

Assassin: More Than A Game?

A Day In
The Life
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Volume 71 Issue 3

The McPherson College SPECTATOR

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

Netters Finish Strong

Season
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November 7, 1986

Seven McPherson College seniors will be honored in the 87 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities.

Pictured are (clockwise from right): Greg Gunther, McPherson; Annette Taylor, Brighton; Jay Nicholson, Wichita; Merrie Cline, McPherson; and Marla Ullom, Greeley, Colorado. Also nominated but not pictured are Kevin Miller, McPherson; and Cathy Moore, Waterloo, Iowa.

Nominees to Who's Who must have the vote of at least half of the faculty members, and must meet other requirements, such as senior status and a 3.0 grade point average.

These students are joining an elite group of students selected from more than 1400 colleges in the U.S. and several foreign nations.

Richie Chrest/Spectator



Budget approved

The 1986-87 college activities budget has been finalized and approved by student council, distributing over \$11,000 to the many McPherson College campus organizations.

Each year student council has the responsibility of deciding how much money each organization will receive. \$11,200 was available to Stuco for making this year's

students. Each fulltime student contributed forty dollars to the fund through a general fee.

This year's activity fee was up from \$37.50 per person last year. Stuco President Jay Nicholson said that the extra \$1.50 per student has been put into an escrow account until further plans have been discussed. Some concern over the higher activities

Organization	Proposal	Allocation
Quadrangle	3100.00	3100.00
Spectator	1585.00	1500.00
Cheerleaders	751.95	400.00
S.A.B.	3679.10	2729.10
Alpha Psi Omega	1170.26	808.40
Art Club	808.00	303.00
B.I.G.	1294.50	500.00
Business Club	131.00	111.00
C.V.C.	1235.00	400.00
MENC-G-Clef	240.00	175.00
Industrial Arts	472.00	200.00
Intercultural Forum	555.00	320.00
I.S.O.	70.00	0.00
Intramurals	143.60	50.00
Peace Awareness	286.00	225.00
Psychos	239.00	0.00
Spirit Kickers	608.20	305.00
	\$16,368.61	\$11,126.50

budget.

Clubs presented Stuco with their budget proposals earlier in the semester. Requests this year totaled \$16,368.61, far above the \$11,200 cutoff mark.

Following is a list of the campus organizations that requested funds. Included also are the organizations' proposals and their final allocations.

Stuco treasurer Jeff Keck mentioned that since proposals are always greater than funds available, decisions have to be made concerning how much and where.

"Budget proposals are often trimmed around the parts labeled 'publicity' or 'supplies,'" Keck said. He added that clubs should be expected to raise some of their own money.

Keck said that a major consideration in determining a club's budget is the overall student participation in the activity. There is obviously some controversy in the process.

Proposals are finalized by Stuco's executive committee. The budget is then approved by the entire council. Stuco's decisions are final; the administration has no say in the matter.

The \$11,200 used in the activities budget comes from the

fee has been noted.

"The new fee was set without any Stuco input," Nicholson stated. He added that since student council is responsible for the money, student council will try to make a recommendation to the administration and board of trustees as to how much the council receives.

Another of Stuco's present concerns is the current convocations policy. Nicholson said the council is discussing many items concerning convocations, and recommendations will be made to the administration when Stuco formulates some solid ideas.

"Student input is important," Nicholson said. "With more student support, Stuco can do more." Nicholson also believes that if a student has a problem, Stuco could probably do more to help than the student could as an individual. He added that students should take their problems and suggestions to the council.

Nicholson is pleased with the work student council is doing. He described this year's council as a very active and committed group. Stuco meets every Tuesday at 9:30 in Miller Library.

News Briefs

More courses to be offered

A seminar dealing with the classical Greek world has been tentatively planned for the spring term. Although final decisions have not been made concerning the interdisciplinary seminar, it has been proposed that the two hour course would meet on Wednesday mornings at 8:00.

