



the Falcon

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Quincy University

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OPINION:

Are intramural sports even worth saving?



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Art professor and museum curator Robert Mejer celebrates 30 years at QU



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Marc Hager to take over women's soccer program



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Hundreds of students won't receive emergency alerts

By ASHLYNN WORLEY

Quincy University has an online emergency alert notification system. This is the only way the university can contact students in a crisis situation.

When activated, the system can quickly send out mass e-mails, text messages, and phone calls to notify everyone who opted in to the program.

There are 1,145 students who are eligible to opt in to the system, however, a total of 206 students will not receive any emergency notifications. Of those students, 135 either ignored the opt in e-mail or missed the deadline, while 71 students purposefully chose to opt out.

"Usually one of my friends already knows something I don't, so I really have to rely on them instead of already opting in, which I should have now that I think about it," Chris Avery, first-year student, said.

Of those who chose to opt out of the alert system, 9 percent are freshman, 9 percent are juniors, 6 percent are sophomores and 10 percent are seniors. The large portion of students who will not receive alerts did not open the email.

By choosing not to receive the emergency notifications, students like Avery are putting their safety in someone else's hands.

Megan Jaboor, a sophomore nursing student, said she opted to receive all three forms of emergency alerts.

"Let's say you're in class and there's an active shooter like what happened in Florida, then you will get that alert," Jaboor said.

Many students feel safe, but unprepared, for a crisis situation on campus. For commuter students like Kristina Wolfe, the emergency alert system is beneficial.

"I think it is important as a commuter



Quincy University Director of Safety and Security Sam Lathrop says students should remember three things to protect themselves and that's run, hide and fight.

[to opt in]. If we have an active shooter obviously I'm not going to come to campus," Wolfe said. "I feel like QU should have a rundown course or go through some drills so we know what to do."

QU Director of Safety and Security Sam Lathrop urges students to remember three things: run, hide and fight.

"If we all attack en masse then we can prevail and you can survive a shooting, just because you're hit doesn't mean that you always die. At that point in time, you don't have anything to lose, so if it's me I'm going down swinging. Run, hide, fight in that order," Lathrop said.

In the event of an active shooter on

campus, students need to have a plan and know alternative routes to exit classrooms and buildings.

The professional staff at QU have been trained by Lathrop in several courses ranging from a tornado drill to an active shooter lockdown.

Donna Holtmeyer has worked as an academic success coach and certified counselor at QU for 10 years and counting. Holtmeyer said she feels safe on campus and in the community, but she encourages anyone who sees something, to say something.

ALERT continues on 2

Intramural sports on life support

By SHANE MCADAMS

Despite attempts by organizers to boost intramural sports on campus, the number of students participating is down and dwindling.

Quincy University brought back a campus favorite this semester, but the number of teams involved in intramural bowling is half of what it was last semester. Bowling was one of the few intramural activities that had successful student engagement Fall semester of 2017. Intramural bowling in the past has been one of the universities most participated in intramural activities, and while students are still participating, student engagement is dropping.

Along with dwindling student participation, another problem is teams not showing up for events even though they have signed up. Bowling used to be a popular intramural activity with many of the teams consisting of student athletes from different sports. Last semester there were 15 teams of four competing in intramural bowling. Now, there are just eight. One of the biggest complaints from intramural athletes last semester, was the lack of prizes for the winners.

However, this semester intramural bowling has not only organized prizes, but they are also paying for each teams' last two weeks of entry fees at the bowling alley.

Charlie Grimsley is the intramural organizer.

"It's stressful, we are doing prizes this semester, and paying for every teams' last two weeks and I had more teams sign up last semester than I did this semester. Intramurals is basically a dying thing. Students would rather party than participate in things like this," Grimsley said.

With the future of intramural sports at Quincy



Intramural bowling in the past has been one of the universities most participated in intramural activities, and while students are still participating, student engagement is dropping.

University hanging by a thread, and under threat of being cancelled all together, the question remains how do we as students save intramural sports, or is it even worth saving?

Quincy University student and Quincy native Kale Houghton started participating in intramural bowling last semester.

