



**BUS LAG** — Lynn Carlson (sr., Assaria) and Leigh Richardson (soph., Clearwater) show signs of weariness during the McPherson College Choir Tour over Spring

Break. The choir traveled over 1500 miles, going as far south as the Gulf of Mexico.

photo by Alana Switzer

## Choir tours rainy South

by Lois Lehman

The best way to describe the 1984 McPherson College Concert Choir Tour is with the word "wet." The choir packed in the rain, loaded the buses in the rain, traveled in the rain and then gave concerts in the rain. Even after arriving in the sunny South, we were still wet because we went to the Gulf of Mexico. At least it didn't rain there!

But the choir didn't let all the rain "dampen" its spirit. During our first concert, we competed with a thunderstorm in Clearwater, Kansas. The choir won; the audience gave us a standing ovation at the close of the concert.

This choir tour was quite different and full of firsts. It was the first time that many of the choir members had gone to the South, the first time that the McPherson College Choir performed at the Roanoke, Louisiana Church of the Brethren and the first time that many of the choir members had been to the Gulf.

There was another first — and hopefully, a last. It was the first time that a concert was given solely by the women.

"How We 'Lost' the Men and Gave a Concert by Ourselves" is a story that the women on the 1984 choir tour will never forget. It all started in Marshall, Texas, in the rain, of course. Bus trouble had put us two hours behind schedule, and we still had 350 miles to travel to give a concert at the Mount Hermon Church in Jay, Oklahoma.

Sometime after putting the women on the lead bus and the men on the other for clothes-

changing convenience, rain and a detour separated the buses in Ft. Smith, Arkansas. To make a long story a little shorter, after much panicky "rehearsing," the women's bus arrived in Jay around 9:45.

When we walked to the front of the church and turned around to sing, we found that there were still over seventy people there, waiting not just patiently but with smiles on their faces! That gave us the courage to go on and perform the few songs that could be performed with just two of the four parts.

Just as we finished singing our last song, we heard a noise that sounded suspiciously like a bus. It was the men's bus, and the reunion that night must really have amused the audience. But we were back together to finish the concert, and that was all that mattered at that point. And THAT is the story of how we "lost the men."

Altogether, our sixty-voice touring choir gave twelve concerts in four states — Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana — during the eight days of choir tour. Dr. Stephanie Graber not only directed the choir, but also helped us to find the smiles and energy to keep on going when we thought we couldn't give any more. Dr. Paul Graber, "Dad", drove the lead bus and played doctor whenever the situation called for it.

The other adult sponsors were Carroll and Evelyn Brooks, the couple who have been accompanying the choir for the past four years as bus drivers, sponsors, and friends.

THE  
MC PHERSON COLLEGE

# spectator

Volume 68

April 6, 1984

Issue 17

## Marriage to be topic of retreat

by Shawn Payne

Planning to get married or engaged in the near future? The Premarriage Retreat is for couples who are engaged, or plan to be. The retreat will be this weekend, April 6-7 at the Eden Recreation Center. The cost per couple will be \$10.

Ed Butler and Herb Smith are the two instructors. These retreats are held once or twice a year.

The first 20 minutes after arriving at the recreation center will be for getting acquainted with the other couples. The couples will then go into a room, with soft music playing, where they each will receive a share booklet. These booklets will prompt the sharing of feelings within each couple. A developing-skills survey will be taken by each couple, but will not be given back to the instructors.

The retreat is an attempt to draw couples closer together, and closer to reality; to make sure if marriage is what they are looking for, and if so, how their relationship can be strengthened.

Herb Smith thinks that it is a good idea for couples to attend. Last fall 12 couples attended, and 11 out of the 12 found it very helpful.

If you are interested contact Ed Butler or Herb Smith today.

## Wayne Conyers honored at exhibits

Professor Wayne Conyers of the McPherson College Art Department has recently been accepted into two distinct exhibitions in the state of Kansas.

A jury of professional artists

accepted Conyer's piece entitled "Interrupted Vase" into the Topeka Crafts Exhibition, which is open to all Kansas artists, featuring jewelry and sculpture works. The exhibition continues through April 29.

Conyer's painting, "Mutant Screening" will be displayed at the Smoky Hill Art Exhibit at the Hays Art Center in Fort Hays, Kansas, from April 1 through May 11.

## Seminar focuses on small schools

Small college faculty are in unique positions in comparison to faculty of large universities. Many times the career roles and specific duties required of a faculty member are quite different.

A seminar addressing these and other issues, "Teaching in the Small College," will be held on campus April 6-7. The conference is open to teachers of small colleges in Kansas, Nebraska, and Oklahoma.

The conference was developed and organized by John Burden,

professor of psychology, and Richard Wright, professor of sociology. Burden points out that there is a real need for conferences and literature focusing on teaching in smaller colleges. Most literature addresses teaching in universities.