Arranging the seminar has been the project of Dr. Doris Coppock, who has visited the country and has taken several courses relating to the ancient Greek world.

The course will center on classical Greek history, philosophy, and culture.

Another course Mac students will have the opportunity to participate in is titled 'The Africans.' This course will be offered at Bethel and Bethany Colleges, with meetings on a weekly basis beginning in the spring.

The seminar will center on African history and the continent's changing situations due to outside influences. Leading the seminar will be Dr. Arthur T. Porter. Students should contact the CIC for further information.

Johnson named to position

Sophomore Hope Johnson, McPherson, has been named the new District Secretary-Treasurer for the Kansas Circle-K Club. Her responsibilities deal with finances, correspondence, and completion of a district directory.

Johnson's term expires March 15, 1987 following the Circle K district convention to be held at the Holiday Manor in McPherson. The McPherson College Circle K Club is sponsored by the McPherson Light Capitol and Noon Kiwanis groups.

Trustees announce donations

During the weekend of Oct. 24-26 at the Board of Trustees meeting, McPherson College announced two major donations that will help McPherson College launch into its second century of operation.

The Julia J. Mingenback Foundation announced a gift of \$250,000 toward Module II of the McPherson College Centennial Commitment. These funds will be directed toward the new campus plan which has as its major goals unification, identity, and safety of the campus.

In addition, a second gift of \$300,000 from an anonymous donor soared the gift level to the \$550,000 mark for that weekend. The anonymous gift has been earmarked for student scholarships.

President Paul Hoffman said that these two major gifts "will serve as catalysts of immeasurable worth in attracting other foundation grants."

Earlier in the month of October the College announced another major gift from Mr. and Mrs. John Lehman of Abilene. The gift, which involves 400 shares of KP&L common stock, has a market value in excess of \$24,000. The gift will endow a special scholarship fund in memory of Mr. Lehman's parents, Mr. Henry Lehman and Mrs. Anna Burkholder Lehman.

Comedian-cartoonist to appear

Comedian-cartoonist Steve Gipson will bring his special brand of humor and wit the McPherson College campus on Nov. 10. Gipson will be performing in Brown Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

Gipson, who has performed before at McPherson, has been nominated the NACA entertainer of the year for four consecutive years, and was featured on the NBC Nightly News and PM Magazine.

During his act, Gipson sketches celebrity caricatures in front of the audience and adds a satirical comical monologue for a "one of a kind" rendition. Tickets for Monday's performance are \$2 general admission and \$.50 for students. Tickets will be available at the door.

Campus plan outlines changes

Several major changes in the McPherson College campus will be taking place in time for the college's Centennial celebration the fall of 1987.

Last week, with the approval of the Board of Trustees and the McPherson City Planning Commission, the College announced the campus plan that has been in the works for several months.

Architect David Haines and the College's Campus Planning Committee have been working together closely in formulating a plan that integrates campus needs with existing features.

"The new plan capitalizes on existing assets of the McPherson campus," said Dr. Merlin Frantz, Vice President for Centennial Celebrations. "Among them are trees, open spaces and the fact that the campus is very well maintained."

Among the proposed changes, which correspond to the numbers in the map below, are the following:

(1) Vacating of two blocks of Sherman Street from Gordon to Simpson. The closing of these streets will incorporate Dotzour Hall and Miller Library on Sherman Street into the larger campus.

(2) Parking. At present the McPherson campus has 591 parking spaces on or bordering college property. With the addition of diagonal parking in some areas and a large paved lot accommodating 175 cars across from the Sport Center, parking spaces will be increased more than 25% to a total of 740. This includes a new lot on Lehmer

Street near Metzler, Bittinger and Fahnestock Halls.

(3) New Entryway from Kansas Avenue. Ninety-nine years ago when McPherson was founded, east-west traffic patterns focused on Euclid Avenue. Today 9,000 vehicles bypass the campus on Kansas Avenue, and many do not realize that McPherson College is situated only a block away. The entry, which involves a deceleration lane off Kansas Avenue, may also include a small island with a distinctive sign which will greet visitors to the campus.

