

MAY 4

GROUNDBREAKING





13%

EXPANSION
TO CAMPUS

\$100,000

PROJECTED COST
PRIVATELY FUNDED





50

NEW STUDENTS FROM
SOCCER PROGRAMS



1800

ADDITIONAL
CREDIT HOURS



\$208,892

ADDITIONAL REVENUE
IN FEES & EQUALIZATION

for many things to happen. Sometimes scale simply means we have a class that is large enough to be conducive to a good exchange of ideas. Other times scale means being large enough that we can gain economic efficiencies or expand revenue streams that can be reinvested in our people, our students, and our facilities. Men's and Women's soccer at LTC will help on both these fronts."

Lincoln Trail College Athletic Director Kevin Bowers says Statesmen Park will provide a boost to all the athletic programs at the college. "Kids are attracted to places that are alive and where things are happening. Having more students on campus and giving them more places to recreate is only going to make it easier for us to recruit players for all our teams. When we are giving tours to recruits it is going to be amazing to show them that we have a real athletic complex and not just random fields scattered all about. I think that is something that even non-student-athletes will be excited about."

The ground for Statesmen Park is currently being surveyed and development of the land will begin as soon as the conveyance is completed. A groundbreaking is scheduled for May 4 that will include a ceremonial shovel turn, bounce houses, hot dogs, hamburgers, snow cones and the final home game of the LTC Baseball regular season. Development of the site will continue over the summer with the goal of having one of the soccer fields ready for play in mid-August.



LTC President Dr. Ryan Gower speaks to high school sophomores during the annual Twin Rivers Career Day event at Lincoln Trail College



2019 Celebrate Art! Winners Olivia Teska, Mallory Nutter, Sophie Watson, Maura Davis-Shelton, Rebecca Henry (Best of Show winner), Breana Rinard, Kurtis Plew

