

INAUGURAL ISSUE

The McPherson College

SPECTATOR

Vol. 81, No. 9

"Serving to inform a community"

March 7, 1997

UNDERCOVER

NEWS

Habitat heads to the Golden State

The campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity travel to Hollywood for spring break.

Students desire policy changes

Currently, students feel cheated by lack of meal plan choices.

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FEATURES

From the past to the present

Eleven presidents have added to the heritage of McPherson College.

The other Dr. Dill

Vicky Dill is more than "the president's wife."

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SPORTS

Lopez honored with scholarship

James Lopez, soph., received the newly established Paul "Gene" Smith scholarship.

Spring sports begin

Track, golf and tennis start the 1997 season.

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Dill to be inaugurated 12th college president

by Shelly Hendricks
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Today's inauguration of 12th president, Dr. Gary Dill, begins a new era for McPherson College.

The ceremonies begin at 2 p.m. in Brown Auditorium. An organ prelude by Ms. Marilyn Sexton Mason, associate director of admissions, leads the program. Faculty, administration, the board of trustees and Student Government Association (SGA) march in the organ/trumpet processional.

Zandra Wagoner, campus pastor, will give the invocation and then LaVon Rupel, chair of the board of trustees, will present the welcoming address.

"I am looking forward to this celebrative ritual of new beginnings," Wagoner said.

Several different group representatives will greet the president during the inauguration. Among them are Dr. Jonathan Frye, assistant professor of biology and faculty chair, Ms. Tracy Stoddart, sr., and president of SGA and Dr. Connie Andes, executive director of the Associated Colleges of Central Kansas.

"It's an honor to be asked to be involved. I look forward to working with [Dr. Dill], and it is a pleasure to have him here," Frye said.

After greetings, the McPherson College Choir, directed by Dr. Alan Gumm, will sing "Be Thou My Vision." Gumm arranged the piece for the inauguration.

Dr. Donald Durnbaugh, professor of church history, will present the inaugural address "The Brethren and Higher Education: Tension and Transition." Durnbaugh spoke during the pre-inaugural "Faith and Heritage" conference which explored the narrative and theological history of the Church of the Brethren. He was a member of the York Center Church of the Brethren in Lombard, Ill., where Dr. Dill was once pastor.

"Don Durnbaugh is my friend, a scholar I respect a great deal, and someone who shows a deep commitment to the Church of the Brethren," Dill said.

Then, the audience will sing the hymn "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens."

Official inauguration rituals will follow. The presentation of the president will be headed by Dr. Robert Wilson, trustee member and representative from the presidential search committee. Dr. LaVon Rupel, board of trustees chair, will do the charge and presentation of the presidential medallion.

Finally, Dr. Dill will give his inaugural response, "From Heritage to Engagement." It focuses on how the college can use its past for future good.

"Everything that faculty, students, the leadership of past presidents, especially Dr. Hoffman, have accomplished is the foundation on which we can build today. This is our



President Gary Dill and his wife, Vicky, were honored by Student Government Association at the Inaugural Ball held on March 1.

heritage. We can use this heritage as a springboard to the future," Dill said.

Wagoner will close the ceremony with her benediction and persons will leave during the organ recessional.

The ceremony finishes the week of inaugural activities honoring Dr. Dill.

"All the activities that went on during the week are significant because they allow the campus a chance to celebrate this special event in the life of the college," Dill said.

Student Government Association and the inaugural planning committee held an Inaugural Ball for Dr. Dill on March 1. It was an opportunity for students to be involved with the inauguration festivities even if students are not present for today's induction.

"It does not take long to understand that

Gary Dill's dance repertoire is severely limited. In good humor and with patience, the students tolerated my clumsy feet and less than rhythmic movements. They were also very good sports about dancing the one dance that I can do well—the Hokey-Pokey!"

The students gave Dill and his wife, Vicky, a traditional bride's gift, in honor of this new beginning. Dill received "something old" (bricks from two buildings), "something new" (a specially engraved medal), "something borrowed" (a statue found among the items in the President's home), "something blue" (a fabric softener container).

"The 'real inauguration' was wonderful. I appreciated the 'toasting' I received and the gifts I was given by the students," Dill said. "I just hope that the students had half as much fun as I did."

EDITORIALS

Be receptive to change

Today's inauguration of Dr. Gary A. Dill as McPherson College's new president marks yet another major change in the college. From students altering their busy schedules to the Board of Trustees making a major decision, it seems that our college is constantly dealing with change. McPherson College became the modern educational facility it is today through the changes that have occurred since the college opened in 1887.

Policies affecting campus life, for example, are constantly subject to change. Visitation hours have often changed at McPherson College, as written about on the front page of this paper. The food service has also been an issue that has long been associated with change (or at least a desire for it).

The physical landscape of McPherson College has been another focus of change. When the college first started, a single building served all the college's needs. Today, the campus takes up several city blocks. Besides land space, changes affecting the college's appearance have involved campus structures. Many buildings from McPherson College's past have either been torn down or remodeled, while plans for new buildings are on the drawing board.

The staff and administration of McPherson College experiences changes every year, but the resignation of President Paul Hoffman in 1996 presented the college with a staff change unlike any other. Dr. Dill, selected as Hoffman's successor to the office of president, will face the unique challenge of working with the college as it adapts to this change.

Some people see change as an obstacle in the normal flow of our daily lives. Such people view change as being negative and something to be avoided. But, as it has often been said, change is inevitable, and it will enter our lives whether we want it to or not.

Instead of trying to escape change, I think we should embrace it with open arms. Change can be a wonderful learning experience.

Mike Horner
Layout Editor

Photo credit where credit is due

Photography is an art. Ask Kristin Caskey, and she'll agree. Many people chose to go into photography in some way or another. Here at McPherson College, students don't have the option of majoring in photography; so, they take other avenues to follow their pursuit of photojournalism.

In case any of the photographers from the last issue of the Spectator (Vol. 80, No. 8) wish to travel on and sell themselves as professional artists, they probably would like some sort of recognition that they help with their college newspaper:

For the interterm story on page four, Shelly Hendricks donated the photo of the dentist at work, and Amy Haas eagerly brought in the photo of the students lost in New York. Andy Wagoner, Jr., originally took the Fahnestock photo (page five) for Makoto Yokoyama, a BCA student from Sapporo, Japan; however, he kindly handed it over to his friends here at the paper. Mirroring the previous issues, all sports photos were handled by Mark Godfrey, soph.

