

The McPherson College SPECTATOR

Vol. 83, No. 8

"Serving to inform a community"

February 26, 1999

Burden, Dill come to terms

Becky Ullom
Editor in Chief

Professor John Burden signed an agreement on Feb. 23, allowing him to continue fulfilling his teaching responsibilities, bringing to an apparent close the problems surrounding his continued employment.

During the past two weeks, John Burden, professor of psychology, and President Dill participated in a series of negotiations. The negotiations occurred as part of the conclusion to the findings of an internal hearing panel. The panel, formed to make a decision related to several student allegations against Burden.

The review panel unanimously agreed that there was no violation of stated McPherson College policy, that there was no sexual harassment, and that there was no concrete evidence of physical assault.

The panel also agreed that Professor Burden acted in a non-professional manner, was excessive in his efforts to reconcile the relationship, and crossed the "invisible line" that exists in professor/student relationships.

The panel's recommendations were subsequently given to Dill.

On Jan. 29, Dill addressed a letter to Burden outlining two options regarding Burden's employment.

Burden indicated to Dill that neither of the two options was acceptable.

Next, Dill and Burden entered into confidential negotiations, which ended



Prof. John Burden emerges to the applause of students after faculty meeting on Feb. 5. "I feel that by having that rally, students saved my job at McPherson College," Burden said.

photo by Cheri Norsworthy

Feb. 23 when Burden accepted the panel's recommendations.

"The conditions that I've agreed to are exactly what the panel originally recommended, except for a slight very unimportant detail concerning paperwork," Burden said.

The conditions outlined in the panel's report are as follows.

- 1) Professor Burden would be instructed to have no contact or inquiry into the lives of the students involved in bringing forth the allegations.
- 2) He would also be required to

submit evidence that he has received counseling/training in accepted conduct and procedure concerning termination of employees as well as a deeper understanding of an appropriate "professor/student" relationship.

Both Burden and Dill expressed satisfaction with the resolution.

"I am confident that we have arrived at the best possible solution for a very complex problem, and I am glad that Professor Burden is willing to fulfill the recommendations of the panel," Dill said.

False alarms plague residents

LeAnn Wine
News Editor

Two recent fire alarms brought the total to five alarms in McPherson College dorms since January. Most recently, the McPherson Fire Department visited Metzler Hall and Dotzour Hall around three a.m. on Feb. 14.

Dotzour residents have evacuated their dorm three times since the beginning of January. The most recent alarm sounded after an empty television box was set on fire in front of the south storage room door on second floor. The other two evacuations occurred after a string of firecrackers were lit and a fire pull station was activated.

Metzler residents were evacuated on Valentine's Day shortly after Dotzour residents left their dorm. Two fire extinguishers were discharged on first and second floor in Metzler. The powder from the extinguishers set off the sensors in the hallway.

The earlier evacuation of Metzler resulted from a series of small firecrackers and one agricultural explosive setting off the alarms in the dorm. The agricultural explosive had a similar wick and the same circumference as a stick of dynamite.

The residents of Dotzour and Metzler have received charges for some of the

fire calls. The fire department charges the college only "when it is an intentionally set alarm," said Kathryn Whitacre, associate dean of residence life.

An intentionally set alarm includes a pull station being pulled when there is no fire, fire extinguishers being used and firecrackers being set off. For each intentional alarm that the fire department answers, the college is charged \$500. The college divides this amount among the residents living in the dorm.

Because the fire in Dotzour was considered aggravated arson, the college turned the investigation over to the local police. No one has been charged with the crime.

"People need to understand that something that seems innocent and fun can turn tragic," Whitacre said. She referred to a case of tragic fire in a college residence hall.

Greenville College, Greenville, Ill. experienced a dormitory fire on Dec. 9, 1997. The fire started around 5 a.m. that morning. One student was killed and seven others were injured. The student died of smoke inhalation.

According to Whitacre, the cinder block construction of Dotzour and Metzler would not increase fire safety.

"Smoke would race between the walls," Whitacre said. "It would pour out into the rooms from the raceways."

Candidates campaign for SGA executive positions

Eli Bainbridge
Spectator Staff

McPherson College students will vote for the 1999-2000 Student Government Association's executive officers on March 8 and 9. Five candidates turned in their petitions and will campaign until the elections.

To be eligible, the candidate must be a student body member and have at least a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

Scott McDearmon, sophomore, Milledgeville, Ill. and Jessica Miller, jr., Bartlesville, Okla., are opponents for presi-



"...I would like to see more 24 hour services..."

dency of SGA.

McDearmon, theatre/business major, has served on SGA this year as sophomore representative.

"I'm happy with new visitation hours and residence halls, but I would like to see more 24 hour services, like better vending machines and change machines," McDearmon said.

Miller, a sociology major, served on SGA during the 1998-99 school year as junior class representative. She also served on student government for two and a half years



"...if you are an upperclassman and want to live off campus, you should have the option..."

during high school.

"Housing is always a fence-riding position. There are those who like to live on campus, and those who don't," Miller said. "I enjoy the closeness of campus living but I also feel that if you are an upperclassman and want to live off campus, you should have the option to do so."

Katie Sue Nicklos, fr., La Junta, Co., is the lone candidate for vice president. Nicklos majors in theatre and has served on SGA at McPherson College as a representative at-large during the 1998-99 school year. She also served on stu-



"...open communication is the only way we all can come to common ground..."

dent government in high school for four years. During that time she represented the junior class and served as president during her senior year.

