

the Spectator



Bryce Strecker

THE STUDENT ESTABLISHED & OPERATED NEWSPAPER OF MCPHERSON COLLEGE



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Big City Tragedy Strikes Small Town Nearby

BY MIRANDA CLARK ULRICH
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A recent tragedy hit close to home on Feb. 25. Three people were shot and killed during a shooting at Excel Industries Incorporated, a lawn care equipment manufacturer, in Hesston, Kan., as well as injuring 14 others.

The gunman, Cedric Ford, was also killed by a police officer during the incident, which brings the total fatality number to four.

The shootings began in Newton, Kan. at about 5 p.m. that day. Shortly after, Ford had moved locations and began the shootings in the parking lot of Excel Industries Incorporated. He moved inside the building and began shooting at random.

After further investigation, officials learned that Ford was not a legal gun owner at the time of the shooting and that a woman had supplied him with the weapons. She has been arrested.

"Many students attend

McPherson College because it is a safe place," Michael Schneider, McPherson College president, said.

"I have a lot of confidence in our campus safety and local law enforcement. However, the events in Hesston make it clear we are not immune to violence in our small Kansas communities."

Hesston is a town of 3,700 people and is located off of I-35 about 26 miles South of McPherson, Kan. Separate funeral arrangements are being made for the victims.

"Families trust us with their children. All of us have an expectation that we can be a part of an education process in a safe place," Schneider said.

"I take this expectation seriously. We prepare for campus crisis situations, including active shooters. My thoughts and prayers are with our neighbors in Hesston."

Having a safety plan and reviewing it regularly is a good precautionary step for emergency situations.



Excel shut down operations during investigation.

CONTRIBUTED FROM HUTCHNEWS.COM

Talented Professors Represent College

BY RYAN KRESKY
COPY EDITOR

Two professors from McPherson College's Art Department have won awards for their artwork recently.

Wayne Conyers, professor of art, and Michaela Groeblacher, assistant professor of art, entered their artwork in two separate art shows.

Groeblacher entered three separate works into the annual Kansas 32 National Competition, which is an all-media show, and won first place for her work overall.

The names of the pieces entered were "Helen," "Hardy, Marty" and "Lola, Dancing with Arnie."

Her work can now be seen at the Sabatini Gallery in Topeka, Kan.

"I have gotten into this show several times," Groeblacher said.

"And when you enter the show, you can only enter in like three pieces."

Usually only one artwork per artist is selected, but when Groeblacher entered hers in, all three of her works were selected to be in the show.

Groeblacher had also stated that this was not her first time winning an award but she was excited when she received the award.

"It's like a little reinforcement," she said.

Conyers won first place at the "Crazy 8's" annual art

exhibition at Gallery XII in Wichita, Kan.

The exhibition had only one rule for all of the artwork: it had to be eight-by-eight inches.

The artwork Conyers entered and won the award for is a watercolor piece called "Unwillingly Exposed."

Originally, the piece he entered into the show was actually a part of a larger piece of his work.

"It's a fun little show," Conyers said.

"All of the images have to be eight inches by eight inches. If they're nine by nine then no, they won't take them. If they're seven-and-a-half by seven-and-a-half, no they won't take it."

Everybody who had entered the exhibition had to work with the limited format.

The art show also works on a "first come, first serve" basis as multiple people have entered the exhibit.

"It's more of an invitational show," he said, "rather than a competitive show"

However, they do have awards that they bring in a juror for."

It was the juror who not only selected Conyers' artwork but had also bought it for himself.

Four students went along and entered their own artwork into the show.

Their names are: Chloe Cloud, freshman; Danni Jacks, senior; Lisa Koehn,



senior; and Ian Rhoten, freshman. "We thought it was like to have a little contingency for McPherson College at the art show," Conyers said.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS
"Lola, Dancing with Arnie" and "Hardy, Marty" submitted by Michaela Groeblacher.

Mutual Kumquat Spreads Good Vibes on Campus



Mutual Kumquat has been together for 16 years and have released 6 self-produced albums. The performance in Mingenback was free and open to the public.

PHOTOS BY ADRIAN CARSON

BY RYAN KRESKY
COPY EDITOR

On Saturday, Feb. 27, McPherson College students and community members had the opportunity to watch a free concert on campus.

The event was hosted by the music group "Mutual Kumquat," who performed their set in Mingenback Theatre at 8 p.m.

The event was also open for the public to come and watch.

Based off of information from their website, "Mutual Kumquat" has Church of the Brethren roots and is a

"soul-folk-pop band" that travels to different colleges, festivals, clubs and churches ever since they first performed in 2000.

Much of their music consists of lyrics and pop melodies inspired by soul, funk, jazz, bluegrass, reggae and afrobeat.

"I know the band pretty well because they are a Church of the Brethren band and we have seen them in concert before," Johanna Hoffman, junior, said.

"I really like their positive nature and the way that they portray themselves as casual and personable."

If students are interested in learning more about the group, then they can go to their website at www.mutualkumquat.com where they have touring information and an online store.

Some of the albums available include, "Mutual Kumquat," "Let's Get Fruity," "For the Beauty of the Earth" and their newest album "Let it be Revealed."

The audience included a wide range of ages and it provided a family atmosphere everyone could enjoy.

"There were community members invited to the concert as well, so it was a really good mix of high school students, college students, and families that attended," Hoffman said.

The music inspired some members of the audience to dance.

"There were lots of little kids dancing as well as the high school and college students. It was a really fun time."

The concert provided an opportunity for friends and family to enjoy music that inspires through the lyrics.



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WONDERS OF CAMPUS

BY CHANNING WALL
NEWS EDITOR

Reviewing for a Safe Campus

Taking time to grieve the loss of loved ones and friends is important, while we remember those lost we also want to refresh on good action steps to take in the case of emergency.



ALERT! Notify authorities of danger. Take warnings seriously and notify others if possible.



