

# spectator

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Issue 16

## SAB student survey results are in

by Kerri Vinson

Members of the Student Activities Board have been busy tallying up the results from the student survey given during March. The survey was initiated in an effort to determine how students feel about past SAB activities and what they would like to see in the future.

Dan Masterson, chairman of SAB, stated that student

response to the survey was fairly good, with 83 out of 450 survey sheets being turned in.

"We had some interesting comments," says Masterson, who feels that the survey will be an aid to SAB planners in evaluating future activities.

The most popular cry by far, which appeared on almost every survey, dealt with the type of movies that SAB has been presenting. Students tended to

show more interest in having fewer but more popular movies, rather than having a larger number of average movies.

Bowling, roller skating, and swimming parties rated successful, as did the faculty auction.

Coming up next on the SAB agenda will be the movie "Ben Hur" starring Charleton Heston on April 15 at 8 p.m. in Brown Auditorium.

## R.A.'s for 81-82 selected

by Chuck Cuthbert

Following long hours of deliberation and many late evening interviews, the names of the new resident assistants have been released for the next school year. Resident assistants were again difficult to select because there were more applicants than positions available.

Students were notified by Joanne Hamlin, director of housing, through campus mail.

New RA's serving in Bittering Hall will be: Iyabo Iyewarun, soph., Nigeria, third floor; Kent Nicholson, jr., Wichita, and Stuart Knoll, jr., Norton, second floor.

In Dotzour Hall the RA selections are: Alana Switzer, soph., Modesto, Calif., Deb Burkholder, soph., McPherson, and Rhonda Foley, soph., Valley Falls, on third floor; Trudy Christy, sr., Marshalltown, Iowa, Teresa Goodfellow, jr., Lyons, and Cindy Dell, jr., Beatrice, Nebr. on second floor; Dawn

Kerschensteiner, soph., Rocky Ford, Colo., and Valecia Kelly, soph., Cincinnati, Ohio on first floor.

Resident assistants in Metzler Hall include: Everett Bradley, jr., Marion, Ind., and Jerry Hett, soph., Marion, on third floor; Mike Ramsey, soph., Washington D.C. and Robert Cole, soph., Culbertson, Nebr. on second floor; Wade Thiessen, soph., Henderson, Nebr., and Ben Franklin, fr., Inkster, Mich. on first floor.

In Fahnestock Hall, Vic Williams, soph., Lakin, Dave Franklin, soph., Modesto, Calif., and Dan Rogers, jr., Guthrie, Minn. will be positioned on third, second, and first respectively.

All of these students will be participating in a training session beginning Sunday, April 18 and continuing for three additional Sundays. Several of the new RA's have already attended a leadership conference which took place in Manhattan last weekend.

## Convo proposal gains support

by Jeff Thill  
Guest Writer

A proposal to require only one convocation per week during the next academic year has already been unanimously passed by Student Council and the Convocations Committee. The final decision for a policy change is dependent on faculty approval.

This precious document was prepared by some persevering members of Stuco during the harsh times of midterm tests. The proposal is simple, concise and reads: "We, the Student Council of McPherson College, recommend that the present convocation system of required attendance at two convocations per week be reduced to offering and requiring attendance at only one convocation per week. The option of writing a paper as an alternative would still apply."

A series of rationale for this change was offered by the

proposal authors. Four are listed below:

1) Student Council is in general agreement with the principles of convocations, however it is our perception that the majority of the student body is in favor of a reduction in the number of required convocations.

2) One convocation per week would still allow for student recognition, a gathering of community, and exposure to cultural educational presentations.

3) A change to one convocations per week would be less demanding on the schedules of students and faculty.

4) More funds would be available per convocations. This would result in more professional, better quality programs.

All eyes and hopes are now focused on the faculty to see whether or not they will accept this proposal.



A rest stop in Wisconsin provides a break from long hours on the choir-tour bus. Making the most of the

stop are leap-froggers Bruce Appel, jr., Curlew, Iowa, and Mark Swick, jr., Burlington, Colo.