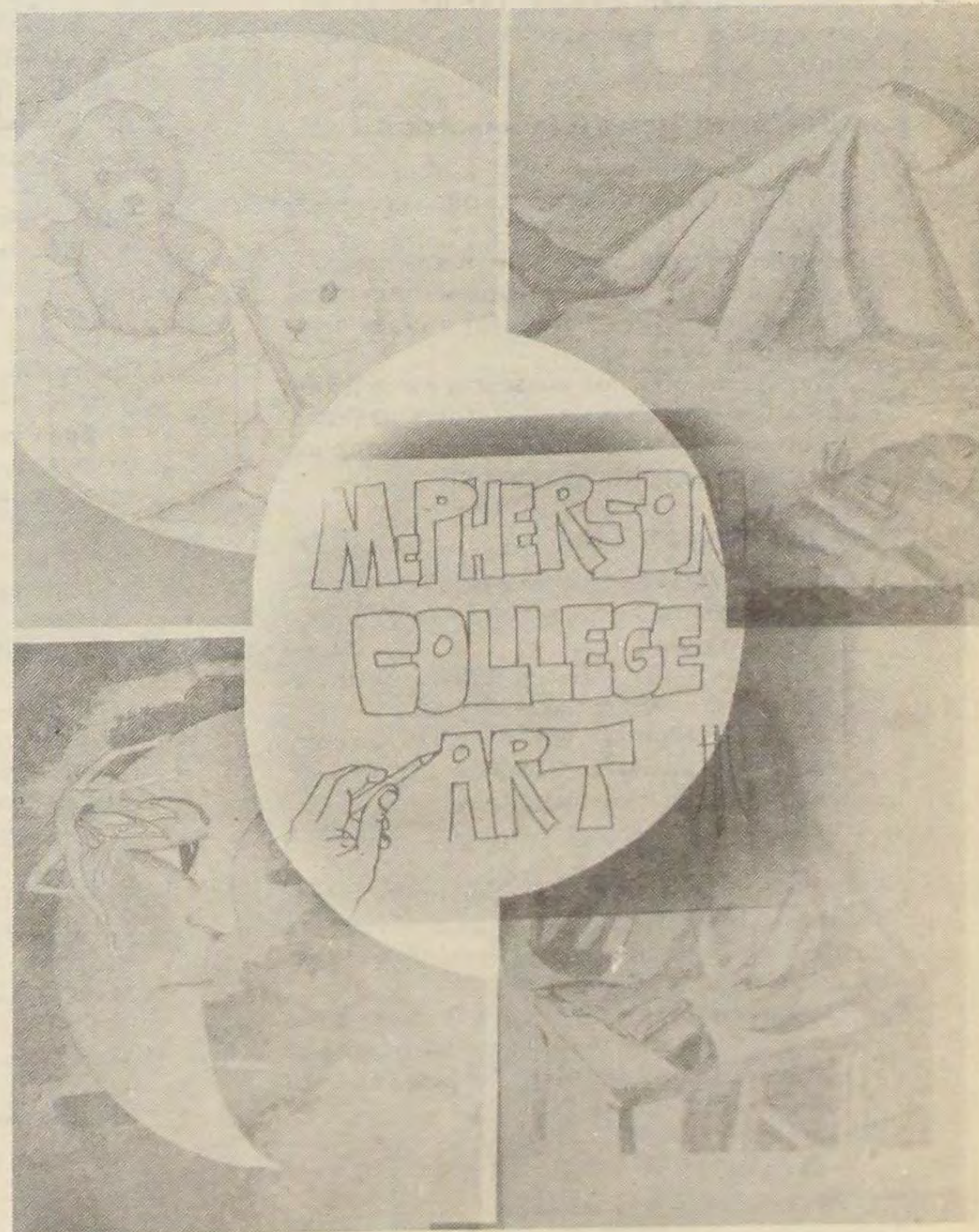
"The smaller four-year college gets neglected in literature," says Burden.

Dr. Carla Howery, Director of the Teaching Resources Center of the American Sociological Association, Washington, D.C., will give the keynote address. A workshop on writing better

classroom tests will be given by Richard E. Owens, a past director of Educational Improvement at Kansas State University.

Other workshops and presentations on college teaching methods and procedures will be given by small college faculty.

As a result of the conference, Wright and Burden will be editing a book to be published by Greenwood Press; "Teaching in the Small College: Issues and Applications." The book will include papers presented at the conference.



**ART EXHIBIT** — Student artwork is on display in Friendship Hall. Above are some of the pieces to be seen: (Clockwise, from upper left) pencil drawing by Deb Holderread (soph., Martinsburg, Pa.), watercolor by Barbara J. King (soph., Centra, Wash.), pencil drawing by Takashi Ando (fr., Japan) and watercolor by James Brown (jr., New York).

photos by Dave Franklin

# Dream of the Sixties

by Terri Vinson

Last night I dreamt that I was a flower child. I had been watching one of those crazy science fiction movies, where the hero had gone back in time several centuries. With this plot on the brain, along with the recent televised showing of "The Wizard of Oz" on the tip of my cortex, I dreamt to myself, "If Dorothy can go to Oz, why can't I? Why can't I go back a few decades?"

It is December, 1966, and here I am in the middle of an SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) meeting on the campus of Berkley, California.

My first inclination is to exit unnoticed, but never has anyone appeared as inconspicuous as I, dressed in my finely-tailored blue Izod with a matching sweatshirt (carefully torn at the neck and sleeves).

To my surprise, these people don't even seem interested in my attire, and they are even less interested in what Jennifer Beals is wearing.

Instead, they have eagerly cornered me, asking my opinion on war, the draft, racial inequality, and a vast number of issues that I have given relatively little thought.

What they lack in fashion awareness, they certainly make

up for in social consciousness.