JD. Bowman
Photography Editor

The McPherson College

SPECTATOR

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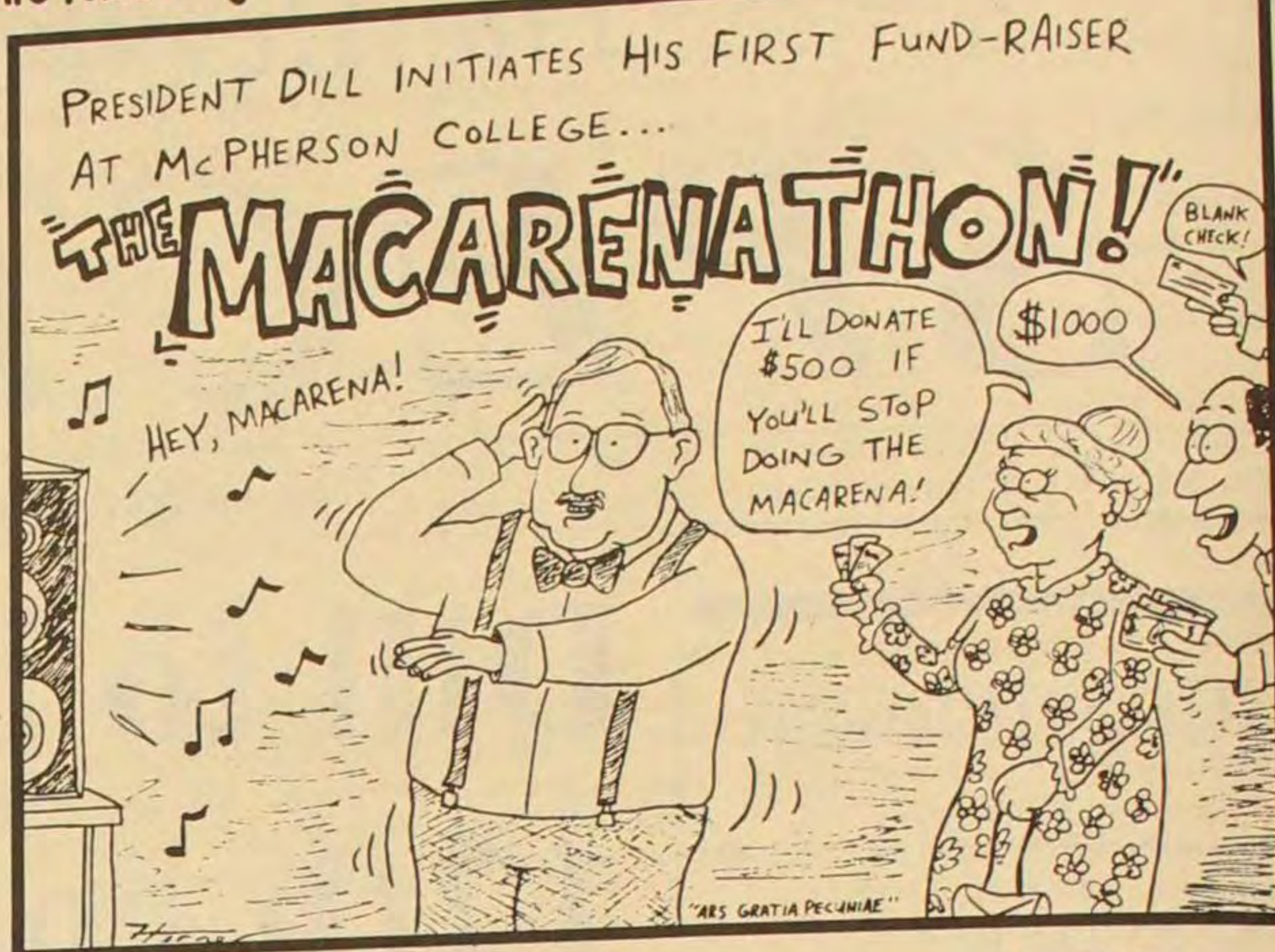
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The Amazing Colossal Comic Strip

By Mike Horner



Electronic Stupidity

Or why they think the Internet is a cess-pool of sex and debauchery

One thing I enjoy is checking my electronic mail. There is a real thrill of receiving new e-mail messages from friends, important information from manufacturers, even the exciting flame from a moron who's seen my web page.

But there are downsides. #Student messages are meant to be used to tell the entire student body about important things, such as the Inauguration banquet, and when FAFSA papers are due (last Saturday for Kansans).

#Student messages aren't to place an ad for the loft you want to sell, the stupid poem you received from your friend at K-State (I have friends at K-State, too, and I already got that one, darn it), or obscene stuff from your buddy that you think is just so dang funny that all of us kids need to see it.

I really wish we could have a moderator for the #Students list. Whenever someone thought something was important enough to send to everybody on campus, it would go first to a moderator who would make the final decision. Anything stupid sent to #Students would be axed before we all had to deal with it.

Sure, it's a bit more work for some lab tech to do, but I sure don't want to read thinly veiled sexual innuendoes (unless I wrote the person first). I certainly don't want to read some guy and his buddy discuss their rectal cavities.

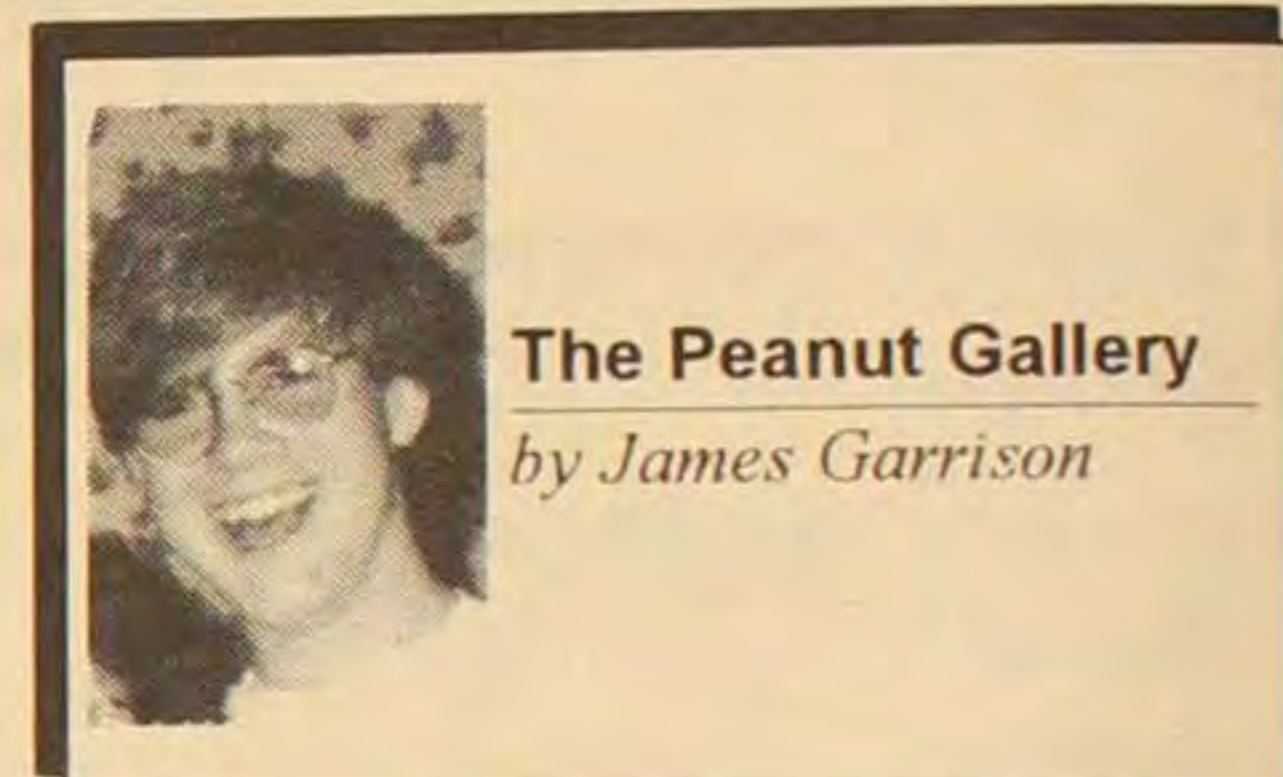
The other thing I hate is chain mail. I don't care how many times this hug has gone around the world. I don't want it. That kid with cancer, he died in '87. Quit sending the stupid things!

I don't care about why I might be a college student. I might be a college student if I went to class and tried to pass all of my classes once in a great while. I might be a college student if I pay outrageous amounts of money to McPherson College to get a piece of paper that says I can tie my shoes. I already know I'm a college student. Quit rubbing it in.

This chain mail thing is way out of hand. We have high school students (read this as "minors") who are on our system because they take classes here. I'm so sure that their parents want to know that McPherson College allows its computer system to be an adult playground that the entire school gets to play in.

Pass this message on to 10 people and you could Score! Wink, wink, nudge, nudge! Great, I want to be degraded by the thought that the only way to find a mate is pray to the almighty computer god and it will provide.

All I'm trying to say is that e-mail is the same as the phone or regular letters.



The Peanut Gallery
by James Garrison

When was the last time you dumped 450 fliers with the latest dirty joke into campus mail? When was the last time you called some friends answering machine to tell them that if they call 10 more people within 48 hours they will miraculously breed with the next eligible person of their preference? You haven't. That would be rude.

I can read the "from: address." I know who you are. I also know that the other five messages are from the same friends who you thought it would be funny to send this thing to. They thought the same thing and sent it to me. Thanks. Now I'm gonna die if I don't figure out how to send the same chain mail to at least 80 people.

No wonder I'm having such terrible luck.

Just for your information, chain mail has been banned in many universities across the nation. The penalty for sending a chain letter is simple. They boot the offender and any people who forward the mail off of the system. No more e-mail.

E-mail is not a secure form of transmission. High level security access is all it takes to be able to browse through all of the new mail sent to or from mcnet.mcpherson.edu. IRC (which is available as a courtesy on the Miller writing lab system) is not a secure form of communication either. A simple command allows any person to read a log of the private messages that any other person has made using the IRC client.

Even Netscape users who set up their name in the mail preferences are asking for trouble because when you send mail, it saves those e-mail messages for anybody to read.