Photo by Trudy Christy

## Honors Congress provides discussion

by Chuck Telk

Having its first meeting on April 1, a new McPherson College Organization, the Honors Congress, is now active. The Honors Congress, which consists of four faculty members and a number of selected students, was formed to provide an intellectual discussion group for outstanding students.

Selection for the Honors Congress is by nomination. Each faculty member can nominate two students. Students who are

already members can also nominate one additional student.

According to Honors Congress Chairman, Lee Lengel, professor of history, Honors Congress was started "because we (the school) need to have an intellectually based group that will provide an opportunity for more in-depth discussions than the classroom will." Lengel added that there will be about eight meetings per school year.

Once selected, students are encouraged to attend eight

meetings per year. Also, the student must present a paper or project within the students range of interest once during his college career for discussion, read at least one article from a scholarly book or periodical per semester, and scan a newspaper each day.

The first meeting was held on April 1 and 25 members were present. Dr. Richard Zerger, professor of natural sciences, talked about the natural science research program which was financed by a grant.

## Mac hosts choir festival

by Ken Turner

The ACK Choir Festival will be here at McPherson College the weekend of April 22-24.

Dr. Douglas McEwen from Arizona State University will be leading one-hour workshops with each of the six choirs on Thursday and Friday. Dr. McEwen is one of the foremost choral directors in the nation.

The six schools participating

are Bethel, McPherson, Kansas Wesleyan, Tabor, Sterling and Bethany. Each choir will perform two of their own selection. With over 300 voices, the choirs will combine in the afternoons.

Dr. McEwen and all participating choir conductors will have private sessions Wednesday night in the Student Union and at the Sirloin Stockade for a breakfast Saturday morning.

## Prom theme — 'Best of Times'

The Junior-Senior Prom will be held on Friday, April 16 and as usual, participants are asked to come in formal attire.

The dance will begin at 9 p.m. and it will be held in the Holiday Manor Ballroom. The theme for the Prom this year is "Best of Times." Music will be provided by "Kokamo," a band from Lawrence.

All students are encouraged to attend the dance, but only juniors and seniors are invited to participate in the banquet prior to the dance. The banquet will be held at the Holiday Manor at 6:30 p.m.

Coach Dave Cripe will be the speaker at this event and some musical entertainment will also be provided.

## Spectator Sidelines . . .

REGIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE will be held again on the McPherson College campus during the April 23-25 weekend. About 200 youth are expected to participate in this rally and housing will be needed for all of them. If you are willing to house several of the students, please sign up on the sheets which are located in the dorms or contact Tina Wagner or Mik Hoffman.

McPHERSON COLLEGE SUNDAY is April 16. Many students will be traveling to share with churches about McPherson College and to participate in worship services. If you are interested in participating in some way, please contact Alan Kieffaber very soon.

AN INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP will

be held on Tuesday, April 13 at 1:00-2:30 p.m. in Miller 105. A CAREER DINNER is planned for Monday, April 19 at 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Student Union. Please contact Lois Reimer in the student services office if you have further questions about either of these. Students are encouraged to participate.

Have a terrific Easter break.

# Implications of the term 'church-related college' examined

We received a letter recently from my wife's great grandmother asking about the school I now attend. "Tell me," she wrote, "is Tom going to McPherson College or a church-related school?" With this statement she summarizes all the dialogue on this issue that we witnessed last semester. Because this is such a fundamental issue, I wish to address it once again.

It becomes necessary to define the term "church-related college." For this it is vital that we begin with the Christian doctrine of the Church.

The Church is the body of Christ. The function of the Church revolves totally around the message of God's loving intervention into the world — it is called in service to spread the word that God has reconciled us

to Himself in Jesus Christ.

The implication of such a doctrine is profound for the Church-related school. The Church has no place being involved in any effort that disguises or inhibits the liberating message of the gospel. To involve itself in the academic arena requires that the ultimate aim of such involvement be the revealing of God's freely given love to the students encountered. To avoid doing so is hypocrisy.

At McPherson College, the administration has chosen to hide behind the slogan "no force in religion" when pressed to openly engage this message. Unfortunately, this stance inevitably leads to a position in which there is indeed force in religion — a negative force. Neutrality is foreign to Christianity and the college continues to receive funds

from the Church of the Brethren with little intent of furthering the Truth in its highest sense in Jesus Christ.

