

The McPherson College SPECTATOR

Vol. 82, No. 1

"Serving to inform a community"

September 19, 1997

UNDERCOVER

NEWS

Kansas University Medical School to implement program in McPherson

Students on campus will have opportunities to interact with medical students studying at McPherson Memorial Hospital through this program.

Trustees to determine dormitory decision

The board of trustees will be on campus during October to review blueprints of dorm options. Student input will also be reviewed.

See page 8

FEATURES

Sharon Knechel: Memories of a friend

Students, faculty and staff share memories of Sharon Knechel's life.

Why service?

McPherson College promotes service as an integral part of education of students.

See pages 4 and 5

SPORTS

Bulldogs earn "bragging rights"

The men's soccer team beat Central College 2-0 last night. The team is now 2-2.

Football team opens season victorious

The Bulldogs beat SW Assembly of God, 27-20, on Sept. 9.

See pages 6-7

There is no fear in McPherson



Mariah Draper, soph., Cherice Marsalis, sr., and Laura Eells, assistant professor of sociology, boldly return to McPherson College for another year. Students moved back to campus and prepared for the 109th academic year.

Enrollment up 10 percent

by Liberty Levinski
Spectator Staff

Student enrollment at McPherson College has reached its highest number since 1980, causing the extension of cafeteria hours, full classes and dorms.

McPherson enrolled 185 new students, representing a 10 percent increase over last year's freshman and transfer enrollment.

Anne Kirchner, director of admissions, is pleased with the increase of new students and is impressed by their caliber.

"This year's applicants have exhibited strong grade point averages and standardized test scores. We look forward to providing them with a high-quality college experience," Kirchner said.

Faculty and returning students echo the

leadership potential of new students.

"It's really exciting because this class has a lot of leadership potential and brings a special energy to this campus," said Kathryn Dietz, professor of sociology.

An increase in class size caused professors to revamp syllabus plans and schedule more time to talk with individual students. The professors at McPherson College changed hours, recognizing the benefits of increased class size.

"It depends on the format, size and content of the class. Having a larger class can really enhance the student's learning experience," Dietz said.

Full dorms resulted from the increase in enrollment. Metzler Hall is full, three rooms are open in Fahnestock and Dotzour has two open rooms. Plans are beginning for the

construction of new dormitories or renovation of Bittering for next fall, due to the enrollment increase.

An extension in cafeteria hours resulted from the increase. The extension is designed to accommodate student schedules and space in the cafeteria. The continental breakfasts is served until 10 a.m., an hour and a half longer than last year. The cafeteria opens 15 minutes earlier for lunch and stays open 15 minutes later. A deli line remains open from 1 to 2. Supper begins 15 minutes earlier than last year. The cafeteria also extended Sunday brunch by 15 minutes.

"We have a very good freshman class, and they're friendly and outgoing. I think the school will profit from this class," said Jessie Miller, soph.

"U.S. News" reports ratings

by Jessica Adamson
Spectator Staff

"U.S. News & World Report" and "Money" magazine have both listed McPherson College in its top 100 colleges for 1998.

"1998 US News Best Colleges" article placed McPherson College in their top 100 colleges as categorized by geographical location.

"We are pleased that US News has selected us for this recognition. McPherson College prepares students to be whole persons through scholarship, participation and service. Recognition by external reviewers such as 'US News & World Report' affirms the quality of our academic program and the

preparation of our graduates to live lives that include a commitment to lifelong learning, professional leadership and service," said Dr. Steven Gustafson, provost and dean of the faculty.

"Money's College Value Rankings," listed McPherson College in the top 100 buys for colleges in the nation. McPherson was ranked 80, dropping from last years ranking of 30 in the nation.

Qualifications for ranking include amount of student aid available, quality of teaching faculty, percentage of incoming freshmen who finished in the top 20 or 25 percent of their high school class, student-to-faculty ratio and freshman retention rate.

Staff member dies

Sharon Knechel, former vice president of student services since 1988, was killed Monday, Sept. 8, 1997, in a rollover car accident.

Knechel was delivering the Hutchinson News newspaper in the early morning in Rice County. She went off the right side of the road and overcorrected. Her vehicle crossed the road, entered the ditch and rolled three times, according to officials. Knechel was not wearing her seat belt and was thrown from the car.

Memorial services were held at the McPherson Church of the Brethren on Friday, Sept. 12, at 10:00 a.m.

Special feature of Knechel is on page five.

EDITORIAL

Silence is golden

"You talk when you cease to be at peace with your thoughts; And when you can no longer dwell in the solitude of your heart you live in your lips, and sound is a diversion and a pastime. And in much of your talking, thinking is half murdered" (Kahlil Gibran).

"I have spent all my life amongst wise people, and I have found nothing better than silence in this world. If a word costs one coin, then silence costs two" (Talmud).

WE TEND TO PERCEIVE OUR MOUTHS AS OUR BEST WEAPON. And indeed it is our best weapon. With words, we provoke necessary changes, but we also inflict needless agony.

McPherson College is a small campus, to state the obvious. And in this community, we speak, we listen and then we embellish. Gossip prevails, rumors fly, and we find ourselves confused, not knowing what to believe.

At a local level, we've been talking about the Merrin Godfrey situation. Merrin has served the college for the past 24 years, most currently as director of maintenance services. Recently, we've noticed his absence on campus. First, we heard he was fired. Then, we were informed he was not fired. Several students raised questions about his absence, because they didn't know the facts. Keep questioning.

However, don't plague the campus with false truths until concrete facts are known and affirmed by all parties involved. This not only applies to our present situation, but to life in general. Many of us have been or will be victims of gossip. We've also spread the rumors.

Think about what you say before saying it. Will you cause harm? Are you asking an honest question or trying to aggravate an already upsetting situation?

With the facts, create your opinions. Don't allow your opinion to create the facts. While you may assert your feelings on a matter, don't barrage other people with unnecessary words. First, be silent and wait.

The more we talk, the less we learn. The less we learn, the fewer new opinions we establish. By listening, we expand our knowledge. Then, we can formulate stronger opinions—with evidence—about particular situations, about life. Too often, we argue for something when we possess little information to back up our thoughts. What foundation are we basing our opinions on? Facts, beliefs, experiences or rumors?