LOCKDOWN. Evacuate or barricade. Think strategy. Be ready to counter and adapt as the situation changes.



INFORM. Provide as much as possible. Don't use codes, just talk normally and provide as much information as seems safe to do so.



COUNTER. Use as last resort. Don't fight shooter directly, use distractions to reduce shooter's activity or accuracy.



EVACUATE. Get to safety. Get as physically far away as possible from the area of the shooting but continue alerting others and checking in with authorities if possible.

These steps should be taken in whatever order makes most logical sense for the particular situation.

Smokin' Hot Campus

BY MARISSA PATTON
SPECTATOR STAFF

Smoking is a way for many to destress, but for some, second-hand smoke can cause them to go into an asthma attack or possibly feel wheezy.

Tessa Szambecki, junior, found out that she had allergic reactions to smoke during her freshman year at McPherson College.

"Someone was smoking in the dorms," Szambecki said. "I thought they just came in, but they were smoking in the room across the hall."

The smoke was strong enough to trigger Szambecki's allergies. "I couldn't breathe," she said. "We had put towels outside the room to keep the smoke out, but I had already inhaled enough to cause me to go to the emergency room."

Szambecki now has an inhaler to help her with troubled breathing around second-hand smoke, but she believes that the college

should enforce the state law along with the college's policy.

The policy, which is in the student handbook, states that smoking and the use of smokeless tobacco are both not permitted in campus buildings or at outdoor athletic facilities, and that is the extent of the policy.

Nothing is stated about the new trend of electronic cigarettes, which contains no tobacco, but still emits a vapor that also troubles Szambecki's breathing.

"The state law says that people should be smoking ten feet away from any door," Szambecki said.

"But that's not followed through on campus." ShaRhonda Maclin said that keeping the policy can be challenging.

"Monitoring is quite difficult because we don't have a formal campus security," Maclin said.

"There has to be an understanding by all

members of the campus community to become tobacco-free."

Szambecki said that making the campus become tobacco-free is something that she would like to see happen, but she understands that it is not reasonable.

"I don't want to take away anyone's rights," Szambecki said.

"Smokers have every right to smoke, but my right to breathe is important too."

Bans on smoking are becoming more common due to the health effects of second hand smoke.



PHOTO BY
AUSTIN SCHAD

Outdoor space for smoking is provided for students outside Metzler Hall.

Sister School Support

BY JORDYN LIPE
SPECTATOR STAFF

McPherson College has been associated with the Church of the Brethren since its founding in 1887.

There are five sister colleges to McPherson College, all of which are affiliated with the Church of the Brethren.

These colleges are: The University of La Verne in La Verne, Calif., Manchester University in North Manchester, Ind., Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, Va., Juniata College in Huntingdon, Penn. and Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, Penn.

The University of La Verne was originally chartered in 1891 under the name of Lordsburg College, though it was changed to the current title in 1917. Manchester University, originally known as Roanoke Classical Seminary, was chartered in 1860 before it moved to North Manchester, Ind., and renamed Manchester College.

The title of the establishment changed once more in August 2012 to Manchester University.

Bridgewater College was chartered in 1880 as Spring Creek Normal School and Collegiate Institute before being changed to the present title in 1882. Juniata College was chartered in 1876, while Elizabethtown College was the last sister to be chartered in 1899.

"An education at a Brethren college or university encourages free inquiry, intellectual curiosity, academic achievement, and offers programs that foster maturity, leadership, and service," as stated on the Church of the Brethren website.

"Brethren institutions of higher education focus on the whole person and the worth of an individual. Ultimately, a Brethren education joins the world of work with the world of the spirit. Cornerstones of a Brethren education include values of peace, justice, and human dignity.

Upon this foundation, students develop the qualities essential for intellectual growth, personal integrity, and service to their community.

A Brethren education gives students a system of

values which they will carry throughout their lives."

Early morning on Sunday, Feb. 21, tragedy struck as four Manchester University students were hit by an intoxicated driver in Grant County, Ind.

Two of the students, Brook M. Dagnew and Kirubel Alemayehu Hailu, who were from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, were determined dead at the scene, along with student Nerad Grace Mangai from Jos, Nigeria.

One student, Israel Solomon Tamire, also from Addis Ababa, was critically injured from the accident. The Manchester University community as well as the Church of the Brethren and sister schools were affected by this event.

"We can't begin to understand the tragic loss of Nerad, Brook, and Kirubel, young lives so full of promise.

The MU community grieves their passing and will miss them deeply," Dave McFadden, President of Manchester University, posted in a statement on Facebook on Feb. 24.

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BRIDGEWATER COLLEGE

Elizabethtown College

Manchester University

Juniata College

UNIVERSITY OF LAVERNE

College Offers Alternate Spring Break Trip



BY JORDYN LIPE
SPECTATOR STAFF

McPherson College has offered alternate trips during spring break for the past several years to any students looking for a low-cost getaway. This coming

spring break from March 21-25, 15 students and two drivers have signed up for this year's alternate trip, taking them to Loveland, Colo. They will be working alongside Mennonite Disaster Relief Service

to rebuild homes for the thousands of residents in the area who were affected by flooding in September 2013.

The Big Thompson River flooded its narrow canyon on Sept. 12, bringing destruction to the

communities surrounding it. Prior to 2013, the largest flooding of the Big Thompson occurred in 1976, which claimed 144 lives according to The Denver Post. At least eight lives were taken along with houses, buildings, roads and vehicles by the river in 2013 and many residents were unaccounted for during the days to follow. Almost 200 miles and 17 counties were affected by the floodwaters with almost 19,000 homes damaged and 1,500 homes destroyed.

Although it has been over two and a half years since, the state of Colorado was recently denied their application for additional funds in flooding disaster relief. The funds were proposed to rebuild bridges,

roads and buildings affected by the floods. Mennonite Disaster Relief Service has been working in the area to help rebuild homes and provide for those who lost everything in the flooding.