Start using your heads when you use the internet. It's not that hard to see why the government and our administration are making it harder for people to voice their opinion, when everybody is being so tasteless that something has to be done.

Personally I think you should be able to do what you want on the internet, as long as you clean up after yourselves and aren't stupid enough to let others know what you are doing.

I love hopping on the e-mail and getting messages from friends and coworkers, but like the popular western song says, "Stupid people need to be given a sign so we can ignore them easier."

What worries? Just procrastinate!

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." *Matthew 6:34 NIV.*

Well, there you have it, and it's right from The Big Man's mouth. It's cool, not to mention Biblical, to procrastinate troubles away!

OK, have I gone off the deep end? No way. Stress, worry, freaking out over deadlines, it's all bad. Some say I thrive on the pressure of not having things done until the last possible second. I say procrastination is one of my best friends. How strongly do I live by this idea?

About two weeks ago, after procrastinating for two semesters and an inter-term, I decided to buy books for a couple of classes. No problem! I generally put off wearing makeup for several days at a time. Why do you all think I'm writing this column? Answer: It's more fun than homework! The only funny thing is that I meant to start writing a couple of months ago. Working out regularly? I guess I've put that off since after my junior year basketball season.



Meander Down My Line

by Jill Gibson

There are definite benefits to taking the carefree path of life. Case studies are on my brain, so here's a good one. Some of you may be familiar with a fellow student's and my study habits, especially if you are a business major. For those who aren't, we are going to compare night and day examples of theories on studying.

My friend Brian Cooper is wacko, in the nicest sense of the word. He stresses like no one in the history of McPherson! Always prepared, he reads and does his homework. In class he hurriedly writes down everything so he can study thoroughly for the next test. As for me, I think you already have the picture. What reading assignment?

Is there a difference between our outcomes? I haven't seen one yet—except for the fact that Cooper is going to retire early so he can nurse his migraine headaches and dozen ulcers.

What real point am I trying to make? (Hint, students, this is the part that will be on the test.) Reread my first sentence. My point is that we should take time to smell the roses, not watch them blur by as we speed down the interstate highway of life. Get the second point?

Don't waste the precious time we DO have. Not giving in to worry doesn't mean we wander aimlessly wasting our time. Not at all! Rushing and missing things has been one of my biggest fallbacks. Quick, Jill, rush through high school so you can rush through McPherson so you can rush through—whatever comes next.

Life rocks! Remember that saying, "Wherever you go, there you are"? It sounds silly but it's true. Instead of plowing through each midterm and final so you can suffer through the next, enjoy each and every day. Listen to your

heart and soul, then act on it! Your "calling" may be as simple as sending a happy note to a sad friend or as grand as saving the world.

Just because you want to, take that fun class that "doesn't count for anything", even if your fun classes add up to an extra semester or an extra major. (By the way, administration, this should be encouraged not frowned upon with financial disincentives.) Well, I don't know—it's going to be tough to explain to Fred that I need to keep my scholarship an extra year because "God says I belong at Mac an extra two semesters"!

So live an awesome life but don't let stress or time control you. Oh, and Dr. Burden, if I haven't finished the rest of my journals by the time you are reading this, I AM working on them and you'll have them all soon!!

Well—maybe I should give up procrastination to see what life's like without it. I could have done that for Lent, but it looks like I'll have to wait until next year.

CAMPUS FORUM

Thank you for your participation

Last Saturday's Pre-Inaugural Ball was a huge success! By the end of the evening, I believe we all had a good workout (after the "Hokey Pokey," "Chicken Dance," and the "Macarena" three times). There was a nice mix of faculty, staff, alumni, and students. For the most part, it was a night filled with fun, food, and great conversations.

I want to acknowledge and thank all those who helped me with the Pre-Inaugural Ball last Saturday. My committee (Candy Hayden, LeAnna Hulce, Tracy Stoddart, and Christy Meiers) were all instrumental in helping with the planning and production of the Ball. I want to let them know that I appreciate all of their efforts.

I would also like to thank the members of SGA who volunteered their time to decorate, attend, and clean-up after everyone. I enjoyed working with you all, and you would never know how much it all meant to me. A mucho gracias! to the students who just decided to stay and help clean up at the Ball. All I can say is, "dedication!"

Also, I would like to thank Tom Ness, Merrin Godfrey, Dan Hoffman, LeAnna Garza, Cameron Mahler, and the other maintenance crew members for helping with the decorations on Saturday morning and afternoon. Boy, were those a lot of balloons!

Last but not least, I would like to show appreciation to the faculty and staff who came out for the evening. The mixture between faculty, staff, and students created a good atmosphere for the occasion. Thank you for coming out to kick off this Inauguration.

Thank you all once again

Shay Maclin, fr.
Vice-President, SGA

Love for a country, not for a flag

Living on the east side of third floor Dotzour, my window view includes brilliant early morning sunlight, and

the blaring stripes of the American flag. Every hour of the day, those of us on the east side of Dotzour can look out our window and see the flag rippling in the breeze, until recently.

I don't know what happened to it, or where it went, but the flag is gone! I'd like to thank whoever is responsible for removing it and those responsible for not replacing it. I don't miss having a flag on our campus. I don't miss being reminded every time that I see it that millions of people have died in war in an effort to defend that flag.

In fact, I think a peace pole might look nice in the place where the American flag once waved. The lights would attractively illuminate the saying, "May Peace Prevail on Earth." Just a thought.

Rebecca Dilley, jr.

LETTER POLICY

The Spectator's editorial pages provide a public forum for the campus community.

The following policy guides the publication of all letters to the editor:

- All letters must be signed. Unless sufficient reason is given, the signature must accompany the letter when it is published.

- Everything will be published within the limits of space, good taste, and the laws of libel.

- To submit a letter to The Spectator, drop it in campus mail. The final deadline is Monday before the Friday on which a paper is published.

Should Brethren change?

Change. It's a scary word for the Brethren. When I hear that subject come up in a crowd of Brethren people, conversation usually ends. Of course, it may not be just the Brethren who seem to resist change. However, Brethren history shows many signs of resistance to change.

In the early days of the denomination many of the controversial subjects were over lifestyle issues, such as whether to wear buttons, colorful clothing, zippers, ties or collars. Brethren often said they wanted to be "in the world" but not "of the world," meaning one should not be consumed or preoccupied with "worldly possessions" but live a simple and humble lifestyle.

As times changed, so did the controversial issues about what was important in life. Disagreements arose about whether or not musical instruments should be played during worship service. Later issues of controversy were whether or not girls in the church could wear open-toed shoes, earrings, or whether or not they could have short hair.

I remember hearing stories about how when my grandmother in Pennsylvania was young, she used to wear clip-on earrings and open-toed shoes, only if the toes were filled with black paper. In the church during that time she probably could have gotten in quite a bit of trouble.

Obviously, the denomination has changed. For the most part, Brethren no longer wear simple clothing, prayer coverings, or shy away from many of the material things in life. Some people might say that we have not been as successful as we might have hoped at being "in the world" but not "of the world."

In their recent history, Brethren have leaned more toward being "of the world."



Brethren Perspective

by Erin Flory

This isn't necessarily negative. Living simply in today's complex world is not easy, not doing so can make us feel like we've lost part of our Brethren identity. Also, we must struggle to determine what is considered simple and what is not.

Brethren often have a difficult time describing the denomination. Brethren are one of the few pacifist denominations other than the Mennonites and Quakers. We also are a church that actively combines our faith with acts of service. These are all wonderful qualities to have, but what physical characteristics set us apart from other denominations?

Brethren women used to wear prayer coverings and most men wore beards. We have stopped doing these things and have continued to blend in with the rest of society. Although Brethren should not live radically different from others, we should strive to maintain a distinct identity.

Most decisions or changes the church makes have their positive and negative sides. Wearing open-toed shoes, earrings, or colorful clothing hasn't hurt the denomination much. But, by becoming more and more lenient about our lifestyle, we have lost a strong understanding of our individuality.

Change has its positive and negative aspects. Form an opinion and defend it, but remember to hear the other side and remain open to the possibility of change.

E-MAIL

The Spectator can now be reached by e-mail! Send your questions, comments and letters to the editor to:
spectamc@mcnet.mcpherson.edu



Dog Breath

"Happiness is not a pursuit or an end. It is a by-product of pursuing and doing the meaningful."

