

The McPherson College SPECTATOR

McPherson College, McPherson KS 67460 (USPS 509-880)

'To Learn
Is To
Teach'

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Volume 70 Issue 15

May 16, 1986

News Briefs

College to honor individuals

As part of the annual Alumni Day ceremonies on May 24, 1986, McPherson College will be awarding six individuals the Citation of Merit. Criteria for the Citation of Merit are based on achievement and success in one's profession, service to humankind, service to one's church, and support of McPherson College.

According to President Paul Hoffman, "Alumni selected by the McPherson College trustees as worthy of receiving a Citation of Merit are not always individuals who have given financially to McPherson College, but they are persons who display a deep loyalty for the college. In all cases they have dedicated their lives to the theme of service — service to their communities, to the church, and to education."

Those receiving Citations of Merit are Dr. Dale Brown, Lombard IL; Mrs. Mary Elizabeth (Hoover) Shepherd, Fort Scott, KS; Dr. Theodore Kaltsounis, Seattle, WA; Mr. Vernon and Mrs. Rowena (Neher) Nicholson, Wichita, KS; and Mr. John Lehman, Abilene, KS.

College receives stock donation

Mrs. Gladys Heaston Krehbiel of Moundridge, Kansas, recently transferred a gift of stock worth \$102,000 to McPherson College as part of its centennial celebration which will occur in 1987-1988. Although the gift has not been designated for a specific fund, Mrs. Krehbiel has requested that her late parents, Dr. Will and Mrs. Susan Harnly Heaston, be memorialized through the gift.

Mrs. Krehbiel received the bachelor's degree from McPherson College and her master's degree from the University of Chicago. After completing her education, she taught in Moundridge, Kansas, becoming principal of Moundridge High School for one year before marrying Mr. Nelson Krehbiel. Mr. Krehbiel managed the family business, the Moundridge Milling Company.

Responding to her experience as a student at McPherson College, Mrs. Krehbiel said, "I believe in small colleges. One develops a repertoire with others in such an atmosphere, something which is not possible in the larger university setting. I've always been happy that I graduated from McPherson College."

McPherson profs edit book

Greenwood Press, Westport, Connecticut, recently announced that a new book edited by two McPherson College professors has been published.

"Teaching in the Small College: Issues and Applications" was edited by Professors Richard Wright and John Burden of McPherson College's Sociology and Psychology Departments respectively. The book received its impetus from a conference which the professors designed for small college faculty nearly two years ago. In addition to Dr. Wright, Dr. David Smith and numerous others who wrote chapters for the book, Dr. Paul Graber and Professor Robert Ward of McPherson College have chapters included, as well.

"Teaching in the Small College" provides a contemporary portrait of small colleges — the educational advantages they offer, the problems they face, and innovative solutions being developed. The authors discuss the tightly knit community of learning, a larger proportion of faculty dedicated to teaching, personal interaction of faculty and students, a greater degree of student participation, and the emphasis on moral-ethical implications of education.

Spectator receives critique

In a critique sponsored by the Kansas Association of Journalism Advisors, the "Spectator" was given the highest possible rating. It received 900 out of 1000 points, placing it in the All Kansas category.

The results of the critique were announced at the KAJA Spring Conference April 25 at Kansas State University. Susan Taylor, advisor for the "Spectator", Gary Foulke, editor, and Melissa James, staff reporter, attended the conference.

The first three issues of the 1986 Spring term were considered in the critique. Each page of the paper was evaluated separately, along with photography, design and overall news coverage.

The judge, a journalism professor at a state university, was impressed with the depth of campus news coverage and design of the paper.

Stuco awards convocation held

Several students and faculty members of McPherson College were recognized Monday at the annual Stuco Convocation.

Among the many awards that were presented were the Who's Who awards from McPherson College, including: Roxanna Carlson, McPherson; Tim Crouse, St. Cloud Fla.; Steve Foulke, McPherson; Deb Holderread, Newton; Kathy Mack, Dallas Center, IA; Mike Neher, Quinter; Greg Phillips, Olathe; Glenda Skarphol, Loveland CO; Kelly Thomas, Buchanan MI; and David van Asselt, McPherson. All are seniors.

The Kappa Omicron Phi Award was given to Patty Thorpe, jr., McPherson.

The Behavioral Sciences Outstanding Student Award was presented to Roxanna Carlson. The Business and Economics Outstanding Student Award was presented to Bill Wempe, sr., Little River. Wempe was also honored for his being selected for the NAIA Academic All-American team.

The woman Athlete of the Year, Denice Race, jr., Platteville CO, was named as the woman Athlete of the Year. Both have been multi-sport standouts for McPherson College.

Professor Robert Ward, computer science, and Leona Breeden, jr., Studley KS, were presented with the Student Council Outstanding Service Awards. Professor Ward was also honored by being selected as Professor of the Year.

Chemistry professor chosen

McPherson College has announced the addition of Dr. Shingo Kajinami, Assistant Professor in Chemistry, to the McPherson College Science Department. Dr. Kajinami, a Japanese native, received his B.S. from Bethel College and his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.

Dr. Kajinami produced two publications during his doctoral research and has taught general chemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry labs for several years. Having diverse research and administrative experience in major U.S. industry, Dr. Kajinami holds two U.S. patents and has served as a technical liaison between Japan and the U.S. Dr. Kajinami will fulfill the position vacated by the retirement of Dr. Wesley DeCoursey.

Dr. Kajinami served as graduate teaching assistant at the University of Oklahoma from 1966-1970 and as interim instructor at Kansas Newman College in Wichita. He has been a research chemist for Standard Oil, Administrative Manager of Merck, Sharp and Dohme International, and General Manager of Kaj Health Products, Inc.