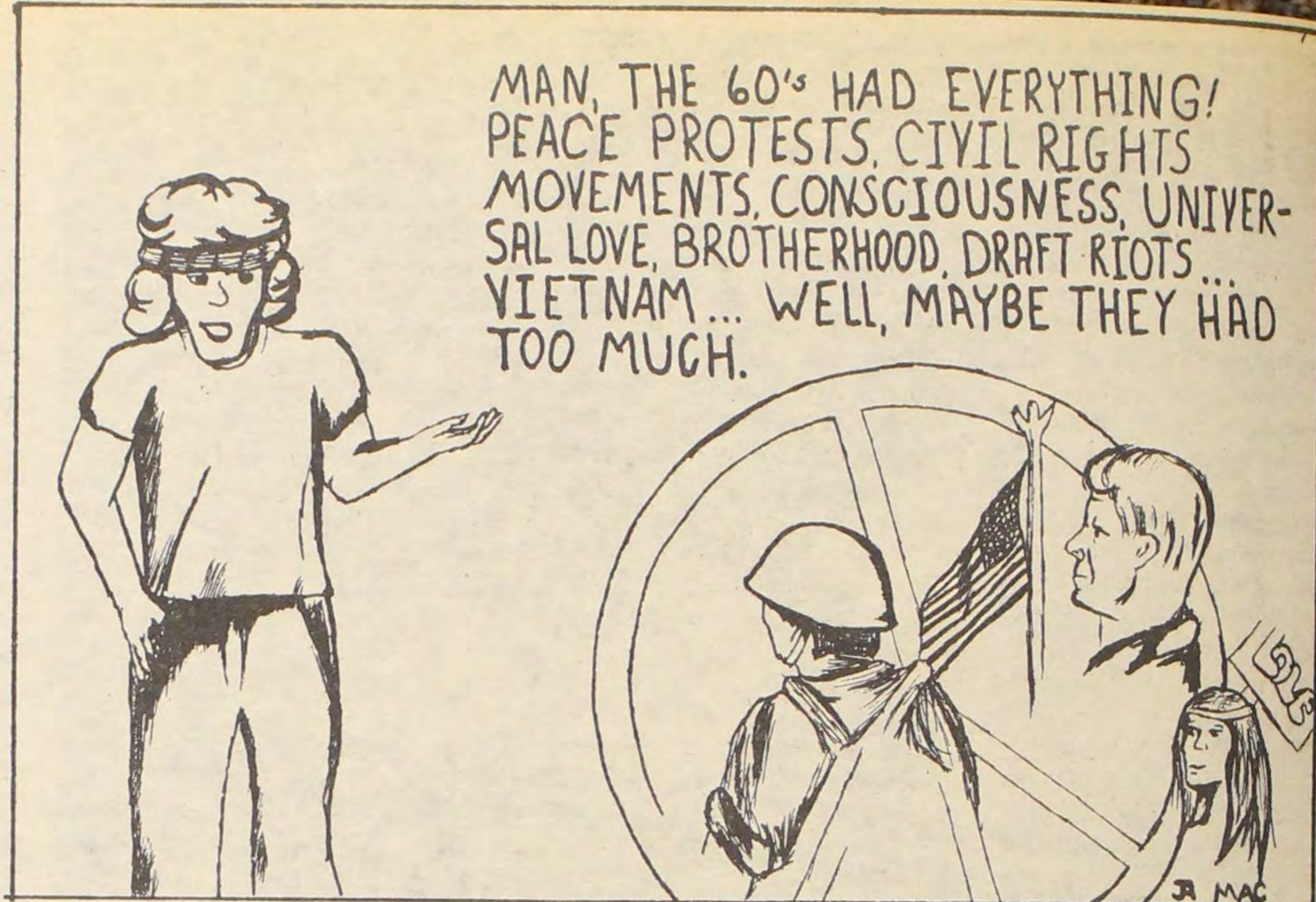
"We have a right," one of the young men says, "to present our anti-draft views in the student union, along-side the Navy, who has been given space to promote their recruiting."

There is a cumulus approval, and I react to the cloud, the mass that is beginning to thunder and roar vigorously, like an overdue storm.

I am afraid. Afraid, because I know the history. I start running, and I keep running . . .

My eyes opened again into 1984. I remember that I am not a young, upstart actor on the "Twilight Zone," but a student at McPherson College. I am a student at a peace-related school, and yet do I even know where I stand on the issue of the draft? Do I have enough faith in myself to even form an opinion, or cast a vote in the election?

I had always thought of these rebels as a very pessimistic lot of individuals, but now I realize that politically, we, as young people today, are far more negative than those who stood before me, in faded jeans and mini-skirts, quoting W.E.B. Dubois, with all the fervor and confidence of a small-town preacher who is convinced that he, alone, can make a difference.



## Stuco explains election postponements

by Matt Howell

The Elections Committee has worked many thankless hours on this very difficult election and some explanation for its actions should be supplied on its behalf.

The election results were not posted until Wednesday, March 28, so that student teachers (who couldn't attend convo) would have a chance to vote Wednesday

morning; and the "next day" revote (for Student-body President) was interpreted as meaning the next convo day, in order to include off-campus students, who would be discriminated against in lunch-time voting.

Unfortunately, the film scheduled to be shown at convo on Thursday, March 29, turned out to be a video-tape, and convo was cancelled. And with no convo, the Presidential run-off was also postponed, until Monday's convo (April 2).

Monday morning, just before convo, a question was raised by a concerned (non-candidate) student, whether or not the ballots could be recounted.

Although the actual tally of votes is usually kept confidential, specific information, which was leaked out of the Election Committee and through one of the candidates, led this student to believe that the votes for all three candidates were so close that a recount was in order.

The timing of this concern caused the run-off election to be postponed once again, since the Elections Committee deemed it important to give this concern proper consideration. (There is nothing in the Constitution about recounts, or who can call them.)