(4) Quadrangle. The present Quadrangle will be shifted into a

larger area with the demolition of Arnold and Kline Halls, both condemned structures.

(5) Sidewalk systems. Present sidewalks are in deteriorating condition and a number are non-functional since they were built for dormitories no longer in use.

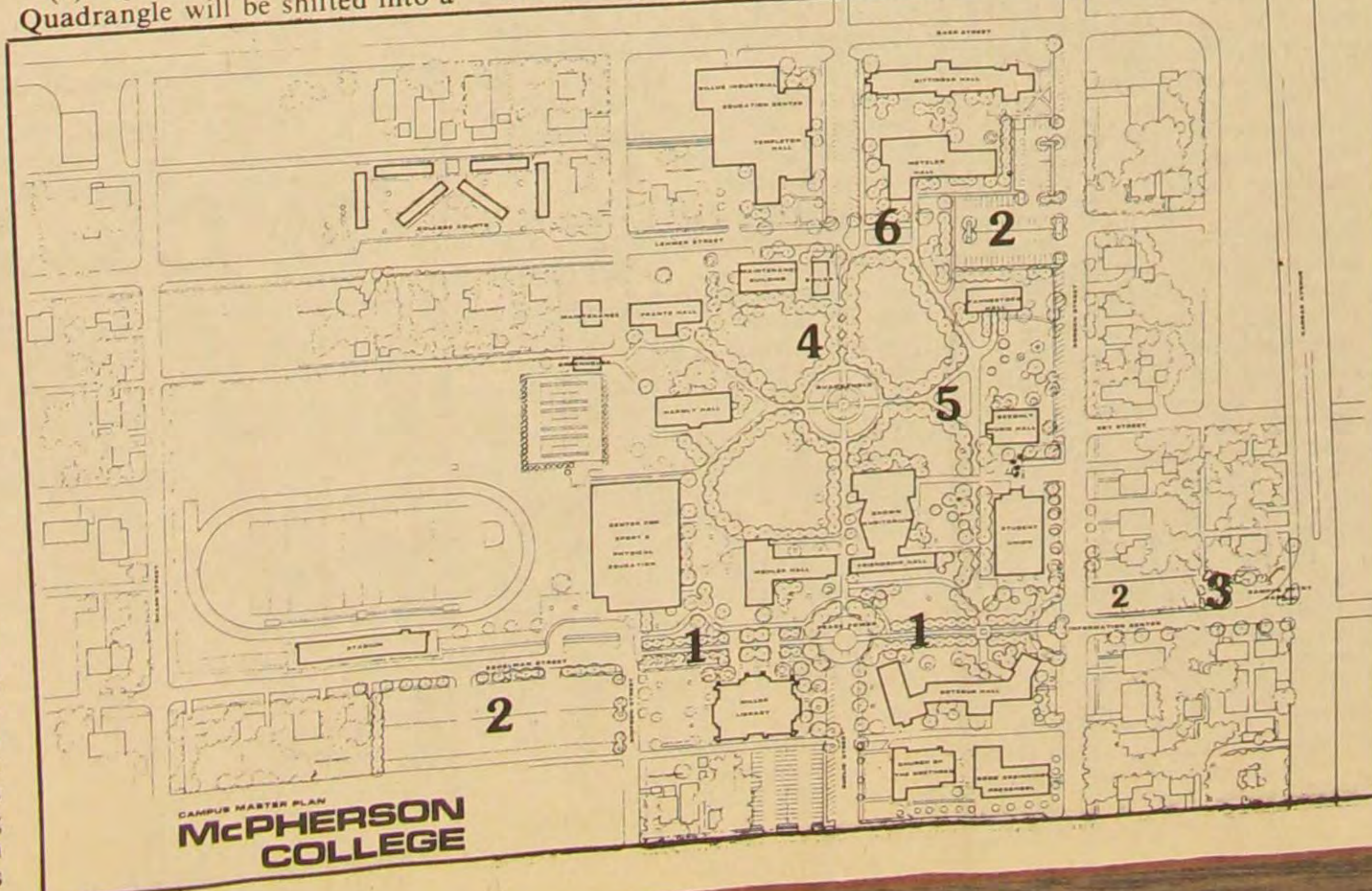
(6) Abandonment of one block of Lehmer from Gordon to Euclid Streets. The closing of this area will unify Metzler and Bittinger Halls to the remainder of the campus. Separate parking will be created to the south of the two dormitories. Gordon and Baer Streets will remain unaffected.