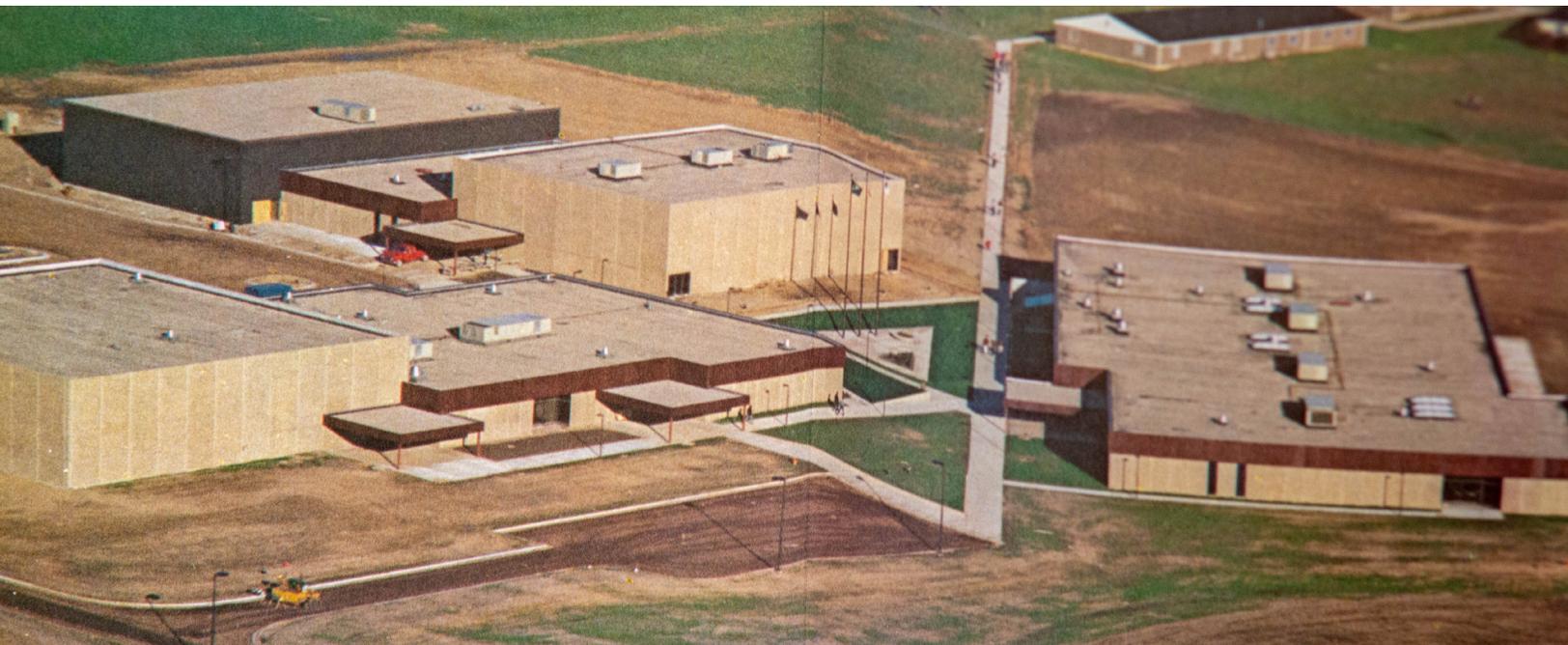


Cast members of LTC's production of *Beauty and the Beast* rehearse in preparation of the show. Performances are March 22-24 and March 29-31.



Justin Williams, Olivia Bryant, and Lawrence Williams each earned All-Region and All-Conference honors after the 2018-19 basketball season

LTC PREPARES FOR 50TH ANNIVERSARY



An early photo of Lincoln Trail College shows the College with construction nearly completed.



Lincoln Trail College is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2019 and planning is underway for some of the special events that will take place during the year. The College has put together a committee made up of people from the College, the Lincoln Trail College Foundation, and the community to plan events for the coming year.

There are two events planned for this spring. The first will take place on Arbor Day, April 26. The College was forced to remove some of the trees that line the entrance due to disease. Student Senate, in conjunction with the LTC Foundation and the College, will replace eight of the trees with new trees. The College, Foundation, and Student Senate will host a ceremonial planting for Arbor Day.

The second event will be the groundbreaking of Statesmen Park on May 4. That event will also serve as the main kickoff to the College's 50th anniversary. The addition of Statesmen Park to Lincoln Trail College represents a 12 percent expansion to the campus. Statesmen Park will house two soccer fields initially and the College plans to bring the softball diamond back to campus from the Robinson City Park in the next few years.

A number of local dignitaries will be invited to participate in the groundbreaking. The groundbreaking will be held in conjunction with Lincoln Trail College's baseball doubleheader against Southeastern. The College is planning to have a festival-like atmosphere for the day that will include T-shirt giveaways, inflatables for children, and activities for families during the baseball games.

The committee is continuing to plan future events as well. The College is planning to host a groundbreaking for the second phase of the Theater Renaissance. There are also plans for a formal gala to honor key founding pioneers and community partners of Lincoln Trail College. Other plans to celebrate the 50th anniversary include a printed publication and a video remembering the key contributors to the history of the College.

HALL TO JOIN IECC BOARD AS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE



Lincoln Trail College freshman Corey Hall was elected as the next student representative to serve on the Illinois Eastern Community Colleges Board of Trustees. Hall is from Champaign, Ill. and plays baseball for LTC.

Hall says he was very excited to win the student election held at LTC. “I’m really ready to go to the board meetings, get feedback from the students, and be the voice for students for Illinois Eastern Community Colleges and just better the student life and make things as good as they can be for them.”

Serving on the board is something that Hall didn’t expect to do when he first came to Lincoln Trail, but it was an opportunity he didn’t want to pass up. “I thought when I first got here that I’d just kind of fit in, go through my two years, play baseball, get the best grades I possibly could, graduate and then move on. When I saw the opportunity that it was Lincoln Trail’s turn to elect a student representative on the Board of Trustees, I was really excited and wanted to try and get that.”

In addition to serving as a voice for students in the District, Hall also wants to use this opportunity to change the narrative when it comes to the way people think about athletes. He says he wants people to see that athletes can do bigger things than just play sports. Not only does he want people to see that about athletes, he also wants athletes to realize that there’s more to being a student than just sports.

Hall is studying business at Lincoln Trail and plans to continue his education at a four-year university after graduating. His goal is to also continue to play baseball at the next level.