The goal of the committee has been "fairness" to all the candidates and to the student bod

## Foreign Language Study — A Sound Investment in America's Future

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- ... the National Academy for Sciences considers knowledge of foreign languages vital for the U.S. to remain competitive in technology, science and trade
- ... commercial language schools now have waiting lists, due to the increased demand in business and industry for persons with foreign language skills

- ... the majority of Americans, according to a recent national survey, consider command of foreign languages a useful skill
- ... the U.S. Government employs about 30,000 persons with a working knowledge of foreign languages
- ... U.S. airlines have difficulty in finding personnel with foreign language skills
- ... foreign banks are opening branches in most major U.S. cities (New York alone has close to 200) and need employees with foreign language skills
- ... foreign companies are increasing investments in the U.S. and opening new plants
- ... 856 radio stations in the U.S. broadcast in 58 foreign languages
- ... the media increasingly need reporters and journalists with a knowledge of foreign languages and cultures
- ... twenty million foreign travelers annually spend more than eight billion dollars in the U.S. and increasingly expect foreign language skills from Americans
- ... knowledge of foreign languages will open up career possibilities in translating, interpreting and overseas teaching
- ... close to half of the U.S. multinational company executives know foreign languages
- ... over a two-month period *The New York Times* carried 631 advertisements from employers seeking people with language skills
- ... 1,261 companies surveyed reported 60,687 positions requiring a second language
- ... university and departmental requirements for foreign languages are on the increase since, in many fields, a working knowledge of foreign languages is important for research
- ... business, industry and government often find it necessary to hire multilingual foreign nationals due to a shortage of linguistically trained Americans.



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# Spec remembers 1960's at McPherson

by Laura Gannon

When the subject of the sixties is brought up, visions of flower children, demonstrations, the Beatles, Vietnam and wide use of drugs come to mind. As all this was happening in the outside world, what was going on here at McPherson College?

The beginning of the decade saw Dr. Desmond Bittinger as President of the college, and 468 students in attendance. When thinking of past classes, the question arises, "Did they ever do anything bizarre?"

Well, it was the middle of the night and a bunch of students were parading down Main Street — in their pajamas. It was the Fortieth Annual Pajama Parade. (If they did that today, with pajamas the way they are, they'd probably get put in jail for indecent exposure.) Also, the tug-of-war across Lakeside Park was lost by the freshmen, who had to wear beanies until noon the next day.

The sixties saw the construction of many new buildings. A new wing to Dotzour and new additions to the College Courts and the Student Union were being constructed in the early 1960's. The year 1964 saw the completion

of Metzler Hall, a dorm "beyond description and the fulfillment of a dream." Both Bittinger Hall and Miller Library were under way in the late 60's.

Familiar faces were already around back then: Dr. Raymond Flory, professor of history and political science, took a group of students on a tour of Washington, D.C.; Larry Kitzel, a freshman in 1962, was on tour in Europe playing the trombone; Lowell Flory became Stuco President; Dr. Merlin Frantz became Dean of the college; Dr. Wesley DeCoursey began testing anti-radiation of white rats; Connie Weddle was nominated to "Who's Who" and Doris Coppock starred in and choreographed "Brigadoon."

Although some things have changed since then, many things seem to always remain the same: Cafeteria food was "inedible," the choir went on tour and the theatre department put on plays such as "For Heaven's Sake," "The Fantastiks," "Diary of Ann Frank," and "A Doll's House." And for all of you who endured last weekend, you might be interested to know that RYC'ers were terrorizing the campus in the sixties, too.

The height of political awareness in the world was also seen at Mac. The formation of the Young Republicans and the Young Democrats was to "stimulate interest in the American political sphere." Also beginning in the late 60's was Discussion Day, with such topics of interest as civil rights, prejudice, peace and the death verdict.

Although the campus was the location for many liberal political views, socially, the campus was

still conservative. Much concern and many opinions were expressed about the "sinners" and "Easterners" who smoked those "cancer sticks." One quite conservative editor of the Spectator even went so far as saying our leaders should be more like Billy Graham.

At this time, however, school policies were also being questioned by the student body. Required chapel was finally demolished since it was "becoming less an educational

experience and more an unpleasant hour in which to sleep, talk, or bother other students . . ." (Sound familiar?) To discuss the issues of the day, a coffeehouse was opened in the basement of Arnold Hall and then later moved to the Mac House.

Since that time, the campus has seen many people come and go. But whether they graduated in the sixties or the eighties, McPherson College students have been touched by what they learned here.

## Play has message... somewhere

I had seriously considered leaving last Saturday's play after the first act. "The Prime Of Miss Jean Brodie" was appearing to be merely tasteless scrapings from a theatrical frying pan.

I saw little substance in the self-boasting babblings of a teacher, Miss Brodie, played by Mary Coffman, and the giggly

and fanatical interest the five girl students took in their teacher's personal life.

Cheap terminological gimmicks, such as the school girls' verbal flaunting of 'sexual intercourse,' also increased the temptation of an early return to my room and Saturday night radio.

But I stayed. I stayed partly because of the challenge of analyzing a flimsy play in an attempt to find hidden value and genius, and partly because a friend sat next to me and blocked my exit. I am glad I stayed.

Not only did I enjoy visiting with my friend but I did indeed find some value and genius to appreciate in the play.

It was the tale of a highly motivated and independent women "in her prime," making the most of herself by molding her five school girls into her own five creations.

Said Brodie, "Little girls, I am in the business of putting old heads on young shoulders and all my pupils are the creme de la creme. Give me a girl at an impressionable age, and she is mine for life . . ."

By the end of the second act the school girls had me somewhat captivated and impressed, because of the good acting as well as the characters portrayed.