McPherson College has worked with the Mennonite Disaster Relief Service in prior years, most recently during spring break of 2014. Students were able to take an alternate trip to Duluth, Minn., to help build homes for those affected by the flooding there in June 2012. As for Loveland, there were 7,000 homes affected by the flooding and there are several specific sites, which the group will work at.

"I like being able to connect McPherson College students with the Brethren roots," Jen Jensen, director

of spiritual life, said. "The trip will be shortened so that the students will be able to be back on campus for the Easter weekend. Hiking and exploring the area are also on the list of activities to do while near the Rocky Mountains for the group."

As of plans for next year, Jensen is working on a trip to a campsite in West Virginia in the Appalachian Mountains. Building homes and working in schools would be the main focus of the trip for spring break 2017.

PHOTO BY
JORDYN LIPE

Students take a break from working in a home at Duluth, Minn. The trip took place over spring break 2015.

Campus Renovations

BY MIRANDA CLARK
ULRICH
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The year of 2016 is bringing various improvements to campus; \$8 million worth to be exact.

Plans are in store that will help with both energy efficiency and security. These plans will have long-term effects and will save roughly \$90,000 each year in utility costs.

The first project entails replacing the current heating system on campus from steam heat boilers to hot water boilers. The hot water boilers are more energy efficient, safer and easier to control. A huge benefit that will directly affect the campus is that switching between air conditioning and heat will only take a matter of hours instead of days, which is what the current system takes. The changes are expected to be completed within the next 18 months.

This project is expected to cost \$7.4 million and will be completed by Schneider Electric.

The second project is to install 102 keyless entry keypad units across campus. New lighting and video cameras will also be installed. Implementation is set to start in spring of 2017. Initially, the keypads will only be installed on the exterior doors, but will possibly expand to interior doors in the future.

"We are fortunate to be able to invest in long-term energy savings," Michael Schneider, McPherson College president, according to a news release from McPherson College. "Thanks to our investor and the city of McPherson that is issuing the bonds, we are able to finance these important upgrades."

The bonds were issued in February after clearing a city public hearing on Monday, Feb. 15.

"The Movement"

BY MIRANDA CLARK
ULRICH
EDITOR IN CHIEF

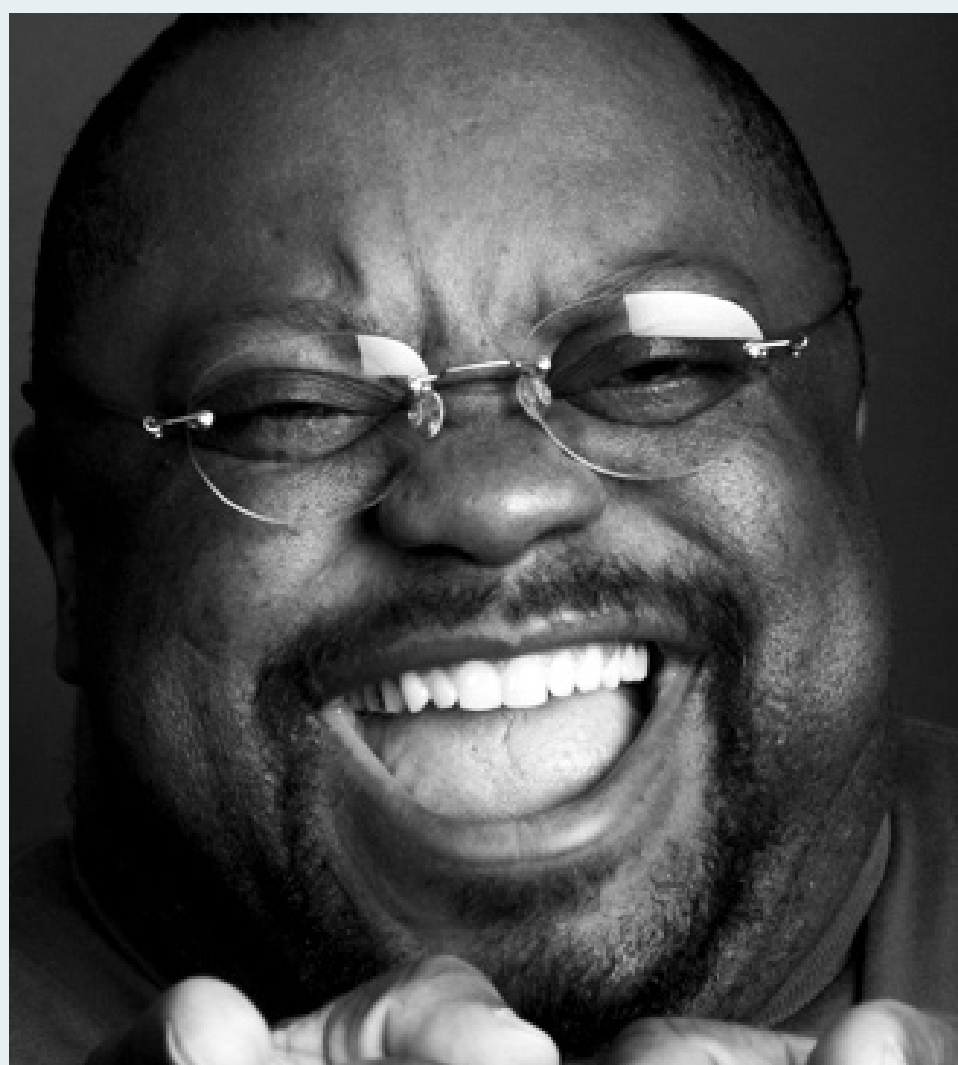
A non-traditional event on campus packed Mingenback Theatre last Wednesday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. "The Movement" is a one-man show performed by Ron Jones, who is an actor, director and trainer and has years of experience.