LeAnn Wine, sophomore, Imperial, Neb., is candidate for treasurer. Wine an accounting major, has served on SGA during the 1998-99 year as treasurer.

"I vision student housing being yet another way to involve students in group activities. Whether it is a movie marathon, or a pizza party, the dorms are great places for students to get involved," Wine said.



"...whether it is a movie marathon, or a pizza party, the dorms are great places for students to get involved..."

Rachel Gross, jr., North Richland Hills, Texas, is running for secretary. Gross is an English major and served as SGA secretary during the 1998-99 school year. She also served on Student Activities Board during the 1997-98 school year.

"I would like to promote more unity and personal responsibility in the dorms, especially in Dotzour and Metzler. The dorms are our homes while we're at school, and we need to treat them like they are," Gross said.



"...I would like to promote more unity and personal responsibility in the dorms..."

See page 4 for candidate platforms

EDITORIAL

THE SPECTATOR

Editorial Staff: Becky Ullom, LeAnn Wine, Sarah Stover, Corin Blickenstaff, Cheri Norsworthy, and Kelly Steiner.

Stop false fire alarms

If you live in Metzler or Dotzour, you are aware of the recent and frequent fire alarms. The residents of those two halls were recently awakened at 3 a.m. to stand outside—all because of false fire alarms.

Those annoyances are minor and will soon be forgotten. But they give rise to more important issues than being sleepy and cold.

First, the issue of money. The residents who are being "asked" to pay for the cost of the McPherson Fire Department's response call are perturbed.

Every fire truck that is called to the school costs \$500. If the alarm has been intentionally pulled, the residents of the building are required to pay the \$500 charge. That's money that we probably didn't have in the first place. Not to mention the fact that the \$500 is being used to pay for someone else's inappropriate conduct.

Second, the painfully obvious issue of safety.

Fires and fire alarms are serious matters and should be treated as such. They are not a joke, a game or a prank. The McPherson Fire Department has been called so many times for false alarms that if a real fire started, it possible that the alarm would not be taken seriously. Students, what might happen to you or your friends if the fire department responded slowly in the case of a real fire?

Additionally, will students continue to follow safety procedures if the pattern of false alarms persists? Will the residents in your hall continue to exit the building quickly when an alarm is heard, or will they begin to ignore this warning system and therefore jeopardize their own safety? Remember the boy who cried wolf?

Our professors are continually asking us to evaluate and re-evaluate our thinking process and our actions. The staff of the Spectator would like to ask the same thing of the student body. The solution is simple. Realize that there are consequences related to individual and group actions. In this situation, those consequences could be as minor as a fine or as severe as the death of a student.

Please, stop pulling alarms without reason, setting fires, lighting firecrackers—for all of our sakes.