I have risked being negative up to now in an effort to point out the problem. To approach this in a positive mode, I will propose what I believe it means to be a Church-related college in three areas: academics, student life, and religious activity.

First and foremost a college is concerned with academic excellence. The Church-related college must be one in which the facts of varying disciplines are presented and, equally important, the students must be challenged in the classroom to evaluate these facts through the mindset of the Christian faith. One need not be compelled to accept this mindset as one's own, but by understanding the possible

implications of Christianity in various fields of study every student will be pressed toward recognizing who he or she is.

This may mean, practically, that the administration will be forced to search for faculty who are aware of these implications in their discipline. Currently faculty members should be urged to expand their area of understanding into the field of religion and theology.

Secondly, our old system of token Christianity in the guise of legalistic regulations would give way in a Christian academic community to a life of freedom, freedom to be slaves to Christ in love. Life would not be Utopia — mistakes would be made by all. But as a community we would turn away from a judgmental division between administration and student, cry for forgiveness

to God, and accept the unconditional unity he offers in Christ.

Finally, as a Church-related college we would no longer need to impose community upon members of the college population. Accepting the community Christ offers, opportunity for common worship should be available on a voluntary basis.

To summarize, with a president who is so greatly involved in his denomination, and a faculty so rich with ordained ministers, and a student population so desperately looking for meaning in their lives, it's sad to think that we fail to hear God's calling to accept the title of "Church-related college" with its fullest consequences.

Tom Shoemaker

# Fairbank resigned partly because of a 'difference in philosophy'

by Kevin Burton

Last year the McPherson Men's Basketball Team was 10-14. This year its record dipped to 1-23. After this frustrating season, Coach Bob Fairbank submitted his resignation. He is understandably "dissatisfied with not winning basketball games."

"When I came, I gave myself a time limit," says Fairbank. "I thought I could change the situation here into a winning one, but it's going to take more help than the philosophy of the school is ready to give."

"My philosophy and that of the school didn't agree, and something had to give. In this case I was the one."

The difference in philosophy centers around athletic scholarships. While some schools offer blanket scholarships to their student-athletes, McPherson offers no financial aid to its students solely for athletics. This puts McPherson College recruiters at a disadvantage.

Fairbank asks, "If I say to you that I want you to play basketball for me but I can't offer you a scholarship, and you've already had four other schools offer you scholarships, are you going to take my offer?"

As if that weren't enough to turn off prospective student-athletes, our basketball facility is probably the worst in the state. Fairbank says, "We have no scholarship money, then you bring them on campus and show

them the gym. That's two strikes against you right there."

These factors make McPherson one of the least attractive schools in Kansas from the perspective of the incoming freshmen athletes. A total of 47 schools compete for the cream of the Kansas crop. McPherson and two other KCAC schools that don't offer scholarships usually have the toughest time recruiting.

"We will get, and have already gotten some good players who wanted to come here because they are Brethren. But in order to win you've got to have a big man, and in order to attract that good big man, you've almost got to have scholarship money."

Fairbank's main goal is coaching has always been to recruit "the king of kid who's going to graduate." In all his years as a head coach he's only recruited four players who didn't graduate, and according to Fairbank, "One of them is currently in the FBI...another one is making about four times as much as I am..."

"I could go to Chicago and New York and get those kids off the playgrounds, the kind of kid who either will become inelligible or get in trouble with drugs...I could do that, and within two years, we'd win. But that's no way to run a program."

The Bulldogs have perhaps the best freshmen and sophomores in

the conference. But the center Fairbank was unable to recruit and the point guard who was injured kept McPherson two players away from having a contending team. This was the cause of much of Fairbank's frustration.

"People don't realize that with Chris Toledo we could have won at least twelve games. When he got hurt we just had no one to take his place."

"I'd like to be able to use a gambling type pressure defense.

If you don't have an intimidating center, that type of defense just won't work. At 6 ft. 2 inches, Kevin Carlson did a remarkable job playing center, but he needs to be playing at a forward."