Kerri Weddle led the skirted troupe by taking the role of the intelligent one, Brodie's 'spy' creation, while Annette Taylor exhibited good qualifications for being the exceptionally pretty 'lover.'

The other three also filled their parts well, Stacy Ogrand as the 'actress' with character, Rhonda Mitchell as the humble, stuttering 'fledgling' and Tammy Peet as another body to make the group add up to five.

Playing a woman-abused and -abusing artist seemed to be an easy, natural task for veteran actor Erny Figueroa.

It was only through this good acting and well-learned lines that the play's value was revealed, that the message of genius could be found: Well, actually I'm not real sure just what the message is but I could sense something rather profound; something about the prime of one's life.

Even though I may not be able to derive a clean-cut statement confirming the substance of the play, I know it was there. After my Act I reservations faded, I was able to enjoy the story and what it may have suggested.

Compliments to Mary Coffman on another leading role well portrayed.

Congratulations to Director Bruce Spitzer for the prime presentation of a potentially questionable play.

Tim Crouse

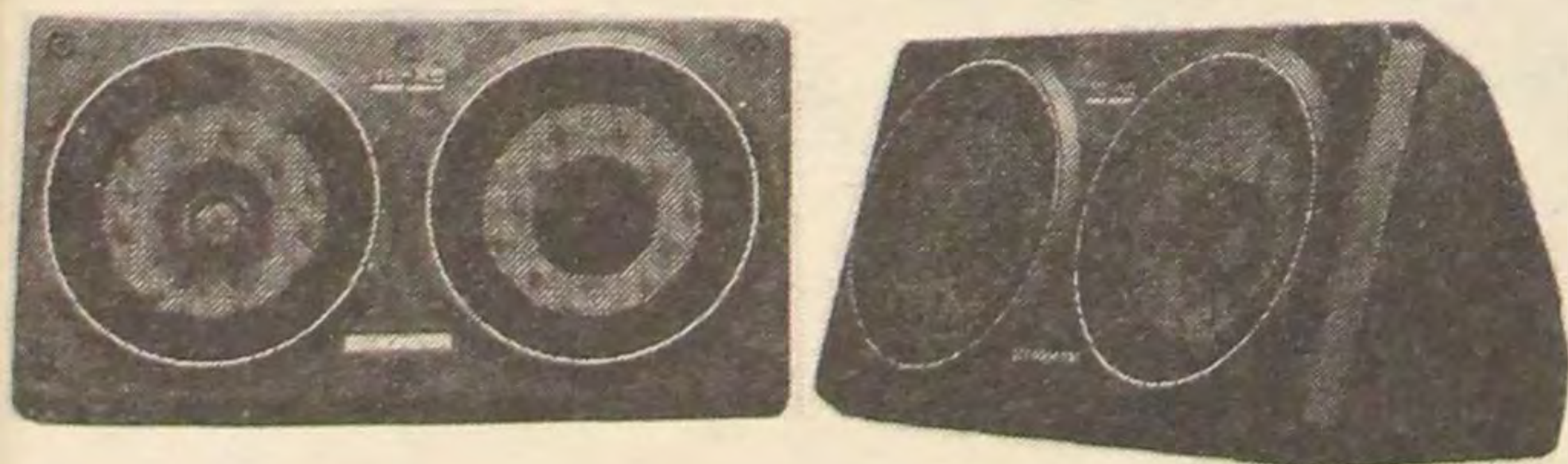
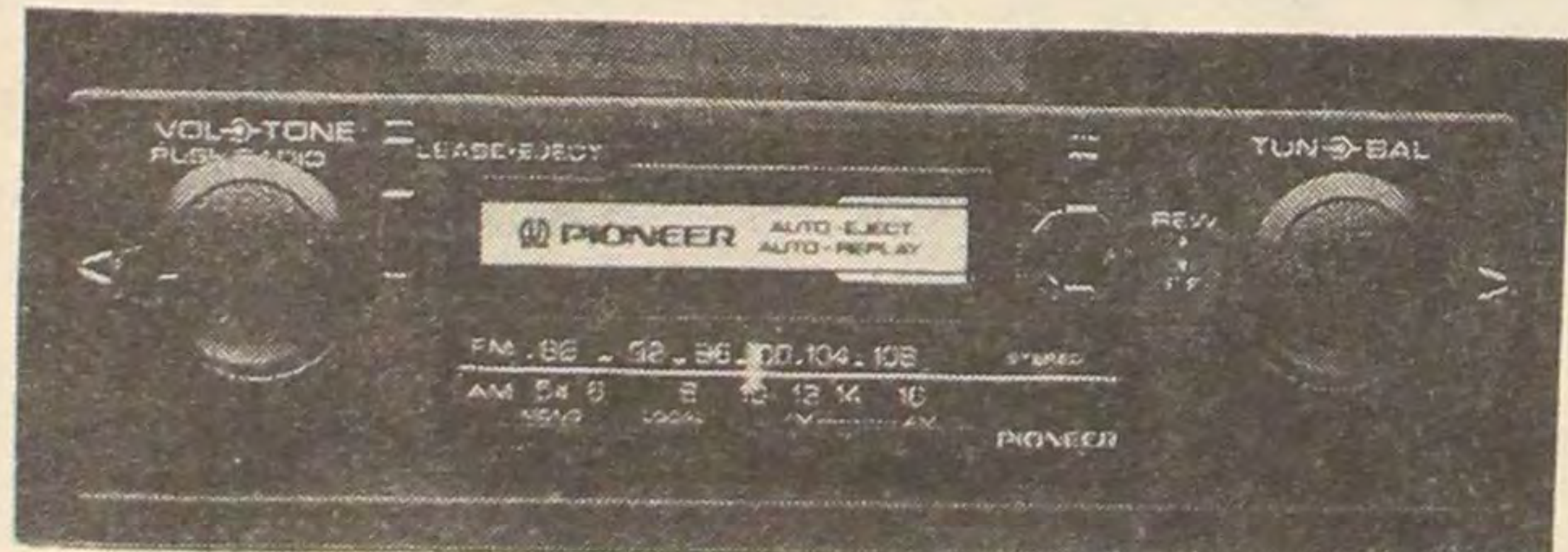