To paraphrase Leo Tolstoy: if you want to understand, you must ask questions, listen carefully, speak when necessary, and be silent when there is nothing new to share.

Shelly Hendricks
for the Editorial Staff

The McPherson College

SPECTATOR

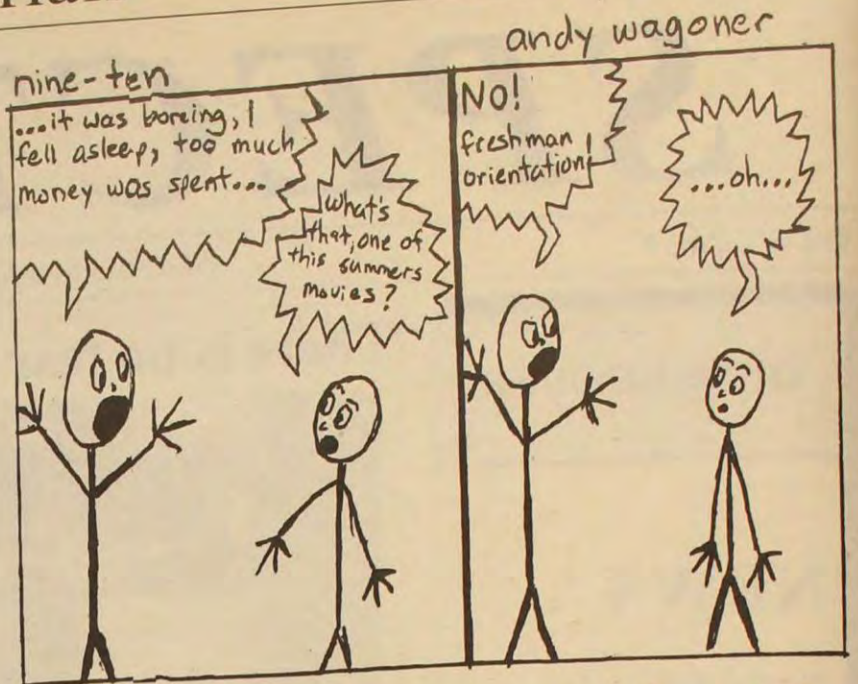
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Let's play Sempre Viva Tag

Let's play tag. Remember that game? Looking at my childhood, I must have played tag every day from age six until I turned eight. I can't say that I remember who taught me how to play the game. I mean, I remember learning freeze tag, TV tag, Chinese tag, and snake tag, but I don't remember learning the original tag. I'd like to suggest that it is human nature to chase folks and avoid others. Maybe that is pushing it.

Childhood was wonderful, wasn't it? There was something quite immortal about being a child. There's a feeling of being able to conquer the world. I didn't care about war when I was a kid. I didn't know who James Bond was, and I didn't care. HIV/AIDS and retinitis pigmentosa were two terms not in my vocabulary. I was more concerned with my best friend, David Alverado, and our plans to secretly find out what really goes on in the school principal's office.

I wasn't afraid of anyone or anything (except the thing under my bed). I would openly and honestly look at the world and all its people. It didn't occur to me (until I later moved to the South) that David Alverado is African American. Why should that have been a big deal?

I loved walking home from school because I used my imagination to become a secret agent. Everyday I was being chased by FBI, KGB, CIA, or evil men from Mars.

There is only one other time in my life when I felt that childhood attitude. The only other time when I've felt on top of the world and ready for anything was when I began here at McPherson in 1993. I would venture to say that I felt immortal.

The freshman class, however, didn't get that same chance. Unfortunately, they had the exact opposite. This year, while every student was optimistic and idealistic, the campus was reminded of reality. The wind was taken out of quite a few sails, and freshmen were slapped with a depressing welcome to college life.

I'd like to say that new students had a crash course of how caring this community can be, but from hearing most of their reactions, that's not the message they got. Maybe Polky spoke for the majority of the new students when she complained about the requirement of attendance at the first convo.

Well, I'm trying to take a roundabout way of getting to the point. I do have a point.

"Sempre viva" is a Latin phrase meaning "live forever." That's not the point. Maybe I should start back at my childhood.

Tag. A person is It. Everyone else runs away from It... fearing Its touch. If It comes in contact with you, you become It and begin trying to convince others that they want to be It.

I bet we've all played games like tag before this day in our lives. Maybe I should add the clause "in one way or another." If I add that clause, then everyone can admit to the many games of tag that we play (daily). My girlfriend and I play tag. We take turns doing something special for each other. Now that the campus is connected by voice-mail, the term "phone tag" isn't too foreign. And it seems that "Memo Tag" is becoming the hottest new game on the first floor of Mohler.

However, there is a downside to tag, and its after the first couple weeks of college that we begin seeing it. Someone is It. Groups are running away. They are separating themselves from whatever is It.

Who's It this week? Will it be Fahnestock yet again (can we help it if we're slow runners)? Will it be that bad roommate who doesn't shower, ever? Will it be a win or a loss for the football team?

I don't like this version of tag. In fact, I'd like to introduce some new rules to tag.

In this version, whoever is It must go around and try to build someone else up.

I think it shouldn't be too hard. Once that other person feels a good intention coming his or her way, they become It.

Let's see. Calling it Supportive Tag just sounds too therapeutic and doesn't

sound fun at all. I think I'll call it Sempre Viva Tag. That sounds nice and intriguing Besides, it fits.

Sempre viva, or Latin for live forever. We live forever in the sense of memories and actions. I will always remember my Grandmother's home in Pennsylvania. That is a way she will live forever. I will also try to have a home in that same style. That's another way she will be immortal.

Last week, a very good friend passed away, but I refused to concentrate on that fact. I looked at the memories of her life. I thought about how much she urged people to live life. Then, I try to live, and I recognize that is a way of living forever.

Sempre viva. Live forever. Maybe not, but we should at least try to keep living. We have a great freshman class this year. We have a winning football team (better than my freshman year). The men's soccer team is exciting to watch. The second play in Brown is already in rehearsals and is the most anticipated musical at McPherson College since "Little Shop of Horrors" (six years ago).

Live life here. Don't dwell on the bad things that separate us from one another. Concentrate on helping each other with actions and words. In a little way, that is the answer for how to live forever.

Let's play tag, you're It. Now what are you going to do about it?



