

For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide' Educates Community on Struggles Past and Present

By Channing Wall

ressed in colors representing the rainbow, the actresses of For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide gave a voice to issues that are too often met with silence. The performance follows what life in the 70s was like for an African-American in the U.S. facing challenges such as rape, domestic violence, abortion and HIV/ AIDS. The cast was comprised of females both students and alumni. Alumni Colleen Gustafson, alumni and lady in gray, recognizes the relevancy of the play and hopes the audience did as well.

"I hope the community walked away feeling a responsibility and duty to protect and lift up the voices and experiences of the unheard or unspoken. I hope they understand that the themes and issues portrayed on the stage are still relevant and still play a significant role in many lives today," Colleen Gustafson, promotions and new media manager, said. The topics covered were

the representation of some of the most directly harmful acts but also recognizes that ignorance can lead to acts that are still oppressing but not as directly acknowledged.

"I hope that it opened a lot of people's eyes to see that racism is still happening all around us, I think this performance was needed because many people in this community don't think that racism is still happening here and often don't realize when they themselves are being racist and directing many micro-aggressions against people of color," Nora Grosbach, junior and lady in purple, said. "For example, my mother lived in Inman for a number of years while growing up; she is Colombian and has darker skin, she was often sent home from school because they said she was dirty and needed a shower."

Expanding perspective entails being able to see a situation with a different perspective, something the cast provided through the short poems that, at times, resonated very closely with their own experiences.

"I've learned that being uncomfortable is healthy, and necessary even, to grow your world view and perception," Gustafson said. "It was challenging at times for the cast to identify with and even come to terms with our own personal experiences while tackling the script. It was challenging to let ourselves tap into buried emotions and memories and allow them validation. It was challenging for the audience to hear and see the script brought to life, but without the challenge, the status quo remains, and our perceptions go unchecked." Some of the cultural differences were foreign concepts to some members of the audience.

"One thing we struggled realizing till the end was that, to many people, the way we talked was difficult for some to understand, it was like a whole new language because it is a whole culture that they have never experienced," Grosbach said.

The tone of the performance was meant to educate and bring life to a play that is as relevant today as it was when it was written over 40 years ago.

"It was extremely empowering not only to the cast but also to many women in the audience; I have heard many women comment about how empowering it was to them and how powerful and impactful the performance was in general," Grosbach said. "We talked about many heavy things that are often seen as taboo to talk about. People were stunned and uncomfortable at many points in the performance; it wasn't meant to make people feel comfortable or

be a feel good show. Rape, abuse, abortion, AIDs, PTSD are not comfortable things to talk about, but they need to be talked about."

Not only did the performance educate the audience, cast members also learned some valuable lessons through the experience.

"I learned a lot about myself during this experience," Grosbach said. "I found myself changing extremely quickly before and during the show began and it was important for me to say yes this is who I am and that's ok."

This performance provided a learning opportunity for every party involved, benefiting everyone in the end.

> Photo from Neon Hero Blog Watercolor by Marion Bolognesi

News



'For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf'



Cast from production that educated audience and community on struggles of Women that are still relevant today through storytelling poems that inter-connected for a powerful performance-Full story on front page.

Women's Rights Recognized World Wide March Raises Awareness to Variety of Relevant Issues



By Tessa Szambecki and Channing Wall

Insequences of injustice has not only begun but exploded into a worldwide reason to fight back. Marches organized across the U.S. have brought attention to the masses fed up with the current system and its treatment of issues including Women's Rights as well as Human Rights. On Jan. 21, the Women's March took place in America as well as on different continents as far as Antarctica. A campaign called "Love from Seven Continents" was started by Linda Zunas in Antarctica in order to show there is support around the globe. Several campaigns have started revolving around the issues but all call for a similar call to action: the demand for fundamental rights. With the focus on Human Rights, the events gather people of all races, genders, religions, social classes, careers and ages together. Globally, 673 marches were reported and up to

5 million people attended these marches. In the United States alone, an estimated 3.3-4.6 million people marched with 408 planned marches. In Topeka, Kan., 3,000-4,000 people marched at the capitol. Among those who marched at the capitol were Dr. Becki Bowman, associate professor of

everyone. My son and husband are feminists," said Amanda Palmer, musician quoted by NPR at Sydney protest. Across the globe countries are expressing support for solidarity and unity.