**IN THEIR PRIME** — Quality acting saved "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" from a more critical review. The play was directed by Bruce Spitzer (sr., Kalona, Iowa).  
photo by Janet Powell

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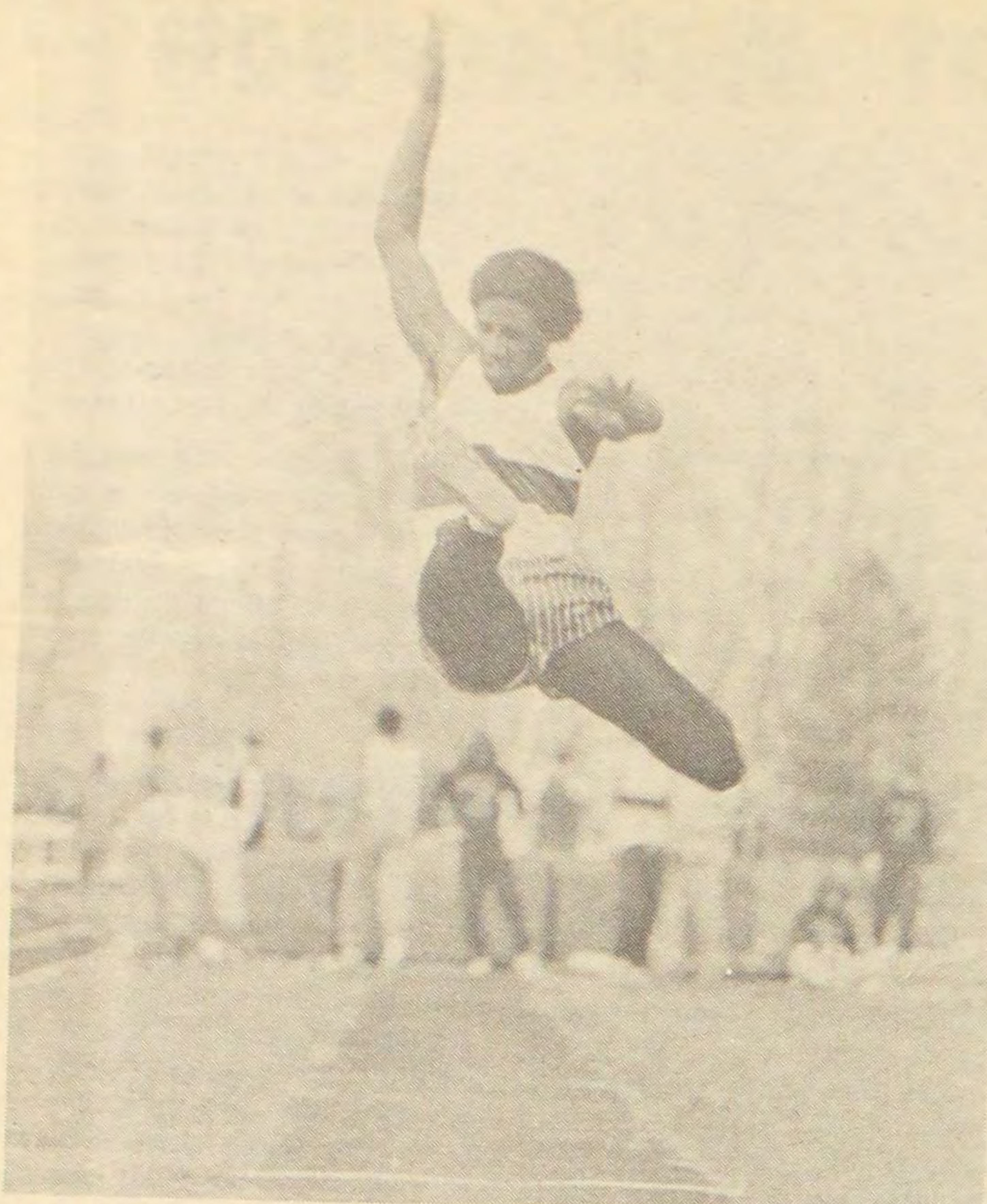
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**THE GREATEST OF EASE** — Scott Green flies through the air on his way to second place in the long jump at the McPherson Invitational.

photo by Dave Franklin

## Mac makes tracks at Invitational

by Kevin Burton

The Bulldog track teams hosted the first-ever McPherson Invitational a week ago, and showed themselves to be very competitive, especially in the field events.

The Mac women just about owned the high jump. Sandy Nichols won the event, with Amy Howell placing third, Denise Race fourth. Tina Troxel placed second in both the shot and discus, and Millie Alexander placed fifth in the discus.

The ladies also ruled the 100-meter hurdles. Valecia Kelly won the event, Sandy Nichols took fourth and Sheryl Lolling sixth. Denice Race won the long jump, with Teresa Bird taking sixth. Valecia Kelly won the intermediate hurdles.

For the men, Jerry Hett took first place in the Javelin. Darrell Griffin took sixth in pole vault.