-Dr. Laura Schlessinger



Presidents remembered

by Jen Bosserman, Shelly Hendricks and Sarah Wagoner

Spectator Staff

"Tho' mountains and valleys and plains lie between, A friend will always seem near. The ties of man's heartstrings will always be seen to encircle the ones he holds dear."

The 1911 McPherson College Dandelion (the yearbook prior to the Quadrangle) described President Edward Frantz with the above dedication.

However, this verse accurately describes each of McPherson College's past presidents.

S. Z. Sharp helped establish McPherson College in 1888 and served as its first president for eight years.

"Professor Sharp was a man of keen insight...Those who knew him will not soon forget him, and McPherson College remembers the fact that he was in a great measure responsible for her existence" (Dandelion 1911).

C. E. Arnold, the second president, presided from 1896 until his death in 1902.

"He is greatly missed, but as he himself said, his work for McPherson College did not end with his mortal life" (Dandelion 1911).

Edward Frantz replaced Arnold in 1902 and served the college until 1910.

"President Frantz is a most devout and scholarly man. And has few equals in Biblical exegesis and interpretation. It was a rare privilege which few fully appreciated" (Dandelion 1911).

J. A. Clement served two years as the college's fourth president. He oversaw the addition of the agriculture and domestic science departments during his short term.

D. W. Kurtz presided as president for 13 years. He taught Latin, Hebrew, Greek, philosophy and theology.

"The leadership of the future must inherit the spiritual values of the past—the things that endure; and the ability to discover new truth for the enrichment of life," wrote Kurtz in the 1927 Quadrangle.

V. F. Schwalm was inaugurated as McPherson's sixth president on Valentine's Day, 1928.

"He enjoys association with the student and is always concerned with their interest" (Spectator 1928).

W. W. Peters came to the college from the now nonexistent Mount Morris College, affiliated by the Church of the Brethren. His inauguration was Feb. 21, 1942. The inaugural theme was "A changing world is a seeking world."

"The youth of today will continue to live in an increasingly interrelated small 'one world' in which the only guarantee of security is to be found in a community of nations, races, cultures and religions committed to peaceful relationships," wrote Peters in the 1948 Quadrangle.

D. W. Bittinger served the second-longest term of 15 years in the presidency. He was inaugurated on Sept. 15, 1950.

"We are at the same time both inheritors and debtors. All that we have and believe we have inherited from the past...The only way we can be faithful to this inheritance is to preserve it, improve it, and transmit it to the future...What of the future?...The future is in your hands," wrote Bittinger in the 1961 Quadrangle.

Jack Melhorn was the first president to be presented with the presidential medallion during inaugural ceremonies held Nov. 14, 1966. The medallion is passed to each new president upon assumption of the presidency.

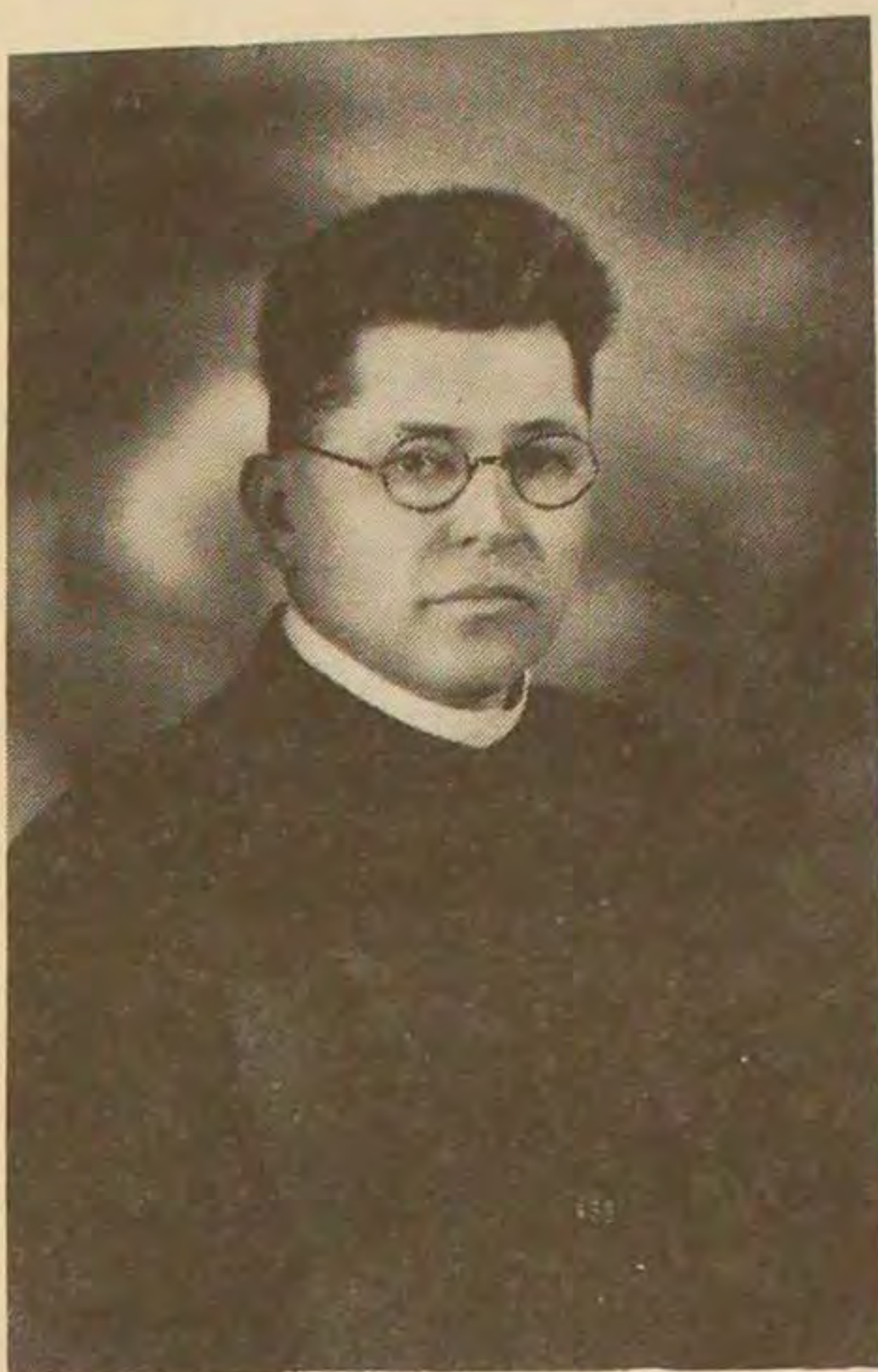
"Only as the person in society struggles to preserve his individuality in common cause with his fellows can he hope to remain a person," wrote Melhorn in the 1970 Quadrangle.

Galen Snell succeeded Melhorn in presidency upon Melhorn's Dec. 9, 1971 resignation.

"I came as president against all the emotion inside me for the administrative tasks. I came because I understood the situation, had those qualities needed to establish confidence, and felt it a call of God," Snell stated in the 1976 Quadrangle.

Paul Hoffman was named the 11th president March 5, 1976. President Hoffman maintained the longest presidential tenure—20 years of leadership. Inauguration festivities took place on Oct. 15, 1976, Homecoming weekend.

"The sun seems to be setting now at Mac as President Hoffman retires, and now we're all realizing what an effect Paul has had on us and the college," wrote Michael P. Schneider in the 1996 Quadrangle.



At left, President D.W. Kurtz served as McPherson College's fifth president for 13 years.

Below, President D.W. Bittinger and his wife stand in front of the president's home. One thousand E. Euclid has housed several of the past presidents.

Each of these eleven presidents affected McPherson College's past and influenced people who knew them. They enriched the heritage of the campus community with Hope, Faith, Happiness and Promise.

photos courtesy of Miller Library



Jack Melhorn was inaugurated the ninth president of McPherson College on Nov. 14, 1966. He was the first president to receive the presidential medallion, which is now passed on to each new president. Melhorn's presidency ended in the spring of 1972, after six years of service.

More than the president's wife

By Becki Dilley
Spectator Staff

When I called Vicky Dill, wife of new McPherson College president, Gary Dill for the past 24 years, to let her know that I was coming to interview her, she told me just to let myself in the front door and go up the stairs on the right to the study.

After I walked in the front door of the impressive Tudor style mansion at 1000 East Euclid, I found her putting linens away in a closet, and she immediately offered me a tour of the house, which is currently being remodeled. She talked about her and Gary's wishes to open up and brighten the house and to make it more accessible for people in the community.