Choir travels to Lawrence

The McPherson College Choir was part of an historical occasion April 27 which could lead to the next US-USSR summit if the citizens of Lawrence have their way.

While church bells tolled, McPherson choir members and College personnel joined several hundred Lawrence citizens and school children along with Soviet and American veterans who led the way to South Park where ceremonies took place.

The leader of the American patrol at the Elbe explained the April 25 Elbe events forty-one years ago. "When our armies met there," he said, "we saw a crowd of people — men, women, and children — all dead. They had been caught in cross fire between armies and were slaughtered on the spot. When the battle was over, Americans and Russians rejoiced because the end of the war was in sight, but the dead bodies of innocent victims so moved the generals that they made another pact with each other — to work mutually for peace. The resulting Elbe Alliance pledged them to 'peace, friendship and cooperation between nations for the purpose of preventing war.'"



CHOIR PARTICIPATES — Linda Oellig and Denise Royer, two members of the McPherson College Choir, participated in the ceremonies at Lawrence commemorating the Elbe alliance of 1945. Publicity Office Photo

Creed takes ETA position

By Kevin Burton
Staff Writer

Greg Creed, a senior Spanish and Business-Economics major at McPherson College, has taken a job overseas as an English Teacher Assistant. Creed, who spent one school year studying in Spain, is fluent in the Spanish language so the move is a natural.

Except the job is in Japan, not Spain.

"You're right," he conceded. "It would be easier for me to go to Spain. But I saw this opportunity and decided to go for it."

Creed is one of 150 newly-hired ETAJ's (English Teacher Assistant in Japan). The survivors were selected from 700 applicants. Each of them faced a long application process.

"It was frustrating, but it was worth it," said Creed of the process that began in October and ended with an interview in Chicago last January. Each first completed a four-page essay, and then a ten page test, the first eight pages calling for short answers, and the final two another essay. The line of questioning was geared in part to

determine how the applicant would hold up under the pressures of cultural isolation. Creed's experience in Spain undoubtedly helped him in this area.

The application process was costly. Creed says he spent nearly \$100 during the process. But now as employees of the Japanese Ministry of Education he'll be working at one of the highest-paid teacher assistant positions in the world.

McPherson graduate Matt Howell is currently finishing his second year as an ETAJ in Nagaoka-shi Japan.

Creed and the other ETAJ's will spend their first week in Japan attending a series of meetings in Tokyo. Only after these meetings will they receive assignments.

Creed knows very little Japanese at this point, having taken only one class. Since learning of his acceptance into the program he has been receiving instruction from Ginko Ueshiba, a Japanese student studying at McPherson.

"I'm ready to go," says Creed, not one to shy away from adventures. "I don't know what it's going to be like at all, so it's exciting, but a little scary."

Seniors to graduate

The class of 1986 will graduate 97 students on May 25.

Commencement exercises will be held in Brown Auditorium at 2:30. Graduating students should meet at the Sports Center at 2:00, and the procession into Brown Auditorium should start at 2:15. In case of rain, graduating students should meet in Mohler Hall, with students meeting in room 212 and faculty meeting in room 227.

Dr. Dale Brown, a 1946 alumnus of McPherson College, will be the commencement speaker for the 1986 graduates.

Graduates of the class of 1986 and their respective major fields of study are listed below.

Vicki Lynn Albrecht, Physical Education; Carol L. Allton, Education; Education; Education; Gigi Renee Anderson, Education; Lori Elaine Anderson, Elementary Education and Special Education; Lewis LaMar Arnold, Audio-Visual Communications; Michael T. Baker, Business-Economics; Management; Patricia J. Bauer, Administration of Justice; and Special Education; Karl Florine Blankenship, Business-Economics; Accounting; Kevin E. Burton, Interdisciplinary; Print and Broadcast Journalism; Roxanna Marie Curry Carlson, Journalism; Mary Lynn Coff-Major, Spanish, Psychology; Katherine Joan man, Speech and Theatre; Education and Cotton, Education; Elementary Education and Special Education; Double Major: Business-Economics; Gregory S. Creed, Double Major: Business-Economics; Management; Spanish; Timothy W. Crouse, Spanish; James K. Crowl, Industrial Arts; Paul James Dellinger, Education; Elementary Arts; Anthony Diana Ekwensi, Audio-Visual Communications; Neil Elliott, Business-Economics; Gary Bryan, Management; Max Ewalt, Industrial Arts; Rita Clayton Fike, Agriculture; Crop Science; Marie Fike, Biology; Elaine Flora, Business-Economics; Management; Patti Sue Foster, Administration of Justice; Steven Ail Fouke, Double Major: English; Karen Denise Fredrickson, Physical Science; Management; Hargadine, Accounting; History; Lonnie L. Heigle, Ruth Heidebrecht, History; Lonnie L. Heigle, Industrial Arts; Marilyn R. Helmuth, Business-Economics; Accounting; Ellen J. Herschelmann, Business-Economics; Management.

Debra Lynn Holderread, Philosophy and Religion; Deanie Holloway, English; Carolyn Ruth Horning, Psychology; Duane Michael Hunn, Physics; Neal J. Jandreau, Business-Economics; Management; Joel J. Knoery, Chemistry; Leigh Richardson Inoué, History; David R. Koehler, Business-Economics.

Accounting: Caroline T. Konicek, Business-Economics; Management; Lori Marie Kravets, Business-Economics; Management; Patricia E. Leiker, Business-Economics; Accounting; Virgil Joseph Leiker II, Audio-Visual Communications; Sheri Diane Lolling, Physical Education; James L. Mack, Double Major: Computer Science, Mathematics; Kathryn Ann Mack, Double Major: Computer Science, Mathematics; Defawyna D. Maier, Education; Elementary Education; Andrew Craig McKinnell, Double Major: Computer Science, Sociology; Kevin Jay Miller, Double Major: Business-Economics; Management, German.