Scott Green placed second in long jump and Mike Jackson placed sixth. Also, Lynn Gibbs placed sixth in the shot put.

All those places could have added up to a lot of points, but the Mac Invite was a non-scoring meet. Still McPherson showed they could hold their own in conference, even dominating some events.

Field events are McPherson's strong suit. Coach Dan Hoffman would like to round out the attack, saying, "We've got to start getting more running points in order to compete at the KCAC meet."

Mac takes to the road

tomorrow to compete in the Swede Invitational in Lindsborg. Over twenty teams have shown interest in the meet, so the competition should be top-notch.

Even though the numbers will be at Lindsborg, the ACCK track meet, to be held next Tuesday in Salina, may be bigger. "The ACCK meet will be our first indication of what's going to happen at conference," said Hoffman.

Kansas Wesleyan, Bethel and Bethany will provide the opposition for the meet.

Tomorrow's meet at Bethany begins at 10:30 a.m., with the finals starting at 1:30.

## Golf team sports record numbers

by Kevin Burton

If this season's numbers are any indication, the golf program may be ready to get off of McPherson's back burner.

An even dozen players are out for golf this year, with a thirteenth, Greg Phillips, practicing with the team before finishing his eligibility in the next two seasons.

This year, the team is able to practice a lot closer to home, at the McPherson Country Club. "We appreciate the opportunity to use the course," said coach Doris Coppock. "It's convenient, and it's a good fun course to

play."

Even if the college and the Country Club are cooperating, Mother Nature is not. Inclement weather has shortened and cancelled practices, and last Monday postponed the McPherson Invitational. (The tournament has been rescheduled for April 16.) Other than that, things look good, seldom better.

"The guys feel good about the way they're heading," says Coppock.

Today the team will venture to Salina for the Bethany Invitational, hoping for better

luck with the weather. Rob McKay, Steve Harrison, Troy Slaybach, Wade Thiessen and Rusty Allen are expected to be the ones seeing action today.

McPherson will host the KCAC golf meet this year at their former practice site in Hesston. It will be less-than-crowded there, as McPherson is one of just three schools with active golf programs. Southwestern and always-tough Bethany provide the only conference competition for a McPherson team which may be ready to make great strides.

If it ever stops raining.

## Don't tell me we have school spirit!

by Kevin Burton

If I didn't know any better, I'd say McPherson College was beginning to take pride in its athletic program.

Just think back. Some of the early season football crowds were positively unquiet. And

when the Sport Center was finally available, well — people started getting involved. (No names, don't worry.)

And now some of the spring sports are attracting record numbers. When is the last time we saw twelve people out for golf? The track team is benefiting from this renewed spirit too. The only exception this spring would be the tennis team, which can boast just six members.

KCAC schools from time to time will drop this program or that, because of finances, or just

plain lack of interest. McPherson has made an effort to keep all its programs alive to give its students the largest possible variety of activities. Wonder of wonders, it looks like the student body is taking notice.

Awright!!

Athletics are not the reason why we're all here. But as long as we are, we might as well be unified. Athletics can unify a student community more than any other single activity. There's nothing wrong with having (and showing) a little pride in your school.

## Personals

Point to ponder:

"I am an idealist. I believe that man's most precious possession is his ideals. The only way to show these ideals is to live them."