"I like bowling a lot, it's a nice break from school work in the middle of the week," Houghton said.

Houghton thinks the future of intramural sports is uncertain.

"I really enjoy intramural sports but you can definitely tell that its a dying thing, just from last semester

to this one bowling has dropped off and just isn't the same anymore," Houghton said.

But there is a new residence life director on campus who wants to revamp intramurals.

"Our goal right now is to basically start over fresh in the fall of 2018. Johann (Johann St. John director of campus programs and residence life) is trying to fix the program and make it better. We have several ideas that we are playing with right now on how to improve intramurals as a whole," Grimsley said.

For more information on intramural events contact Charlie Grimsley at (573)470-7381.

ALERT: Campus-wide active shooter training course to be held

"I think what is most important is that we take the time to just make sure we're thinking about it [active shooter] because just putting our head in the sand and saying oh, it won't happen to us, can't be our response," Holtmeyer said. "We need to continue to train our faculty and staff so that we're heightened to those things, and even our students, just so we're all aware."

Professor Harry Cramer, a retired police officer, commends QU for having an emergency alert system set in place and said it is "absolutely essential."

If you want to take control of your safety on campus or check to ensure you have opted-in to receive emergency notifications, consult the Dean of Students.

"Of course you're going to know how to run, hide,

stay put, and fight back, but you don't actually know what it's like until you actually experience it," Jaboor said.

QU Security, along with the criminal justice students and the Quincy Police Department will hold a campus-wide active shooter training course in April.



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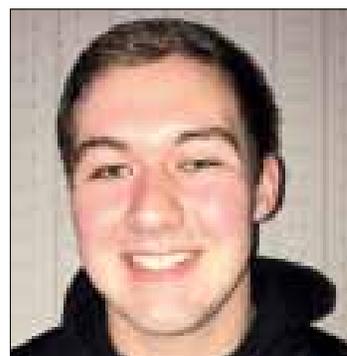
Students give their thoughts on current events and topics around campus



Alli Dieckmann
JUNIOR



Heather Curry
SOPHOMORE



Josh Foster
FRESHMAN



Patrick Anderson
SOPHOMORE

What is your favorite QU spring tradition?

Hawk Wild

I don't have a favorite QU spring tradition.

I'm not even sure yet.

Hawk Wild.

How do you and your family celebrate Easter?

We go to the Lake of the Ozarks

My family and I do not celebrate Easter. My siblings and I are all older now.

We usually just wake up and go to church together, spend whole day together.

My mom brings everyone easter baskets full of candy and we hangout all day and eat.

Do you think that QU should bring back dances? And if so why?

Yes, everyone loves a good dance.

I think QU should bring back dances because it gives everyone a chance to get together and have a good time.

Yes, because in high school they were fun to go to.

No, that's more of a high school thing and we're in college now.

Do you believe in the fifth floor of Francis legends?

Yes. I've had night classes there, and weird things always seem to happen.

I do not believe in the fifth floor legends.

I have no reason not to believe in it, I haven't explored it yet. I would explore if I could.

Yes.

What are you looking forward to this summer?

Going to the lake.

I'm most excited for vacations this summer.

To not have so many classes and finally get a job.

Going to the beach.

ART OF TEACHING

Professor, gallery curator Mejer celebrates 50 years at QU

By FAITH MOUNTAIN

"I definitely like having experienced art teachers," Taylor McMonagle, current Quincy University art student, said. "They have had a career in the art industry which is great because you will get a lot of real world perspective in their opinion."

"I feel like they know so much more because of their experience," Pasha Yates, QU alumna, said.

Robert Lee Mejer, known to many as Bob Mejer, distinguished professor of art and curator of the Gray Gallery, began working at Quincy University in 1968. This year, Mejer is celebrating his 50th year of teaching.



Mejer

In 2001, Mejer was honored with distinguished professor status. Mejer was selected by the University President for achievement and recognition of his profession; contributions of his time and talent to his students, colleagues, profession and to the name and image of Quincy University; for excellence in teaching as well as his outstanding service.