Sue Ann Miller, Physical Science; John Martin Moyer, Philosophy and Religion; Joseph Mugenya Mugamba, Art; Rory Lane Nansel, Double Major: Business-Economics; Management; Sandra L. Nichols, Education; Elementary Education; Tammy Kay Ocker, Education; Early Childhood Education; Connie Sue Ocker, Education; Early Childhood Education; Stephanie Nancy Kay Business-Economics; Management; Childhood Pennell, Education; Marjorie Maile Peterson, Biology; Education; David A. Peterson, History; Gregory W. Phillips, Business-Economics; Accounting; Lee Pierce, Audio-Visual Communications; Kevin Dayne Pote, Business-Economics; Management; Denise Janelle Pounds, Interdisciplinary; Interior Design; Gail Regheer, Business-Economics; Accounting; Matthew T. Robinson, Speech and Theatre; Michael Dean Salmons, Business-Economics; Management; David Edward Schrock, Biology.

Peggy Marie Seck, Interdisciplinary; Interior Design; Grant N. Shanklin, Double Major: Business-Economics; Management; Industrial Arts; Pamela Axline Shoemaker, Business-Economics; Management; Glenda Lee Skarphol, History; Judy Kay Sonderegger, Elementary Education; Craig Eugene Spitzer, Double Major: English, German; Susan Kay Starr, Business-Economics; Management; David A. Steele, Philosophy and Management; Penny K. Stoss, Sweeney, Religion; Tammy Sweeney, Physical Education; Double Major: English; David van Asselt, Kelly Jean Thomas, German; Zeldora R. Walker, Francis Wempe, Business-Economics; Accounting; Faye Ellen Troselle Winger, Double Major: Philosophy and Religion, Sociology; Roy E. Winter, Psychology; Charlene S. Zarger, Double Major: Interdisciplinary; Interior Design, Art.

Two-Year Associate of Technology Degrees, 1986: Robert Chell, Auto Restoration; Roger Conely, Auto Restoration; James K. Crowl, Auto Restoration; David L. Gossett, Auto Restoration; Greg Gottschalk, Auto Restoration; Timothy Joseph Karch, Auto Restoration; Karl W. Nipper, Auto Restoration; Michael J. Schaefer, Auto Restoration; Cody B. Steiner, Auto Restoration; Jeffrey M. Wortz, Auto Restoration; Steven M. Wortz, Auto Restoration.

Wright to seek doctorate during sabbatical leave

By Kevin Burton
Staff Writer

Every year August manages to burn itself out like too much of a good thing, and every year September is there looming. Its cooling influence is enough to bring both leaves and schoolboys floating down to earth.

When this September scenario repeats itself, Richard Wright will stride into a classroom. Motivation and beard intact, he will be as prepared as ever, maybe more so. But when the lecture begins, he won't be delivering it.

For the first time in eight years in a classroom anywhere, it's Richard Wright — student.

"It'll be strange," he says, considering his new old role. Then he smiles, "It'll be a relief, the ball's in somebody else's court."

But the ball is still in Wright's court. As he takes a year's sabbatical from McPherson, where he is a Professor of Sociology, to pursue a Ph.D. at Kansas State University, he has merely changed sides of the net as he changes sides of the podium.

about time or any other limitations. He was basking in the glow of a North Central Sociology Association first prize award for grad student papers. His "The Dialectic of Pronouns" was deemed the best work submitted from a large region of North Central United States and Eastern Canada. He now sees the award as a mixed blessing.

"As soon as I won that award I lost my motivation to finish. I thought I was a big shot."

"I wasn't."

He laughs again, his cynicism not stopping where self begins. "I was naive."

Wright is one of the most popular professors at McPherson. Compared to most of his peers he is unconventional. Students with varying abilities to pick up on sociological concepts all pick up on this and in 1982-83 he was named Professor of the Year.

His student evaluations have continued to go up although he feels his classroom performance slipping.

"I don't think I'm as good in the classroom as I was a couple of years ago," he states matter-of-factly. "I see I've gotten somewhat stale." His commitment to teaching remains high, but as was once written: the times they are a-changin'.

Wright has two small children now, ages one and four. You know what that means — tantrum city. Sometimes Wright's kids throw tantrums too.

No, but seriously folks, it takes a lot of energy.

"Like last night," he explains, "I got five hours of sleep. And that's been happening a lot. I'd be a fool to believe I could operate under full intellectual capacity."

Ironically Wright says he's become a better sociologist even as his classroom performance drops.

"I actually think I'm a better sociologist now, but it's hard to be a sociology professor at a small school. Sociologists often say things that are very unpopular."

When Wright states, for instance, that heroin should be legalized he's in favor of a reduction in crime, not heroin addiction. He gets little backing for such claims and although he'd be the last to seek approval for its own sake, it can become difficult.

"You pay a real emotional price," he says. "I feel kind of beaten down."

As another long school year comes to an end, the Kansas heat tugs at Wright's resolve.

The tendency is to say Wright will bounce back, but from what? His assertion that his teaching is getting poorer is arguable, as his student evaluations continue to rise. But the mere perception to a certain extent could become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

But let's take the plunge and say he will "bounce back", if not immediately, then when his new-found drive burns hotter than an August sun.

In September.

'The ball
will be in
somebody
else's court.'

-Richard
Wright

Wright plans to live in a grad-school dormitory in Manhattan, living "like a hermit." He'll embark on an intense course load, and when spring comes around, bringing the Pavlovian urge to put books aside, he will ignore it. All the while he will subject himself to (gasp) cafeteria food. Add to this the fact that he has a wife and two kids in McPherson whom he won't often see and you know his motivation must be strong and unwavering.

He's mulled over this sabbatical for about a year, finalizing plans about a month ago. His motivation has returned like a long-lost friend, and he is clearly glad to see it back.