Fairbank would like to think that things can be turned around next year but he isn't confident it will happen. "Maybe someone will come in next year and be able to deal with the situation, but I feel that with the situation the way it is now, we have no chance of winning."

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# Choir tour — an observation of communal behavior

The big day had finally arrived. I had been preparing and waiting months for this moment. This could be my opportunity to solve the question of communal animal behavior.

Having already traveled to Montana to observe herds of sheep and to Siberia to observe the lemming's futile dash to the sea, I was about to undertake the major portion of my quest. What is the major stimulating factor which induces the McPherson College Choir to pack itself into chariots of discomfort and travel across barren lands to eat, sing and retch?

In the early morning shadows of the 18th day of March, I silently stole my way into one of the bestial Salina Transport busses and took my position in

the luggage rack. Once there, I camouflaged myself with pillows, books, and various stuffed animals so as not to divulge my presence and therefore influence the results. The seats soon began to be filled with bright-eyed vocalists. My first communal behavior observations was quickly made. Everyone talks in a very loud voice in order to be heard over the din.

Within time, the busses pulled out of the campus and with this event, began the first of an endless number of observations on the general incompetency of this nation's automotive engineers. Clenching my fists in an attempt to absorb the constant bone-jarring blows of the bus, I made the effort to keep my mind clear.

With this, though, I was served a mental anguish almost equal to the physical punishment I was receiving for I soon discerned that we were heading for Lorraine, Kansas. Lorraine, Kansas? Surely, there can be nothing that can force 68 people to go to Lorraine, Kansas.

As if in answer to my question, my attention was drawn to the front of the bus. With flashing blue eyes and a touse of blonde tresses, a woman was wildly gesticulating to a dismayed-looking man in the driver's seat. My intelligence sources had informed me previous to my mission to be on the lookout for a woman of such description. Could she be the Shepherd, the Pied Piper, the elusive inducing factor I had been searching for?

This question seemed to be answered affirmatively in the

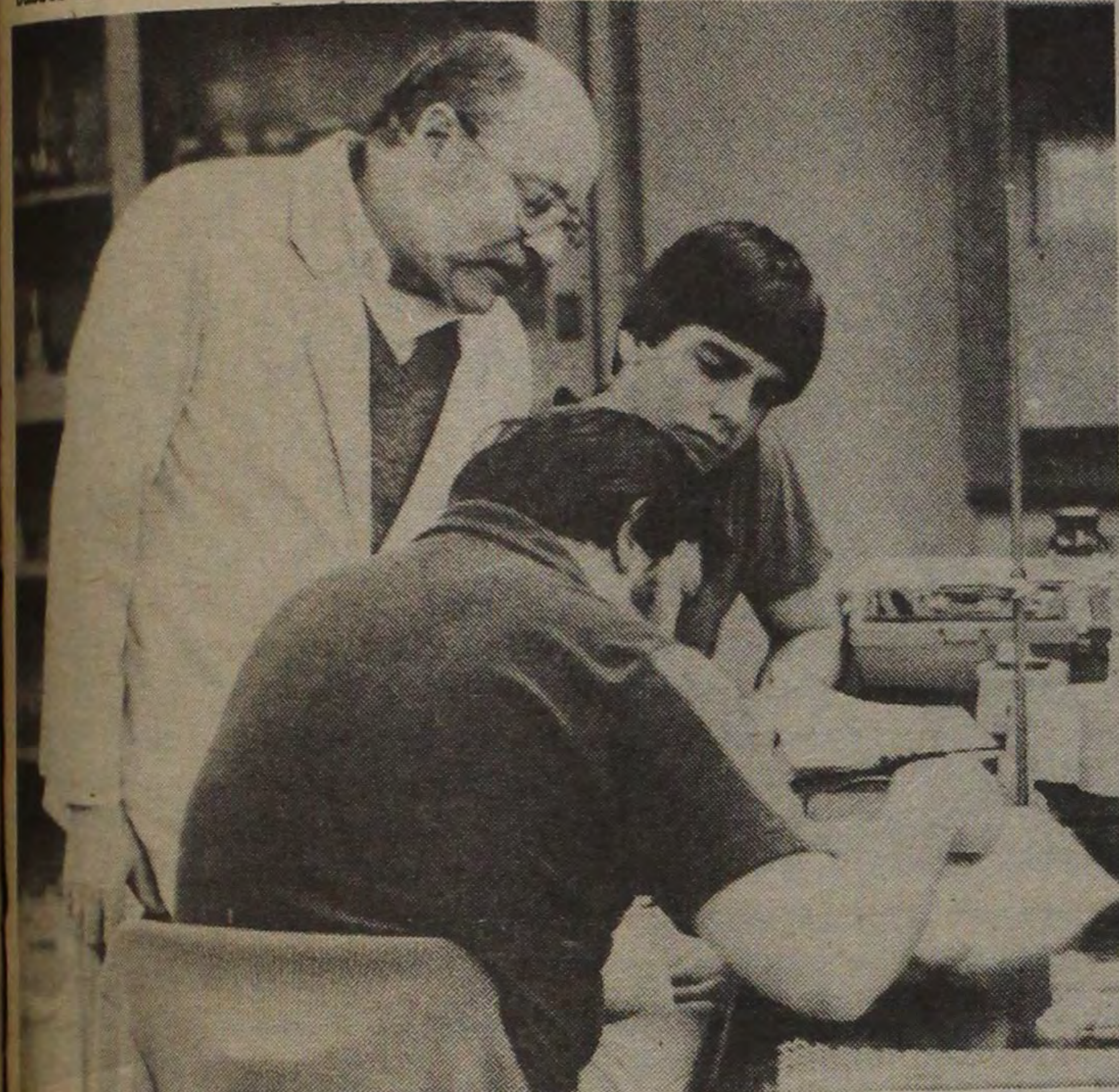
following days. With a repertoire of verbal and body language strong enough to coax a coon out of a tree, she was able to cajole her choir into following her quite happily across the states of Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois. These little darlings sang their hearts out for good-sized crowds in twenty different churches and schools.