During his art career, Mejer has presented over 65 one-man exhibitions and has had his works included in over 500 juried competitions, including statewide, national and international exhibitions. In April and May, Mejer will be an artist featured in the International Fabriano in Watercolor 2018 Exhibition in Fabriano, Italy. He has been serving the Tri-State area since 1989 as the founding president of the Great River Watercolor Society.

The Gray Gallery, founded by Mejer and located on the main floor of Brenner Library, is also celebrating its 50th year.

"There was an important need at QU for a regular art gallery program of exhibitions," Mejer said. "I founded the Gallery with the intention of exposing the academic community and the Quincy community to various styles and media of art. I did not want to compete, nor could I, with the local art center and their expensive shows and manpower, so I switched my focus to one-person exhibits."

Since its creation, the Gray Gallery has presented students, alumni, local artists and famous artists with the opportunity to have their works displayed in a



During his art career, QU professor Robert Mejer has presented over 65 one-man exhibitions and has had his works included in over 500 juried competitions, including statewide, national and international exhibitions.

public art gallery.

"The most rewarding part about being a teacher is exposing the students to the visual arts and making them believe in themselves," Mejer said. "It is all about the students and the importance of nurturing their minds, growth and creativity."

"In working towards my degree in graphic design, I had my work displayed in the Senior Retrospective show in the Gray Gallery," Yates said. "I appreciated having the experience of putting together an exhibition with my fellow classmates for everyone to see."

"The Gallery's student shows are really cool," McMonagle said. "He (Mejer) doesn't tell you that your

work will be included. I usually forget what pieces he's taken so it's like a surprise at the end of the year. I've had my work displayed in there every year and I really appreciate the complements from students and faculty on my work."

"My favorite part about working for Quincy University is the people. It's the faculty, students and staff," Mejer said.

Mejer will continue to inspire his students and adapt to the changes new technology brings.

"When my son was young, someone told him that his dad was a teacher," Mejer said. "I loved his reply. 'No. He is an influencer.'"

"My favorite part about working for Quincy University is the people. It's the faculty, students and staff."

— Robert Mejer, QU art professor

ONLINE SELF-REGISTRATION SUMMER/FALL 2018

Registration Schedule (Cumulative Hours)

You will register for classes based on the number of cumulative hours you have earned at the end of the Fall 2017 term.

		<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Honors/Graduate Students		Mon, Mar. 26	8 a.m.
Most Seniors	Students with 86/+ hrs earned	Tues, Mar. 27	8 a.m.
Most Juniors	Students with 48-85 hrs earned	Thur, Mar. 29	8 a.m.
Most Sophomores	Students with 24-47 hrs earned	Tues, Apr. 3	8 a.m.
Most Freshmen	Students with 0-23 hrs earned	Thur, Apr. 5	8 a.m.

- Make an appointment with your advisor in advance, and have a tentative schedule of courses you wish to take. During this meeting you will select classes in consultation with your advisor. **Also at this time your advisor will authorize you for self-registration in the student portal (my.quincy.edu). You will be able to register on your assigned day and time (see schedule above). BRCN students will register with their BRCN advisor, Kim Erskine.**
- Note that there are some courses for which students cannot self-register.
- To register for credit hours over 18, you will need the signature of the Vice President for Academic Affairs (FRH 124).

HOLDS

Make sure you do not have any holds on your account. Types of holds include: Business Office holds (see Kristi Shelton in Student Financial Services-FRH105), Immunization holds (see Christine Tracy, Dean of Students, in the Student Success Center) and Major Declaration holds (see the Registrar's Office-FRH130).

STUDENT PORTAL

Students need a QU e-mail account to get QU updates including access to self-registration, grades, financial account information, etc. For more information, please contact IT Services at Ext. 3690, FRH 134.