"When I worked at Indiana University," recalls Wright, "my attitude was 'if I finish it fine, if I don't finish that's fine too.' I don't have that attitude this time. I'm going to finish it and get out. I'm going to go hard."

Not that he doesn't go hard normally. Don't let his frequent joking fool you. Wright understands the concept of mediocrity and avoids it like the plague it is. But Wright senses that the time is right to finish the Ph.D.

"I'm starting to think it's now or never," he says. My career cannot progress in a normal way without a Ph.D."

But in 1976 he wasn't thinking

Editorials

Editorials appearing on the Ed-Op page of this publication reflect the views of the writers themselves. They do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty whole nor are they necessarily the views of the administration of the college.

One more time, I am in front of a dummy page, knowing that in two days I will be in front of a dummy sheet, hopefully with enough material to fill it in. Probably last semester more than any other, I had the possibility to interact with students and faculty due to my page editor position. It is amazing that some of the students have had the same behavior I used to have with professors: do the work assigned at the last minute and preferably not at all, since working is not as much fun as being idle. Sorry folks, no one but your peers will read your prose, poetry or thoughts and if it is not in by the deadline, the "Spectator" cannot be printed; this is partly why two issues were not published this past semester. Your loss.

But how rewarding it is to be able to stuff the mailboxes, (thank you Gary) with the black ink still smearing and smelling. And hear students delighted to read the work of their writing friends. And hear them reacting to ideas exposed to them, "I really liked this issue", "F.. France". Some are reactions worth considering, others not. Because of these rewards and the personal achievements, such as scrambling to write a 95 words paper for the next hour and having its topic to fit in the page, entailed in the \$65 a semester job of editor, that it was after all, quite interesting to do it.

However, I sometimes wonder why there is such a lack of interest in writing one's own opinion on a particular topic? Is it the fear to be confronted to people who do not agree. Have you ever seen five hundred persons in agreement over any particular question? I still refuse to think that there is a shortage of opinions on this campus. In five days the 1985-86 school year will draw to an end, there will be room for all people of good will the coming Fall semester. Think about it: you get paid and you are even asked to stand on stage at the end of the year!

— Joel Knoery

Record Rating

The scene is Washington, D.C. And, what a scene it is. Representatives from the music industry, including Frank Zappa, Dee Snider, and John Denver are there to speak out against the PMRC's proposals for protecting the ears of the nation's young people. The Parent's Music Research Center representatives are at the Congressional hearing to bring attention to what they consider to be raunchy rock lyrics which deal with masturbation, bondage, rape, sodomy, incest, orgasm, anal vapors, cod pieces, and buzz saws.

The PMRC is led by the wives of Senator Albert Gore and Treasury Secretary James A. Baker. Last summer, they pressured the industry into using voluntary PG labels on some of their albums. Now, they want more. Among their ideas, are the use of R and X labels, the formation of a panel of industry people and consumers to rate the albums, printing of questionable lyrics on separate racks for "questionable" album covers (or plain brown wrappers), MTV late-night-only viewing of certain videos, lyrics included with albums and tapes sent to radio stations, and reassessment of contracts of performers who offend "mainstream sensibilities".

The record industry responds by saying that there are far too many songs written each year to be able to regulate them. Indeed, the cost in dollars and time would be staggering, probably raising cost of albums.

Is it all necessary? What about the first amendment? Do we want our children to listen to music that deals with such things as oral sex at gunpoint? Who has the responsibility? Where would the regulating end, or would it?

There are rights on both sides of this controversial issue. That is certain. Although I personally find the lyrics disgusting, I try to remain objective. I can see both sides. I choose not to listen, and perhaps that is where it should stop, with personal censorship and regulation, our individual choice. As for me and my house...

Randy Beeghly

Remembering the Elbe

"The men met 41 years ago, a part of the effort to crush a menace to the world. Recently they were in Lawrence, commemorating their meeting, which marked the end of the Nazi Third Reich and of the war in Europe, on the banks of the Elbe River.

"Three Soviet veterans of the Elbe meeting and three East Germans have joined their U.S. counterparts to travel and educate people about the horrors of war.

"Their visit also serves as a reminder that the United States and the Soviets have not always been at odds, that the two nations have worked together in the past when it was necessary to remove an immediate danger.

"It's an important reminder, particularly now that the people of both countries again face the threat from another menace — the vast nuclear arsenals of the two superpowers — and can benefit once again from cooperation.

"The veterans of the Elbe meeting have an advantage over the rest of us, particularly those who have no memory of the Allied efforts to halt the spread of Nazism.

"The Soviet system in 1945 was no more tolerable to the U.S. people than it is today. Yet these veterans shared a common goal — the defeat of Hitler — and laid aside their differences to reach that goal.

"The veterans understand, as few of us can, that some threats make differences in political systems pale, however sharp those differences might be.

"It would be naive to think that the visit by the Soviet veterans would be possible if it didn't coincide with present Soviet foreign policy.

"But it would be equally naive to think that the desire for peace in the Soviet Union isn't sincere, or that this desire doesn't touch a responsive chord in this country.

"Certainly the menace is again there. Now if we can only benefit from the wisdom these veterans gained on the banks of the Elbe."

— The University Daily Kansan

How about a new sport?

A new sport may soon be born into the wide world of them. There is no ball or puck used, no goals or baskets, no speed races or point tallies. The objective is to perform in the purest manner, which is not rated by any human judgement but by the productivity of the performance itself. This will be the sport of thinking.



By Tim Crouse
Guest Columnist

Like most sports, thinking will require devoted training to achieve proper conditioning and to master the techniques of top-rate performance. Of all the exertion the human body is capable of, there is none so demanding as thought. The thinker must maintain a high level of control, but at the same time must funnel a steady flow of energy in an appropriate direction through the mind's passage ways.