As he prepares to be seated on the Board, Lincoln Trail President Dr. Ryan Gower is eager to see what kind of a board member Hall will become. “I see an enormous amount of potential in him, so I hope he will have the confidence to actively engage the meetings. He is the voice of our student body, and I’m expecting him to use this experience as an opportunity to listen, learn and contribute. If he does that, I think we will learn as much from him as he does from us.”

Hall sees the opportunity to serve as the student representative as a great opportunity for him to gain some valuable leadership experience. “I think it will allow me to get a lot of experience around some great people and it will be huge on my resume. I think it will be very beneficial for me and could open tons of doors down the road and in the future.”

His biggest goal is to make student life better for the students throughout IECC. “I’d like to make Lincoln Trail or any of Illinois Eastern Community Colleges two great years for all students and even better than any of the universities or institutions that they may transfer to.”

Hall defeated Sarah Kennedy in the student election. Hall will take the oath of office at the April board meeting held at Lincoln Trail College. He’ll succeed Haylee Neuman, who is a student at Frontier Community College. The last student trustee from Lincoln Trail was Drew Halter, who is currently pursuing a law degree at the University of Indiana.

MOORE NAMED COCA-COLA ACADEMIC TEAM BRONZE SCHOLAR



Madison Moore, a student at Lincoln Trail College, has been named a 2019 Coca-Cola Academic Team Bronze Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation sponsors the Coca-Cola Academic Team program by recognizing 50 Gold, 50 Silver, and 50 Bronze Scholars with nearly \$200,000 in scholarships annually. Each scholar also receives a commemorative medallion.

“The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation has a long history of providing financial assistance to outstanding students at community colleges,” said Jane Hale Hopkins, President of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. “We are proud to partner with Phi Theta Kappa and make it possible for deserving students to achieve their educational goals.”

Students are nominated for the academic team by their

college administrators. Selection is based on academic achievement, leadership, and engagement in college and community service.

Coca-Cola Academic Team members will be recognized in both local and statewide ceremonies and will also be recognized internationally during Phi Theta Kappa’s annual convention, PTK Catalyst, April 4-6 in Orlando, Florida.

“We thank the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation for recognizing these student leaders and for investing in their futures,” said Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner, President and CEO of Phi Theta Kappa. “Scholarships like these are integral to the success of these students in reaching their educational and career goals.”

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of community college students and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The Society is made up of more than 3.5 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 10 nations.

LTC HOLDS MULTI-ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Lincoln Trail College is committed to making sure its career and technical students are getting an education that fits the needs of employers. To do that, each program has an advisory council that meets on a regular basis. This year, the College brought together advisory councils for eight different programs to meet at the same time.

“It is important for Lincoln Trail to engage its industry partners,” says Dean of Instruction Brent Todd. “Our goal is to prepare students for the workforce. We cannot adequately achieve that goal without industry insight. For the first time, the College hosted a multi-advisory event with professionals from many sectors—both private and public—to provide insight for LTC’s justice, office management, process technology and petroleum drilling, sport management, welding and industrial management programs.”



The Multi-Advisory Council Meeting was held February 15 at the Crisp Center. Dean of Instruction Brent Todd gave updates to the councils about what’s happening at Lincoln Trail College. Coordinator of Advisement Erin Volk gave the councils updates on enrollment while Recruitment Specialist Kit Tracy talked with the councils about recruitment and opportunities for industry training.

From there, the different councils participated in breakout sessions to discuss topics that were specific to their programs. “Although we do provide information about program updates, enrollment, and recruiting activities to our advisory councils, LTC faculty and staff spend much of their time listening to the advisory councils,” says Todd.

Todd says the meeting provided valuable information about LTC’s programs of study. As a result of the meeting, Todd says the Curriculum Committee will consider modifications to some programs of study to better prepare students for the workforce.

LTC PREPARING FOR PHASE 2 OF THEATER RENAISSANCE



Lincoln Trail College is preparing for Phase Two of the Theater Renaissance project, which will add a dedicated space for set construction and storage to the Zwermann Arts Center Theater.

Barb Shimer, who has directed numerous plays and musicals at the College, says the new production space is vital for a few reasons. “Right now, there’s no room for the sets to be built anywhere but on the stage and that causes several problems in the theater.”