**You can access the Summer/Fall 2018 schedule by visiting my.quincy.edu.
Contact the Registrar's Office if you have questions at Ext. 3970**

Students 'brush death' on study abroad trip

By ANNA KONZAK

Fifteen students had the opportunity of a lifetime. Dylan Handlin, Bridget Hunkins, Mollie Rueter, Kelli Roskamp, Seth Beatty, Kevin Turnbow, Abbey Elsie, Bobbie Eastman, Lauren Nadler, Rachel Holtmeyer, Rita Kanaeva, Samantha Jacobson, Taylor Kisticevich, Kay Bettendorf, and Bridget Regan were able to see their classrooms come to life during Christmas break.

"We had planned a trip to Peru a year previous but it didn't fill with students so we couldn't go, but that one cost maybe twice as much. So were trying to keep the cost of the trips down so more students can go," Coehlo said.

College can be very expensive, which is why Dr. Boccardi and Dr. Coehlo try to keep their annual trips as cheap and short as possible, that way students can afford to study abroad.

"I know for me, I've always wanted that study abroad experience. Being an athlete here, I actually never have. It was hard for me to because you're always mandated to be at all these different events and activities for football or any other sport," Handlin said.

Once their plane arrived in Belize, the group took a five hour bus ride to their destination. The group's first stop was at Blue Creek Rainforest Reserve on the mainland. Here, they stayed in cabins. The group utilized their surroundings and went on many different adventures. One adventure was iguana hunting.

"I don't know who came up with this idea but the iguana hunt is like a tourists' dream," Coehlo said.

The group hunted for iguanas by hiking through a stream until they got to where the trees overhang the water. Part of the process was climbing up into the tree that the iguanas are sitting in and shaking the branches. When scared, the iguanas will fall into the water and try to swim away as their defense mechanism. The group formed a line in the stream so when the iguana tries to swim away they could catch it. To catch it, they had to grab the neck and the tail and hold it up. After this process, the iguana became very calm.

"It was really crazy. I've had pet iguanas and everyone of them was mean. They would bite you and tailwhip you at every chance. So the fact that this feral population of iguanas is tame, is weird," Coehlo said.

Another activity the group had the opportunity to participate in was cave swimming.

"The way up to the cave is just a bunch of rocks and waterfalls. It almost felt unreal. I was like 'there's no way that this exists in the world,'" Bettendorf said.

Their next stop was Salt Water Cay on an island off the mainland in the Caribbean. The only way to get there was by a 45 minute boat ride with someone they didn't know.

"We boarded this super sketchy boat, like the one you see on the sides of cruise ships. And so we gave this guy our luggage and at this point I'm like 'whatever, okay here ya go'. Then the other dude pulled up. We got to know the captain but at first we had no idea who he was and were like 'this guy could really suck



Fifteen study abroad students saw their classrooms come to life during a Christmas break trip to Belize.

out there ya know, we're just trusting him with our lives.' and that was a lot of the time too, we just trusted people. I didn't realize how big that was on vacation. How much you just trust someone else," Bettendorf said.

The food the group ate was food that was freshly caught and prepared that day. They were served salsa, coconut gravy, banana jam, and other local favorites. Like any other Caribbean country, their meal base was rice and beans. They also had the chance to experience the culture by seeing how people made cocoa and their own medicine.

Their last night in paradise wasn't calm. A magnitude 7.8 earthquake shook the Caribbean. The quake could be felt in the Honduran capital.

Belize is one foot above sea level and is located on the gulf of where the quake hit. Dr. Coehlo remained especially calm during the warning because he knew if the earthquake had occurred on Honduran land, there was not enough water between them to generate a tsunami. However, once he arrived back to the United States, he looked up the news article about the tsunami and found that the quake did not happen on Honduran land. Rather, it was in Honduran water where there was more than enough ocean to generate

a tsunami.

"If you're counting the number of times you've brushed with death in your life, I think that counts as one," Coehlo said.

The lodge workers went door to door to give each person a life jacket. They also urged everyone to go to the highest point of the island if the tsunami hit.

"I thought the life jackets were like 'okay maybe were going to get in a boat and try to go back to the mainland and try to beat this out' but that would have been a dumb idea. Now that I think about it, we had the life jackets so we could float just in case the water came up that high," Bettendorf said.