Just Like That
by JD. Bowman

Enter the Kingdom of Heaven as a child

With arms wrapped tightly around me Marco said, "I love you. I won't ever let you go. You're my best friend." Age seven, broad shouldered Marco stood only an inch shorter than I and found enjoyment in picking me up. As Marco smiled, rolled his eyes, and sang "Rubber Ducky," and as we built sand castles on the bank of the North Fork River, I knew what Christ meant when he said, "Enter the kingdom of heaven as a child."

With the innocence and love of a child, Christ calls us to live each day to its potential. The young people I met this summer as I traveled in my Geo Prism from camp to camp across the U.S. knew more about spreading Christ's love than the majority of adults I know, including me.

I worked for McPherson College counseling at camps in Kansas, Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Missouri, and attended annual conference in California. Moving from camp to camp taught me the importance of a permanent residence, but it also taught me that people everywhere long for love, God's love. God revealed his love to me not only through Marco's hugs but also through a girl named Jennifer at Camp Hammonds Mill's closing campfire.

Jennifer had been homesick and needed to curl up in someone's arms. This is what



Brethren Perspective
by Jennifer Bosserman

Christ meant by serving. All the sessions, songs, and vespers services meant very little if arms weren't hugging and hands weren't outstretched ready to share God's love. I felt privileged to hold her in my arms and, in some small way, touch Christ.

God revealed himself to me through the trees, the stars and soot from the campfire on Tussy Mountain in Pennsylvania. On a 95-degree day we hiked for five hours to arrive at our campsite without a single drop of water left in our drinking jugs. My unit waited two hours for food and water as other units arrived.

So what do you do on a hot day on the top of a mountain? You play mind games and freeze tag, sweep the soot off the cement slab fire circle, and drag rocks off the

mountainside to seat 25 around the campfire. Dirt colored our hands and faces; sweat dripped from our chins.

The art of sharing was learned quickly by the 40 people who used the same fire circle to cook and slept on only two tarps. As Becki Dilley said, "Come on guys. Like loaves and fishes, we'll fit." We did, and fell asleep to the sound of little critters and visions of stars twinkling and shooting across the sky.

We lived in community, we laughed, we sang, we related to one another. And when we watched the sun rise over the mountain the next morning, I knew the awesomeness of God and what it means to be alive.

The Brethren focus on living a simple life and living in the present, experiencing God in everyday living. When Christ calls us to live a simple life, he means to live a life in which material possessions, meetings, work and money don't stand in the way of loving and relating to God's people and creation around us. Christ calls us to love as a child loves.

People experience Christ when we let Christ live in us and share his love through everyday tasks. The Brethren also emphasize service. How are we serving today? I met young people longing to hear that God

loved them and would use them. I met young people yearning for someone to listen to them. I yearned for an answer or a sign myself during the summer.

As a church are we too busy planning next week's service, kids club or women's fellowship to hear the cry of our neighbor? As individual people, do our jobs leave us too drained to extend a helping hand? Do classes, sports, and other activities fill our days?

Sometimes my job seemed absurd; running through the forest at night scaring campers, running down a lane to find campers and lightning striking a tree next to me, leading girls across a mountain who think I know how to divert the rattlesnake's attention so we can get by, staining a building with wasps dive bombing, having a mud fight. But in every instance I laughed, related to people and felt Christ walking by my side.

God's message of love is still needed today in basic ways. Is the Brethren church living up to its call of simplicity and service in sharing Christ's love? We shape the church now and in the future? Do we choose to love those around us as a child, with innocence and unconditional love? The answer lies only in each of us.

CAMPUS FORUM

Why are we here?

This is a time of new beginnings: new classes, a new academic year, new friendships, perhaps a new school or even a new country for some of us. It is also a time to question why we are here. Your individual answer to the question "Why am I here?" is important.

It identifies your motivation and offers insight into your character. There are as many different answers to that question as there are people who ask it of themselves, but the point of this letter to the editor is not to explore why you are here, but why we are here.

"We" are McPherson College. McPherson College exists to fulfill its mission, which is "to develop whole persons through scholarship, participation, and service."

As we have debated and discussed the meaning of this mission statement over the years, we have tended to focus on the words "scholarship, participation, and service." That has been a mistake, however, because it has distracted us from debating, discussing, and understanding our goal, which is "to develop whole persons."

What are "whole persons?" The usual answers to this question are some variation of "body, mind, and spirit," or "the sum of the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual beings," or, using really fancy words, "the integration of the affective, cognitive, and psychomotor domains."

All of these answers miss the mark. Each betrays a flaw in the mission statement that has led us astray. The flaw is subtle, and may well be unintentional, but it is our responsibility to pursue the truth as we think, write, and act with all of the clarity and integrity of which we are capable.

The phrase "whole persons" implies, at least to me, that our mission is fulfilled one person at a time. If you integrate your affective, cognitive, and psychomotor domains by the time you graduate, then our mission has been accomplished.

The flaw in this thinking is the implication that one person can be whole in isolation from others. This atomistic or individualistic view of the person is prevalent in our society. We are encouraged to "do our own thing," so long as it does not harm anyone else.

Your liberal arts education, however, may expose you to a countercurrent of thought and practice. Here is a sampler:

"No man is an island unto himself." "All things are connected." "The whole is more than the sum of its parts." "We are all members of one body."

The common strand in these statements is the primacy of community. If our focus was on our community, not on a disarticulated collection of persons, we might be on the right track.

Now I must confess that the phrase "whole community" does not make much sense to me, because I do not know what a partial community is. As alternatives to "whole" consider the related words "healthy" and "holy," all grown from the same linguistic rootstock. In these three words do you catch a glimpse of greater truth than the word "whole" alone conveys? Do you see truth with clarity and integrity? Here is what I see.

We would have a healthy community if we were healthy individuals, living in healthy relationship with one another. We would have a holy community if we were individuals of integrity living in loving relationship with one another; that is, if we loved the truth with all of our heart and mind and strength and soul, and if we loved our neighbor as ourselves.

My answer to the question "Why are we here?" is this: to develop a healthy community through scholarship, participation and love. What is your answer?

Dr. Jonathan Frye
Chair of Faculty

Wanted: Debaters

I'm writing in order to hopefully raise some interest in my favorite extracurricular activity—debate.

Currently, McPherson College does not have a debate and forensics program. Therefore, I'm writing this letter for everyone here at McPherson that debated in high school and would desire to continue on debating in college.