"I'm pretty neutral about the whole thing," Rissa McNichols, senior, said. "I liked the message more than the performance."

"The Movement" focused around the Civil Rights movement and the changes of the last 50 years regarding civil rights. The production goes through a timeline, highlighting important characters and events throughout the history of the movement. Jones portrayed 10 total characters.

Not only is there acting throughout "The Movement," but also incorporates historical footage and hit music from the past 50 years.

SUBMITTED
PHOTO



THE CAMPUS CALENDAR

MARCH

		1	2	3	"MOUSETRAP" @ 7:30 P.M. IN BROWN	"MOUSETRAP" @ 7:30 P.M. IN BROWN
6	7 BAND CONCERT @ 7:30 IN BROWN	SOFTBALL VS. CENTRAL CHRISTIAN @ 5 P.M. @ GRANT COMPLEX	8 WOMEN'S TENNIS VS. FORT HAYS @ 2 P.M.	9 FLORY LECTURE @ 7 P.M. @ CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN	10 SPRING MIDTERM	12 SOFTBALL VS. BENEDICTINE @ 6 P.M. @ GRANT COMPLEX
13	14 SOFTBALL VS. BARTON @ 5 P.M. @ GRANT COMPLEX	15 BASEBALL VS. CENTRAL CHRISTIAN @ 7 P.M. @ GRANT COMPLEX	16 SAB TALENT SHOW @ 7 P.M.	17 SAB EASTER EGG HUNT @ 7 P.M.	18	19
20 BASEBALL VS. ST. MARY'S @ 1 P.M. @ GRANT COMPLEX	21 SPRING BREAK	22 SPRING BREAK	23 SPRING BREAK	24 SPRING BREAK	25 SPRING BREAK	26
27 EASTER	28	29	30 ENROLLMENT FOR JUNIORS & SENIORS	31 ENROLLMENT FOR JUNIORS & SENIORS		

Jump Start Kansas Gives Opportunities to Students

BY JORDYN LIPE
SPECTATOR STAFF

High school students from across the state joined together on campus on Tuesday, March 1, to compete in the fifth annual Jump Start Kansas competition. Twenty students presented their venture ideas to the Horizon Fund committee for a micro-grant of anywhere from \$50-500. This provided the students with an opportunity to express their ideas and the chance for funds to help make their dreams become reality.

Since its beginning, Jump Start Kansas has changed and been modeled after the Horizon Fund Grant, which is an opportunity for students at McPherson College to promote ideas and ventures. The Horizon Fund Grant is a micro-grant of \$50-500 for any idea presented by students to promote creativity and innovation on campus.

Prior to the past two years, the competition was held with generally one winner in mind, though all ideas presented were innovative and creative. Giving every student and idea a chance to win and push them to be successful became more of a focus for the competition.

"This year, as well as last year, we took the success from students on campus and the Horizon Fund and used that model to apply to high school students," Abbey Archer-Rieron, chief of staff, said. We wanted all students to feel like we believe in their idea and we wanted to give every idea a

chance."

This particular event also offered an opportunity to show students with ideas and entrepreneurial mindsets that there are colleges like McPherson College that have a distinct focus on creativity and innovation. The students who attend the event are given a chance to experience McPherson College through a campus tour, creativity class and lunch with various students, faculty and staff members who are involved across campus.

Some of the ideas brought to the competition included a boxing gym, food truck, hand-made jewelry, yoga studio and videography. Presenters came from across the state with some travelling from as far as Independence, Miss. The 20 finalists who attended were selected from the 58 applications that were submitted. Several students from McPherson College were able to help out and talk with the presenters.

"This was an amazing group of entrepreneurial minds," Michael Schneider, president of McPherson College, said. "They represented their high schools across the state well. McPherson College is fortunate to connect with them as they pursue their ventures and move into college."

PHOTO BY
JORDYN LIPE

President of McPherson College, Michael Schneider, and the high school students who competed in Jump Start Kansas.



McPherson College Bands Present Concert



BY AYSIA PRYOR
CAMPUS EDITOR

On Monday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m., the McPherson College Jazz and Concert Bands will be performing in Brown Auditorium.

The concert will be joint with the Hillsboro High School Band and will feature legendary trombonist Dr. Irvin Wagner. Dr. Wagner is known worldwide for his playing skills as well as his conducting skills. He graduated from McPherson College in 1959 and directed the bands in the early 1960's.

"I'm looking forward to playing with the whole band and Irvin Wagner in front of an audience to show McPherson has an awesome band," Terra Tanuis, freshman, said.

"I'm excited to meet Irvin Wagner," Shelby Augustine, junior, said. "I really like the piece

'Reflective Mood', it shows a lot of our tone and musicality

"The excitement across people's faces after they hear the wonderful music we play is my favorite thing," Tanuis said.

"I'm really looking forward to being able to play with the Hillsboro High School and our guest soloist Irvin Wagner," Susan Forgie, freshman, said.

The finale of the concert will feature an all-combined band and a trombone ensemble of area trombonists, alumni and trombonists from Colorado, directed by Dr. Larry Kitzel.

PHOTOS BY
MARISSA PATTON

Band students practice in Hess Fine Arts Center in preparation for their concert March 7th at 7:30 p.m. in Brown Auditorium.

Students Travel To Various Locations During Interterm



BY LAYNE HIGGINS
SPECTATOR STAFF

Ethiopia is a country with beautiful landscapes and a whole new culture to explore. This January Herb Smith, professor of philosophy and religion, and his wife Jeanne, a former McPherson College professor, took a class to Ethiopia. They took a Chinese scholar from Beijing and an African Studies scholar from Pennsylvania with them on the trip.

Herb and his wife had been to Ethiopia eight times and he said this trip was equally as joyful as any other trip they have taken there. They have had a huge impact on the country itself by starting

libraries for children and by attending a Harvard University conference.