The most prominent trait of a virtuous thinker is this ability to keep a balance between control and activity, so thoughts will flow like a stream, steadily moving together to new territory. Top performances will irrigate a lot of land and quench the thirst of inhabitants, without much erosion or flooding.

Patience is the most effective technique for controlling the flow of thought. It requires a relaxed brain. One of the best exercises for this is gentle absorption of the surroundings, which are always filled with more than the mind can absorb, of ideas, perceptions and a potpourri of physical phenomena. A mind open to receiving will relax and stretch itself full of potential insights, like the hamstrings of a sprinter fill with oxygen during a warm-up.

Limber and full, the patient mind gives the thinker flexibility to perform, not to mention freedom to have fun. In this state of mind thought can be controlled because it has room to flow.

Probably the biggest discrepancy among serious thinkers is the direction in which thought should be focused. Although thinking is one of the oldest activities of the human race (indeed, it was the decision to think that took us to a different ballpark from other animals), it is probably the least developed and specialized.

It is difficult, perhaps impossible, to generalize as to the best direction for thought since the conditions at the time of thinking have such an influence and are never the same. There are some good pointers, though.

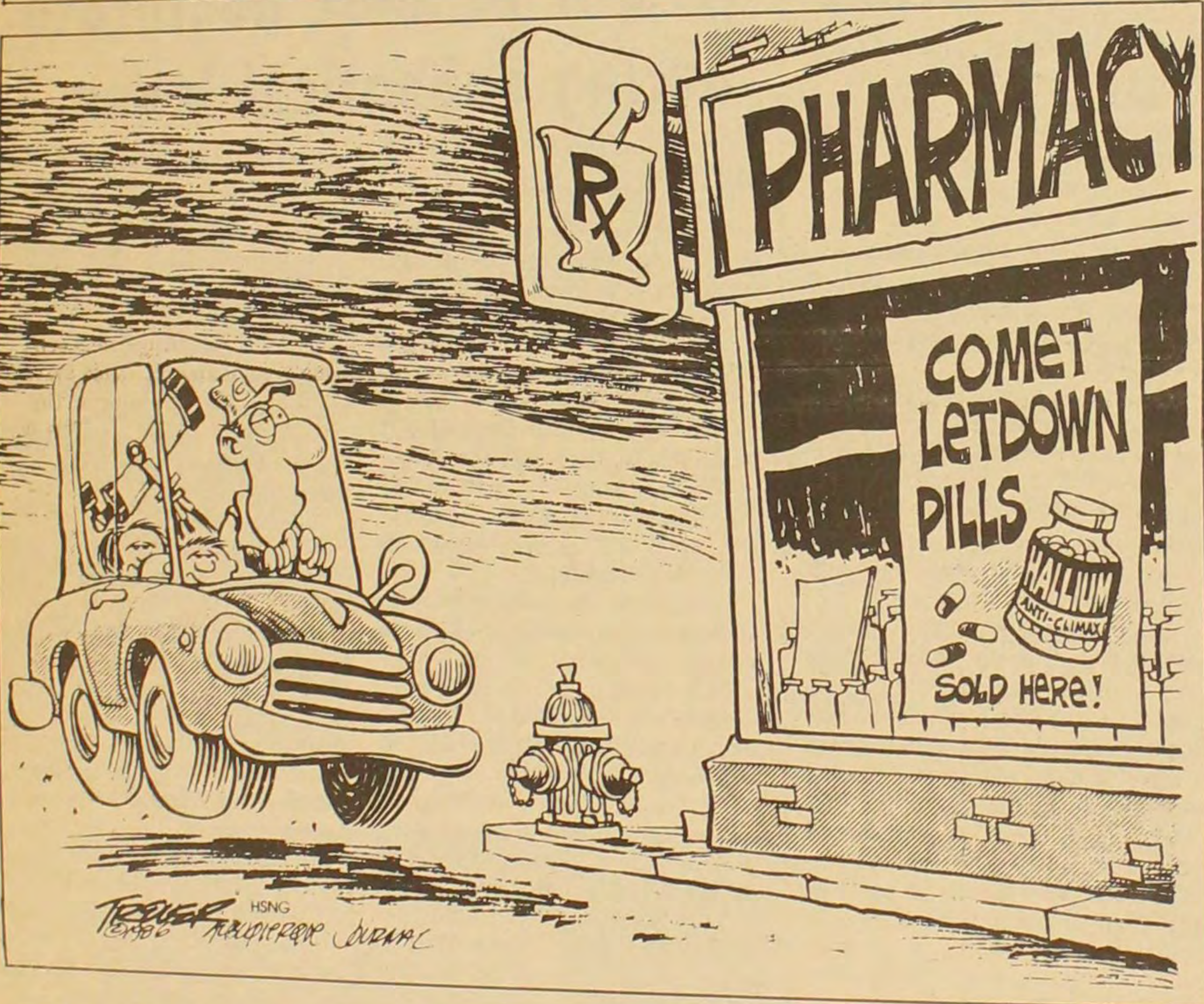
The thinker who has developed the technique of patience will be well acquainted with the surroundings he is thinking in. Where the potential of this awareness goes will depend on how well the thinker has developed

hok (hok: neuter possessive pronoun coined by a thinker who thought in language of an anti-sexist society should have one) skill of intention. The more developed intentions will direct thought toward the higher productivity, of course. That is the objective of thinking.

Degrees of productivity are difficult for humans to distinguish because of this, human judgement not involved in the scoring of the sport of thinking. Productivity will score itself by what it does to ever-changing surroundings that thinkers and all spectators creation are in. The highest scores seem to be those that are most enjoyable to most of creation that involved.