Even if you didn't debate in high school but would like to in college, that's great. All we need to do is get enough students interested and willing to help McPherson make the necessary adaptations needed in order to ensure that the program can be started.

If you are interested, please contact me by way of letter (537 East Northview Road Apt. 5 McPherson, KS 67460), e-mail (TrippyRush@aol.com), or phone (241-0467).

Danny Ballard, fr.

Freshwoman gives kudos

by Deborah "Polky" Polkinghorn

Spectator Staff

Editor's note: The Spectator asked a freshman to review the orientation process freshmen participated in their first weekend at McPherson College.

McPherson College opened its doors at 8 a.m. on Aug. 29, 1997, for students to ask their questions, and for parents to be reassured that they made the right college choice with their child. Faculty and staff members welcomed students with open arms.

After the initial welcome to campus, the lines at the residence halls began to stretch longer and longer. At 9 a.m. the halls opened for students. RAs were waiting for the arrival of students with eager and helpful attitudes.

The RAs were very well educated after attending training sessions to make the moving process as smooth as possible. Thank you to the RAs for making the experience so enjoyable and to the faculty and staff for helping us move in.

After all that hard work, most people took a break and grabbed a bite to eat at the cafeteria. The luncheon buffet was delightful. The cafeteria staff deserves our thanks for the good food.

Next, "Discover.....Mac" began for both the parents and the students. After being

placed in our seminar groups, we began to get to know our classmates and faculty. As our families attended the dinner and program in the Sport Center, freshman attended the new student banquet. The welcome from Karlene Tyler and the ceremonial passing of students from Anne Kirchner to President Dill were stupendous.

The first night a residence hall meeting gave us instructions and safety measures that will help us have a more enjoyable year. Saturday was filled with pre-enrollment, student inventory and food. Our service projects began after lunch and continued into the evening. The projects taught us lessons which were discussed in our sharing session at the sport center.

The fun began Saturday evening at the YMCA. A pool party was only a small portion of the activities that took place. Afterwards, we headed back to the dorms where most people rearranged their things and continued to unpack till the early hours of Sunday morning.

Breakfast, church, lunch, athletic meetings, free time and dinner filled Sunday and continued the weekend's tradition of packing tons of activities and meetings into its three short days.

Students had a chance to relax, laugh, and enjoy themselves at the Faculty Follies Sunday night. Remembering "Mouse Balls, Safe Sex, and Gotta Use the John" will not be difficult due to the performances by various faculty members, whose identities will be concealed. The ice cream social sponsored by Student Government Association, SGA, finished off the weekend activities.

Monday was enrollment day; an easy process well prepared by the school. SGA, Student Activities Board, the RA's, faculty and staff: you did a wonderful job! Kudos to McPherson College.

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.

Dog Breath



"Be like a postage stamp—stick to one thing until you get there."

Margaret Caty

"The giver finds inherent reward"

All freshmen were involved with various service projects during their first weekend at McPherson College. The project is intended to provide students with an opportunity to explore part of the college's mission statement, which includes service.



The project sites freshman worked at were the following: the Salina Rescue Mission, the Ashby House (a homeless shelter), the Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas and Smoky Hill Rehabilitation Nursing Home in Salina, Interfaith Housing, New Beginnings Homeless Shelter and Hutchinson Zoo in Hutchinson, and the McPherson County Food Bank, the Cedars, and the McPherson Recycling Center in McPherson.



Serving for others

by Sarah Marie Hendricks
Spector Staff

"I don't know what your destiny will be but one thing I know, the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have learned to serve" (Albert Schweitzer).

Service. What is it? Who does it? Why do people do it? Who benefits more, the recipient or the volunteer? These are a few questions that have recently been heard on campus.

During freshman orientation, McPherson College freshmen participated in various service projects, including: homeless shelters, nursing homes and domestic violence centers.

Each orientation group spent three to four hours performing services such as painting, sorting, weeding, trimming or organizing.

The college hopes that by participating in service projects, students will better understand the college's mission statement, "To develop whole persons through scholarship, participation and service," said Karlene Tyler, orientation director.

Tyler listed three goals of freshman orientation groups. One is to promote orientation group bonding. A second is to immerse students in a new situation, which may be uncomfortable. The last goal is to give the freshmen a chance to give back to the local and surrounding communities, in hope that these same students might choose to serve in the future, when it is not required or expected of them.

Freshman orientation group service projects aren't the only organized services found on this campus. Several student organizations on campus are service oriented. Today's Educators, a club that supports future teachers, focuses its energies on children.

Last year, the group began a program entitled "Mother's Day Out." It allowed parents to spend a day without their children, and gave the students involved a chance to plan activities for the kids. Today's Educators is also planning to collect mittens for a mitten Christmas tree. Then, they will pass out the mittens as gifts to needy children.

"Programs like these give us a way to combine education and service. The programs are fun for both us and the

children," said LeAnna Hulce, vice president of Today's Educators.

Another service organization, Habitat for Humanity, provides an opportunity to help others less fortunate. The goal of Habitat for Humanity is to build houses that families with low incomes can afford.

"The really neat thing about Habitat is that anyone, male or female, can participate regardless of prior experience," said Jamie Risser, jr., and president of the campus chapter.

The campus chapter primarily provides service through workdays on local Habitat Houses, but it also organizes fund-raisers that earn money for a future house.

Another student organization that focuses on serving is Peace Awareness.

"Peace Awareness attempts to serve through simple acts of kindness, such as baking cookies and sharing them with the campus community, or passing out hug coupons to students. It is through small acts that world peace will be achieved. We also try to raise awareness of conflicts around the world and emphasize the connection between all humans despite race or religion," said Jennifer Bosserman, jr., and Peace Awareness contact person.

Maybe the question "Why do we serve?" can best be answered by looking at the heritage of McPherson College and its affiliation with the Church of the Brethren.

The Church of Brethren has been involved with service for most of its existence.

One current example of church supported service is the Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) program.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of BVS, an organization that places volunteers in positions of service world-wide.

McPherson College has built its mission of service around its Church of the Brethren history.

By including service projects as part of freshman orientation, the college does not intend to exploit free or forced labor, but to give students a taste of true service.

Jean Hendricks, director of church relations and director of campus ministry, said that "it is the spirit of service that matters!" And what is the "spirit of service"?