Next January Herb will be taking a class to Indonesia. Indonesia will include an Islamic and Christian dialog. The class will visit Borobudur, the largest Buddhist complex in the world.

There will also be a visit to the island of Bali, which is considered the land of paradise. There is a possibility that the trip will be hosted by the prime minister at his palace.

Jonathan Frye, professor of natural science, and Sheron Lawson, assistant professor of business, also took trips this January to Puerto Rico and Costa Rica. Both trips were nine nights in length.

These trips often allow more than just students. Lane Allison, a 2012 McPherson College graduate was able to travel with Lawson on the trip to Costa Rica. Allison has traveled with the college multiple times since his graduation.

"It was a great cultural experience and we learned hands-on values about their work," Allison said. "We got to experience new landscapes, with both rainforests and beaches. I learned more about the international business side of Costa Rica and their exports of fruits, flowers and coffee."

PHOTOS BY
JORDYN LIPE

Students during the interterm trip to Puerto Rico work on a pineapple farm.

MISSION FEATURE

SCHOLARSHIP • PARTICIPATION • SERVICE



BY TERRANCE GRANT
SPECTATOR STAFF

What is music? Well by definition music is vocal or instrumental sounds combined in such a way as to produce beauty of form. To Vincent Watts, freshman, but to friends known as V-Woo, music is his safe zone, his passion and his escape from the world. Ever since he was little he knew that music is something he wanted to do. The type of music that he does is hip hop/rap, but sings at times as well. A lot of the people at McPherson College are taking notice to some of the music that he has made. One song in particular titled "Curry" was recently released and has caught the attention of many on campus.

"Curry, which is Stephen Curry who plays in the NBA, is my inspiration to this song because he is a guy that is humble but confident," Watts said. Watts is currently producing music from his dorm, but it could soon turn into much more. While becoming a known artist around campus, perhaps someday this artist on the rise could produce his breakout track, making him more than the buzz around McPherson's corridors.

Not only is Watts a talented musician, but he also is a guard on the men's basketball team. Watts was recruited from his hometown of Tulsa, Okla. by the men's basketball coaches and became a Bulldog last fall.

"I loved my first season at McPherson," Watts said. "Just getting to be with my teammates was one of the best parts of it and it was a good experience. I feel like I got a lot better also."

Watts is a communication major and is interested in working the journalism field after graduation. He also has a passion for fashion and clothing.

"I might like to work in the radio industry someday, but I am not entirely sure," Watts said.

Watts plans to remain at McPherson College until graduation and continue his basketball career.

"I like the family feel at McPherson College. Being close to teachers is good for my education," Watts said.

Vincent
Watts

PHOTO BY
ALAINA JOHNSON

WORD AROUND MAC : What Do You Think About On Campus Smoking?



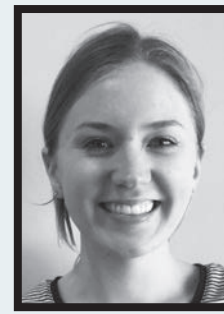
"It would be nicer to have a designated spot that was sheltered away from the entrances."

-Shelby Augustine
junior



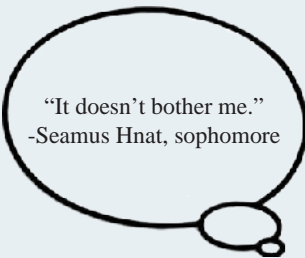
"Smoking is a social activity for most people, so I think it's fine it's allowed on campus."

-Terrance Ghigo,
freshmen



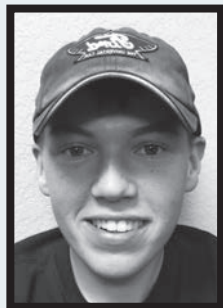
"I'm ok with it, as long as it's not affecting anyone else."

-Elizabeth Lindsey,
senior



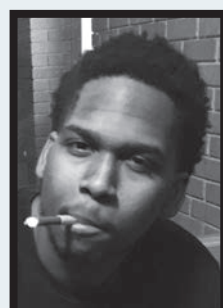
"It doesn't bother me."

-Seamus Hnat, sophomore



"I'm glad I can smoke on campus. It would suck if I had to walk off campus."

-Calon Bibbs, junior



"As a smoker, I hate smoking around a bunch of people walking in and out of buildings, but most of the smoke bins are right outside the entrances."

-Allie Hicks, junior



The Academy Has Done It Again

BY AUSTIN ATKINS
SPECTATOR STAFF

The Oscars as we know them today inhabit the very essence of hollow thought, high fashion and economical substandard humor.

In their most recent iteration, The Academy did not disappoint.

The nominees listed earlier this year embodied the ethnic diversity of

an artisan coffee shop in Minnesota, causing many individuals to be left wondering how Chris Rock, comedian and host, would address this issue.

As a fan, I am aware of Rock's ability to write and perform, but despite my confidence in him I was still apprehensive about his role as host.

My fear was that the people running the charade

would try and contain him, ultimately clouding his comedic mastery on stage.

However, with the help of fellow New York-based comedian Louis C.K., Rock did an adequate job differing the audiences' attention from the notably unfunny attempts at humor read from the soul-sucking teleprompter by inept actors and actresses.

In a way these celebrities

are America's version of royalty.

The average person is aware that people involved in mainstream acting reside in a financial realm that we know exists but can never understand.

Besides their physicality, they practice an ability we all innately have but never think of as useful.

As a reward we shower these luminaries with

attention and watch them react as our infatuation with them either expands or diminishes with each phrase they utter.

For as long as artists have existed, they have been pursued by those who choose to examine them.

At this moment that privilege has been expanded across the globe following a night that gives credence to the people who occupy the

personality of others.

The Oscars have historically been an institution that gives recognition to the best in the business.

But for everyone else it's a way to prove to your friends that their taste in movies is somehow inferior to yours, if only because someone opened an envelope and handed your favorite actor or actress a golden statue.