Fortunately, the tsunami never swept through the country and the students were able to return home as planned and take all of their new found, first-hand knowledge to the classroom.

"I think you have to get over that you're not always going to be clean but whenever you just kind of realize this is a learning experience but also at the same time it's one of the most fun things you're probably going to do in your entire life, that is what overcame everything else," Bettendorf said.

Both professors allow students in any major to register for study abroad trips.

Graduation activities set for May 11-12

FRIDAY, MAY 11

REHEARSAL / SENIOR CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH / BACCALAUREATE MASS

- 10:45 am – Commencement Rehearsal for all graduates – Pepsi Arena, Health & Fitness Center on Oak Street between 18th and 20th Streets.
- 11:30 am – Senior Champagne Brunch – hosted by Alumni Services, held in the Main Dining Room immediately following rehearsal. All 2018 graduates are welcome to attend. Guests are welcome at \$10.00 per person. For more information, contact Alumni Services at 217-228-5432, ext. 3455.
- 2 pm – Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing and Health Sciences Pinning, held at Madison Park Christian Church, 4700 Broadway, Quincy, IL.
- 5 pm – Baccalaureate Mass at St. Francis Solanus Chapel inside Francis Hall Graduates are to wear gowns (no caps, stoles or hoods) and sit with family. Tickets are not required. All are Welcome!
- 8:30 am – 5:00 pm – University Bookstore hours.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

COMMENCEMENT / RECEPTION

- 1 – 5 pm – University Bookstore hours.
- 1 pm – Hall of Fame room open for graduates to pick up tickets and/or honor cords or ask questions about line-up, etc.
- 2 pm – Doors to Memorial Gymnasium will open (ticket required for every person for entry to Pepsi Arena).
- 2 pm – All graduates meet in the Hall of Fame Room, 20th and Oak Streets, for line-up. Enter through the east doors of the Hall of Fame Room.
- 3 pm – Commencement ceremony (ticket required for every person for entry to Pepsi Arena).
Closed circuit broadcast of ceremony in the Health and Fitness Center three-court area (overflow seating – no ticket required for this area).
Reception immediately following ceremony on Friars' Field north of Pepsi Arena (weather permitting)

COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPATION AND STUDENT FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

- Participation in the Commencement ceremony is dependent upon clearance by the University Registrar following a review of your academic record.
- Students must be within 6 credit hours of completing their undergraduate baccalaureate degree to participate in the Commencement ceremony.
- Students must apply for graduation by March 1. A \$150.00 graduation fee will be applied to your financial account.
- Students who apply after the March 1 deadline will be charged an additional late fee of \$100.
- Degree candidates with a balance due will not be allowed to participate in Commencement. All tuition, room, board, fees, interest, library fines, and parking tickets must be paid in full by April 20.
- No transcript or diploma will be issued until the balance is paid in full.



Quincy University will hold commencement exercises May 11-12.

- Diplomas will be mailed during the summer to each graduate at the address provided on the graduation application. Diplomas will not be distributed on stage.

GRADUATION WITH HONORS

Graduation Honors are awarded to undergraduate students only. Students who maintain a cumulative grade point average at Quincy University of at least a 3.40 based on courses completed for a baccalaureate degree are eligible for graduation with honors as follows:

- Cum Laude 3.40 to 3.54 GPA — Silver Cord
- Magna Cum Laude 3.55 to 3.74 — GPA Gold Cord
- Summa Cum Laude 3.75 to 4.00 — GPA Bonaventure Medal

These honors distinctions will be noted on the student's transcript and the diploma. All graduation requirements must be completed prior to Commencement for honors to be announced at Commencement.

HONOR CORDS AND STOLES

Honor cords are worn by those who graduate with University honors, as noted above. Cords are also worn by members of academic honor societies and/or the Honors Program.

All undergraduates wear stoles that have the QU seal. Those who have completed their nursing degree through Blessing-Reiman College of Nursing and Health Sciences will wear a stole with both the QU and BRCN seals. Undergraduates affiliated with a Greek organization that meets academic standards for membership may wear a stole representing a fraternity

or sorority.