"Part of the meaning of service is that the giver finds inherent reward in serving," Hendricks said.



"Sharon's in the kitchen with her 'Cooking Light Five Star' cookbook using every burner, pot, and other utensil to prepare a farewell meal for the four of us two days before Marilyn and I moved to Elgin, Ill. Ken was there and, if he was in charge, he concealed it well. Sharon whirled around the kitchen in a grand display of culinary assertiveness, determined to whip those ingredients into an array of edible masterpieces. After a most entertaining performance in the kitchen, we all sat down to a delightful dinner... the last meal we ate together."

—Steve Mason, former vice president for financial services and close friend

"Sharon was always looking out for the students at the college. Whatever the problem was you could count on her to listen and do anything she could to help. She was the most unselfish person I have ever met."

—Brent Sec, jr.

"Sharon loved chocolate. We were both choco-aholics, and we had fun sharing that disease!"

—Deb Wagoner, secretary to the dean of students and Sharon's former secretary

"One of my fondest memories of Sharon is from my days as prospective student. I came down with the chicken pox, and I wasn't allowed to stay on campus. Sharon, being herself, took me in as a house guest for seven days. One of the things Sharon taught students was that it is okay to keep living. I apply that to her death as well. I say to myself she was a woman full of life and it's okay for our campus to keep living."

—JD. Bowman, sr.

"I would go sit in her office in the funky flowered chair. She always told me that I could have them, but I don't know what happened to them. I really love Sharon. There are so many things about her. She'd always laugh. We'd laugh. She was just a beautiful person. Whenever I talked to her, she put things into better perspective. She was a beautiful friend."

—Amy Levinski, jr.

"As a freshman, I remember Sharon as that lady with a big smile. I talked with Sharon one-on-one and she was always there to listen to my concerns. Sharon loved BEING THERE for the students. She was a truly wonderful person."

—Melissa Sharp, sr.

Memories of our friend



Sharon Knechel

Feb. 29, 1956—Sept. 8, 1997

"When it's over, I want to say:
all my life I was a bride married to amazement.
I was the bridegroom, taking the world in my arms.

When it's over, I don't want to wonder if I have
made of my life something particular, and real.
I don't want to find myself
sighing and frightened, or full of argument.

I don't want to end up simply having visited this world."
(Mary Oliver "When Death Comes")

Sharon Knechel was born in Gettysburg, Pa., to Robert and Martha Jacoby Knechel. She was the youngest of four children. Her family moved to South Bend, Ind., when Sharon was two years old. She began her elementary school education in South Bend and then moved with her family to Johnstown, Pa., at age 10. She moved with her parents back to Indiana for her last two years of high school.

Sharon graduated from Manchester College in 1978 and then moved to Burlington, Vt., to begin graduate work in student personnel and counseling at the University of Vermont. She received her Master's degree in 1980 and moved to Bridgewater, Va., to begin work at Bridgewater College as assis-

tant dean for student development. It was while she was at Bridgewater that she met her husband, Ken Queen, who was teaching special education in an area school. Ken and Sharon were married at Bridgewater in November of 1983.

Dr. Paul Hoffman recruited Sharon to come to McPherson in 1988 as vice president for student services, a position she fulfilled until July of 1997. At the time of her death, she was on administrative leave to complete her Ph.D. and was to return to the college in January as Director of Institutional Research and Strategic Planning.

Sharon was killed Monday, Sept. 8, 1997, in a one-car crash outside of town.

—provided by Bob Knechel

"Sharon Knechel was a truly amazing person, one who was comfortable in the creative world of the artist and equally at home analyzing data. Always the advocate of the student, she approached each challenge from the vantage point of the student. Sharon had the uncanny ability to foresee a student need before it occurred, seeking to be proactive. Whether she was attending a student activity, counseling a student in her office, or teaching a class, Sharon was there for her students. She was my friend and colleague; I will certainly miss her."

—Steve Gustafson, Provost and dean of faculty

"Sharon's the reason I became a resident assistant. She was happy to see me be an influence on campus. It made me happy to see her happy."

—Damian Harris, sr.

"We had to schedule appointments for Ken to see Sharon and sometimes he still got bumped!"

—Marylyn Matthaei, Secretary to Provost and dean of faculty

"Sharon was always so enthusiastic about the good things happening here at McPherson. Each year, when our families got together at Christmas she would encourage us to come to McPherson and see for ourselves. Three years ago I finally came out to visit Sharon and Ken. And she was right! McPherson College and the community of McPherson are a wonderful place. She loved her work here and believed in the mission of the college. My work now takes on added meaning as I seek funds to help carry out the love and high expectations Sharon had for the college."

—Bob Knechel, Director of development and brother to Sharon

"I remember Sharon, the math whiz. She always carried a calculator. I remember Sharon, the cook. Residence Life tested her honey-mustard salad dressing and veggie lasagna. I just remember Sharon."

—Kathryn Whitacre, Dean of students

"I appreciate the balance we were able to reach between the challenges of working at the same institution and the deep friendship that we had outside of the college. Some people didn't understand how we could at times, 'butt heads' at work and then that evening they would see us at the movies or at a theatre production together. But the two of us understood. I saw Sharon all around me in the students' genuine concern for each other. She simply made a difference to anyone who was open to what she so freely offered."

—Marilyn Sexton Mason, former Director of Admissions

"My favorite memory of Sharon is from our Student Government Association retreat when we had our group orientation and we did relays on plastic coated with whip cream. Sharon and I couldn't manage to stay on our feet. Sharon was a leader, a mentor, a motivator and most of all—a friend. Sharon was my mother away from home. I will always be forever in debt for the impact she made on my life."

—Brian Cooper, jr.

Kickers blank Central Tigers, 2-0

by Erik Vogel
Spectator Staff

Following a 2-0 shutout of Central College of McPherson last night, the Bulldog men's soccer team evened its record at 2-2 on the young season.

After a scoreless first half, the Dogs got a break with about 20 minutes left in the second period, when a deflected pass snuck past Central's goalie for the game's first score. Brian Wessel, jr., was credited with the goal, while Cliff Bell, soph., got the assist.

With less than a minute to go in the contest, Wessel took an O'Brien Byrd, jr., pass and beat Central's keeper for his second score of the game. The win gives the Bulldogs bragging rights to the city until the two teams meet again next year.