Shimer says one of the biggest issues is that when the sets are built on stage, it limits the use of the theater for other purposes. Music Instructor Rebecca Carmack says that especially affects music students and ensembles at the College. “We have to stay out of the theater during productions. When we have a master class or a rehearsal, we have to find another space.”

Carmack says finding another space can make it particularly difficult for instrumental and vocal students to prepare for their juries, which serve as final exams for those students. “We have good practice rooms, but there’s a huge difference between performing in a small practice room and performing on stage. Performing on stage changes how you sound and right now, those students get very little opportunity to prepare on stage before their juries.”



Students in the Robinson High School dual credit Building Trades class construct the set for Beauty and the Beast

In addition to the inconvenience, Shimer says building sets on stage can also cause some damage to the theater because construction can be messy. She says there’s time spent every day cleaning up sawdust and other construction debris. Shimer says inevitably, that sawdust also gets into the carpet and seats in the theater, causing extra wear and tear in the theater.

Shimer says there's also very little backstage storage in the theater. She says they try to reuse as many materials as they can from show to show, but right now, there's not a good space to do that. Over the years, she says they've had construction materials, tools, and props stolen because there hasn't been a secure place to store all of the items. "If we had this space, we would be able to get more use out of what we have and that's going to save us money in a lot of ways."



Materials stored in a corner of the Rehearsal Hall in the Zwermann Arts Center

A lack of storage space also causes some issues with the music side of the Performing Arts Department. Carmack says the rehearsal hall is one of the most used spaces in the Zwermann Arts Center. She says it is used for classes, rehearsals for ensembles, and individual music lessons. "The space is great, but there's stuff everywhere. It doesn't allow us to spread out as much as we'd like and we have classroom tables that are basically smashed up against risers that are stored in there. When it comes to recruiting new students for the program, the room does not have the image of our program that I want to project."

Carmack says the new storage space would be used not just for theatrical storage, but also to help store things like risers, music stands, and instruments. She says that would give the rehearsal more room and also help prevent undue wear and tear on items that no longer need to be left out in the open.

Shimer says the new addition would also help modernize the space. "I've been to Charleston and they have a space like they where they can build a set off stage and then roll it on stage when they need it. They have the same thing at Indiana University and in many other places. This is the kind of space that you expect to have in a modern theater."

"The Zwermann Arts Center gets a lot of use from the community," says Carmack. "Building a new storage space makes sure that we can make the theater even more accessible to our students and to the community."

LINCOLN TRAIL COLLEGE FOUNDATION
TALENT SHOW
 APRIL 13 • 6 PM • ZWERMANN ARTS CENTER THEATER
Singing • Instrumentals • Comedy • Magic • Any Talent
\$1000 GRAND PRIZE
\$500 - 2ND PLACE
\$250 - 3RD PLACE
 ALL ACTS WELCOME!
 NO ENTRY FEE - NO AGE LIMITS - CONTESTANTS MUST BE AMATEUR
 CONTESTANT MAY HAVE ACCOMPANIMENT
 APPROVED INSTRUMENTS: GUITAR, BRASS, PIANO
 6 MINUTE LIMIT
TRYOUTS APRIL 2 & 4 • 5 PM
ZWERMANN ARTS CENTER THEATER
 LEARN MORE AT:
<https://lincolntrailcollegefoundation.com/talent-show>

LTCF TALENT SHOW COMING

The Lincoln Trail College Foundation is excited to announce an upcoming talent show to be held at the Zwermann Arts Theater on the campus on Lincoln Trail College. The "Big Show" will be held on Saturday, April 13th at 6 p.m. After tryouts, LTCF will put the best 12 amateur acts on the stage that Saturday night for a fun evening of entertainment. First place will be awarded \$1000, second \$500, and third \$250. Tryouts will be held April 2 and 4 at 5 p.m. in the Zwermann Arts Center Theater.

LTC GEARS UP FOR HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

Lincoln Trail College will hold its annual Health Awareness Day on March 27 and this year's event will include something new. "For the first time, we will be hosting a Health Careers Day in conjunction with the event," says Coordinator of Advising Erin Volk. "Many times, students have an interest in the 'health field' and we want to help them see what those options really are."