It is hard to really know who the victors of thinking are because results are published in a diverse language that humanity can't grasp. Almost all participants receive awards, unless they've accomplished destruction, which usually means they either pulled muscle (too impatient to warm up or were in the wrong sport (ballpark?).

Thinking is tough. It may be centralized in the brain but it involves all of a person, body and soul. Humanity is about ready for a new sport to take the center of attention. It will be an exciting day when the International Chairperson of Sports Fun and Productivity says, via satellite, "Let the Mind Games officially begin!"



The Spectator Wraps Up

Anyway, the "Spectator" has made some progress this semester. We have a good reliable staff, and we have put out five fairly solid issues; seven issues had been originally planned, but finances and other problems got in the way. We received a pretty favorable critique from the KAJA, and we plan to enter more contests in the future.

However, the "new semester curse" is about to strike again. Every semester the Spec seems to have a terribly high staff turnover



Gary Foulke
Editor

Thoughts

One may ask her-himself what is the basic motivation for humans to take or not to take action.

I believe that any act is the result of an evaluation by the action taker of different parameters: risks involved in doing-not doing and its consequences, but most of all, their best interests (at long, medium and short term). This comes particularly obvious when one looks at a majority of politicians.

How come the Soviets did not inform the potentially most concerned people dwelling close by to the Chernobyl nuclear powerplant? When the people in possession of the pertinent information debated with themselves whether or not to publicize the catastrophe, one can be sure that they weighed their chances for promotion with the same order of magnitude as the betterment of the survival probabilities for the radiation-exposed Ukrainians. Their short term best interest was to try to diminish the importance of the accident in order not to be the messenger who gets his-her head chopped off, just because of the bad

news just announced. When one realizes this sad fact, it suddenly becomes clearer why certain people apparently change their minds, change opinion or perspective on a problem. The ability to switch from one side to the other, when successful, is more commonly called opportunism. From the same



Joel Knoery
Editorial Editor

viewpoint, it appears rather strange that the "best interest of the Nation" has never stuck out far from the best interest of the ruling class, even in the case of dictatorial government.

As far as the risks are concerned, people having the same goals but who are being exposed to different levels of danger will decide differently on the options to take: Did the commanding officers realize all the suffering of the million of

rate, and next semester looks to be no exception. Next year, due to graduation, there will be no Crouses, Burtons, or Herschelmans that we can turn to for that last minute story or picture. (By the way, you all have been very much appreciated).

So, it seems that the ball is in your court. If you have liked how the Spec has looked this semester and would like to see it continue next fall, we need to hear from you. Because without people, this format will not work.

soldiers who died at Verdun in 1916 for a battle without winners. Maybe those generals were not sympathetic enough to the nameless trooper, since their chances of being gassed, shelled were sensibly less.

I find it difficult to trust anybody in power because unless they are especially dedicated to those who are not (in power, of course!), they will view and "solve" problems from their perspective, not the people's they are supposed to represent. France's high ranking officials have an anti-nuclear shelter underneath the Elysee Palace for the President to be able to launch the tactical missiles and not to be immediately vitrified (or vice-versa). The U.S. equivalent is, I believe, Air Force One, from where the President can give his orders. These two men will have a different sense of danger than us, Jean Q. Public, and will eventually react differently than most of us would have. But we will not be able to voice our concerns, because it will be too late.

On Broadway — a musical review

By Melissa James
Staff Writer

"On Broadway — A Musical Revue," directed by Rick Tyler, turned out to be another big success for the drama department. The show featured Helen Grossnickle, Diana Hunn, Duane Hunn, Eric Johnson and Leigh Knoll singing musical selections from actual Broadway plays, but the show wouldn't have been complete without the very talented Jenny Williams, as accompanist. Comments on the show were very positive, as the following stated:

Ruth Heidebrecht — "I thought it was real organized the way the songs flowed from one to another. I liked the singers voices."

Cathy Holderread — "I enjoyed the program. I could tell that they put a lot of work into it."

Jeff Koehn — "I really liked it, I was impressed by how it turned out."

Nancy Pennell — "I think it was an audience pleaser because we knew the songs, it was very enjoyable."

Peggy Rice — "I enjoyed the show, I was impressed with the quality of the singers voices."

Matt Robinson — "I thought the show was good, light entertainment, put on by a lot of very talented students."

Marilyn Spencer — "I admired the quality performance."

Bruce Wine — "It was very entertaining, with a lot of variety."

The drama department had a very busy and successful year putting on performances such as: "Miss Piggy's Guide to Life", "Curious Savage", "Crimes of the Heart", "Summertime", "Cinderella" and

most recently "On Broadway — Musical Revue."

Rick Tyler is going on sabbatical next year and as of right now his position hasn't been filled. Consequently, plans for next year's drama department have not been made as yet.

The McPherson College

SPECTATOR

Volume 70 Issue 1 May 16, 1986

Official publication of McPherson College, McPherson, Kansas 67460. Published twice monthly by the Student Council of McPherson College, allowing for the interruption of breaks. Second class postage paid at McPherson, Kansas. Campus office — Student Union basement.

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Long Time Prof. Retires

Sarah Steele
Publicity

The brilliant smile beneath the shaving moustache and the quick, ask gait at which he travels can only signify one person, Dr. Wesley DeCoursey, Professor of Chemistry at McPherson College. Although the graying hair has become a tad gray, the energy level of this chemical dynamo continues to pulse the depths of Harnly Hall. After 34 years in the Chemistry Department at McPherson College, Dr. DeCoursey will be retiring this year. Born in Idaho, this vivacious farm boy grew to love chemistry and the challenges it possesses. A graduate of McPherson College, he received his Ph.D. from Iowa State University in Inorganic Chemistry with the acceptance of his dissertation, "Preparation of Peromorphates." Married to Verda Grove DeCoursey in 1942, together they reared three intelligent, perceptive children who, in their own special ways, have reached a variety of successes.

complishments in Dr. DeCoursey's career, a major highlight was a Fulbright Lectureship to Pakistan in 1965 during a sabbatical leave from McPherson College. Together with his family they traveled to Hawaii, Japan, Hong Kong, Thailand and India before reaching their destination. Dr. DeCoursey recalls, "In Karachi (Pakistan), we settled into a house and I into my position at Jinnah College only to have the India-Pakistan war break out."