We found our way back up to the study and began the game of twenty questions. Here's what I learned about Vicky Dill:

"When I was about nine years old," Vicky said, "my Uncle made me sit at the supper table until I finished my peas. I stared at my plate from about 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., when I finally forced myself to eat them. They were cold, and I got sick."

Her mother, who was a source of both inspiration and inferiority complexes for Vicky, pushed her academically. She always wanted Vicky to come out on top.

Vicky was diagnosed with amblyopia, a disorder that prevented her two eyes from always working together. Growing up visually impaired was a challenge for her.

When she was in junior high, Vicky's father came home with some tests that he had given to Vicky and her brother. Within Vicky's hearing range, he announced that Vicky's brother was smarter than she was and would need more education.

"That lit a fire under me. I was going to overachieve anything my brother ever did. I was never content to do anything less than push myself as hard as I could," Vicky said.

Vicky followed her passion for learning and received her undergraduate degree in English and education in January of 1970. Immediately following, she went on to earn her masters degree in curriculum from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

She later earned her Ph.D. in early American Literature.

"This was a treat!" she said. "To be able to study Dante and other authors as much as you want ... it was wonderful."

Her father-in-law challenged her to obtain her doctorate.

"He told me that I couldn't do it. The first copy of my dissertation went to him."

Education is a subject in which Vicky is quite knowledgeable. She published a chapter called "Alternative Teacher Certification" published in The Handbook of Research on Teacher Education.

"It matters what a teacher believes in," she explained, "and this is not accessed by taking a bunch of classes. If (as a teacher, you believe that your student can learn, you'll search for two hundred different ways to teach information to that student. But if you don't believe that they can learn, you'll say that this student is learning disabled and you'll give up on trying to teach them."

Vicky is presently working on a book about ways to handle school violence.

"Looking back, what I'll leave behind

for others is a challenge to educators to look beyond root certification issues to larger issues of: what does it take to be a good teacher?"

While Vicky was at the University of Pennsylvania, Gary was at Princeton and did an internship as a youth leader in the church that Vicky was attending.

"He came to the door and said, 'I want you to teach a Sunday school class.' I was disappointed because I was hoping that he was going to say, 'I want to go out on a date with you.'"

They were married in 1973.

"We had a lot of moves in our early years of marriage," Vicky said. (They have lived in about seventeen states!) Gary was ministering at that time, and they stayed in their first parish for about eleven months. Vicky said that she and Gary were called to Lynch Station, Va, in July of 1973, to help racially integrate the churches in the community.

The Thanksgiving following their arrival the town celebrated their first integrated service. Although it was the seventies, some people in the town weren't ready for integration.

"The Ku Klux Klan was very active," Vicky said, "and we were informed that they were coming to get us. We had to leave in the middle of the night."

Vicky has been greatly influenced by Barbara Jordan. Jordan was the first black congresswoman from the state of Texas and a personal friend of the Dills.

"What I loved about her was that she always gave an ear to the needs of the poor. I consider it a real privilege to have ever met her," Vicky said.

Vicky's children are very important to her, and one of the aspects of her life of which she is most proud.

Moses, the youngest, is nine. He was seen recently at the Inaugural Ball out on the dance floor swinging his arms and moving to the beat. He has a lot of energy and is a self admitted hyper-active. Moses, who is from Korea, was adopted by the Dills when he was a year and a half.

Isaac, their 14-year old is very creative, loves music, and writes poetry.

"Isaac is the Hebrew word for 'laughter,'" Vicky said, "and Isaac has a great sense of humor."

She pointed out the "Mr. Bubbly" T-shirt that he was wearing.

"Isaac's poetry is just awesome. He creates poems, but they just sort of happen to him. I love his honesty," Vicky said.

Emily, 16, is the perseverant one, "She is very much herself and won't change or do something until she's convinced."

Emily is also an avid reader. "She eats books," her mother explained, "she just gobbles up information."

Although this move to McPherson has been hard on her two older children, the experience has been unique.

"It was a singularly easy decision for us to make. From the time we started talking about coming to the time we began meeting people in the community there was an instantaneous rapport. Something intuitive said, 'This is the right place to be now,'" Vicky said.

She also sees Kansas, because of its cen-



photo by JD. Bowman

Vicky Dill, the wife of President Gary Dill, energetically interacts with participants of the 1997 inauguration festivities honoring her husband.

tral location, as being a launching pad for other interests.

"I really love that!" Vicky said. "It's fun. It makes me feel free. And it's a great way to get around."

Vicky shared some words of wisdom to students who are struggling to get through college.

"There's a saying that Gary and I share. It is, 'What is the difference between coal and diamonds? Diamonds stuck around longer.'"

"If you're trying to get through school, or finish a paper, or become a doctor, or even fly to the moon, you have to know what it is

that you want and then put that first, no matter what. You have to stop coming up with excuses; it takes a real plan to make your dreams come true. And when you face barriers in your dream, and you surely will, you must have a plan to knock down those barriers."

Vicky has grown a lot, since being that shy, curly-haired, googly-eyed first grader.

"Gary is always helping me, encouraging me, and supporting me," she said. "I have moved from being that quiet little poet in the background to realiz-

ing that, 'I can do anything.'"

She has proven that she can.

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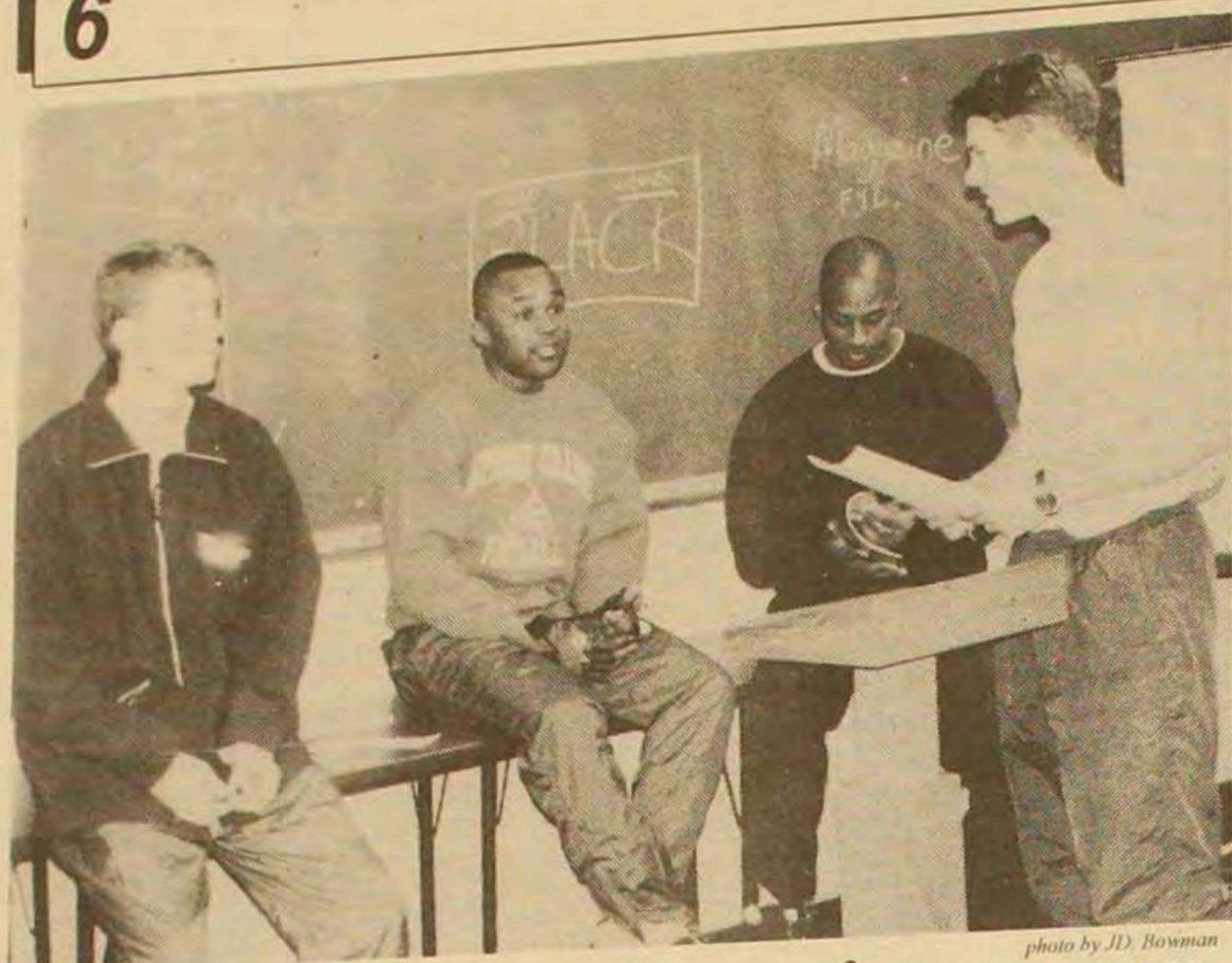


photo by JD Bowman

Athletes gear up for spring season

by Melissa Sharp

Sports Editor

The McPherson College golf, tennis and outdoor track teams have gotten underway for the 1997 spring season.