The McPherson College

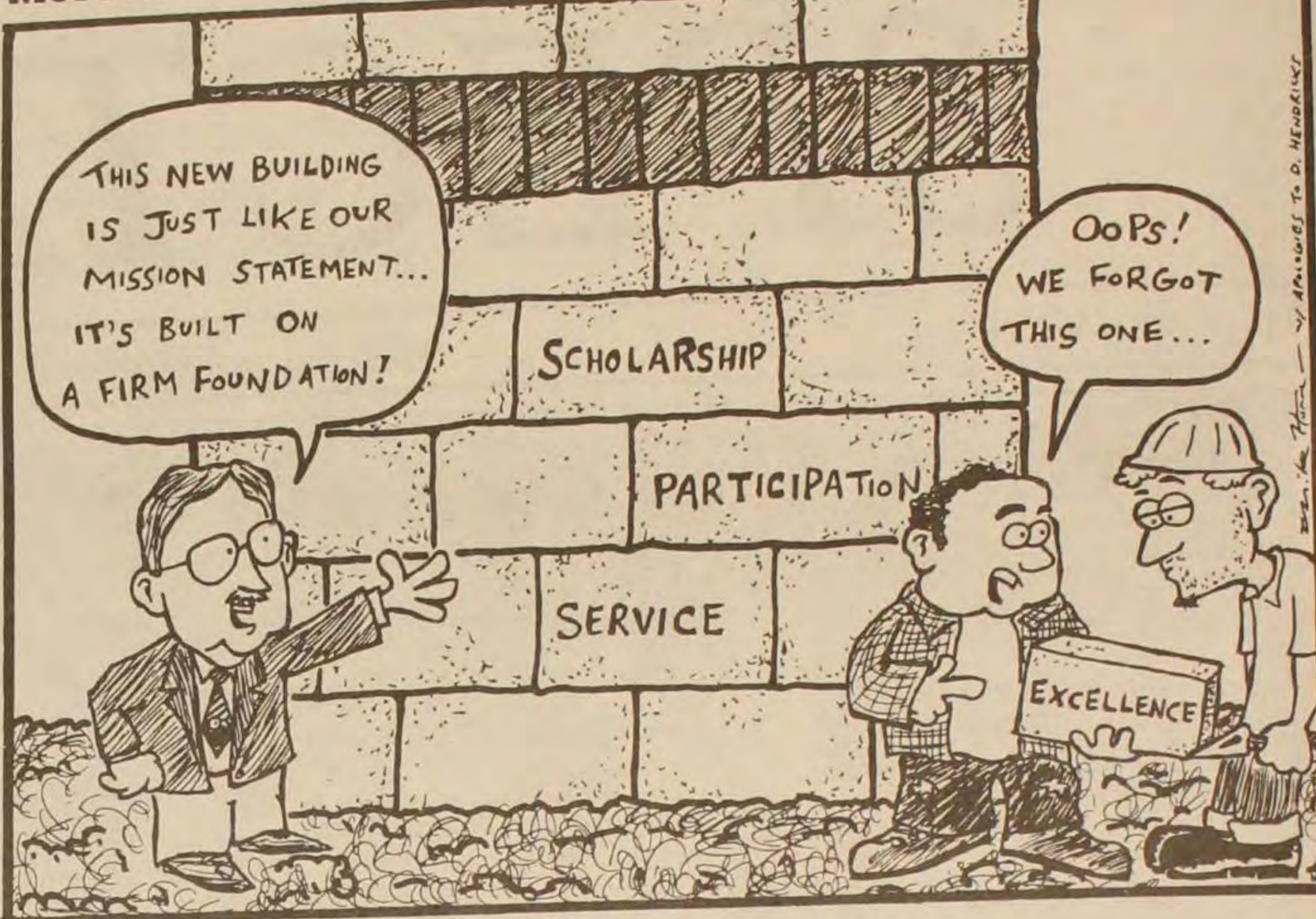
SPECTATOR

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McTOON



BY MIKE HORNER

Open an entire world by going through one door in a wheelchair

When it was all over I'd spent less than three hours in the wheelchair.

I am a resident assistant, and one of my residents occasionally uses a wheelchair. I had listened to her stories of the obstacles she faces on this campus, and I knew that I could never truly empathize with her because I'd never had those experiences. Partly from a desire to better understand her situation, partly out of curiosity, and partly because I thought the experience might make an interesting column, I asked her if I could borrow her chair to explore campus.

Wednesday was the day. I set my alarm so I had extra time to get to breakfast. I walked around my room, gathering things for the day, trying to think ahead. I was scared, and I hadn't even sat down. When I'd made the decision I wasn't thinking about the actual time in the wheelchair, the looks of the people around me, the discomfort that comes with being in a new situation with no prior experience to draw from.

Once seated, wheeled myself down the hallway towards the only bathroom that's handicapped accessible. I made it to the doors and stopped. Double doors. Heavy double doors. I needed to push through them, but had no idea how to hold the door open and continue moving forward without getting smashed. So I did what any non-courageous, able-bodied person would do; I stood up.

I wimped out. Faced with a challenge, I backed down, something truly disabled people cannot do.

Getting back into my room was another challenge. As it turned out, with a little maneuvering I managed to pull myself through the door frame, over the sandals I'd left on the floor and into the center of the room. That was enough accomplishment for the morning.

I did get back into the wheelchair. I explored the buildings after working hours and wheeled through a near empty cafeteria the next morning at breakfast. I did not want to explain to everyone, I did not want to navigate the crowds, I did not want attention. A wheelchair is



On Her Orange Crate

SARAH STOVER

hard to miss, in both meanings of the word.

During my tour of campus I found steep ramps, buttons in awkward places and electric doors that open towards the chair. I learned that the library aisles are just wide enough so my hands brushed books on either side of me as I moved. I found bathrooms that are usable in theory, but boggle the mind in practice. (The newly remodeled bathrooms in Mohler were the most cramped. To shut the door the chair had to be partly over the toilet.)

The college is in compliance with code, but the code doesn't give much comfort. Every activity was a challenge, and after my slow start in the morning I learned to live off the feeling of accomplishment that came after every challenge to get me through the next. At the same time I always knew the wheelchair was not my daily reality. I could stand up to open the door, to put my tray on the conveyer belt, to reach the top shelf. Most people in wheelchairs can't, and that realization hurt.

People asked me if my arms got tired.

MAC-ISM

McPherson College's first few school catalogs outlined regulations regarding student conduct. Prohibitions mentioned included card playing, tobacco and gum, weapons, profane language, "noisy, disorderly and unseemly conduct, visiting immoral places," and the use of musical instruments except in the music department.

I gave most of them a simple no. What I didn't say was this. My mind, my mouth, my self is tired. I smiled and said thank you and could you get that for me and thanks again and laughed at myself and looked up at people in the eye and smiled and pretended not to notice the confused pity in their eyes and yes isn't it strange how short I seem how useless my legs look.

Spending time in a wheelchair turned my focus inward. I could not open a door for anyone, unless they wanted to wait with me for the automatic door to open. I could not be a resident assistant because not all the floors are handicapped accessible. I focused instead on me. How was I going to get through the door? Was I going to be able to balance my juice on my lap as I wheeled to the table or would I need to carry the glass in my mouth? How do I smile and maintain dignity when I'm carrying something in my mouth?

I was glad to return the wheelchair to its closet and I hope I never have to use one again. And I know you're busy, and don't have time to slow down to sit in a wheelchair, but I encourage all brave souls to spend even five minutes in a wheelchair. Going through just one door will open an entire world to you.