In addition to the above exterior proposals, plans are

underway to renovate Dotzour Hall for women and Metzler for men. Also, four to six classrooms will be redesigned as model classrooms with the latest decor and facilities.

President Paul Hoffman also expressed enthusiasm for the plan because, he said, the committee spent time in the development of philosophy and studied the needs and perspectives of all who use the campus.

"The entire McPherson College campus will reflect the quality of scholarship, reflection, identity, roots, history, the challenge of today and the future," Hoffman said.



Convocations policy set

By Merrie Cline
Staff Writer

On Oct. 22, the Educational Policies Committee approved a policy on convocation attendance recommended by the Student Council for this semester. The question of convocation has been on the Student Council agenda for the past three meetings. It has been on the minds of many students these past few weeks since 165 students received failing grades during the five week grade report.

Questioned are the convo attendance policy, the value of convo and whether or not it lives up to its intended purpose. In a recent statement on the purpose of convocation Dr. Dale Goldsmith, Vice President for Academic Services, wrote, "...the fundamental purpose of the convocation series is to broaden and enhance the educational experience of everyone in the community (faculty and students) and to provide the opportunity for common discourse on topics that may not be touched upon in the current curriculum."

The student body sometimes sees this in a different light.

"It [convo] is the last surviving dinosaur of a bygone era," said James Bowman, sr., McPherson.

"You get out of convo what you put into it, and the benefits of convo far outweigh the drawbacks..." said Greg Gunther, sr., McPherson.

"I haven't been able to get much out of the convos because of the speakers," said Michele Roesch, soph., Quinter.

"Boring. I don't have to go...I went to the Drug Abuse ones because I thought they'd be interesting," said Kristine Kruschwitz, soph., Grundy Center, Iowa.

"The problem is that the budget allowed for convo is too low. That's why there's a low quality of speakers. Bad speakers equal low student interest... The number of convos should be cut in half, one per week. That would double the budget for the remaining convos and bring in a higher quality of performances. Then you could make them all required," said Robert Palmer, fr., LaJunta, CO.

"The question is whether it's possible to educate someone by shoving it down their throat..." said Steven van Asselt, sr., McPherson.

The convocation committee receives a budget of \$1400 per semester, or \$80 per convo. Good, well-known speakers can range from \$2000-\$15,000 per event. Most of the convocation speakers at McPherson speak for little or no money. One well known example is National Geographic writer Noel Grove who receives only \$100 per appearance, which he gives back to the college.

A spokesperson for the convocation committee, composed of faculty, staff and students, admitted to the difficulty in providing quality performances. Because it is compulsory there is a certain amount of negativity built-in. Students often have the attitude that "this had better be good!" Still, without requiring convos the attendance would suffer. "We could expect about 20 students to show up if it weren't required."

"The upset [over convo] is a reflection of the change in administration. It's to be expected... Convo is something that directly affects the students - that's why they're concerned," said Laura Shelton, soph. DeKalb.

January Interterm trips offered

**George Gotto
Staff Writer**

Each year at interterm during a month of January, several trips are offered to both the students of McPherson College and the other ACCCK colleges. These trips usually include approximately two weeks of intensive study on campus, and then the actual trip is taken. They are usually worth four credit hours to the student and are considered as a regular interterm class.