The golf team consists of seven players. Seniors Jamie Warren, Ryan Schmid and Shawn McGowan, juniors Tim Herra and Jess Van Norden, Brent See, soph. and Jeff Williams, fr.

The Bulldogs first meet was held at the Turkey Creek Golf Course in McPherson this past Monday. As a team, they finished eighth out of 12 that participated.

Individual results were Williams-85, Warren-86, Schmid-89, Herra-90 and McGowan-92.

Team members and Coach Roger Trimmell are optimistic about the season ahead.

"We should probably finish fourth or fifth with addition of Ottawa and Tabor to the conference, they will give us competition at our playing level," Warren said. "With the addition of Tim Herra and Jeff Williams to the rest of the team plus the fifth man, which is a tight race should help the team move up in the standings this year."

"We hope for good weather which should allow for good play. We should have a good team as long as each athlete plays to the best of their abilities," Trimmell said.

"I hope the team can pull together and place better than we have over the past few years," See said.

The tennis team returns senior Mark Boyer, juniors Dave Wiens and Joey House. Newcomers include freshmen Brent

Johnson, Shawn Straton, Chad Ethridge and Kit Easlake.

These players have been practicing since Feb. 17. Their first meet will be March 22. It will be a non-conference match with Central College and the University of Mary held here at McPherson.

"The chief expectation will be for the players to develop a consistency in their matches," coach Becky Sankner said. "Right now we are even in the top five spots. It would be even to win at least seven out of the nine matches we play this year."

Second-year head coach John McNamara expects bigger numbers for the 1997 track team.

"I think we'll have a bigger team this year. There is more interest than last year," McNamara said. "It seems that there is more interest from the women this year. They may be able to do well this year since there are more. The men will do well because of the sheer numbers."

The first official practice for the tracksters will be after spring break on March 17, and the first KCAC meet will be in Lindsborg at the Bethany Swede Invitational on March 20.

Team members seniors Eddie Hester and Rudolph "Turtle" James, juniors Rick Coleman, Michael Jackson and Brett Johnson, sophomores Cameron Koster and Matt Friesen, freshmen Josh Davis, Chad Etheridge, Dorothea Langer, Kathe Widner, Nikki Unruh-Carey, Jandi Bacon and Heather Cloud.

"I think that individually I will do a little above average in this conference, and as a team I think we have the potential to go to nationals," Hester said.



photo by JD Bowman

Above, Brent Johnson, fr., prepares for the upcoming spring season in one of the team's daily practices. The men's tennis team opens at home against Central College and The University of Mary March 22.

Above left, John McNamara, track coach and athletic trainer, discusses the spring season with, from left, Cameron Koster, soph., and seniors "Turtle" James and Eddie Hester. The team will compete in the Bethany Swede Invitational on March 20.

Who will win the big dance?

Will Princeton knock off one of the big boys again this year? Is the College of Charleston a legitimate Sweet 16 team? Are the Kansas Jayhawks finally going to win it all? Or is the new kid on the block—Minnesota—planning on crashing the "Big Dance" Golden Gopher style? Kentucky, North Carolina, Cincinnati—any takers?

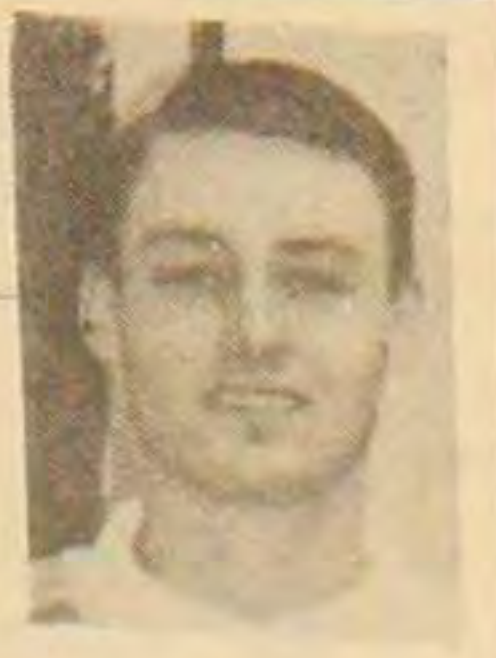
Basketball junkies, place your entries for this year's NCAA Division I National Basketball Tournament. With conference tournaments wrapping up this week, the time is nearing for the selection committee to send out invitations to those 64 schools invited to this year's party.

And everyone (including this writer) thinks this will be the year they capture the office jackpot or beat the other thousands of entrants who will take their picks to the ESPNET SportsZone Tournament Challenge. (If you would like to win some free pizza and nice gifts, along with tickets to next year's Final Four, venture to internet site <http://espnet.sportszone.com> on or after March 9 and check out the possibilities of winning the world's largest NCAA tournament pool.)

As has been proven time and time again, selecting the national champion is tough

Back En Vogue

By Erik Vogel



enough, but it's those early round games which separate the fortunate ones from the "I was going to pick them" people.

Since the entire bracket isn't complete yet, I'm not sure which region some of these teams will be in—they may end up together. However, I'm not afraid to humbly suggest who I think will be Final Four participants, who might cause some commotion, and general comments which will likely be disproved by the end of the tourney's first round.

So, after years of accumulating research on all the teams, analyzing recent tournament patterns and trends, and engaging in late-night debates with gurus of college basketball, here are some thoughts on who may be left in April when the smoke finally clears.

■Kentucky—Too much speed, too much athleticism, too much depth. They also play you 94 feet, which could wear them down. But more than likely will exhaust their opponent instead. Look for the reigning champs back in the Final Quartet.

■Kansas—Everyone will tell you that their Achilles heal is still outside shooting. The only way I see anyone beating them before the finals is if they go cold from long range against a mix-it-up zone and can't get it into the Goliath's down in the block. Destiny seems to have placed itself on the shoulder of the Jayhawks, and that's a tough foe for any challenger to overcome.

■UCLA—Despite losing in the first round of last year's tournament and struggling early this season, the Bruins ended up winning the PAC 10. In this year's tourney they will be more relaxed than a year ago when they came to the dance to defend their title. Off-court troubles can't overshadow the obvious, high level of talent on this squad.

■North Carolina—Earlier in the year, after blowing a huge lead against Maryland, some people had the 68-year old Dean Smith off to a retirement community in Arizona to join the ranks of the has-beens. The Tar Heels then proceeded

to go undefeated over the second half of their ACC schedule, including a big win over conference champion Duke. What do you think of a championship game between the teacher Smith and the pupil Williams (Kansas)?

Watch out for teams like Princeton, Xavier, Cincinnati (literally, these guys aren't the friendliest fellows to be around), Utah and Duke. Although Minnesota may be a legitimate contender for the title, Big Ten teams have performed inconsistently in recent tournament play. The Gophers have used up almost all of their nine lives during the regular season.

Experts contend that a good backcourt will carry a team in the NCAA tourney. If that's the case, then keep an eye on South Carolina, Stanford and New Mexico to name a few. Last season, big John Wallace of Syracuse carried the Orangemen to the Final Four. Maybe Tim Duncan can do the same for the Demon Deacons of Wake Forest, who have stumbled a bit lately.

Now comes the time to tape everything that comes across the screen on ESPN, pull up a bean bag, and watch as some school like Murray State ruins your carefully constructed dreams of becoming the next Dick Vitale. In any case, there is always next year.