As a reward for their endeavors, the choir members were treated to vast amounts of excellent home cooking, amounts so great as to "turn your stomach." Speaking of which, my intelligence sources had informed me that an intestinal ailment had swept through the choir on their tour last year. In perhaps an effort to establish tradition, the choir this year poured out not only their hearts in song to the people of Mt. Morris, Illinois, but

a goodly portion of their stomach contents as well.

As the end of the ten-day tour neared, I began to compile my observations. As previously noted, everyone talks loudly and incessantly. A person not having any idea of what is going on can stimulate great masses of people to action simply by wandering out a door, thereby supporting the increasingly popular "sheep syndrome" theory. Everyone gets sick together. And finally, everyone in the choir sings quite well with the exception of the young man on the corner of the first row from Burlington, Colorado with the initials M.S., who I am sure knows just who he is.

Ecurb Leppa  
Prof. of Communal  
Animal Behavior



Dr. Wesley DeCoursey, professor of chemistry and physical science, supervises the lab work of Jim Moffitt, soph., Washington, and Tony Slabach, fr., Clearwater.  
Photo by Kenny Miller

## DeCoursey adds a little zest to classes

by Trudy Christy

Dr. Wesley DeCoursey, professor of chemistry, ranks as one of the favorite professors of many students at Mac.

"The thing I like best is his enthusiasm," says Gayle Reinoehl, fr., Olathe. "I think one of the best things is everyday he has something current out of the newspaper or something."

Bruce Appel, jr., Curlew, Ia., enjoys Dr. DeCoursey's approach to labs. "I like his complete lack of standard procedure. He doesn't label his beakers or anything and then he'll pour things together without knowing what they are. It's great."

The fondness students feel for Dr. DeCoursey is mutual. "I enjoy my job and the freedom that teaching in a small college offers. Freedom of how you teach, what you teach and freedom to learn so many students."

Last year Dr. DeCoursey was named professor of the year. He attributes that honor to "probably cracking jokes and a sense of humor in the classroom. It's no more profound than that." Dr. DeCoursey has taught here

at McPherson for 30 years. He graduated from McPherson in 1940 after also attending Manchester College for one year.

After undergraduate school he worked at a rubber plant in Rock Island, Ill., for a year and a half to see what industry was like. But he didn't like it so he went back to school to earn a Ph.D. and become a professor.