The stoles and cords noted here are approved by the University and are the only ones allowed to be worn at Commencement.

TICKETS AND SEATING

- Each degree candidate planning to participate in Commencement will receive at least 4 tickets.
- No tickets will be mailed. Students may pick up tickets along with their caps and gowns in the lower level of the Student Center beginning Monday, May 7 at noon. Students residing off campus may pick up tickets on Saturday at 1:00 pm in the Hall of Fame Room.
- Everyone, including infants and toddlers, must have a ticket to gain entry into Pepsi Arena for the Commencement ceremony.
- Tickets are not required for the Baccalaureate Mass.
- Commencement overflow seating is available in the Health and Fitness Center three-court area, and the ceremony will be broadcast on a closed circuit screen. Tickets are not required for this seating area.
- Reserved seating in Pepsi Arena is available for those with disabilities; please contact Mary Betts in the Academic Affairs Office at 217-228-5432, Ext. 3300. Facilities for the Reception, Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement are handicap accessible.
- Any questions regarding Commencement can be directed to:
 - Registrar's Office, 217-228-5432, ext. 3970, or email registrar@quincy.edu

Hager to head women's soccer program

By BAILEY GREUBEL

Quincy University recently added Marc Hager to the sports department last month as the new Women's Head Soccer Coach. Hager previously worked for McKendree University as the assistant coach before shifting over to QU.

Marty Bell had his hands full once old Head Coach Dave Musso decided to move back to his home town of St. Louis and take on a position there with Lindenwood University. Bell said in an email sent to the team that they "received over 20 applications in less than 24 hours."

"The email continued by saying, "The interest in this program is very high and is a credit to each of you (women's team players) for establishing a winning tradition that makes leading this program a very attractive situation."

The Quincy Women's Soccer team is coming off a 17-4-1 season overall, 13-1-0 in conference. After making it to both the GLVC finals and the Sweet Sixteen led by a large senior class, the program took off in the last several years as they continue to move towards success.

Hager himself went to St. John Vianney High School in St. Louis, and then went to DI Webster University to play on the Men's Soccer team. Being born and raised in St. Louis, plus having a good understanding of the Great Lakes Valley Conference, Hager believed he already had a foot in the door for the head coach position.

Hager couldn't pass up the opportunity once making it on to the next level of interviews in front of the Quincy University Sports Department Board.

"I applied, then waited around for a while. After a few days, Marty Bell reached out to me asking if I wanted to do a phone interview, and I said 'Of course!' I didn't want to pass that opportunity up."

Hager was then asked to come up to Quincy and do the in-person interview with the board. It was shortly after that he officially received the Head Coach position. He talked to Musso several times over the



Former McKendree University assistant women's soccer coach Marc Hager has been named the new head coach at Quincy University.

past two weeks he has been at Quincy, asking about the team and taking any advice from the successful former coach.

"Ten NCAA tournaments in twelve years is a lot of expectation coming in," mentioned Hager. "Typically when you take over a job, you're either taking over a job where the only way to go is up, or in this case, you need to maintain it or the only way to go is down."

Marc Hager is continuing to make himself at home in his new town of Quincy, even though he is already

used to the small town feel coming from McKendree University in Lebanon, Illinois. Although he is taking a lot of advice from Musso, Hager is excited to get the ball rolling in his own way for the upcoming fall season.

"They are big shoes to fill for sure, but what I do know is that I have a great group coming back, a group I know very well, and it's in a conference that I know very well. I'm excited for the season," said Hager.



Long-Time Fan Honored

Quincy University honored one of its most faithful and loyal fans, presenting George Caspermeyer (white shirt) with a signed commemorative basketball before the QU men played Wisconsin-Parkside. Caspermeyer has attended QU basketball games since 1955 and has been a presence at other QU sports during 63 years of devotion to the school. He and his wife, Judy, have four grandchildren who have graduated from QU. That list includes Brandon Ley, who was a member of the QU baseball team from 2012-16 and was a first-team All-GLVC pitcher his senior season, and Kelsey Ley, who was a four-year starter on the QU softball team from 2012-15.