The Fight For Rights Isn't Over Yet "The Movement" Challenges

BY ALAINA JOHNSON
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

I had the opportunity to go watch "The Movement: 50 Years of Love and Struggle," last Wednesday, Feb. 24.

Ron Jones played 10 different characters depicting the different changes over the past 50 years regarding civil rights.

I believe Ron Jones did an excellent job capturing the past 50 years; he touched on controversial topics and left

me wondering about their presence yet today.

One of the points that really stuck with me was, "When you use your power to stand with the powerless, that's when you start to change the world."

It all got me thinking. Here we are in 2016, and after all the turmoil in the past, people are still struggling with inequality.

Why is that? Why and how do we continue to let society tell us who we are or

should be, instead of taking a stand and making our own voice heard?

Sure, we've made strides over the past 100 years and credit is definitely due, but there is still work to be done.

Why should I, or anyone for that matter, let someone else define who I am?

I believe we spend too much time focused on each other's differences rather than our common goal, happiness.

Our well-being shouldn't

depend on how others see us.

Why should it make a difference what color someone's skin or hair is? Why does it matter if someone has different religious views than you? What about sexuality? Is it really that big of a deal who someone else is in love with and chooses to spend their life with?

We all just want to be happy. If we could simply stop judging people and

telling others how to live their life, more groups would learn to coexist.

We are all human. Let's start there. In order to use your power to help the powerless we need to set aside all our differences.

If we want to see change let's focus on a common goal.

What baffles me the most is that people have become comfortable being voiceless and standing off to the side, while there are still people

out there fighting for their rights.

If we were truly free then everyone would be sharing the same rights, instead of only having equality for some.

I'm not saying that we would all live in perfect harmony, but it is 2016 everyone.

Let's not let all the work of activists before us go to waste.

Society Creates Differences Between Men and Women Student View On Feminism

BY CAITLYN BLAGRAVE
SPORTS EDITOR

Women and men are both told incredibly detrimental statements to their well-being on a daily basis.

Women are told from a young age that they need to act and dress a certain way, which limits allowing them to be individuals.

Men are told the same things, but for men and women these statements have different meanings. Men are often expected to be masculine, and women

are expected to be gentle, kind and matronly.

Often, the idea is that if women don't comply to the social norms set for them then it is their fault if anything bad happens to them. These unfortunate events can range from verbal harassment on the street to physical assault. These are issues that women have to deal with every day of their lives.

This is detrimental because women are taught that men are unaccountable for any unfortunate events.

For example, if a woman is dressed in a way that some might consider provocative, then it is her fault that someone assaults her because she was "asking for it."

Whereas, for most men, they can walk around dressed however they please and don't have to worry about repercussions that may come from their clothing choices. On the contrary, there are often less clothing choices provided for men.

Men are often told "boys don't cry" and to "man up."

They are often raised to suppress their emotions and if they show any emotions they're told that it's weak.

To most men, the worst insult you can make towards them has to do with anything questioning his masculinity.

This is stemmed from being taught that men can't or shouldn't show their feelings. If they show any emotions they're told to "man up".

Men are taught that they shouldn't talk about their feelings and if they do, their masculinity is put into

question.

Feminism is defined as the political, social and economic equality of the sexes, yet we continue to raise men and women differently.

We continue to teach men and women different life views and life skills and then both are criticized if they don't understand something the other has been taught from the time they could walk.

Boys do this, girls can't do that, boys don't cry, girls wear dresses.

From birth, boys and girls are taught to be a certain way and if they deviate from that they're told what they are doing is wrong. This is part of why we need feminism today.

All of these detrimental statements lead to internalized misogyny which can hurt men and women further in their lives.

Feminism isn't going to eliminate every issue that men and women deal with, but it is a solid starting point.

the Spectator STAFF

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Letters may be edited for grammar, spelling, content or length. The Spectator staff reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter.

All letters should have a point that is constructive or contributes to the enhancement of the McPherson College community; The Spectator will not print libelous material.

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Baseball Finds Their Rhythm As a Team

Bulldogs Defeat Nebraska Wesleyan University

BY TYLER BAILEY
SPECTATOR STAFF

The Bulldog baseball team blazed through their non-conference schedule. Their season is off to a good start, as they hold an 8-6 record going into the final series before they play their formidable KCAC schedule.

Two consecutive winning weekends have allowed the Bulldogs to tie their win amount from last year in only their third week of play. The Bulldogs look to make

the post-season leading with a strong start from the pitching staff and an aggressive batting order.

Last week during a weekend trip to Oklahoma City, the Bulldogs swept Hastings College. A hard fought game against the fifth highest ranked team in the nation, Oklahoma City University, ended in a tough loss for the Bulldogs. The game was tied 2-2 through six innings, but the Stars' bats exploded, causing the

game to end in an 11-2 defeat.

"We're off to a great start and the team is really coming together," Corey Taylor, senior pitcher, said. "We have some young guys that have stepped up and played big roles in our early success. Coach Martinez has brought a very positive vibe to the team, which helps the team play as one instead of worrying about individual stats. I feel confident in us continuing this success with

conference play starting next weekend."

A battle at Light Capital Diamond was fought last Tuesday between the McPherson Bulldogs and their rivals, the Central Christian College Tigers. Joseph Streck, senior, logged the win as the offense erupted behind him.

The Bulldogs quickly struck, scoring 10 runs in the first three innings. The Tigers could not keep up with the fast-paced scoring

that McPherson was doing. The Bulldogs won the game with a final score of 11-2.

Nebraska Wesleyan University (NWU) traveled to McPherson on Feb. 27 and 28, to take on the Bulldogs in a three-game series. Saturday saw 65 combined runs between the two teams. The Bulldogs took the first game 19-17, while NWU swiped the second game with a score of 16-13.