POETRY CORNER

Me and my friends play this game—

Ultimate Frisbee
Sometimes it's really cold
and my darn legs freeze
Then they yell at me cause
I can't run fast enough
So I sing this song—
Swish, swish
Oh how I wish
I could have a pair of windpants
to run like the wind
My legs wouldn't freeze
I'd fly like the breeze
Swish, swish
Oh how I wish

—Sara Myers

CAMPUS FORUM

Student appreciates trip to Dominican Republic

I wanted to express my gratitude to Dale Minnich, Bill Brow, and a special thanks to Vernon Michaels for making the trip to the Dominican Republic with us. Without them the trip would have never been possible, nor would it have been such a success.

Dale and Bill were very helpful throughout the trip, and working alongside them showed me that a generation gap doesn't make any difference. I got to know each on a more personal basis and appreciate what I learned from them. Thanks, Bill and Dale.

Speaking of generation gap, I spent a tremendous amount of time with Vernon and am in awe of his life. His travels are very impressive, but his abilities impressed me most. I hope I move that well and get around like he does when I am that age. I would love to live like Vernon. He is indeed a great man. Thanks, Vernon, for everything.

The trip was awesome and I think everyone should make an effort to take a trip like that one. The experience showed me a lot about what I take for granted. My experience gave me faith in the saying, "if it doesn't kill you it only makes you stronger."

I look at that trip as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I am really glad I went. I know people say a trip like that is just too expensive, but I thought long and hard and decided it was worth going. I certainly don't regret my decision. I would love another opportunity like that. I know it can get expensive, but "you only live once!"

To all those involved, thank you for the memories. We helped each other throughout the trip even though we didn't know each other very well in the beginning. I don't think I would change one thing about that trip if I were given the opportunity, and I just wanted to say thank you to everyone that was involved for making it an experience that I will never forget.

—Man*e Avila, Sophomore

Student alleges bias in Burden coverage

Several controversial issues have recently arisen on our campus. In nearly every instance, one's opinion—if not one's knowledge of the facts—is greatly affected by perception. My own perception of your latest journalistic efforts is that the Spec is overwhelmed with bias.

This is directly in response to last issue's coverage of the Burden situation.

First I would like to assert that I am no ignoramus. Neither is the greater college community. Contrary to popular belief, the case specifics are understood.

The news article was slanted in opinion and even in some of the facts presented. An example is the statement, "Dill reported that Burden's fear of termination was not legitimate." Understanding the correspondence between Mr. Dill and Mr. Burden, this is ridiculous.

Rather than dwelling there, I wish to focus on the featured editorial.

According to Spec editorial staff, the rally on Feb. 5 exposed the student body as a disappointment. We were simply interested in "causing a problem" and have not developed "critical

thinking skills."

Why? Because we carried out the first school spirit I have observed in four years? The rally was about much more than Burden—it was about taking ownership of our school.

Burden's supporters were accused of being emotional and of not knowing facts before acting. A similar opinion was given by Student Z to finish the news article. A quick verdict was handed out to those who disagree with the Spec's standpoints. Perhaps thorough fact-finding should occur before making assumptions.

Many students are reluctant to publicly communicate their views. They were given reason to express dissatisfaction, and did.

Students were also charged with lacking desire to "reconcile relationships" as shown by the poor showing at the Prayer Vigil. This is unfair. The vigil was not publicized.

To close, let me respond to Shelly Hendrick's letter. I made the comment concerning support of the college after graduation to which she referred. It was thoughtless of me to speak for every senior. But whose opinion is representative of the vast majority?

Shouldn't we be working for change—so there are more people like Shelly who truly are satisfied with their McPherson College experience?

And shouldn't the Spec give credit to all sides of an issue? This is the students' newspaper.

—Jill Gibson, Senior

Coverage appreciated

After reading the February 12 issue of The Spectator, we feel we want to commend you for a helpful treatment of the unfortunate controversy that has in recent weeks engulfed the campus community and beyond.

Your lead story chronicled events in a clear and impartial way. We felt your editorial showed maturity and common sense that has been lacking in much of the media coverage we have seen as well as conversations we have heard. We hope and pray that all persons involved in resolving the issues will act in the same responsible way. The campus should be proud to have such good leadership in their student newspaper staff. Congratulations!

—Bonnie ('51) and John ('50) Ward

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.

Divorce tests religious foundation

When I was two my parents divorced. My mom remarried when I was four, and I didn't see my father again until I was 14 and about to enter into high school.

One night my father called and told me he was remarrying. He wanted to see me, and he wanted me to go to his wedding. I don't think my mom really knew what to say. She just sat for a few minutes. Then he asked to talk to me. I said no because I just didn't feel comfortable at that time. My mom told him to call back in a couple of days. That's when my step-dad decided that he would get involved.

He told me I wasn't going. At that age I was into doing exactly opposite of whatever he said. So a couple of days later I told my mom that I had thought about it, and I wanted to see my father. She wasn't too happy, but she knew it was about time I saw him again. That's when all the arguing started; it would take two years for everything to settle down.

During those two years I listened and said nothing. My mom talked badly about my father, especially when he asked to see me. I would just listen and not say anything. When I did try to say something she would ignore me. The worst times were when she would finish talking to him and she and my step-dad would talk about him right in front of me. My father wasn't any better. This went on until I was 16.



Cornerstone

AMANDA DAGEN

One night during the summer before my junior year in high school I couldn't sleep, and I felt sick to my stomach. The next night it happened again only this time I couldn't even sit; I spent the night pacing the floor in my room.