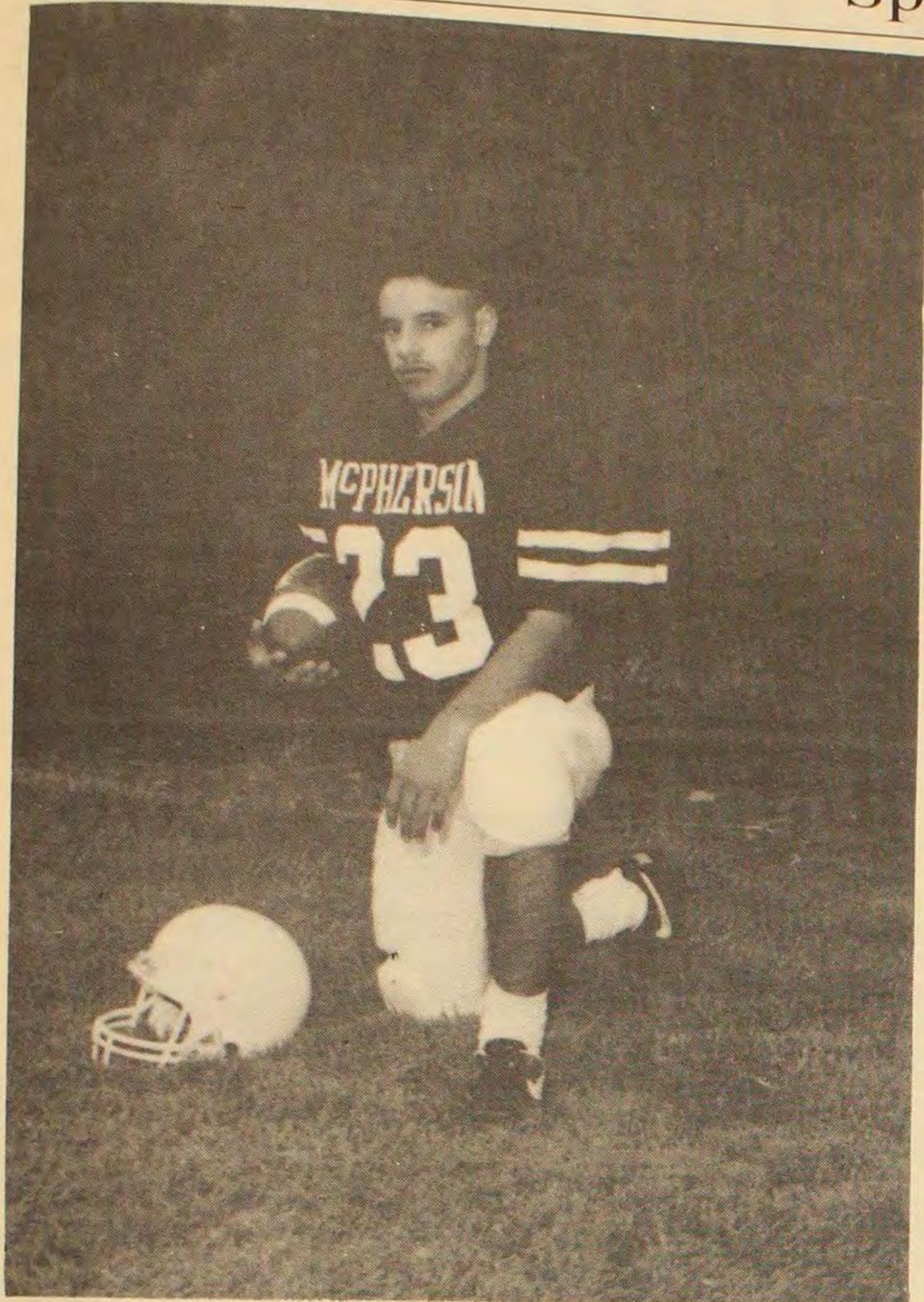


photo courtesy of James Lopez

James Lopez is the first recipient of the Paul "Gene" Smith scholarship.

Notable athlete honored

by Becky Ullom

Spectator Staff

James Lopez, soph., recently received the first ever Paul "Gene" Smith Scholarship. The scholarship was recently established by Smith family members in remembrance of Gene Smith, a member of McPherson College's class of 1954. Lopez is a sociology major from La Junta, Colorado. He hopes to become a football coach and a probation officer upon graduation.

"Anytime a scholarship is established in honor of an ex-alumnus of the college, it is an honor for the college as well as the program.

Scholarships like this one are especially meaningful because Gene Smith has gone through the program here at McPherson, and truly enjoyed his opportunities as an athlete.

That person wants to see positive opportunities continue to exist for students, and a scholarship is a good way to ensure that."

Gene Smith was an outstanding athlete during his college years. He claimed many honors in football, including All-Conference recognition several years.

The single season rushing record of 1,206 yards that Gene set in 1952, stood until 1996. He kept his interest in football all of his life, as a player, coach and teacher. Gene's family members established the scholarship as an encouragement to athletes enrolled at McPherson College and as a fitting tribute to Gene Smith's legacy.

Bruce Grose, head football coach for

McPherson College, commented on the meaning of the scholarship in terms of the entire program.

The scholarship is awarded to a junior football player based on his sophomore football career. The recipient must have a positive outlook a love of sports.

"James Lopez fits the criteria for the scholarship perfectly. He has a very positive outlook on life, and he definitely has a love of sports, especially football," Grose said.

"He is one of the hardest workers on our team. He is always in-tune to listening to instruction and learning more about the game."

"I felt very honored to receive the scholarship. It's great when people get rewarded for doing something they love. I am happy that the selection committee felt that I was worthy of this award," Lopez said.

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Schubert receives honors

by Melissa Sharp

Sports Editor

The Bulldogs finished their season last Friday in the first round of the KCAC play-offs, losing to the Bethany Swedes, 91-65.

"I think a major difference in this game was play-off experience. Bethany has been there many times before and it showed with very tenacious defense," head coach Mel Wright said.

Deidra Jones, fr., led the Bulldogs in scoring with 11 points. Summer Snodgrass, fr., Hillary Schubert, fr., and Amber Spillum, jr., scored 10 points each, with Schubert pulled down four rebounds. Staci Shoemaker, sr., added eight points for the Bulldogs.

"I was really surprised to receive this honor and I am very happy, but I could not have gotten it without the rest of the team," Schubert said.

The Bulldogs finished third in the KCAC in defensive average following Sterling and Bethany.

"Overall, we are really pleased with the season. The girls worked hard and made improvements at

every practice," Wright said. "I felt like we had very good team chemistry. The team had success because they did work as a team."

In earlier action, the Bulldogs lost to Friends, 73-43 in Wichita. Schubert was the leading scorer with 17 points. She also had nine rebounds. Spillum added six points, while Jones had five.

"Friends had two outstanding player performances, so their inside game was just too much. We couldn't stop them," Wright said.

Three new players have already signed with the Bulldogs for next year. They are Amber Jauken and Jennifer Flood from McPherson High School and Krystal Ray from Melish, Okla.

"I think if we stick to our team goals, we will accomplish a lot next year. As long as we improve year to year, that's what is important," Spillum said.

"The team this year was very good at accepting the roles they were given for the season," said Wright. "We are very excited about our future. We already have the nucleus to progress and make another giant step next year."

Men work toward better season

by Jenni Richardson

Spectator Staff

Next year will bring experienced players. The McPherson Bulldogs' season ended against Friends University on Feb. 25 with a 63-47 decision for the Falcons. The Bulldogs finished at the bottom of the conference with a 4-12 record in the KCAC.

Coach Roger Trimmell does not feel the team's record totally reflects the season.

"Even though we only had four in the win column, many of the ball games that we lost were close, and we had an opportunity to win. It's not the same as being beaten every time you step on the floor by 20 points or more," Trimmell said.

Emanuel Roland, jr., was the lone player in double digits against Friends scoring 13. Ryan Wenzel, jr., pulled down nine boards.

Although this season's outcome may not have met Trimmell's expectations, he is optimistic about next season. The Bulldogs will graduate only two seniors, Brandon Rice and Jason Dingman, and will return a number of players with varsity

experience.

"I'm really looking to bring in a couple of immediate impact players for next season. The conference really turned into a big, physical inside game in just this past season. The inside game is not the game of finesse that it used to be," Trimmell said.

Junior Tim Herrs, was named to the Honorable Mention All-Conference team for his performance this season. Hiram Finney of Tabor was the KCAC player of the year.

Trimmell anticipates an intense period of post-season and pre-season conditioning for next season.