Sunday saw a more

typical game, but with an exciting finish. A back and forth contest was played, which resulted in a tie game after nine innings. Blake Ware, junior outfielder, threw a scoreless tenth inning and the Bulldogs helped him get the victory in the bottom of the tenth when Trenton Smith, freshman infielder, singled and then stole two bases to get within 90 feet of home plate. Reily Martin, sophomore outfielder, then ended the game on an infield hit that won the game for the Bulldogs in walk-off fashion.

"Our hitting and pitching is coming together this year and have gotten some good quality wins because of it," Martin said. "We've got a good group of guys that can make this season special for us. With our series against York coming up this weekend, we want to start conference off strong."

"I would say our team chemistry is at an all time high; we have come together as a group and you can see that by the way we play," Evan Willow, sophomore catcher, said. "We have already surpassed our wins from last year and a big contribution to that is how we rely on each other to win games; we play as a whole. All in all it's been an exciting start to the season and I'm looking forward to starting conference this weekend."

The Bulldogs start conference play against York College at home on March 5 at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

SUBMITTED
PHOTO

Dylan Kalva, junior utility player, hits the ball for the Bulldogs against cross-town rivals the Central Christian College Tigers of Feb. 23. The Bulldogs defeated the Tigers 11-2.



Softball Drops Both to Baker

Lady Bulldogs Play Well But Search For a Win

BY CAITLYN BLAGRAVE
SPORTS EDITOR

Right out of the gate, the Bulldogs could not hold on against Baker. In the first game Baker was able to jump ahead 4-0 in the first inning.

"We lost a couple of close games to Hesston the other night, but we hit the ball well and did what we could," Whitney Miller, senior first baseman and outfielder, said. "Take out the first inning in both of those games and the score board would've been much different."

The Bulldogs were able to up their game in the following two innings, allowing just one hit in the two innings combined. Unfortunately for the Bulldogs, the Wildcats were able to score a pair of runs in both the fourth and fifth innings, which forced the run-rule ending the game 8-0.

"We got off to a rocky start but we battled back and played hard till the end," Miller said. "Against Baker

we simply did not hit the first game and that's what killed us."

The Bulldogs had a hard time finding the bases through the game. Juniors Kaitlyn Holmes, catcher, and Shelby Maycumber, second baseman and outfielder, were the only two Bulldogs to find the bases through the first game.

In the second game, the Bulldogs were able to jump ahead in the top of the first inning, putting them up 1-0 against the Wildcats. The Wildcats were able to pick up two runs in the bottom of the first causing the Bulldogs to drop their lead.

The next two innings were scoreless, keeping the Wildcats up against the Bulldogs 2-1. At the top of the fourth inning the Bulldogs were able to tie the score 2-2. In the fifth inning the Bulldogs were able to find the lead again after scoring a pair of runs, putting them up 4-2 to the Wildcats.

"We came out ready to play the second game and

stayed on top until baker had a few clutch hits to finish the game," Miller said. "I think we really have some talent this year and can compete with any team we play. We just have to make a few adjustments and come out ready to play from the start of each game and push till the end."

At the bottom of the sixth, the Wildcats were able to bring two runners home, once again equalizing the score. In the seventh and final inning, the Wildcats were able to find one more runner and brought her home effectively ending the game with a final score of 5-4.

"We need to take it one pitch at a time and one day at a time. Softball is a game of failure and it's really important to be selfless and not selfish in any situation. The two games against Baker" Alex Yeoman, junior third baseman, said, "even if it is a double header or a tournament. The two games against Baker made us realize we need to show

up to every game ready to play."

The Bulldogs will find themselves in Wichita, Kan., for their next set of games as they compete in the Friends University Tournament. They face off against Baker University on Friday, March 4, at 10 a.m., and then Langston University at 12 p.m. On Saturday they face Midland University at 10 a.m., Graceland University at 12 p.m., and Southwestern Christian University at 6 p.m.

SUBMITTED
PHOTO

Alex Yeoman, junior third baseman, throws the ball for the Bulldogs on Feb. 20 against Northwestern College. The Bulldogs lost the first game against the Northwestern College Red Raiders 1-6 and won the second game 8-2.



Tennis Starts Season Strong

BY RYAN KRESKY
COPY EDITOR

On Sunday, Feb. 21, the McPherson College men's and women's tennis has seen both a win and a loss against Newman University. The men's tennis team won with a score of 5-4 while women's tennis lost with Newman University's Jets winning 9-0.

"Since we won the conference last year, everyone wants to beat us, and this is exciting," Hector Carrillo Perales, sophomore, said.

For men's doubles, Joan-

Marc Fajula Rodriguez, junior, and Carrillo won No. 1 position with a score of 9-7, but then lost No. 2 doubles. Kurt Burton, freshman, and Ahmed Lahlou, sophomore, also won the No. 3 doubles match with a score of 8-5.

The men's tennis team only needed one more point with a score of 4-1, after Leandro Neix, freshman, and Lahlou took down their opponents during singles. Newman did come back by taking No. 1 and No. 4, bringing the score to 4-3. The Bulldogs came back

with the winning score of 5-4 with Hugo Ball-Greene, sophomore, bringing the match home with his 6-7, 6-1, 6-1 score, taking the No. 4 position.

"The season pretty much just started good. We moved up six positions on the national ranking," Neix said. "We had only one match against Newman and we beat them and we have our second match on Friday against the 17th in the nation, Cardinal Stritch University."

"From what I saw so far we can be a top 10

team consistently during the whole season," Fajula Rodriguez said. "This year the goal is not only win the conference, but also get to the quarterfinals or semifinals of nationals. We have a young team with a lot of potential."

The Lady Bulldogs lost to Newman University, starting with the team being down 3-0 after doubles. The closest the Lady Bulldogs had of winning doubles came from duo Lea Striegel, freshman, and Deiah Curtis, sophomore, with their score of 8-6.