This went on for about a week, only it got worse. I started feeling ill during the day. I tried talking to my mom, but she said it was all in my head. As the month progressed I stopped sleeping and eating. That's when my mom took me to the doctor. He said it was because I was bored and I needed to do more during the day. I took his advice, but it didn't help.

My mom took me to another doctor and he said that it was nothing physical, but mental. That was not something I wanted to hear. My parents decided to take me to a counselor. After just one visit, she told me I was suffering from anxiety attacks brought on by stress. She said my stress was due to listening to my parents' arguing. She told me I needed to stand up to them and tell them how I was feeling. I did, and it helped,

but not totally.

I still suffered from them and I didn't know how to stop them. My family told me to pray, that if I turned to God and the church I would get the help I needed to get through everything. So I did.

I started to pray and to go to church. I asked for God's help every day, but I wasn't getting better. My belief in God faltered. I figured if he couldn't help me out just this little bit, then he really wasn't there. I couldn't understand why he would let me suffer even though I prayed to him.

In the end I learned to control my anxiety attacks. A lot of people tell me it was God who gave me the strength to do it, but I don't agree. For two months I asked for his help and didn't feel anything. I no longer believe in God, but I do believe in a higher power of some kind. I've learned to rely on myself and not in something that can't be proven.

Today my family gets along okay. At least they don't talk about each other in front of me. I don't suffer from anxiety attacks anymore. I changed for the better, I think. I no longer let my family's problems with each other affect me. If they do, I know to say something instead of keeping quiet, to stand up to them, and to let them know how I feel.

Much to my family's dismay my beliefs have changed also. I'm not sure what I believe in. As my friend says: I'm undecided at the moment.

Current BCA student sends greetings from Barcelona, Spain

Hola, McPherson, my name is Brent Johnson, but they call me Samuel here in Barcelona, Spain. I'm studying here with Brethren Colleges Abroad and am having the experience of a lifetime.

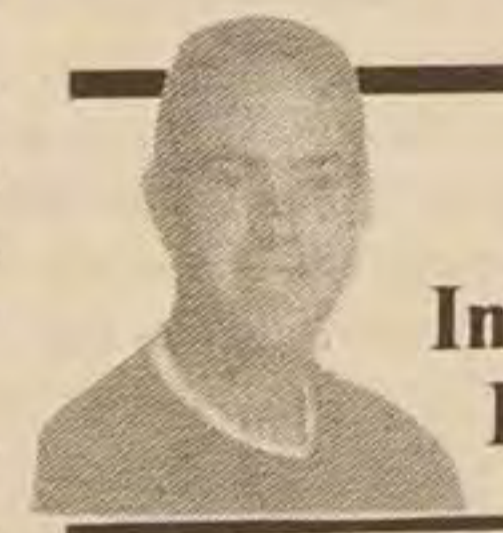
When I was asked to write for this issue, I wasn't about to say no, because I want to encourage everyone to *carpe diem*, seize the day. I'd like to tell you what some of my experiences have been: the good, the bad and the ugly. Not everything was exactly what I expected.

First, Barcelona is beautiful. I'm not sure if it's the fact I've lived in Oklahoma and Kansas my whole life, but I can't get over the fact that I can sunbathe on the beach one day and take a train to the mountains to ski the next. After seeing the touristy sites of Barcelona, I finally started realizing I was going to be here for practically a whole year, which was part of the culture shock I went through.

Speaking of culture shock, my first weekend my host family took me to their trailer home next to the beach. That may sound like fun, but not knowing the language or culture was frustrating, and I was counting the days until I could speak English to the American friends I made through BCA.

The first night everyone was asking me where I was from, what I thought of Barcelona, what I was studying, and being very curious about who I was. My worst nightmare had come true.

After that traumatizing weekend with my host parents and all their friends attacking me in Spanish, I was able to go



International Perspective

BRENT JOHNSON

back to my BCA friends. We exchanged stories of our weekends. As the weeks progressed, I learned more and more what learning another language is about. The most important thing is to not be afraid of making mistakes and to go with what you already know.

My whole year here so far has been filled with frustrating experiences like that, but it's the best way to get the full experience. It's difficult to get up every day knowing you have to speak in a foreign language, but as time passes, it becomes natural. The biggest complaint I have, along with many other students, is how much Catalan everyone speaks.

Spain is divided into autonomies, self-governing states. Catalunya is the autonomy in which Barcelona is located. Along with its own language and proud culture, the Catalunians are constantly fighting to be separate from Spain. They know Castellano, the Spanish taught in the Spanish public schools, but speak Catalan to each other.

Whether the public schools here should teach the kids in Catalan or Castellano has always been a controversial issue. Even at some of the university classes students a vote to decide if the

teacher should speak Catalan or Castellano.

Looking back on that initial experience, I can't explain how much more confidence I have now to carry on a conversation in Spanish. Developing an ear for the language and expressing myself with the limited vocabulary I learned from high school and college has made a night and day difference. I would not say that anything is easy about learning a language and culture, but it's definitely possible when you're constantly hearing it.

Coming from a different culture and background, I realize how different I am from the rest of the world. What I say, how I think, and how I act has more impact now. I have to be more careful with the words I speak, or someone may get the wrong impression of me or the average American. I am a representative of my country, state, and college. This is a role that's not easy to play—I feel I'm doing the best possible. When I come back to my country, I think my confidence level will be doubled. I know there is so much to learn about this world, but this experience has given me a better overall picture of what it's about.