When Lucy attended the Topeka Women's March, she created four signs to

Lucy Bowman showing support for Women's Rights and Equality on Jan. 21 March in Topeka

communication, and her daughter Lucy.

Lucy was able to attend with a few close friends and said it was "really fun" to be a part of that day. With the recent administrative changes, new policies and executive orders rolling in, Bowman said she was concerned for the rights of women, LGBTQ members, re-entry of legal citizens to the U.S., and for the education system. Lucy was worried about the building of the wall and the way that President Donald J. Trump talks about women.

The issues at hand impact everyone and marchers in Sydney, Australia, focused on this message. "Women's rights are not

about women, they're about

take with her. Her favorite sign said, "There are no Grizzlies at my school." With Betsy Devos recently elected to the Secretary of Education position, Lucy felt that this sign was the most important. Her other three signs included the sayings "Choose Kind", "Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times if one only remembers to turn on the light" and "I March Like a Girl."

"It was very inspiring to see so many people come out and support a positive change and to see so many people worldwide come out with that kind of support," Bowman said.

With momentum of the campaigns continuing to build, the fight for change is far from over.

Fresh Ideas to be Revamped New Dining Director Has Plans to Bring Food Diversity

By Daniel Hartman

As 2017 began, Fresh Ideas, the company that runs the cafeteria on McPherson College's campus, was making some changes. Jaime Perez has been hired on as the new director of dining for Fresh Ideas and he is excited for this semester.

"I like it a lot," Perez said, "This is nothing new to me."

Perez was born, grew up in and graduated high school in Salina, Kan., before moving to Lincoln, Neb., and living there for 12 years. Perez moved back to Kansas about two years ago where he chose to live in Lindsborg, a short 20-minute drive from campus.

Before working for Fresh Ideas, Perez was working at Logan's Roadhouse in Salina and Maize, Kan., a national chain steak house found in cities across America as a fourth manager where he would train incoming managers and get them acclimated to the different aspects of running a restaurant since he had experience managing different parts of the restaurants.

Perez liked working for Logan's Roadhouse, but he wanted a job that would tailor to his family as he has two sons that he wanted to be able to spend more time with. Perez appreciates that Fresh Ideas has a structure to the company, but also likes that they are giving him freedom to be creative and make changes that he sees fit.

"The shapes and everything are here, I just want to sculpt it into a masterpiece, and I want them to think about us when they are gone," Perez said Perez hopes to add more diversity into meals for international students and students of other cultures, but his bigger focus is on forming bonds between the Fresh Ideas staff and the students in order to get constructive criticism and beneficial feedback on how they are doing and what they can improve on.



Jamie Perez, the new director of dining is going to focus on creating bonds with students.

Viewpoints



Light Shone on Equality Through Film Hidden Figures Movie Focuses on Historical Events at NASA

By Jaden Hilgers

heodore Melfi is relatively new to the world of film, but pulls together a star-studded cast for his most successful movie yet. Those familiar with cinema and television dramas will recognize Taraji P. Henson (Empire, Karate Kid), Octavia Spencer (The Help, Insurgent), Kevin Costner (Man of Steel) and Jim Parsons (The Big Bang Theory) in the central roles. Hidden Figures, based on the true story by Margot

Lee Shetterly, follows the lives of Katherine G. Johnson (Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe), who work as mathematicians at NASA. Amidst a space race with the Soviet Union, Katherine works under Al Harrison (Costner) on Project Mercury in an effort to get John Glenn to the moon. Her work is frequently questioned by head engineer Paul Stafford (Parsons), and she is forced to overcome stereotypes

and racial bias while working on the project. With the emergence of new technology, the need for "computers," or mathematicians, is quickly diminishing, Dorothy takes on a role as a supervisor, without the official title or the pay. She studies the programming language Fortran as a means to remain relevant and teaches it to her entire department. Mary, meanwhile, pursues her dream of becoming an engineer, and takes up her case with a local judge to

attend night classes at an all-white school to earn her degree.