Students with interests in biology will have the chance to go to Coos Bay, Oregon where they will be studying the coastal ecology of marine organisms. This particular trip will last from one and a half to four weeks and will be taken by bus. Students from Bethel, Sterling, and Tabor colleges as well as approximately 100 McPherson Students will be making the trip. Professor Kent Metzger of Sterling College will be directing the trip.

to go sight-seeing in the surrounding area.

"The students work hard together and become a closely knit group," Ikenberry said. "It is a good chance to get to know some people."

Dr. Corinne Hughbanks, Spanish, will be taking a group of students to Guatemala for 13 days of travel. The course will begin with two weeks of intensive study on campus. This study will include learning the basic phrases and vocabulary necessary to survive in a Spanish-speaking environment. They will then put what they have learned into practice while they travel through Guatemala learning about their culture.

The Guatemala tour will be staying in hotels and in private homes, where students will be able to see how the middle class lives and eats. The approximate cost will be \$800, which will cover all airline tickets, all surface travel in Guatemala, and all lodging. Students will need to bring money for food and any other personal expenses.

Several activities will be offered to the students. They will visit Indian villages, markets, schools, and missionary projects to name a few. They will have a chance to

climb a volcano, see colonial architecture, and live with the Guatemalan people.

The Drama department is offering a trip to New York from Jan. 11-19. McPherson students will be accompanied by students from Bethany, Bethel, and Sterling. The cost of the trip is set at \$475, not including food and personal expenses. This group will depart and return by bus.

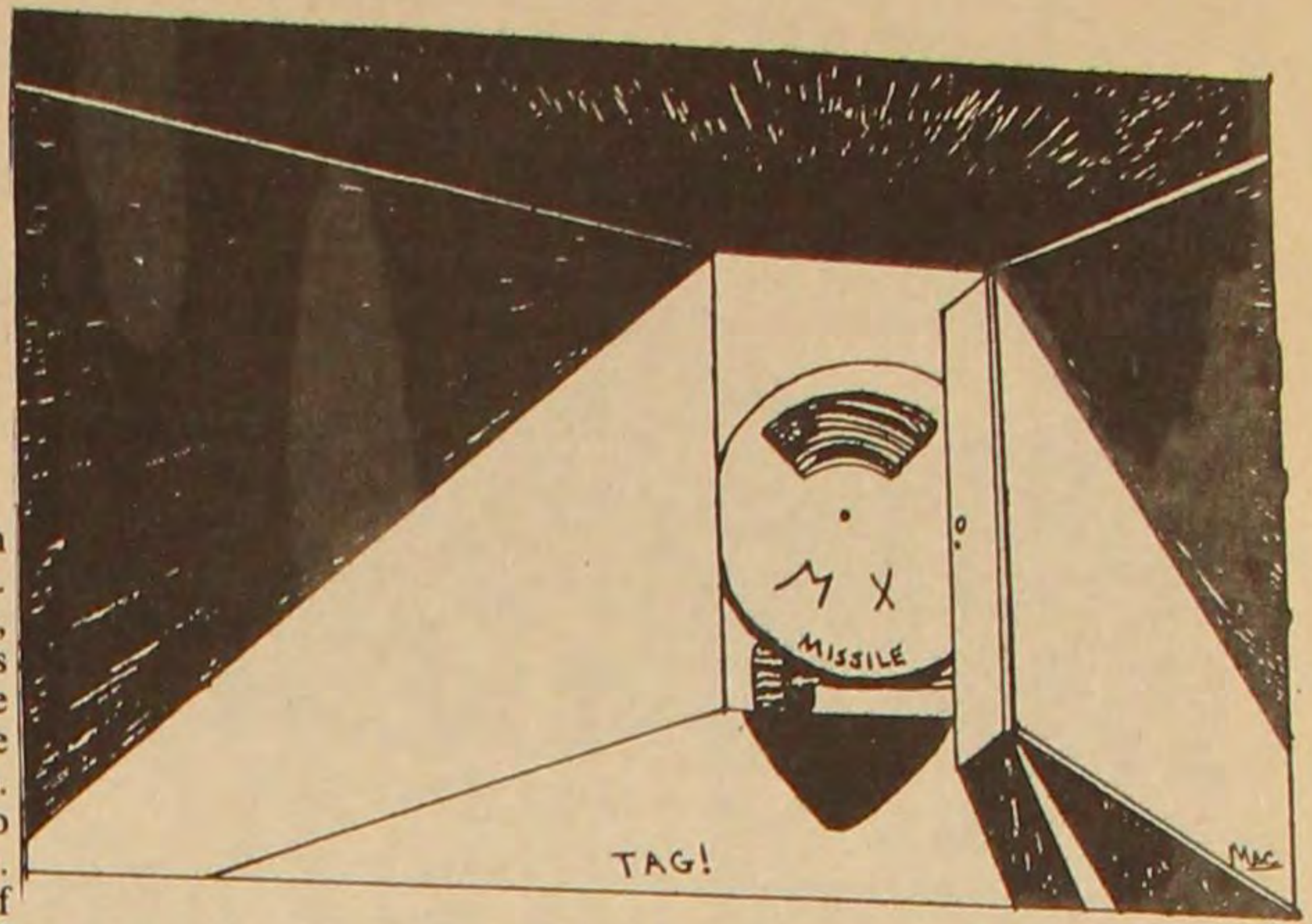
While in New York they will be staying at the Edison Hotel. They will be going to three Broadway shows and will have a chance to tour the Met. Students will be backstage at the Met to dine and talk with the performers. There will be plenty of time for exploration of the city. If you are interested in this trip deposits are due on Nov. 5, but if you talk to Professor Wagner soon you may be able to extend this date.