"We played extremely well; best game of the year," said first-year head coach Dan Marchewka. "It was good coming back and playing well after a loss on Tuesday."

The kickers were beaten by Ottawa University, on Sept. 16, 3-1. Brent Johnson, soph., scored the team's lone goal, compliments of a free kick.

"We went into the game overconfident and we paid for it," said Byrd, who serves as co-captain of the team.

A 10-goal explosion was more than enough to defeat the Southwestern Moundbuilders last Saturday. Both Bell and Pennington notched hat tricks for the Dogs and Clay Porter, soph.—expected to be one of the team's top performers—scored a goal in his first action of the year after not playing in the first two games, as he has been nursing a hamstring injury.

"We played pretty well in spurts, but didn't play that well throughout the whole

game," said Marchewka after the Southwestern contest. "Things are starting to come together, and we are only going to get better."

The team made its home debut on Sept. 11 in front of a nice-sized Bulldog crowd, but found themselves over-matched by Phillips University, 8-1. Scott Pennington, soph., scored the team's only goal, assisted by Byrd.

The team was stopped 3-1 by the Alumni in their first game on Sept. 6. This game does not count on the team's record. Rather, it is a time for former Bulldog soccer players to come back and play against the present squad.

Bell's penalty kick beat goalie Hector Carillo at the 37:57 mark of the first half, accounting for the team's goal.

Graduates Pete Petrovski (1997) and Jim Post—now the head soccer coach for McPherson High School—scored two and one goals, respectively, to lead the Alumni. Goalie Roberto Mendez was strong throughout the second half for the Alumni, denying numerous Bulldog shot attempts.

This year's team is evenly split in numbers of new and returning players. The new players are freshmen Tyler Kerst, Will Char- ters, John Ingelhart, Manny Avila, Adam Dixon, and Jason Bayarena, and juniors Scott Cole and Brian Wessel, co-captain.

Returning players include seniors Brandon Johnson and Brian Davis, juniors Byrd and Mike Bisceglia, and sophomores Bell, Porter, Pennington and Jeremy Emrick.

"The best addition to this year's team is our new head coach, Dan," said Brent Johnson and Bell.

The kickers head to Tabor College tomorrow to take on the Bluejays in a 3 p.m. match-up.



Tyler Kerst, fr., competes against a Phillips University opponent.

photo by Mark Godfrey

Football team begins season with a victory

by Wes Balun
Spectator Staff

For the first time in 13 years, McPherson College opened up its fall football season with a victory.

The Bulldogs dominated the game against Southwest Assemblies of God College for three quarters before allowing the opposition 20 points. McPherson still gained the win, 27-20.

Head coach Bruce Grose and his team will go for their sixth consecutive win when they open league play with Sterling College tomorrow night at seven. Sterling is 0-1 after losing to Mid-America Nazarene.

"Sterling is a very aggressive defensive team," said Grose. "They use a 4-4 front and come after the ball very hard. The key to the game as always is to control the line of scrimmage. The team that can do that

and make the fewest mistakes will win."

Against Southwest Assemblies the Bulldogs owned the line of scrimmage, rolling up 308 yards on the ground while allowing just 67 to their opponents.

Senior Tony Upshaw led with 110 yards on just eight carries, followed by sophomore A.J. Wilson who ran for 92 yards on 14 chances.

Wilson would have exceeded Upshaw's total if a 67-yard touchdown jaunt hadn't been erased by penalty.

Freshman quarterbacks Craig Ramsey and Jason Franklin combined to complete six of eight passes for 67 yards, a score and an interception.

"Both quarterbacks bring something unique to the offense, so for now I'll continue rotating them," said Grose. "Using both gives opponents something else to think about, they always have to know

which is out there and what he can do."

McPherson had a 19-0 lead in the first half, after a pair of 6-yard scoring runs by sophomores Bobby Hill and A.J. Wilson. Hill, a starter, who will miss at least the next two games because of a dislocated shoulder, also caught a 42-yard scoring strike from Ramsey.

Ramsey added the final tally on a 5-yard run to conclude a 97-yard march. Then, he completed a pass for the two-point conversion to Tony Rael, jr.

Other highlights included a pair of interceptions by cornerback Greg White, sr., and a punt return team that blocked three kicks, one as a unit and one each by Upshaw and Tim Armbruster, sr.

According to Grose, the only weakness was his team's blocking on PATs, which caused one of freshman kicker Jonas Lichty's two attempts to be blocked.

"We need to do a better job up front of

picking up men and keeping them out," said Grose. "Things have really come together more easily than in the past. Our blend of freshmen and upperclassmen is the best it's ever been. We have a great group of intelligent kids who have really come together as a unit, gelled and stepped it up on the field."

Probable offensive starters for tomorrow: Line- Nate McLaughlin, jr., Danny Ramsey, soph., Kyle Pettibone, jr., Mike Boughtman, soph., Chuck Kalin, jr. Receiver- Tony Rael, jr., TE- Josh Oliver, fr. Backs- quarterback Danny Ramsey fr., Jason Franklin, fr. RB- Curtis Lee, soph., Tony Upshaw, sr., A.J. Wilson, soph. Probable defensive starters: Line- Mario Reeves, fr., Aaron White, jr., Ryan Ben-David, soph., Dan Holtry, soph.

Linebackers- Will Lewis, soph., Nathan Ediger, jr., Brandon Bench, jr. Defensive backs- Greg White, sr., Jason Snodgrass, sr., Greg Cure, sr., Tim Armbruster, sr.