Katherine, Dorothy and Mary often encounter opposition based on both race and gender, and the movie provides some unique perspectives on how difficult it was to be both African-American and female in the 1960s. Facilities at NASA are still segregated and prejudice is deeply rooted in many of its employees, even where they may not intend it. The audience is fully immersed in how ambitious and mindful the three women were. True to the movie's name, these historic individuals were central to the success of the space program's initiatives, but largely unrecognized.

The movie could hardly come at a more relevant time. In 2015, Barack Obama awarded Katherine Johnson the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Langley Research Center was designated at the Katherine G. Johnson Computational Research Facility. Additionally, John Glenn, who was portrayed as being a go-between for Katherine and his other colleagues and always openly welcoming the three mathematicians, passed away on Dec. 8, 2016.

Hidden Figures is a feelgood story with a lot of historical importance. It does an outstanding job at balancing its emphasis on the struggles and successes of its three main characters and delivers frequent laughs throughout the film.



Hidden Figures is based on a true story that focuses on the women who worked endlessly behind the scenes to make space travel possible.

Photo from 20th Century Fox

The Uncommon, Unusual and Unwanted

Campus Cars Given a Second Look with Appreciation

By Andrew Tanner

The year is 1988 and you have enough money to buy a brandnew Cadillac Brougham. But you do not. Instead, you march right down to the Chrysler dealership and buy something front-wheel drive (it was the way of the future!).

Introducing the 1988 Chrysler New Yorker, for the first time in a long time, an under appreciated luxury car of the 1980s. This particular New Yorker is owned by Brian Courtney and is likely one of the nicest specimens anybody could encounter being

put to use as a daily driver. With a mere 207,000 miles on the digital odometer, this car's transversely-mounted Mitsubishi three-liter engine still runs like it was the 1990s. Perhaps the most interesting aspect about this car is that it is extremely luxurious, unbelievably comfortable, and all the while roughly the size of a 2017 Toyota Camry—a small car for the time.

Brian's particular model is the Landau trim, which is the higher-optioned model, meaning it came equipped with a fully digital dashboard (remember, this is 1988), leather seats, premium sound by Infinity and a cute little vinyl top that covers about 1/16 of the car's roof.

If you have ever sat in an old leather armchair and thought to yourself, "I wish the seats in my car were this cushy," then the 1988 Chrysler New Yorker is the car for you. I have both owned and driven many cars, a large portion of which were relatively high-dollar and luxurious, and I can honestly say that I do not think I have ever sat in a more comfortable vehicle.

The digital dashboard includes a digital speedometer, odometer and gas gauge, as well as everything else. The Infinity stereo has a fader/balance toggle that allows you to precisely set which speakers you want making noise, and provides endless amusement if you get bored.

The final, and maybe most surprising, feature of this 1980s fallen star is the fact there are headphone jacks in the back seat, allegedly to allow rear-seat passengers to listen to the radio without disturbing those in the front. At just \$300 before tags and taxes, I think Brian got a great deal, and while his car may go unnoticed to most people, the luxury is not lost on him or on those who know how nice it really is.

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The McPherson College Spectator is published by the Student Government Association of McPherson College, P.O. Box 1402, McPherson, Kansas 67460. The Board of Publications, a sub-committee of SGA, directly oversees the publication of The Spectator.

The Spectator is published six times a semester, allowing for the interruption of school holidays. Student activity fees subsidize publishing costs, and all McPherson College students are entitled to a copy of each issue without cost.

Subscription information for non-students is available from the The Spectator Editor-In-Chief at spectator@mcpherson.edu

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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 staff will not print libelous material.

Anyone can submit a letter to the editor at any time so long as the time of publication is not vital to the author.

Letters can be printed and submitted directly to any member of The Spectator editorial staff or emailed directly to the Editor-In-Chief at wallcha@bulldog.mcpherson.edu.



Artwork Exhibition Displays 78 Pieces



By Ryan Kresky **S** tudents and community members gathered to look at artwork created by McPherson College students one last time before the new exhibit came in. The McPherson College Student Art Exhibition closing reception took place on Sunday, Feb. 5, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall.