Another trip that is offered to students is one to New Mexico. This trip is sponsored by the English department. Its purpose is to focus on the fiction of and about the Southwest. The on-campus phase of this course will last for three weeks in which the students will study the works of

Willa Cather, Rudolpho Anaya, and Scott N. Momaday. Students will be looking at the tri-cultural aspects of these states, which include Spanish, Indian, and Anglo.

The cost of this Southwestern outing will be \$250 maximum. This will include travel, lodging, half of the meals, and admissions to museums and theaters. The students will follow the Santa Fe Trail to Santa Fe, New Mexico. Besides Santa Fe they will also visit Taos and Albuquerque. They will visit the University of New Mexico where Dr. Richard Etulain, who spoke at the Mohler Lecture this fall, will make a presentation to them. They will also be addressed by Rudolpho Anaya, mentioned above, who is a modern writer of the Southwest. Other activities that they will participate in include visiting both Indian and Spanish cultures.

These are only four of the trips offered to the students of McPherson College during interterm. For complete interterm listings, check with the CIC.



Tag...game or not?

**By Merrie Cline
Staff Writer**

McPherson, Oct. 10, 1986.

6:52am I awoke in a cold sweat. A strange feeling enveloped me, a feeling of dread, of some impending danger. My hand searched blindly for the battered gun beneath my pillow as I waited expectantly for a sudden knock on my door. The Game was on....

The Game, known as Assassins and retitled Tag in the effort to gain SAB approval, was organized and directed by Ken Mohler, soph., who served as Game Master for the first round. The object is simple: kill or be killed. The winner is the last survivor. Acceptable weapons include water pistols and pellet, dart, disk or blow guns.

were beginning to itch. After all, it was only a game.

Friday morning, breakfast time. I caught myself standing in my room looking at the door. Come on, I told myself, there's nobody out there. I'm a mature, reasoning person. I can't stay locked in my room all day, this is a game for goodness sakes! Be cool. Keep a low profile maybe, put on the shades - but life (and classes) must go on! I made it. My palm may have been a little slippery as I turned the knob, but I made it.