Flag Football			1997 Bulldogs Fall Sports Schedule					
Intramural standings through week one			Football		Men's and Women's Soccer			
Place	Team	Win/Loss	Captain	Sept. 20	Sterling	Home 7 p.m.	Oct. 14 M/W	Sterling
2	Team 1	1-1	Emmanuel Roland	Sept. 27	Bethel	Away 7 p.m.	Oct. 16 M/W	Bethel
2	Team 2	1-1	Rudee Haag	Oct. 4	Bethany	Home 7 p.m.	Oct. 22 M/W	KS Wesleyan
3	Team 3	0-2	Martin Charlesworth	Oct. 11	Friends	Home 7 p.m.	Oct. 25 M/W	Tabor—Homecoming
1	Team 4	1-0	Erik Vogel	Oct. 18	Southwestern	Away 2 p.m.	Oct. 28 M/W	Friends
1	Team 5	1-0	Brent See	Oct. 25	Tabor—	Home 2 p.m.		Away 5&7 p.m.
				Nov. 1	KS Wesleyan	Away 1:30 p.m.	Women's Tennis	
				Nov. 8	CO College	Home 1:30 p.m.	Sept. 20	Bethel
				Nov. 15	Ottawa	Away 1:30 p.m.	Sept. 20	Sterling
							Oct. 9	Home 2:00 p.m.
								Tabor
								Away 3:30 p.m.
								Other matches to be announced

Women win with only eight players

by Emma Webb
Spectator Staff



Above: Rebecca Foster, fr., competes with a Phillips University contender in the Bulldog's Sept. 11 game. At right, Cheri Norsworthy, soph., takes the ball from opposition.

The women's soccer team won its first game of the season against Southwestern College on Saturday, Sept. 13. This eight-person team beat Southwestern, 3-1.

According to Sammy Lane head coach, "The team is fitter, faster and stronger. Being faster gives the girls the ability to recover when they make mistakes."

All three goals were scored by Nikki Unruh-Carey, soph., assisted by Melanie Messick, jr.

"We had to play like a team to beat them [Southwestern] with only eight players. We were willing to give whatever it took for the entire game," Unruh-Carey said.

Southwestern's soccer team was newly formed this year, but they also had a full team of 11 compared to McPherson's eight.

McPherson competed against Central College of McPherson on Sept. 18, losing 2-0. They were defeated by Ottawa University, 2-0, on Sept. 16.

The team also played Phillips University on Thursday, Sept. 11. They lost 10-0.

"Phillips was a good learning experience. I've never seen women's soccer players that good. Gives the girls something to aim for. They were the best women's team I've seen," Coach Lane said.

This year's women's soccer team consists of Melanie Messick, jr.; Cherice Marsalis,

sr.; Cheri Norsworthy, soph.; Becky Ullom, soph.; LeAnna Hulce, soph.; Khanasha Benjamin, jr.; Elizabeth Hope, fr.; Jennifer Bosserman, jr.; Rebecca Foster, fr.; Angela Jaehn, fr.; and Rhonda Murphy, soph.

With only five returning players, this year's squad has many new faces. Some players have played soccer only since attending McPherson.

Many players had little or no prior experience, which is beneficial. According to Coach Lane, these players are easier to

coach because they are not set in their playing routine.

The captains of this year's team are Marsalis and Messick, the only players who came to McPherson College intending to play soccer.

Both women described the game against Phillips as a good learning experience and pointed out that Phillips was a nationally ranked team.

The soccer team will play tomorrow at 2 p.m. against Tabor College.



photos by Mark Godfrey

Bulldogs to rely heavily on newcomers to campus

This past week marked the opening of the fall sports season for McPherson College athletes, many of whom competed in a Bulldog uniform for their very first time.

Yet, a fair number of upperclassmen did return to their respective Bulldog squads, with the women's volleyball team probably containing the most veteran players.

However, the lady spikers, as well as all of the other fall sports teams, will be relying heavily on freshmen and transfers to bring them victories.

For head football coach Bruce Grose, this is especially true. Grose once again hit the recruiting trail hard and has brought in a good number of transfers to fill some losses caused by graduation.

In his fifth season, Grose has resurrected the gridiron program by bringing in superb athletes. He continued that trend this past spring and summer. Concentrating his efforts primarily on the offensive line, defensive unit and special teams, Grose suited up just over 50 players for the season opener.

With their 27-20 victory over Southwest-

ern Assemblies of God last Saturday in Tulsa, the Dogs are now in position to start the season 2-0, as Sterling, picked to finish eighth in the KCAC, comes to town for the team's home opener tomorrow night.

Looking ahead, the middle part of their schedule will be the most trying. They must face conference powerhouses Bethany, Friends and Southwestern on consecutive Saturdays in October. The key to the season (as always)—staying healthy, especially on defense and the offensive line.

Sammy Lane's women's soccer team

pulled off a huge victory last Saturday in its first conference game when the women defeated Southwestern, 3-1. And, oh, by the way, they did it with only eight players.

Hopes are high that this team, under the direction of second-year coach Lane, will be the most competitive one that McPherson has put on the field.


For first-time head men's soccer coach, Dan Marchewka, and his group of kickers, the season is already over two weeks old. Marchewka's off-season of recruiting was a promising one, and he also has a solid group of returnees, whom he will rely on for leadership and, ultimately, scoring.

Women's volleyball has been the busiest squad so far this fall, already traveling to Colorado for a tournament last weekend. Dan Hoffman begins his third year with a quality number of returnees, most of whom will serve as the foundation for the team and will be looked to for increasing the team's number of victories.

Rounding out the fall sports teams are women's tennis and men's golf. These

programs usually have smaller numbers, but nonetheless compete throughout the fall months. In the past, the golf team has participated in selected tournaments, attempting to get in a half-dozen competitive rounds or so before the fairways go dormant.

With so many of our campus's students involved in sports this fall, here is a pitch to everyone to come out and support these guys and gals.



En Vogue
By Erik Vogel

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NEWS BRIEFS

Students to perform at annual Renaissance Festival this weekend

McPherson College music students will perform at the Renaissance Festival in Bonner Springs, Kan., Sept. 20 and 21, for the 17th consecutive year.

A mixed ensemble will perform a capella English and Italian madrigals and French chansons from the 16th century. A trombone ensemble and a flute/recorder ensemble will play with authentic instrumentation and music. All ensemble members will wear costumes designed and made by Rick Tyler, associate professor of theatre.

Ensemble members include Wendi Dilley, Allison Horton, Amy Fast, Deborah Polkinghorn, Sarah Hendricks, Laura Luett Liepelt, Danny and Craig Ramsey, David Liepelt, Josh Woody, Scott McDearmon, Crystal O'Dell, Christi Essmann, Raechel Sittig, Jess Castorena, Chris Contreras, ShaRhonda Maclin, Holly Muller and Joe Zwirn.

Larry Kitzel, professor of instrumental music, and Alan Gumm, assistant professor of vocal music, will direct the ensembles.