I hope I have encouraged anyone who is thinking about studying abroad to do so. My advice is to stay the year, because the semester students always seem rushed to do everything within the short time they're here. If you've studied a language before, don't hesitate. When else will you get an opportunity like this one?

College provides more than academic challenges for some

Sarah Stover
Spectator Staff

College is no doubt challenging. Between keeping up with school work, sleep and work, most of us are stretched to the limit. Several students on campus, however, have additional challenges in the form of physical handicaps or learning disabilities. These students have a unique perspective on college life and appreciate many things the rest of us take for granted.

As far as providing accommodations, Wes Balun, sr., Ellinwood, said, "McPherson College is maybe just a little better than my high school and the other colleges I've been to, but in a lot of ways it's just the same. We're just now putting elevators in all the buildings and making sure classrooms are accessible."

Balun has been on crutches since his sophomore year in college, when his physical therapist suggested he use them to develop a more normal gait.

After Balun sprained his ankle during interterm he learned the channels to go through to get a key to operate the elevators.

"I had never used the elevators before and I took for granted they were there. They're nice, not just for me, but for anyone on crutches."

Jennifer Goetz, soph., Leavenworth, has a visual impairment and a physical disability. She uses a red-tipped cane or a wheelchair for mobility.

"Overall I think the college is good and they're trying, but sometimes they're just so slow," Goetz said. "Even when I don't have a note-taker in a class, I'm still expected to take the tests and turn in the papers. Sometimes it's frustrating. For the buildings they're working with, I feel the college is excellent as far as physical accessibility."

Goetz has a unique perspective on events that are common for most students.

"When I use my wheelchair I can only check my mail during mealtimes, because that's when the cafeteria is open and I can have access to the food elevator. It's hard for me with my visual impairment to know what's going on on campus. Signs are especially difficult. When they're written to catch someone else's attention, they're sometimes hard for me to read."

Shelly Hendricks, sr., Eudora, has had a positive experience as well.

"The only thing I've ever requested has been the closed captioning decoder. I just went to the library and they ordered it for me."

Hendricks's learning experience has been different from the majority of stu-

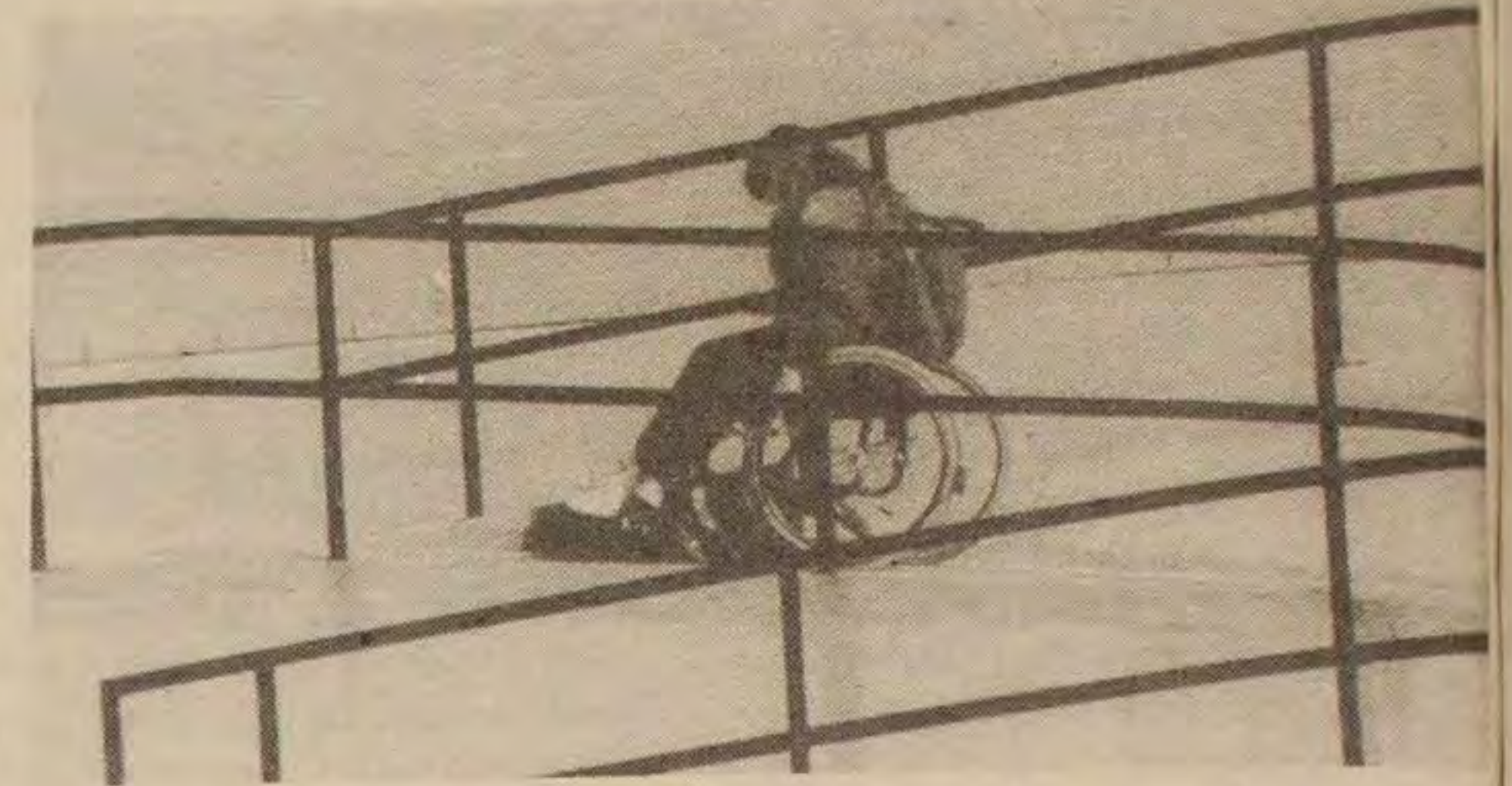
dents because she has a hearing impairment.