I played it cool all morning, just like I'd promised myself, watching friends peer anxiously around corners or pace nervously by the mailboxes in the SU. At noon my assassin made an abortive attempt to get me. His gun malfunctioned and, heart racing, I made it to the relative safety of the lunch line.

Writer's Block

EDITOR'S NOTE: Each issue, as space permits, the Spectator reserves space for "Writer's Block," the creative writing group on campus. All creative writing submissions will be considered if space permits.

The Vampire

There's time to remember now, everything's in the past and it's safe now. I remember the summer that I knew Mike and Tim and Nick.

I don't think I was ever Nick's friend. I don't think anyone was Nick's friend. Isn't it amazing how you can do so much with a person and they still don't like you? Nick hated everything.

He liked the movies though. I remember the four of us riding our 10-speed bikes to the theatre to watch the matinee of "The Empire Strikes Back." That was only two and a half months ago. So strange. Nick's favorites were movies where you could just get back and let them do it to you. He told me he saw "Star Wars" twenty-three times. He believed it. Tim said it was stupid to watch movie twenty-three times.

But we had bikes. Nick likes to play "Ding-Dong Ditch" with bikes. That's where you'd take someone's bike from the front porch and hide it and then ring their doorbell and run away and watch. I remember Nick and I playing it on Mike. Mike just got a brand-new 10-speed. He was in his house eating lunch or something and we took the bike, hid it in some bushes, rang the doorbell real hard and ran. Mike came out, looked around and started crying. I felt really bad. Nick just laughed. I came out of the bushes and showed Mike where his bike was hidden. Nick got really mad and yelled at me and told me I wasn't playing fair. Nick didn't talk to me for a couple of days after that.

I wish you didn't have to wear black to a funeral. It sucks, sitting around in black, watching a late August afternoon washing away outside.

I remember playing Dungeons & Dragons all day long. That was fun. I liked to be clerics best because that way I could fight and cast spells at the same time. Nick liked fighters best. Mike was generally a thief or something and Tim was always the Dungeon Master. Tim made up some pretty neat dungeons for us.

One of his best was "The Assault on Santa's Workshop." We had to fight all the elves, and the reindeer were flying at us with their antlers waving, and at the end we had to face off with the man in red, who was a powerful wizard.

But then Nick got really involved with vampires and we stopped playing D&D.

I got to start high school in a few days. That's weird to think about, time goes by so fast.

We all went into the room. There was an old man, asleep on a box-spring that was on the floor. Nick said it was the vampire. We stood around in a circle and looked at him. One of his hands was all crippled up.

Then the memories faded into dreams. I remember candlelight, but there couldn't have been any candles. I remember chanting but there wasn't any noise, except for the old man's snoring.

I remember the old man. I remember him turning over, opening his eyes and the words coming to his lips when Nick swung the mallet that pushed the stake into his chest.

Then it's all dreams again. Blood squirting everywhere. The sound of the chest cracking. The rasping of the old man trying to scream. Our own curses as we watched, and as we ran.

We jumped on the bikes and rode away fast. We went to the river. There was water there. Water to wash away the blood and the smell and the fear. Water was familiar. Water was true.

Iroc-n-roll sweepstakes promotion

Attention all McPherson College students. National College Television (NCTV), presents the Chevrolet Heartbeat of America, Iroc-n-roll sweepstakes, a three week promotion to last until November 25.

To win, all you have to do is watch NCTV on McPherson cable channel 12, which airs every Sunday through Thursday from 6:00p.m.-10:00p.m. and then fill out an entry blank located in the upstairs part of the Student Union.

The prizes awarded are probably worth the time it takes to fill out an entry blank as the grand prize is a 1987 Chevrolet Camaro Iroc Z; additional prizes include a 1987 Chevrolet Turbo Sprint 2-door Hatchback Coupe, 10 NCTV jackets, and 50 NCTV t-shirts.