Students elect representatives for Student Government

Student Government elections for freshman representatives and representatives-at-large were conducted on Sept. 15. Candidates were elected by a yes/no vote.

Elected freshman representatives are Sabrina Gallo from Connecticut and Steven Denton from Texas. Gallo plans to major in environmental stewardship and enjoys playing basketball. Denton will run track in the spring and is currently an undecided major.

Ann Mickey, jr., from Goodland and Corey Bequette, fr., from Missouri were elected representatives-at-large. Mickey is an early childhood special education major. She hopes to help others through serving on SGA. Bequette enjoys music and hopes SGA will plan activities in which all students participate.

Student Government continues to look for a College Courts representative.

Senior theatre major plans year long play project

Teresa Boness, sr., directed the production of "I Didn't Know That," which was performed last weekend in Brown Auditorium. The play is aimed for a children's audience and was based on facts from the "Guinness Book of World Records."

Throughout this academic year, Boness and her cast will tour various elementary schools in the area. Cast members are Michael Baker, sr., Amber Jauken, fr., Sarah Stover, soph., Anna Arasmith, fr., and Sara Myers-Compton, soph.

This is the second play Boness has directed as a theatre major. Her first production was "Spoon River Anthology," presented during 1997 interterm.

Upcoming convocation events announced

J.C. Combs and Bill Thomson will present "The Beginnings of Rock and Roll" during the Sept. 22 convo.

Donald Hedrick will present "From Shakespeare to Madonna: What's Happened to Entertainment?" during the Sept. 29 convo.



Bittinger Hall currently stands East of Metzler. If students choose, two dorms will be erected in Bittinger's place.

Student feedback for trustees to determine dormitory future

by Jennifer Bosserman

News Editor

McPherson College is currently debating the housing possibilities for the fall of 1998. The options are either renovating Bittinger Hall or building of two smaller dorms. The board of trustees plan to make a decision at the October board meeting.

Kathryn Whitacre and Student Government are making arrangements to present information to the student body about the dorm options and gather feedback to present to the trustees.

"I want as much student input as possible to hand over to the Board of Trustees to sift through," said Kathryn Whitacre, associate dean for campus life.

Students can receive convocation credit for meeting with Whitacre to look at blueprints for the two new dorms and Bittinger. They will also be able to tour Bittinger.

Resident assistants toured Bittinger Hall during staff training and looked at the blueprints for both options.

"People need to see Bittinger before they

make a decision, see the damage and the way it's set up. The halls go on forever and the bathrooms are small," Emma Webb, jr., said.

"Personally, I like the blue prints for the two smaller dorms better than Bittinger's. Long halls take away from community living," Sarah Marie, soph., said.

Early estimates show comparable costs between the renovation of Bittinger and two new dorms. Tentative plans show the completion of either by the fall of 1998.

"Cost being comparable, I like the idea of two new dorms. They meet the needs of things I worry about after everyone else goes to bed, such as meeting ADA regulations, being tornado and fire safe and having good electrical wiring. I like the size. I like the idea of community. It matches our mission statement," Whitacre said.

"I prefer small dorms because they create a better sense of community," Webb said.

Bittinger hall would house approximately 125 people if renovated. The room design includes two rooms connected by a bathroom, which students would be responsible to clean. A lobby, kitchen and

laundry facilities are located on each floor with a main lobby. Two rooms on first would be constructed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations.

The two smaller dorms would stand where Bittinger is located now. One would face Metzler Hall, and the other would face Gordan street. These two dorms would each house fifty people.

Current floor plans include a front porch leading into a living room with a vaulted ceiling a meeting room, kitchen and laundry facilities across from the living room.

Six dorm rooms would be located on either side with a bathroom at the end of each hall. These six rooms share a bathroom and maintenance would be responsible for cleaning them.

The resident director's apartment sits above the meeting room and laundry/kitchen facilities. The new dorms would meet ADA regulations.

"I think two new dorms would be advantageous to the college rather than renovating Bittinger. It would give a little more diversity to the college," Cliff Bell, soph., said.

McPherson forms partnership with K.U.

by Shelly Hendricks

Editor-in

The University of Kansas has announced that McPherson College, Central College and McPherson Memorial Hospital will participate in the university's new primary care program.

McPherson has been chosen as the south central regional office site, the sixth such site in Kansas. Representatives from the Kansas School of Medicine made the announcement Sept. 16 at 9:15 a.m. in Friendship Hall.

"This is a wonderful occasion," said Deborah Powell, the executive dean of the University of Kansas School of Medicine. "McPherson College has provided us with some of our top medical students."

The program, Primary Care Physician Education project (PCPE), was created to increase the number of better educated primary care physicians practicing in Kansas, particularly in rural settings.

The project's activities promote partnerships and organizations throughout the state, to increase the number of primary care physicians and impact the characteristics of their medical prac-

"McPherson College has provided us with some of our top medical students."

—Deborah Powell,
excutive dean of the University of Kansas School of Medicine

tice. Medical students from Kansas University will study in McPherson, in order to learn how to practice in a small Kansas town.

"Our goal is to assure that we can meet the needs of Kansas for primary care," said David Calkins, M.D., M.P.P., associate dean for primary care and acting associate dean for medical education, University of Kansas School of Medicine. "This is an exciting opportunity for the school of medicine. I hope it's an exciting opportunity for McPherson."

"This is an embodiment of what our school's mission, scholarship, participation, and service, is all about," said Dr. Gary Dill, president of McPherson College. "On behalf of Central College, McPherson College, and McPherson

as a community, we're happy to represent the [south central region of KU's] primary care program."

The PCPE project is composed of eleven objectives to enhance primary care education. Student recruitment and student admissions are two objectives that will benefit McPherson College students.

To meet these two objectives, advisors at the college, high school and community level will be provided with resources and a communications network linking them to the medical school. This gives an opportunity for community health professionals to be mentors to potential medical students.

The physician interns may use the college's library for resources, such as computer facilities. This will allow opportunities for students to interact with medical students on campus.

"This program will form a closer bond to KU's medical school," said Dr. Shingo Kajinami, professor of chemistry. "I am hoping that the pre-med students here invite interns to come over and speak. Or maybe even ask them to sponsor a pre-med club."

"As a potential medical student, it sounds like a really good program. I'm eager to see how it helps McPherson students after it's implemented," Cheri Norsworthy, soph., said.