In 1952 he and his wife, Verda, returned to McPherson College where they have been ever since.

Currently Dr. DeCoursey teaches chemistry, organic chemistry, seminar on the environment, quantitative analysis, geology, astronomy and is involved with the science department's interdisciplinary student research on the sunflower.

His favorite classes to teach are geology and astronomy because they are a change of pace and of interest to the general student.

He has always played a lot of tennis and sometimes when the weather is particularly nice his white tennis shoes show conspicuously beneath his dress pants as he finishes up an afternoon lab session.

Throughout his 30 years as a professor, Dr. DeCoursey's summers have been spent doing three things: traveling, being a ranger naturalist and studying.

He and his wife and three children have traveled to all the states except Alaska and have camped in a tent everywhere they have gone.

Dr. DeCoursey and his family have also traveled around the world in the process of going to Pakistan and later to Tehran, Iran in 1965 and 1966 when Dr. DeCoursey was on sabbatical leave for a Fulbright Lectureship in those two countries.

The second activity occupying Dr. DeCoursey's summers has been that of ranger naturalist. He was one for four summers at Wind Cave National Park in the Black Hills and for two summers at King's Canyon in the Sierras.

Finally, he has spent summers brushing up on analytical and physical chemistry at the National Science Foundation Institute.

Now Dr. DeCoursey spends his summers in his cabin in Michigan near Lake Superior.

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# Sports Comment

with Kevin Burton

Random thoughts, compiled while wondering why McPherson has no wrestling team . . .

If you haven't been following the Kansas City Royals during the off-season, you'll be surprised by all the new players on the team.

Clint Hurdle, Renie Martin and Rich Gale, among others, have been traded from the Royals. Taking their place is a cast of veterans, most of whom have experience on World Series clubs.

Grant Jackson will be 40 years old in September. The Royals are hoping he can give Dan Quisenberry some help in the bullpen. Vida Blue is 32. He's a former Cy Young award winner with the Oakland A's. He's still got most of the zip on his fastball, and should be effective as the Royals third starter.

Jerry Martin is the new right fielder. He has hit over 20 home runs in a season, but he did it while playing for the Cubs in tiny Wrigley Field. Scott Brown is the fireballing reliever the Royals got for Hurdle. He's an imposing figure on the mound at 6 ft. 4 inches and 230 pounds.

It was April fools day, but Mark Baus' team and Rob McKay's team weren't kidding. The teams were playing for the championship of intramural basketball.

There were no TV time outs, no lengthy introductions or interviews. Nobody paid to get in. Best of all, there was no stallball. The only thing there, was basketball. You know, ten players playin', two refs a-whistlin', home crowd a cheerin'.

Baus' team held the lead throughout most of the first half. The halftime score was 34-31. McKay's team inched back in the second half, finally taking the lead 59-58.

In the closing minute, Gerald Henderson gave McKay a 64-63 lead. The Baus team, who had missed countless free throws down the stretch, missed four tip-in tries in one incredible sequence. In the end though, captain Mark Baus fired home the winning shot for a 65-64 win.

When it was all over, nobody cut down the net. There was no mob scene. The game was simply over. What took place was an exciting basketball game without the media hype. How refreshing.

How about those Bradley Braves! They won the Missouri Valley regular season title, only to be snubbed by the NCAA selection committee.

Undaunted, they went out and showed the committee and the rest of the world just how good they are by breezing through the National Invitation tournament. Immediately following their championship game win over Purdue, Bradley coach Dick Versace had his say concerning the Valley.

"With Tulsa winning it (the NIT) last year, and us this year, that should prove that the Missouri Valley Conference is a very tough basketball conference."

The selection committee's apparent disdain for the Valley would be a little more understandable if Valley schools had a history of going belly-up in early rounds, but that isn't the case. Just last year Wichita State of the Valley made the final eight.

Somebody better put out some public relations for the Valley. In the meantime, the NIT is quickly turning into the Missouri Valley Invitational.

# Netters are working hard

by Dan Rogers

The men's tennis team, coached by Jerry Holman, posted an 0-3 record last week. It should be noted that at this point in the season it is an advantage to win matches in order to obtain a better seeding in the conference tourney.