People gathered around the exhibits looking at artwork created by students throughout the year. The exhibition is a combination of graphic design, charcoal drawing, painting and

mixed media. The subjects each student insert in their artwork varied from person to person and were discussed among everyone who attended the reception. The 78 pieces of artwork were displayed at the art reception with a lot of graphic design pieces featuring fictional company logos on posters, cards and display bottles. Other students created artwork with ceramics, paint, charcoal drawings and other mixed media like mirrors. This art reception provided an opportunity for students, both new and returning, to see people

come and talk about their work, supporting their artistic endeavors. Some of the work displayed were listed for sale while most were not.

Unlike other exhibitions, students who had their work selected by the faculty were given the chance to be judged by Ron Michael, director of the Birger Sandzen Memorial Gallery in Lindsborg, Kan. Some of the students who won "Best in Show" were Jaden Hilgers, sophomore, who won "Best in Show: Graphic Design" and Italia Venegas, freshman, who took "Best in Show: Studio" while 14 "Merit Award" recipients were given out.

Wayne Conyers, professor of art, was excited about the event. He sent two emails talking about the reception with the second expressing his enthusiasm for his students by saying people might "experience moments of clarity and/ or moments of wonder" to encourage more people to come to the event.

The exhibition was taken down throughout the following week to make room for the next gallery.

Community Enjoys New Sports Grill and Tap



By Channing Wall

A menu featuring 18 Kansas beers, including four from McPherson's Three Rings Brewery, has brought attention to the new Fieldhouse Sports Bar and Grill that opened at 2220 E Kansas Ave. The restaurant also takes pride in their food that makes up a 95% made-from-scratch menu that ranges from appetizers, burgers, pastas and more.

"A lot of times people are used to food just being preprocessed or in a bag and just being heated up. We wanted to do it where we made it from scratch in the kitchen," John Penick, designer of Fieldhouse Sports Bar and Grill, said. The goal of the project

The goal of the project was to match the existing audience in McPherson while also attracting those traveling to town for sporting events and also we thought the more we did the better it would be for us in the long run. We used local places like Atelier for all of our printing and Stout Printing Apparel and Promo for our uniforms."

The location has been completely renovated from the previous state and has a focus on a more open feel.

"When we first started designing the concept and getting an idea of what we were doing, we researched this town, what's big and what it needs. We want people to feel comfortable when they come, one of our biggest design things was keeping it open and not making people feel like they were squashed in like sardines," Penick said.

The design incorporates comfortable family dining with the option of a more sports bar experience.

"We also wanted to be more family-oriented, we didn't want to be just a on tap.

"We've sold a ton of it and it's great. They have such a supporting partnership with here as well as the people coming out to support them. And it gives people a place to come buy a pint instead of a large volume," Penick said.

The restaurant has been tackling projects one step at a time with the goal of streamlining efficiency and maintaining a high quality of food.

"We have started doing daily food and beverage specials, we've started our happy hour and late night specials that are comparable, or better, than the competition in town," Penick said. "We make all of our sauces and dressings from scratch every single day, it doesn't come out of a bottle or a bag so the quality is better and we have done a 180 from the first week and been able to change some things around to help with some of the issues we were having." The Fieldhouse has plans in the future to host events such as organized dinners or sporting event tournaments. Requesting accommodations for a wide range of group sizes and events is encouraged.



The Fieldhouse Sports Grill and Taps, located at 2220 E Kansas Ave.

Photo by Channing Wal

but private gatherings.

"We wanted something that people could relate to, we didn't want to come in and take over the town we wanted to meld into it, which is why we did a lot of the decor with the McPherson Bullpups," Penick said. "We're trying to support the local town, bar. We wanted people to walk in and really enjoy the space, for families to be able to walk in and pull tables together to have their own space."

A sort of partnership with Three Rings Brewery has also developed and benefited the new local brewery through Fieldhouse featuring four of their beers





SAB Hosts Casino Night



Students enjoy Casino Night, featuring classic casino games in Mingenback Theater.