"There are a lot of professors whom I simply do not understand in class, so I go by the book or ask other students questions. I often do without rather than put forth the energy to make something accessible. If a video is not close captioned, I could take the video and have the script typed up for me, but that's just so much hassle."

McPherson College has always provided services for these students, but only in the past year have official policies and procedures been written. Kevin Hadduck, Director of the Center for Academic Development, was given the task of researching special needs accommodation and writing the college's policy.

Hadduck composed five pages of policy and a brochure outlining the services McPherson College offers. All faculty received a copy of the policy and Hadduck gave a presentation during a faculty workshop at the beginning of the year. Hadduck admits that the issues involved are complex, and more education must take place for the system to run at its smoothest.

"The program is not problem free," Hadduck said. "We are a new program and we are still working out processes in order to make them more efficient. In



Jennifer Goetz, using the single handicapped accessible entrance to Miller, makes her way up the ramp. *photo by Cheri Norsworthy*

this instance, efficient means more compassionate."

The brochure Hadduck produced is included in mailings to prospective students, a move which should draw more students with special needs to our campus. The brochure is also available to all students during the enrollment process.

Before students can receive services, they must provide authorized documentation detailing the needs they have. Then they must request accommodation. The college will not provide services to students unless they ask.

Tutoring is available for any student

on campus, but additional services are provided for students who provide documentation of a learning disability. Services provided by the college include extended time for exams, re-location of exams, substitution of course requirements, advance notice of book lists, note-takers or interpreters, relocation of classes and special equipment.

When Hadduck requested existing information and policies from other schools in the Associated Colleges of Central Kansas while writing McPherson's version, he found little. McPherson College seems to be ahead of the trend within the Associated Colleges of Central Kansas.

SGA Candidates get funky with a vision or two

	Scott McDearmon	Jessica Miller	Katie Sue Nicklos	LeAnn Wine	Rachel Gross
Student activities	I would like to continue the change in structure that is occurring in SGA. I would like to see more activities emphasis put on our sporting events.	Everyone always says there is not anything to do around Mac. Sometimes I feel the same, I would like to see more activities and a larger variety offered so we are able to cater to all students. Ideas are weekend blanket on the grass days, out of town basketball, football, baseball, and hockey games.	Student involvement, in my opinion, is the most important aspect of any college. Whether it be Cosmic Bowling or sports games, I want everyone to feel welcome and get involved!	I would like students to have a variety of activities to choose from. I think activities should be offered to cover a broad range of interests.	I think that the current SGA board has already begun to improve the quality of student activities on campus by reworking the structure of SAB. I want everyone to want to come to student events, because their money is what makes the activities possible.
Food services	I understand that work is being done to improve food service, but I feel that more student input is needed.	Food is always going to be a complaint. We won't ever be able to please everyone. We have done our food surveys and gave our opinions and we are seeing progress. As long as things continue to improve, I think the students will be more satisfied.	I'm impressed at the attempts the staff and students have made to communicate their needs concerning food service. This open communication is the only way we all can come to common ground.	My vision for food services is that students get a quality meal for their money. This would mean food not swimming in fat and food that appeals to the eyes as well as the tastebuds.	I know people appreciate the changes Sodexo Marriott has already made in their food products and services. The surveys have helped the cafeteria crew keep up with student concerns over the food. Contact between students and cafeteria staff needs to be maintained.
Student services	As of now I am not aware of any services available. This is unfortunate and changes should be made. Before any changes are made an evaluation on the need for such services should be done.	They seem to be pretty functional for our small school. The campus ministry is thriving with Manny Diaz at the helm. Communication between everyone in the dean's offices and students needs to be worked on. It might help students if the campus nurse was in a more centralized location for easier access.	I feel positive changes have been made, for instance, Manny Diaz becoming campus minister. I would love to see more communication between the college and students. This will allow the students to KNOW what services are available to them if they are needed.	My vision for the health of students includes informing them of where and when all these services are offered.	I would like to see our campus nurse have a central office somewhere. I would also like to see her hours extended. I think this would better serve students needs.
Student organizations	I like the change in convo to include student organization meeting times, but support for these organizations needs improvement.	Student organizations on campus seem to be dwindling down to nothing. This is due to lack of publicity, participation, and interest. We need a new system and some excitement put into motion so we can get all of our clubs and organizations back on their feet and active on campus.	I see student organizations on campus becoming more functional in the future. The problems that arise with clubs can be avoided if we have communication between SGA and the students who are interested in the clubs.	I would like to see student organizations take more part in planning campus-wide activities. This would give the organizations more publicity, and give students a variety of activities.	I would like to see some sort of group formed, which would include the student leaders or officers of every club or activity on campus. Through this group, organizations can help each other schedule activities so that activities aren't scheduled on top of each other.