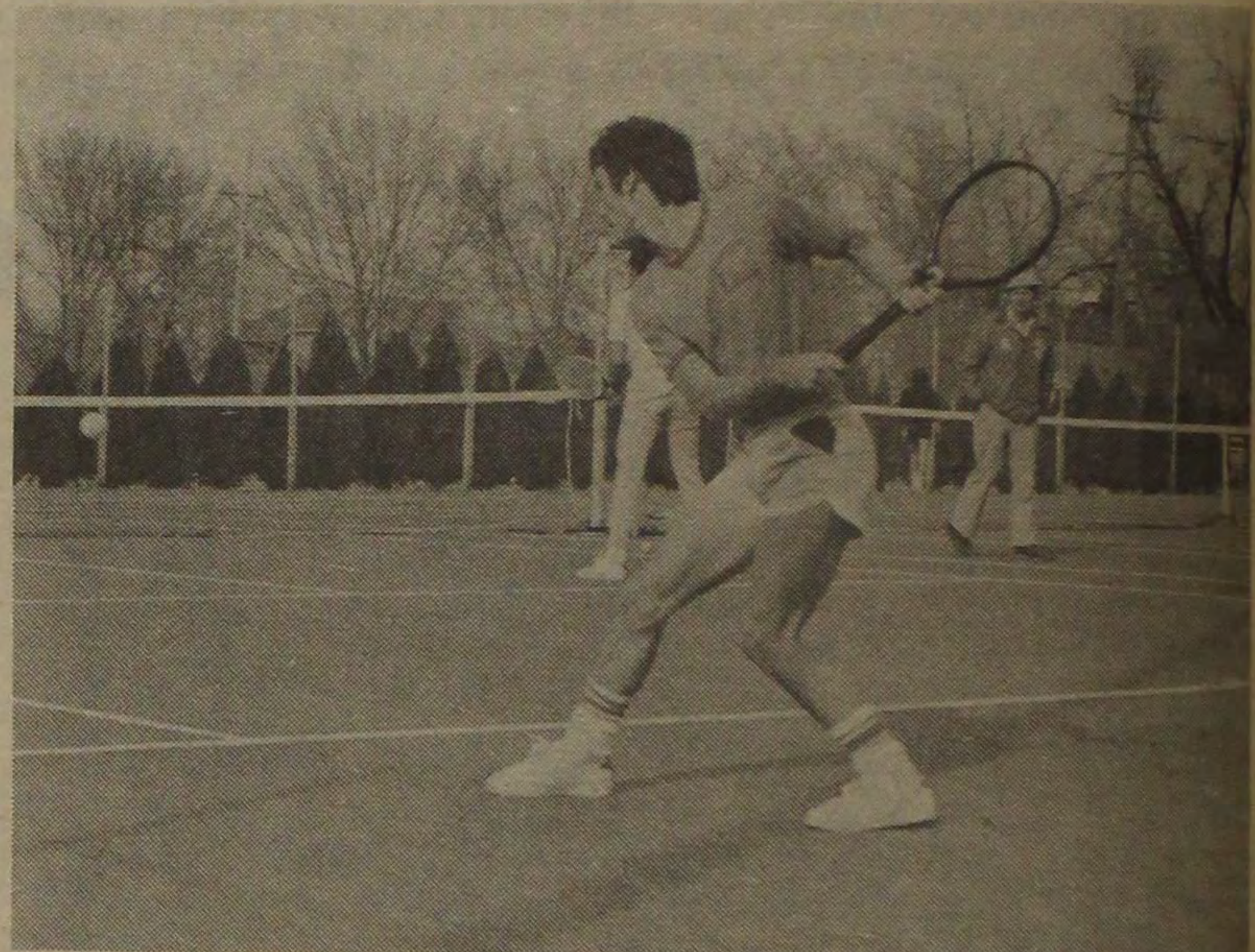
McPherson hosted Bethel on Wednesday, March 31, on a beautiful Kansas day with seventy degree temperatures and calm winds. Les Glenn and Mark Scruggs were the winners for Mac in the singles division. In number two doubles, the team of Glen Snell and Wally Roberts vanquished the opponent.