The Health Careers Day will help students explore some of the options available to them in a hands-on setting. Faculty and staff from Lincoln Trail College will discuss the College's Community College Pathways to Medicine program, which is a partnership with Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. Students will also get to learn

about transfer degrees for health careers along with the Nursing, Pharmacy Technician, Certified Medical Assistant, and Electronic Medical Records programs available at Lincoln Trail. The students participating in Health Careers Day will also get a chance to participate in some hands-on activities and meet with students in LTC's programs.



A visitor to the 2018 Health Awareness Day gets a free blood pressure screening.

Students attending Health Careers Day will also visit Health Awareness Day, which is the College's annual health fair. This year's event will feature booths related to yoga, chiropractic care, dental health, massage, a Narcan trainer, a pharmacy, and the Crawford County Health Department. Visitors will also be able to get skin cancer checks and blood sugar checks. The American Red Cross will be conducting a blood drive during the event.

Health Awareness Day runs from 9-1 on March 27 in the LTC Sports Center.

LTC GEARS UP FOR SENIOR BLITZ DAY



Lincoln Trail College will host 250 high school seniors from around the area on April 9 for Senior Blitz Day. The day-long event gives students a chance to engage in college and career workshops, life-skills sessions, team-building activities, panel discussions, and to hear from guest speakers.

Break-out sessions will be led by facilitators who will encourage students to set goals and discuss the steps needed to reach these goals as well as tap into other helpful resources that will assist with post-secondary success. Seniors will also interact with new friends and dive into conversations regarding the transition from high school into college or a career, which can be challenging, yet exciting.

"Students who attend will leave feeling better prepared to confidently embrace this new chapter of life with a plan and a path for success,"

says LTC Director of College Access Tona Ambrose, who is planning the day.



APRIL ATHLETIC EVENTS

Baseball

2	Frontier CC	2:00
4	Kaskaskia	12:00
6	at Kaskaskia	3:00
8	at Brescia	12:30
11	Shawnee	3:00
13	at Shawnee	12:00
16	at Lake Land	3:00
18	at Olney Central College	3:00
19	Olney Central College	12:00
23	Lake Land	12:00
25	Rend Lake	3:00
27	at Rend Lake	12:00

Golf

6-7	at Vincennes (at Washington, IN)
11-13	at Rend Lake
19	LTC Invitational

Softball

2	Frontier CC	6:00
4	at Shawnee	2:00
8	Shawnee	2:00
9	at Lindenwood JV	4:00
11	at John A. Logan	2:00
13	at Olney Central College	1:00
14	at Rend Lake	1:00
16	Rend Lake	2:00
18	at Southwestern	2:00
19	Kaskaskia	2:00
25	at Southeastern	2:00
27	Lake Land	12:00
30	Wabash Valley College	2:00

LTC WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM SIGNS FIRST PLAYERS



Ava Aguirre and her family



Emma Phillips and her family



Leah Schnell and her family



Ashton Wesley and her family

The Lincoln Trail College Women's Soccer team signed its first player, Ava Aguirre of Plainfield, Ind.

"I think it's an honor that I'm the very first one," says Aguirre. "I get to represent all of my coaches and all of my teammates who have helped me become this great player. I feel like I can continue and make history here."

The team will play its first game in the fall of 2019 and will be led by head coach Shawn Hall. He says he's thrilled with his first signing. "To have a girl like Ava come in here and be my first recruit and bring the passion she brings and bring her love of soccer, I'm very, very excited for Lincoln Trail soccer."

Emma Phillips of Decatur, Ill. was the second player to join the team. "Emma is going to bring a lot of passion and has a real drive to play as the first string keeper," says Hall. "I am still recruiting another keeper but she is determined to be the number one...with that passion she brings experience in the goal and has trained other keepers at her school already."

Leah Schnell of Princeton, Ind. was the third player inked by Hall. "Leah is a very versatile player, who can play from the backline up to the forward position. She has a lot of leadership qualities and will be a valuable early asset. Her skill level is top notch and she has a great soccer IQ."

Robinson's Ashton Wesley was the fourth player to join the squad. "Ashton has not had as many years of experience as the other three ladies but it is her ability as an overall athlete and her ability to learn that has me excited." I have coached her in the past and know she will work hard and not give up. Also, she has great speed and her ball control skills are really improving."