"The guys are going to have to get in the weight room. We were in shape to run the floor for the full 40 minutes, we were just getting banged around on the inside," Trimmell said.

In earlier action, the Bulldogs lost their final home contest of the year to the Southwestern Moundbuilders, 86-98. The team had a host of players in double digits, led by Herrs with 26 points. Rice and Eric Putnam, soph., added 11 a piece, and Shane Sundahl, jr., and Kelly Hoover, soph., added 10 each.

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Habitat goes Hollywood

by Sarah Marie Hendricks
Spectator Staff

The McPherson College Habitat for Humanity Chapter continues to build lives by building homes in Hollywood, Calif., McPherson and Moundridge.

Aubrey Markus, fr., Mary Sentz, soph., and Mary's two children will be traveling with the Sterling College Habitat for Humanities Chapter to build a house in Hollywood, Calif.

The group leaves Saturday, March 8, and will spend four days working on the house and one day at Universal Studios. The trip costs \$100 plus spending money while the group is on the road.

Markus said she is willing to pay money to spend her Spring Break working because, "For one thing I've really enjoyed working with the Mac Habitat Chapter. It is interesting and fulfilling to be helping build something that will help someone else!"

The college chapter currently functions under the umbrella of the McPherson area affiliate. Larry Premer, a resident of McPherson, recently donated a lot for the next Habitat house to be built in McPherson at 215 S. Fischer. The McPherson area affiliate has received a \$20,000 grant from Aide Association for Lutherans. This grant allows construction to get underway after the groundbreaking on Sunday, April 27, 1997 at 2:30 p.m.

The McPherson Habitat chapter started in the fall of 1990 after Millard Fuller, the founder of Habitat for Humanity, spoke at a convocation.

McPherson College was the first campus chapter started without a community affiliate. McPherson College and the community jointly raised money to build a Habitat house in McPherson. Students fundraised by spending a night on the streets, taking tickets at sporting events and throwing a birthday bash for former president Paul Hoffman.

The McPherson area affiliate works with the housing needs of surrounding communities. There were four plots donated for new Habitat houses in Moundridge. One was completed recently.

Board member, Bruce Wagoner said, "The community in Moundridge has provided tremendous support with the house."

The next house is tentatively planned to be built on a donated plot in Galva.

Seven McPherson College students took part in the blitzbuild at Moundridge on Saturday morning, Feb. 22. The students helped with clean up by loading the scrap wood, moving lumber roofing and moving the 75 lb. bags of shingles from the street to the shackling.

"We met the woman who will move in the house, so the day was even more meaningful to me. It was really exciting to get to nail siding on with Bruce Wagoner," Jill Gibson, soph., said.

Survey reveals dissatisfaction with college meal plan

by Valerie Huber
Spectator Staff

McPherson College students requested changes in the current meal plan policy, according to a recent survey distributed by residence life.

"We're being cheated by being made to purchase meals that we don't eat," one student said in a recent food service survey.

The current meal plan policy requires all residential students to purchase a meal plan of either 14 or 19 meals per week at enrollment each semester. The survey indicated that students are not eating all of the meals they've purchased.

The food service survey was an adapted version of a survey recommended by Miller & Cook Associates, consultants for the college. The residence life staff distributed these surveys in Dec. 1996 to all on campus students. Students returned 192 of the 272 surveys given, a response rate of 70 percent.

According to the results of the survey given last semester, 35 percent of the residential student body ate breakfast on weekdays, 89 percent ate lunch, 84 percent ate supper and four percent said they didn't eat any meals on a particular weekday.

Fewer students ate in the cafeteria on the weekends. Student responses showed that 67 percent ate weekend brunches and 74 percent ate weekend suppers. Fifteen percent said they did not eat either meal on the weekends.

Students recommended alternatives to meal plans. They asked to be refunded the money for uneaten meals. Suggestions included optional meal plans, such as a seven-meal plan or a 10-meal plan and debit cards allowing students to purchase food from the cafeteria, the Doghouse and the Bookstore.

Shirley Reissig, business manager and food service supervisor, favored none of the students' suggestions.

"Meals provide a time for students to socialize, and if alternative options were available students wouldn't get to know as many people," Reissig said.

Reissig assists Dr. Steve Mason, vice president for financial services, in negotiating the food service contract with Sodexo Management Services.

Sodexo estimates operational costs based on the amount of students they expect to serve at each meal and makes a bid to the college, according to Richard Sabatos, food service manager. The college determines the cost and the number of meals included in the plans, according to Sabatos.

A Residence Life Committee composed of two faculty, two staff and two students (chosen by the student government president) also makes decisions regarding food service, according to Kathryn Whitacre, director of residence life. Students with food service concerns or exemption requests are directed to the committee.

Currently, the committee's only legitimate exemptions include student interns or student teachers who are gone during meal-times and medical excuses accompanied by a doctor's recommendation for a diet that the food contractor cannot accommodate.

Whitacre remains unaware of the reasons why the college only offers the 14- and 19-meal plans and she recognizes many students' request for smaller plans. Whitacre explained that Sodexo makes no money off the meals students choose not to eat. Sodexo still must pay its staff for working regardless of the number of meals eaten.

Whitacre and Sabatos considered the student suggestions from the food service survey. Both said that the expense of electronic debit card systems are not financially feasible unless enrollment increases significantly. As for refunding students the money for meals not eaten but paid for or offering smaller meal plans, neither could answer.



photo by Del Bonney

Jessie Miller, sr., Bruce Clary, professor of English and Karlene Tyler, registrar, participated in the February 24 convocation.

Literary legend affects campus community

by Michael Baker
Spectator Staff

McPherson College was recently honored with a glimpse into the mind of a literary genius, Emily Dickinson.

The play "The Belle of Amherst" was recently performed by Karlene Tyler, registrar and 1975 alumnus, and directed by Jessie Miller, sr.

Miller, an English and theatre major, chose this play as her senior project. Miller is no stranger to the McPherson College stage. She has directed two shows prior to "The Belle."

"The Belle of Amherst" is a one-woman show. Tyler portrayed Emily Dickinson, and the audience learned about Dickinson and those who influenced her writings through the dialogue performed by Tyler.

Tyler has worked for McPherson College since 1975. Her past positions at the college have included director of financial aid and admissions counselor.

Miller asked Tyler to perform the show almost two years ago and Tyler agreed. This is the first time in almost four years that Tyler has performed on the McPherson Stage.

Tyler said that lack of character interaction created difficulties.

"In most theatre performances, other characters can get clues of what comes next from other characters. However, since I was the only character in this show, those clues were not available, which made memorization even more difficult," Tyler said.

"I am an actress that very much plays off other people in shows, and when there's no one there, this is really hard. Not only is it hard for reactions, but also for focus," Tyler said.

There were other "pretend" characters in the show that Tyler reacted with. In order to stay consistent, Tyler had to remember where exactly all of these characters were on stage.

"I always thought of myself as a person that could really focus well, but this took the idea of focusing to a whole new level," Tyler said.

Tyler has worked on this project for over 150 hours; a good part of that time was spent on memorization.

In order to ease the burden of memorizing this 92-page script, Tyler and Miller broke the show down into sections for memorization and blocking, and then reviewed each section.

"This has been the hardest project in theatre I have ever done," Tyler said.

Not only was this show a challenge for Tyler, but also for the director, Jessie Miller.

Miller said that working with such an enigmatic figure such as Dickinson was difficult. Because the script was based on the life of Dickinson, Miller said that it was hard to find the balance between reality and drama.

"She [Miller] was really good about knowing the script and what she wanted to do before rehearsals. Jessie was very well prepared and blocked the show well. She has a good sense of stage space and picture," Tyler said.

The show was suggested to Miller by Bruce Clary, professor of English, who is finishing a doctorate on Dickinson.

Miller contacted Connie Clark, a professor at Furman University in North Carolina. Clark has written and performed a script called, "Emily." Miller also consulted Clary for help on interpretation of the poems in the play.

Miller felt directing the show was rewarding because she was able to envision something and see it come to life.

Dr. Rick Tyler, professor of theatre, worked closely with Miller in designing the set and also provided Miller with advice when needed.

"Rick served as a safety net for me," Miller said.

Along with Tyler and Clary, Miller had the influence of Dr. Kim Stanley, professor of English, while working on the project. "I really appreciated the way I could go to her [Stanley] to construct and develop my ideas," Miller said.