Black outs and tense times followed the fighting until the DeCourseys were reassigned to Tehran, Iran where he taught and lectured at Tehran University and other universities in Iran. "We again got settled in a foreign country and had a very pleasant seven months traveling and lecturing." To fully complete the circle the family visited Jordan, Israel, Greece, Italy, France and Germany before the year was complete.

To record the accomplishments of this esteemed professor would be an impossible task. In addition to his colleagues who succeeded in having him listed in Who's Who in American Science, Dr. DeCoursey received the same enthusiastic endorsement on the home front when students voted

him the Teacher of the Year at McPherson College in 1980-1981. He is an active member of the Church of the Brethren choir and has held the City of McPherson Tennis Championship for many years.

As his commitment to McPherson College is deeply rooted, so too are his feelings of reward. In addition to chemistry, he has taught geology and astronomy. "The geology field trip to Texas every other year has been a source of enjoyment for twelve years now, and astronomy is a fascinating field which is constantly changing."

Among students, at least, Dr. DeCoursey has a reputation as a tough professor with the stunning ability to demand the most from them, especially at exam time. Yet students of every generation attest to the warm, caring attitude of this rare person who just happens to be a professor.

Dr. DeCoursey calmly replies, "If you want to be a lifelong student, be a lifelong teacher. The best way to learn is to teach." As he recollects the past he says, "My years of teaching at McPherson College were not really work; they were enjoyment."

Language Prof's stress studying overseas

By Kevin Burton
Staff Writer

After 30 and 26 years in the field respectively, you know Drs. Monroe and Corinne Hughbanks are good teachers, discerners of the text. It's their sensitivity to cultural differences that gets your attention and helps make the language program at McPherson one of the best in the state.

"You learn best by being in the environment," says Corinne, Professor of languages at McPherson. "when you're bombarded by the language and the culture every place you turn."

That is why McPherson requires that all foreign language majors spend at least a semester studying abroad. They remain the only college in Kansas with such a requirement.

The Hughbanks' extensive travels have given them a feeling of what students go through upon entering another culture. That understanding is helpful to foreign students who come to study at McPherson.

"In eastern culture students don't use eye contact with teachers. It's a sign of respect," explains Monroe, Professor of Education, citing just one example of cultural differences. "But here the idea is 'look me in the eye'. You can't expect all students to react the same way."

Because they have been to places like Mexico and Guatemala they can speak about the flavor of other cultures.

"There's no way you can teach culture without having experienced it," states Corinne. "It's one thing to say the Mexican people are friendly, but to go there and have them cook for you and entertain you all evening with singing and games . . . it's different to experience that hospitality."

Studying one or two semesters abroad is required for but not limited to foreign language majors. It's not an easy undertaking, as the learning process continues even when textbooks are put away. It takes a strong personality. For those who either aren't ready for that type of situation or can't fit it into their schedule, short (10 to 15 day) trips are sometimes scheduled during interterm.

"Exposure to the poverty and lack of sanitation in some of the third world countries can be very overwhelming," says Corinne. "But it helps motivate them to learn more."

Many students never escape the trap of the sheltered campus environment and miss out on cultural opportunities.

"It takes a concerted effort to pull them out of that," says Corinne. "A college campus is not a microcosm of the outside world in any sense."

Monroe adds, "I recommend taking a foreign language. In my classes I try to encourage travel so students can get a feeling for other cultures."

Writer's Block

Apologies to Shakespeare
HAMLET UP TO DATE
A PARODY

(From The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark; Act III, Scene I, Lines 56-68, as written by Leland Lengel in his creative writing class. Reprinted from the Dec. 10, 1984 issue of the 'Spectator'.)

To write, but — what to write? That is the question.
Whether 'tis easier at classtime tomorrow to suffer
The cold and quizzical glance of a displeased prof,
Or to take pen in hand in spite of an astonishing lack of inspiration,
And, through pure toil, to "come through".

To sleep — to write no more,
To write no more, except perhaps in my dreams —
Say, there's an idea!
For in that blessed sleep of total fatigue, what dreams might come
To inspire me sufficiently to "tide me through" another class
Might be worth more than to remain awake.
I'M GOING TO BED!

And by this sleep to try to end
The continuous lethargy by which my brain seems overwhelmed,
'Tis a temptation resolutely to be ignored.

To sleep — to write no more,
To write no more, except perhaps in my dreams —
Say, there's an idea!
For in that blessed sleep of total fatigue, what dreams might come
To inspire me sufficiently to "tide me through" another class
Might be worth more than to remain awake.
I'M GOING TO BED!

Another One Lost

It was a small, and insignificant planet as far as the rest of the universe was concerned. It had been visited before by explorers, but the inhabitants had always been too hostile, too superstitious for proper communication to be set up. So they were left alone to progress as they would. But they were watched. After all they might someday progress enough to travel amongst the stars, and by then it was hoped that they would have matured enough to be permitted to do so.

And they did progress. Slowly at first; but then they accelerated and soon were progressing greatly in the arts and sciences, and before long they progressed enough to be a useful asset to the Galactic Union (1). But regrettably most of their knowledge went to the building of weapons, offensive mostly: atomic, neutron and chemical — more than enough to destroy all life on their little planet.

And so it was decided to try and contact them again, before it was too late. This time it would be skilled sociologists, trained to communicate with the varied cultures in the universe.