Winners of the Iroc-n-roll sweepstakes will be drawn randomly from the entry blanks received, and announced live from Boston, via satellite at "The Chevrolet Heartbeat of America Satellite Concert" presented by NCTV's videocenter events on December 4 at 10:00p.m EST.

McPherson college students have the same chance of winning as all the other campus affiliated colleges, so why not give it a try...it could be worth a lot.

"Forget being cool, forget the rationalizations. This is terror, folks, pure, blind unreasoning terror. He's going to kill me... Unless I get him first!"

There's this building on the edge of town. An old, brick building, with all the windows busted out of it. People said it was haunted. Nick said that it was even worse. Nick said that a vampire lived there. So he organized a vampire hunt.

It's getting harder now, remembering what actually happened. I've dreamt about it so much that I start remembering dreams, and the story changes. But I'll try.

We set out in the afternoon on our 10-speeds. We had everything. Wooden stakes, mallet, crosses, garlic. We climbed in through a back window.

The place stunk. And there was dust everywhere, so thick you wanted to rub your eyes but you knew that would only make things worse. And there was junk everywhere, and dead birds.

We looked all over the first floor. No vampires. Nick said we should try the second floor. Tim said we shouldn't. The stairs were probably bad, he said. I wish we would have listened to him.

But Nick went right up the stairs. And when the stairs didn't collapse, we followed. The second floor was much the same except that we walked more carefully. Then Mike looked into one of the rooms and saw something.

A few days later, the police found the body. It made the front page. All of us were really worried they'd find out who did it, especially Mike. He started biting his nails, he worried so much. I remember walking down the sidewalk and out of the corner of my eye catching the sight of a police car coming down the street. I started to sweat and the only sound I could hear was the wheels of the car rolling along the tar and I wanted to run so bad but I kept my cool and the police car went past and I relaxed, a little. Then the police caught some guy who said he had killed hundreds, and they blamed it on him.

We didn't do much together after that. We saw a James Bond movie one time, but that was about it. It was a bad feeling watching the people die in the movie and thinking about what it was really like.

I guess we all went through hard times dealing with it. But Nick had no bad feelings at all. He says we really did kill a vampire. I don't know. I guess he'll never understand why someone would kill himself over it.

Everyone's starting to line up by the casket now. One last look at death before it's put under the ground where it belongs.

It's my turn to look now. Tim doesn't look too different dead. Maybe just a bit older.

Ken Mohler

I heard about the game in the lunch line. This could be fun, I thought, an adventure. What better way to live up a dull afternoon than by stalking down a friend and yelling "Tag!" as I leaped around a corner?

Of course I had second thoughts. Almost immediately I began to wonder if there were any more serious implications to the Game. I mean, I'm a non-violent person. What does it look like for a past president of the Peace Awareness Project to go around blasting her friends? Is this some insidious plot to poison my pacifistic morals? After the squirt gun will it be that much easier to grab an M-16? What sort of a compromise am I making here? But wait a minute! This is just a game.

By the time I signed up, I felt as if I should be signing in blood.

Thursday morning I pulled my assignment out of the mail box. My qualms of the previous day were forgotten. "Oh great," I thought, "a friend of mine, that will make it easy." My fingers

Paranoia! I knew who was out to get me. Suddenly I dreaded turning corners or opening doors. My blood pressure went up a few points. I couldn't hold reasonable conversations in public spots. Loud noises made me jump. The original assassins, in 11th century Persia, were high on hashish and religious fervor when they made their kills. I had to resort to a second glass of Dr Pepper. A game huh? There is someone out to get me and you think it's only a game?

Forget being cool, forget the rationalizations. This is terror, folks, pure, blind unreasoning terror. He's going to kill me... Unless I get him first!

The end, when it came, was quick. I was standing by the copying machine in Mohler when the assassin struck. It was a new person—my original assassin had bitten the dust long ago. I was taken completely by surprise.

Relief flooded my soul.

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