Peter Ford  
Letter to the Editor  
Spectator  
Nov. 9, 1962

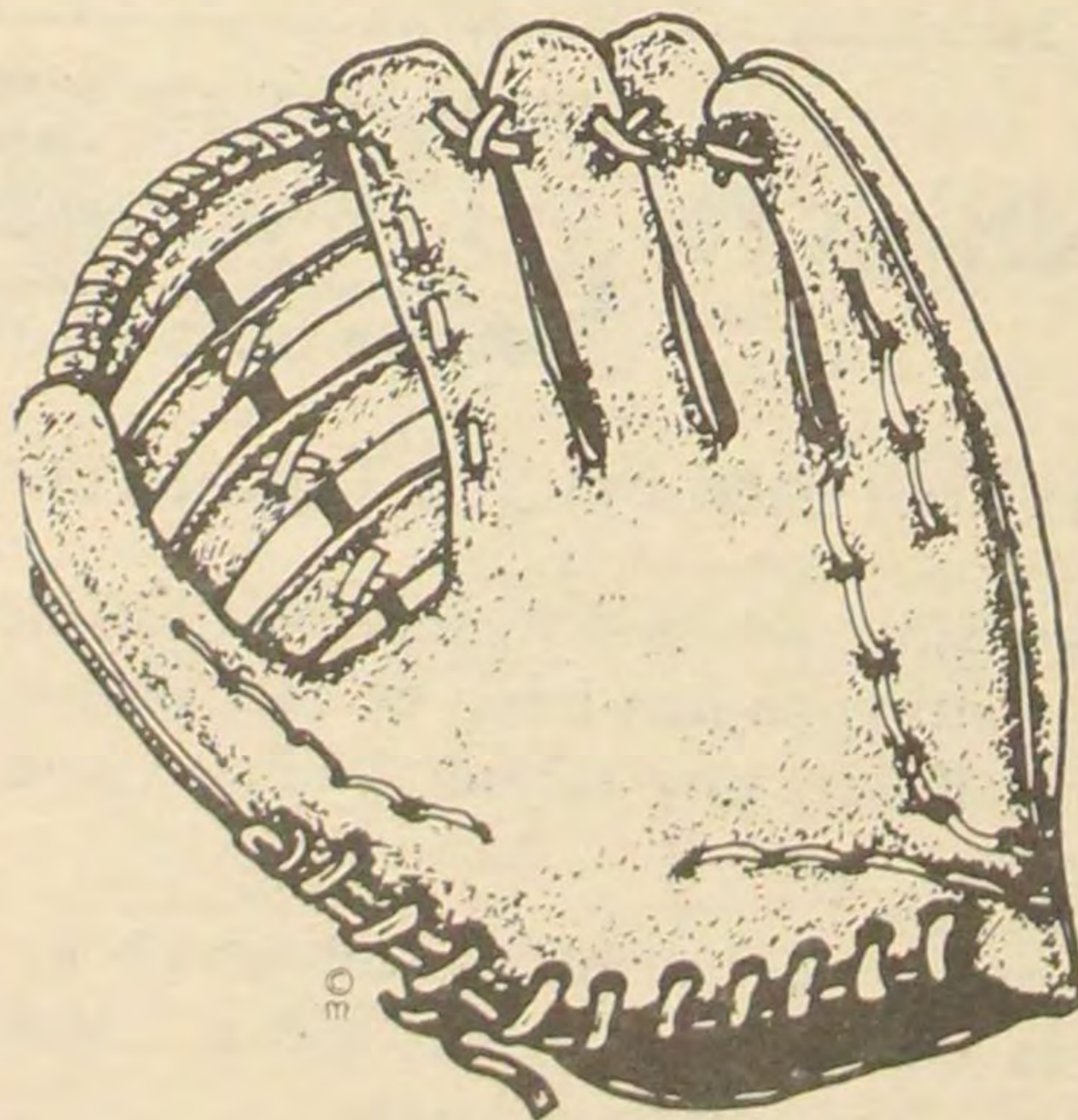
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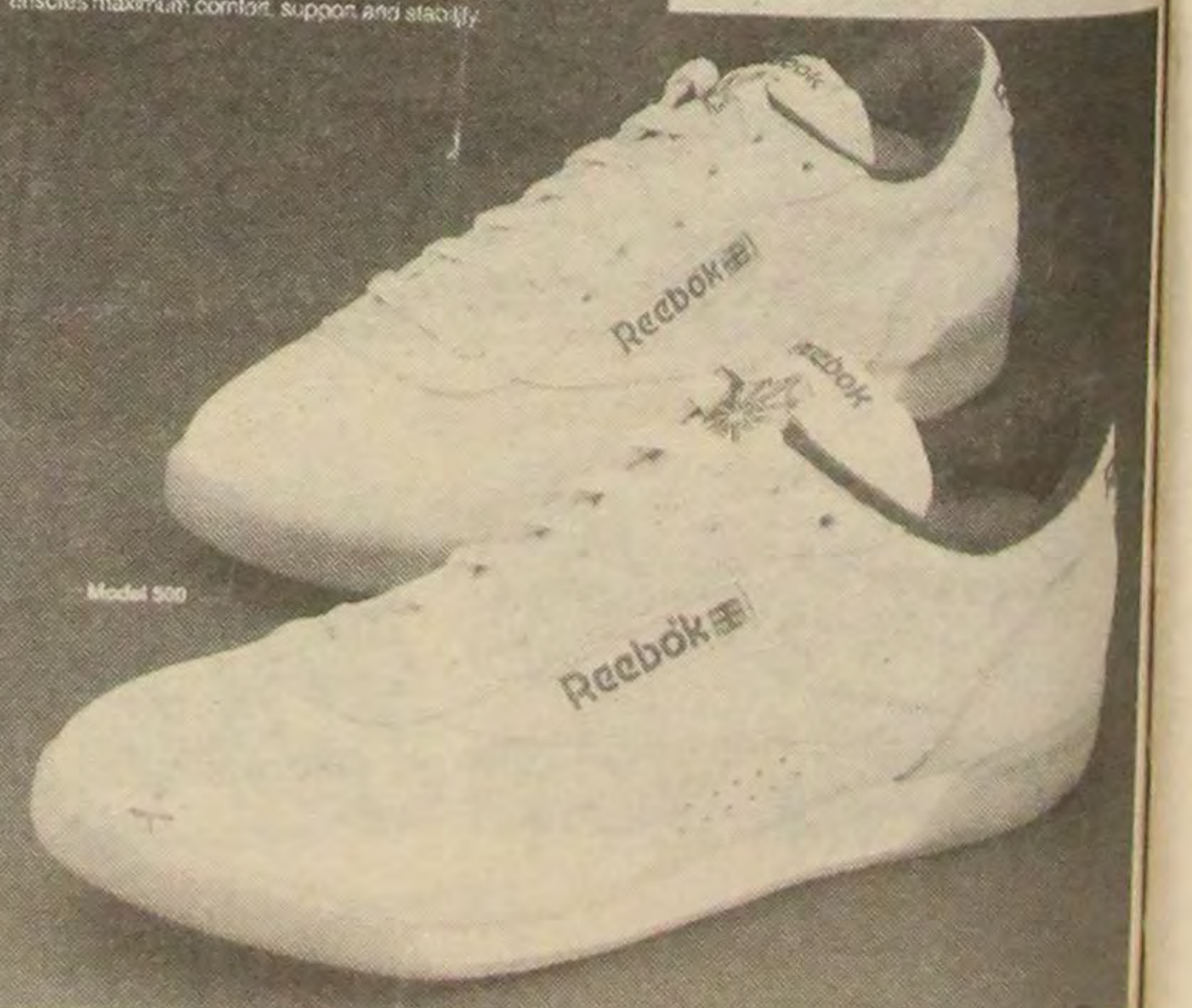
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