Photo by Isaac Murphy



By Aysia Pryor

n Wednesday, Feb. 8, students and faculty had a night of classic casino games in Mingenback Theater from 8 to 10 p.m. Casino games consisted of poker, blackjack, roulette, and craps. Faculty and students apart of the Student Activity Board helped deal cards at the event. "Casino Night was great," Morgan Strnad, senior, said. "I love dressing up and doing something different with my friends." Students received extra

chips if they came dressed up in formal attire. Students and faculty also had the opportunity of taking advantage of the candy buffet during the evening. Prizes were awarded at the end of the night, which included Miranda Lambert tickets, a bike, a snack pack, gift cards, and various other prizes.





Valentine's Hacks

By Aysia Pryor

"Ballin' on a budget" and in need of a gift for your significant other? Use these helpful ideas to make the most of your Valentine's gift.

1. Get super crafty and nifty, the best gifts come from the heart.

2. Bake a cake or even heart-shapped cupcakes, who doesn't love sweets?

3. Buy a cute basket filled with his/her favorite snacks.



The Baseball and Softball Seasons are Underway

By Micah Gilbert

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The McPherson College baseball team traveled to Dallas Texas Friday, Feb. 3, and Saturday, Feb. 4 playing double headers and started off their season with a 4-0 record at the Dallas Christian College Tournament. In their opener game of the season, the Bulldogs topped host Dallas Christian, 13-6. Matthew Green helped the Bulldogs towards their victory as he pitched four innings, allowing only four runs on five hits while striking out seven players. McPherson opens their home games this weekend

as they host William Penn University. They will play doubleheaders on Saturday, Feb. 11, and Sunday, Feb. 12, at noon and 2:00 p.m. at Light Capital Diamond fields on the South side of town. These are their only home games until Saturday, March 11, and Sunday, March 12.

The McPherson College softball team opens their regular season Friday, Feb. 10, in Fort Worth Texas at the Cowtown Classic which they have been playing at for the past couple of years. The Bulldogs plan to have a strong season.



Illustration by Micah Gilbert

The Season Begins

 $By \; Micah \; Gilbert$

The lady Bulldogs goal this season is to win the conference for the third year and return to Nationals. Junior Deiah Curtis is the oldest athlete on the Women's tennis team. Meaning that the ladies team is a very young team and just has space to improve. All of the six women athletes they each rotate between singles and doubles depending on the meet.

"The team is a family," Curtis said. "Everyone pulls their weight, individually and as a group. Everyone has individual goals and team goals. We work hard, During the off-season both teams did a lot of working out and endurance training. The men's and women tennis team kicks off their season Friday, Feb. 10, at Newman University in Wichita, Kan. Both teams



but we love to have fun. We've grown so much in just a short time. I can't wait to get this season started and hopefully take another Conference Title with these lovely ladies." have been picked to win the KCAC tournament at the end of the season. This meet will be a slow start to the Bulldogs season.

Photo By Micah Gilbert/McPherson College Athletic Communications



Photo By McPherson College Athletic Communications



Photo By McPherson College Athletic Communications

(Top) Women's tennis team poses for a team picture at the beginning of the season. (Bottom) Men's tennis team poses for a team picture at the beginning of there season.



Illustration by Micah Gilbert



Photo By Micah Gilbert/McPherson College Athletic Communications

(Top) Junior, Thomas Butler dribbles up to the hoop against Bethel College Wednesday, February 25th. (Bottom) Freshman, Danielle Holt goes towards the hoop in the second half of the game against Bethel College Wednesday, February 25th.

Season is Coming to an End

By Micah Gilbert The McPherson College basketball team has had a busy Christmas break and January term schedule. They have played a lot of games while most were off campus. The guys have gone 11-15 and 5-13 in their conference. They only have three more games in the regular season with two of them being home games. The basketball team strongly encourages students and community members to attend their final home games. The Bulldogs will be playing York College on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 5:00 p.m. McPherson played York College earlier in the season losing 115 to 103. McPherson plans on beating York College This Saturday at home. They plan on not letting York score as many

points and they plan on playing their own tempo. The team has expressed their appreciation given to them by the student section. "Having a crowd behind

your back is nice to have," Aaron Bachura, junior, said. The Men's Bulldogs have a much better team-oriented feel on and off the court than they have in past season. They strive as a team to work together and as a family being one unit.

This year's team is more upperclassmen-based than it has been in years past.

"It's nice to have the weight on my shoulders and people looking up on me," Bachura said. "I try to lead by example."