When the mighty fusion-powered research ship the General Amon (2) arrived, it had on board four of the finest sociologists in the universe. They were permanently assigned to this ship for just such occasions.

After studying the inhabitants of the planet for several weeks, they discovered that the problem here was similar to other planets they had worked with; that being, the different continents were still divided. Most planets while in this stage often war among themselves until they realize they can accomplish much united. But this planet was past the point where most others united and was rapidly approaching the stage where other planets annihilated themselves.

And so it was decided that two scientists would go down directly to each of the leaders of the two main powers.

1. Galactic Union — the organization of planets formed to help further universal peace and knowledge.

2. The General Amon — The most advanced research ship in the Galactic Union fleet. Named for the general who established between the Arias system and the Oslas system, and organized the Galactic Union.

3. The Nolan System — This was the third system to join the Galactic Union. There are three life supporting planets in the system.

4. Earth — A small blue-green planet which used to bear descendants of the mother race. Located in the Western Spiral Arm of the universe. Inhabitants destroyed all life forms 9271 Galactic Standard Reconing.

Robert Chell

Deathwatch

The world cried last night,
As Nature moaned in labor,
Whispering willows wrung shivering
Hands aloft, and poplars,
Swaying, bending,
Paced a vigil
While raindrops tapped birth
messages.
Faltering beams tiptoe over sodden
ground.

Til bursting its bonds
Sol is reborn.
Tempest raging within,
I tread through puddles,
blindly
scattering
rainbows

Deanie Holloway

Music Creativity Created

By Tim Crouse
Staff Writer

According to this map of achievement, boredom is a direct route to productivity. Kevin Burton (sr., Columbus, OH) and Ken Mohler (jr., Helena Mt.) drew this map. They are songwriters who will be debuting some of their music on May 16 in Brown Auditorium.

Three years ago Kevin went to visit his grandmother in Mississippi, where "there is nada to do." But she did have a bulky wooden gismo with a long ivory smile that chortled out notes when its teeth were tapped. To ward off boredom, Kevin decided to play with it.

"I just started pounding until it sounded half-way musical," said Kevin. Since then he has composed over forty-five songs with original tunes and lyrics. He doesn't read music nor has he had any lessons. He simply likes to pound on the piano.

"I hear a lot of stories about how practice is a drag, but it's not for me. I just like to play." It is a rare day that he doesn't sit down to practice. This is a rare month that he doesn't add a couple new songs to his collection, since he only plays his own music.

Although Kevin sometimes goes to the piano with the intention of coming up with a new song, his better tunes are the ones he just "stumbles onto." When that happens, he said, "I play it for an hour or so to remember it. It's hard because I can't write it down — I might forget it the next time I sit down. I usually try to get it on tape (because) I might come up with a good beginning, then lose it."

Kevin's writing as a journalist and poet has made him apt for supplying his melodies with words of rhyme and reason. He had been playing for a year when he decided he needed

lyrics and he takes them pretty seriously.

"There's a certain standard you need to keep for lyrics. I don't want any of that 'Baby, Baby' stuff. I guess that's one of the rules I have — the lyrics have to make sense," said Kevin. He admits that many of his pieces are love songs but they usually have a twist.

"The most syrupy one was tongue-in-cheek and now everyone loves it. Like Travolta said in that movie, 'It's so sweet it could give you a cavity.'" But Kevin is not one to be swooned by popularity trends, which his bright multicolor pajama basketball jersey bled out to anybody in sight or around the corner. He is an individual and his songs are his.

His music and songwriting often serve as a release for emotions: "It's better than punching the wall."

Not only is it more gentle on the hands but it is turning "inspiration that isn't too positive" around into something that someone can enjoy. "And that," said Kevin, "is a big plus."

Ken also found himself dawdling in free time a couple years ago, so began to play the guitar. He taught himself, satisfied for a while with the delights and challenges the Roy Clark Song Book provided. But he eventually became bored with those tunes and began putting together his own.

"I didn't have anything else and how many times can you play 'Hello, Mary Lou?'," he asked, justifying his move into songwriting.

Ken's songs develop in a manner similar to Kevin's. "It starts by accidents, playing with chords that sound good together, then I put the chords together and get a tune. Then I put in words that fit the tune."

As a way of judging how good a

new tune is, Ken doesn't write down his music. He figures if it's good he will still remember it after a week. "Generally you forget it but sometimes it sticks." When it does, the also-a-poet guitarist is quick to put in lyrics.

In high school he and a friend used to have songwriting contests to see who could produce one the fastest. "Of course, those songs were always horrible," he adds.

Creativity seems to emanate from Ken like a misty fog glowing around a street lamp or like his hair sticking up, evidence of not enough sleep. It is hard to imagine what type of music his would be. It was hard for him to describe, even with the help of his girlfriend, Helen Grossnickle (fr., Curley, IA).

K: "It's nothing strange, really. I think it's rather sedate . . . what would I call it?"

H: "It's not rock, it's not folk, it's not . . . it's weird. What is it?"

K: "I'm influenced by the Beatles mostly. They're mostly love songs."

H: "Love-gone-bad songs."

Ken is a part of a band on campus, the Noblemen, who will be performing mostly Ken's songs and a couple others (including their own version of 'Beverly Hillbillies'). Other members of the band are Eric Johnson (vocals, bass), Jerel Eller (drums) and Scott Webber (guitar).

Kevin and his back-up performers are Silent E. At press time the members included Kenji Hino (drums), Sally Geisert (saxophone), Laura Shelton (vocals), Tim Crouse (vocals) and Cindy Trimmer (theatrics).

These two bands will perform in Brown Auditorium on Friday, May 16. The Noblemen will begin the concert at 7:30 p.m. and Silent E will follow. Admission will be free.

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