During the singles matches, Nadine Baguiran, senior; Nikki Thornburg, senior; and Striegel each won four points during their matches. This was not enough, as Madison Hoffman, freshman, lost her match with 6-3, 6-2.

"Our first meet against Newman University was closer than it looked like. We also tried new tactics in doubles, which worked very well," Striegel said. "Even though we lost very high, we see it as a process of improving before our conference starts. In the time

before conference, we have very difficult opponents. However, this is going to give us an advantage for the KCAC. We are looking forward to the next matches."

The men's tennis team will go on to Kansas City, Miss., to play against Cardinal Stritch University on March 4. The women's tennis team will go onto their next competition on March 9 as McPherson College will host Fort Hays State University at the Doris Coppock Tennis Courts.

Men's Basketball Finishes Season

Basketball Has High Hopes for 2016-2017 Season

BY DESIRE
AKINGENEYE
SPECTATOR STAFF

Last season the Bulldog men's basketball team was unlucky. The men's team had many new players and had problems on the defensive side.

"We had new players this year so we just needed to get used to playing with each other and next year we should be solid as a unit having a year of playing with each other under our belt," Louis Parker III, sophomore forward, said.

According to the statistics, the Bulldogs five victories on the road and eight total, making three of them at home. The team has only one senior and many new players on the court.

"Kyle Lakin, our only senior, will be sorely

missed. Kyle was a great leader for our team and a great ambassador for McPherson College," Tim Swartzendruber, head men's basketball coach, said.

"I am proud of Chris Crook for earning All-Conference honors," Swartzendruber said. "He worked very hard in the off-season to improve. He continued to work hard throughout the season too."

"I felt like my hard work the hours I put into the gym was awarded," Crook, junior guard, said. "I couldn't have done it without my coaches and teammates. I am expecting to be the leader on the team next year and lead us to a lot more victories and hopefully a conference championship."

"Even though we didn't plan on our season to end like it did, I enjoyed every part, from the lacing up the shoes every day and putting on that bulldog uniform and going out and competing with my teammates," Lakin, guard, said.

Although the team did not have a winning season, they were competitive, as they were down by only a few points as the buzzer sounded in many of their games.

PHOTOS BY
MIRANDA CLARK
ULRICH

(Left) Grant Raleigh, freshman guard dribbles past the Kansas Wesleyan University Coyotes player on Jan. 27 at home. The Bulldogs got the win with a score of 83-66. (Right) Louis Parker III, sophomore forward, takes a shot against the Coyotes.



Track and Field Sends Four to Nationals



PHOTO BY
MIRANDA CLARK
ULRICH

Chris Linnin, freshman high jumper, jumps for McPherson at the KCAC Indoor Championships on the first day of Conference, Feb. 5.

BY CAITLYN BLAGRAVE
SPORTS EDITOR

McPherson College will be sending four players to the Indoor Track & Field National Championships this weekend in Johnson City, Tenn. Dixon Cooney, senior, Art Hop, senior, Christopher Linnin, freshman, and Rea Samuels, senior, will all be representing the Bulldogs in the National Championships.

Cooney, distance runner, is seeded 14 out of 21 runners. He will run the 1-Mile preliminary today at 1:20 p.m., and finals are set for Saturday at 12:35 p.m. Cooney's best time of the season is 4:19.03, which sets him only a few seconds off of a medal in the rankings.

Hop, pole vaulter, will look to become a two-time All-American in pole vault. He is currently sitting at fifth. Preliminaries and finals for pole vault will take

place on Saturday at 1:15 p.m. Hop's best vault of the season is 4.93 meters.

Colorado native Linnin, high jumper, will make his first appearance at Nationals. He is ranked eighth in high jump and will compete today at 2 p.m. Linnin's best jump of the season is 2.06 meters.

The only female competitor, Rea Samuels, sprinter, will be running both the 60m and 200m dash. She is seeded 20 in the 60-meter at 7.79 and 16th for the 200 meter at 25.76, which are both personal records. 60-meter preliminaries will be held today at 3:25 p.m., and 200-meter preliminaries will also be held today at 5:40 p.m.

Women's Basketball Has a Baller Season



BY DESIRE
AKINGENEYE
SPECTATOR STAFF

The 2015-2016 season was fairly good for the Bulldog women's basketball team. The first half of the season was really tough, as the team was built with numerous new players.

"It was not easy to all players to get used to the team's chemistry at once, hence the poor start as we begun the last season," Gordon Reimer, head women's basketball coach, said. "Practice makes perfect. Unlike the first half, the team marked an appreciable improvement in the second half of the season."

According to the statistics, the Bulldogs won 13 matches and lost 17 during the course of the season and the team is ranked fifth in the conference. The most astonishing is that the Bulldogs had won away games more than home games.

The team still needs enforcement in both the defensive and offensive sides as well as the physical side to boost up their

consistency in the match.

The team's journey ended after losing against the Moundbuilders of Southwestern College in the quarterfinals of the conference championship.

"We had previously beaten them twice in regular season," Bailey Brown, senior guard and

team captain, said. "It was a tough, physical game and we got in foul trouble causing our starters to sit on the bench more than usual. Southwestern started attacking and hitting shots and we just couldn't respond in the second half. We fought to the end but it just wasn't our night."

Even though the team was improving, it has six seniors who are graduating this May. The staff members should put in suitable measures to cover the gaps as the team still has many young new players.

PHOTOS BY
MIRANDA CLARK
ULRICH



(Left) Georgia Smart looks to shoot for the Bulldogs against Kansas Wesleyan on Jan. 27. The Bulldogs lost to the Coyotes 73-65. G. Smart ends the season having played 29 games averaging 17.6 minutes per game. (Right) Sunny Smart looks to dribble around a player on Jan. 27 against the Kansas Wesleyan Coyotes. S. Smart ends her season having played 30 games averaging 24.3 minutes per game.