Although, the team has some very talented young players. A few of the uprising players are Grant and Garrett Owen. The team's goal this season was to be a good defensive team. Throughout the season they have improved dramatically on this by scoring more points.

The men's final basketball game could be Saturday February 18th at home, since only the top 8 teams in their conference makes it to the conference tournament and the men's basketball team is just outside the playoff picture.

The women's basketball team have also been playing hard this winter. They have a really young team, and used this as a building year. The boys and women basketball team has home game this weekend February Saturday 11th at 3:00 and then the men's game follows the women's game at 5:00.

Sports



KCAC Indoor Track & Field Championships



Photo By McPherson College Athletic Communications



hoto By McPherson College Athletic Communic



Photo By McPherson College Athletic Communications

By Micah Gilbert Men and Women's track and field traveled to Pittsburg, Kan., on Friday, Feb. 3, and Saturday, Feb. 4, for the KCAC indoor Championship track meet. The men's track team was named KCAC indoor track and field championships for the first time in school history. Some of the top finishers were senior AJ Hop placing first in pole vault with a vault of 16 feet and 9 inches, his personal best. This jump qualified him for the indoor track and field Nationals meet in March. His goal is to jump 17 feet and become the National Championship. He is not eligible for the outdoor season of track and field so he is hoping to leaving it all on the field in march at the national indoor track and field meet. After college, Hop is planning on moving to California where he got an offer from an Olympic coach to train with and plans on competing in the Olympic qualifiers in a couple of years. Another top contender was sophomore Chris Linnin who repeated the KCAC indoor track and field male athlete of the meet competing in high jump, long jump and triple jump. Linnin won the triple

Photo By McPherson College Athletic Communications

jump title clearing 6-9 on the second attempt and qualified automatically for the national indoor track and field meet in march. Another top contender was freshman Tanner Trigg who finished 13 in shot put with a new personal best of 41-4. Casey Zimmerman added a fourth-place finish in the 600 with a time of 1:23.44 and his team of Amari Heisser, J'Moi Penn and DeShawn Pfeiff closed out the championship with a runner-up finish in the 4x400 in a time of 3:24.84. All of these tops finished help the Bulldogs track team two the top of a score of 133 ¹/₂ over York with a score of 118 for the title.

The ladies also had a successful meet Friday and Saturday at the KCAC landing in the triple jump and her ultimate goal for the meet is just to have fun. She also plans to qualify for

triple jump again during the

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outdoor season. "I am one of the only seniors on the track side, which is really weird because I remember being one of the freshman and looking up to the seniors from the advice and now I am one of the experienced seniors of the team," Helms said.

Also, some other top finishers on the women's team was Amy Braimbridge who took second in the 200 mm with a time of 25.79 fourth in the 400 with a time of 58.61 and sixth in the 60 with a time of 8.04. Lauren Wankum with a fourth-place finish

Photo By McPherson College Athletic Communications (Top Left) Sophomore, Chris Linnin competes in long jump Saturday at the NCAC Championships. (Tom Middle) Freshman, Amari Heisser runs the hurdles Saturday at the NCAC indoor tack Championships. (Top Right) AJ Hop competes in the triple jump at the NCAC Championships track meet. (Left Middle) Sophomore, Jerod Fuller and teammate Senior, Michael Janzer competes at the NCAC Meet. (Left Bottom) Senior, Lauren Wankum competes in a running even Saturday the NCAC Championships track meet. Championship track meet finishing fifth place. The women's Bulldogs have a young team this year constructed mostly of freshman and sophomores. One of the few seniors, Jasmine Helms, competed in the triple jump and long jump. Helms qualified for the National Track and Field indoor meet with a triple jump of 11.29 meters placing second place overall and eighth in long jump. Before the national meet she plans on improving her

in the 3,000 with a time of 11:11.37 while Ane' Archuleta won her heat of the 800 with a 2:23.14 clocking and finished seventh overall.

The men and women's indoor track season continues at Seward Nebraska Friday, Feb. 10, in Seward Nebraska against Concordia Invitational. The track and field team is about half way through their indoor season.



McPherson indoor track team Saturday at the KCAC Champions indoor track and field meet.

Photo By McPherson College Athletic Communications

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