On Saturday Mac traveled to

Topeka and competed against Friends and Washburn. A 5-4 decision to Friends prompted Coach Holman to note that "We let a team beat us that should not have." Washburn, with a strong team, defeated mac 9-0.

Tournament play will be held April 29-30 at Wichita. The short amount of time available for practice in addition to the spring and Easter breaks will put a great deal of pressure on the players to develop their tennis skills to an acme.

The next home match will be against Baker on Saturday, April 17, at 10:00 a.m. So if you have those weekend study blues, stop by the courts and enjoy some exciting matches.



Dan Rogers, jr., Guthrie, Minn., prepares to give the tennis ball a backhand wallop, as Coach Holman looks on. Photo by Boniface Waweru

# Soccer Club shoots for .500 record

by Charles Ogowang

The spring soccer season is now at its half way point with four games already completed and four more yet to go. Mac so far has clinched no victory. However, if the remaining games can be won the club can conclude the season in a good standing.

The last game was played here on Sunday, April 4, against Emporia State University. For the first time during the season, Mac was unable to net any goals. The final score was 0-7 in

Emporia's favor. Bill Snyder played remarkably well in the goal and managed to save one of the two penalty kicks awarded to Emporia State. The first one was kicked out.

The referee should have called on 'off-side' play by Emporia. But since he didn't, Andrew Nyakatura had to make a dramatic save, playing as a goal-keeper when Bill Snyder was already off-position in an attempt to intercept the striker. This resulted in a penalty.

This reporter feels that Mac also should have been awarded a

penalty kick due to some foul play by an Emporia defender, but the referee claimed that this problem took place outside of the penalty box (area). Throughout the game Mac did miss quite a number of scoring chances.

In general, Emporia had some very good rough players, especially defenders.

There will be no game next weekend due to Easter break. On Sunday, April 18, Mac will travel to Salina to play against Kansas Wesleyan University. Mac is hoping to stop the losing streak and gain some victories.

# Golf season begins anew

by Chuck Telk

Yes Virginia, there is a golf season. For a while however, there was a question of whether McPherson College would have a golf team.

Faced with the reality of having players missing too many practices because of outside interests, Coach Dr. Paul Graber called a golf meeting to discuss the team's future Monday afternoon April 5. During the meeting, the team discussed a practice schedule that everyone could deal with. Last Friday, the team was forced to withdraw from the Washburn Invitational because too many players had missed practice.

Coach Graber stated, "if we don't practice, we can't expect to play. When a team missed a scheduled meet like this, things must be straightened out."

Well, things are straightened out now. Tuesday, April 6, the team hosted the McPherson Invitational, and today the team travels to play in the Bethany Invitational.

# Mac second in triangular

The McPherson College women's track team placed second in a triangular meet against Bethany College and Cloud County Juco on Wednesday, March 31st. Coach Larry Latimer had high praises for the overall performance of the team this early in the season.

Valicia Kelly placed first in the high jump, tying the previous school record held by Debbie Enos Latimer at 5'2". She also dominated the 100 and 400 meter hurdles.

Also turning in a good per-

formance was Joy Spangler, winning the long distance 1500 and 3000 meter runs.

Tracy Griffis placed first in the 200 and 400 meter runs, while Dian Proffitt and Lucy Martinex excelled in the field events placing first in the discus and javeline throw respectively.

The team of Joni Whittaker, Deanna Koehler, Tracy Griffis and Valicia Kelley placed first in the 400 meter relay. Whittaker, Griffis, Kelly and Evelyn Smith also came up with a first place finish in the mile relay.

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# Seven place at Bethel

Seven out of nine traveling members of the Mac College men's track team placed in the invitational meet held March 31st at Bethel College.

Four first-place finishes were turned in by Jerry Hett in the javelin, Everett Bradley in pole vault, Roy Grosbach in the 5000

meter run, and Kip Coulter in 1500 meter run.

Also contributing two second place finishes were Hett and Coulter in the high jump and 5000 meter run respectively.

Coach Cripe felt that the team did well, considering the small number of traveling members.

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