African Americans have long history at McPherson

1946

Charles Lewis and Sarah Mae Williams enroll as Mac's first African American students.



1950

Lewis and Williams become the first African American graduates.



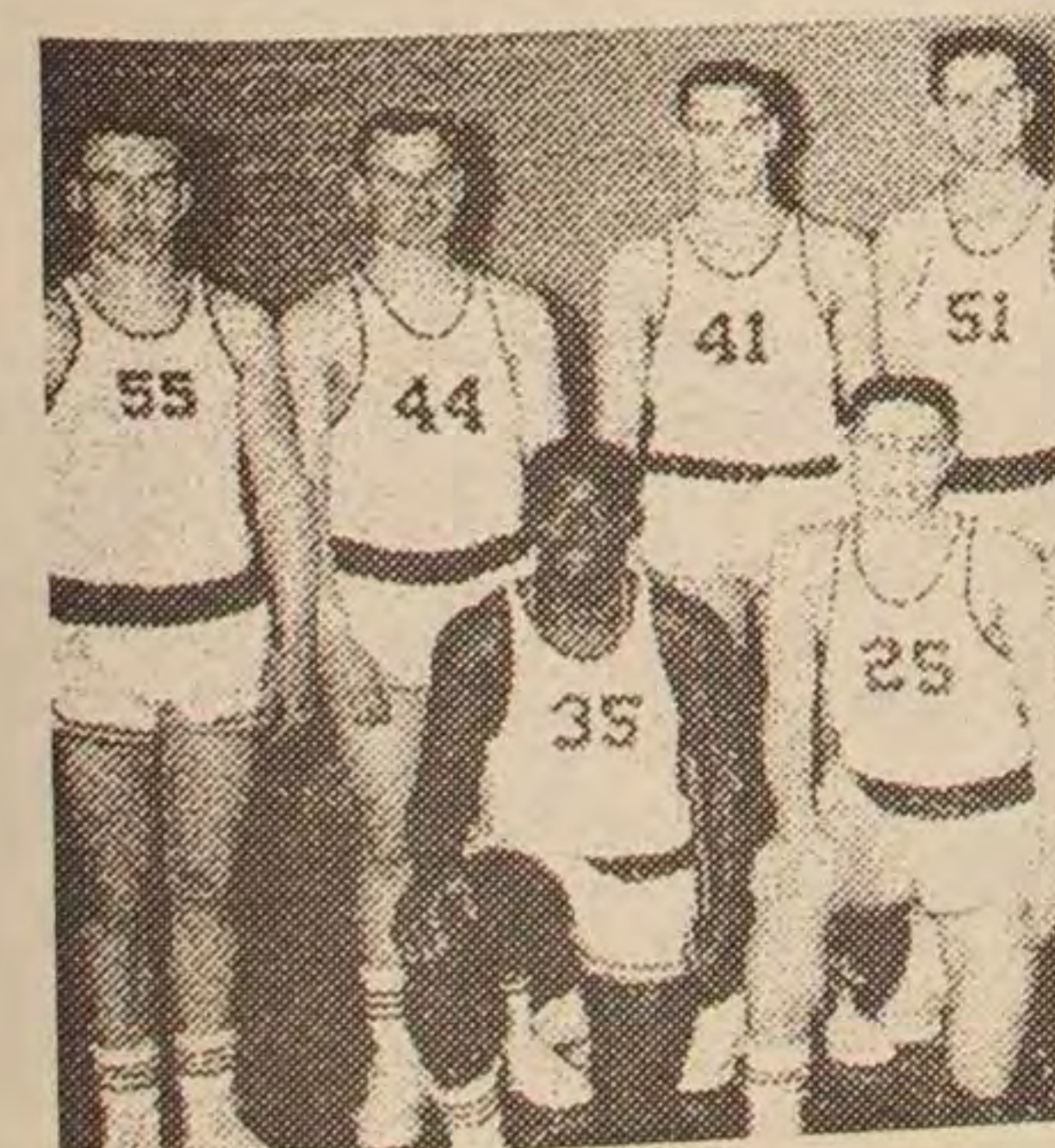
1953

James Craig is the first African American editor-in-chief of the Spectator.



1954

Lucille Hobson is the first African American class officer.



1962

Silas O'Neal is the first African American to earn All-Conference honors.

1955

Tom Ragland becomes the first African American in a Mac sports uniform.

Corin Blickenstaff
Features Editor

Black History Month is time for Americans to reflect on the richness, the diversity and the progress of African-American achievement and contribution. Black History Month originated during the 1920's when an African-American, Carter G. Woodson, created and promoted Negro History Week. This period in February was chosen because it includes the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In 1976, the month-long celebration was implemented, its purpose being to reflect the history and teachings of African-Americans, whose contributions are little known.

There is no doubt that African-Americans have a long and meaningful history. Some of that history is imbedded into McPherson College, as well, and this month we celebrate the contributions of African-Americans to our college that have been a part of our community over the years.

The first black students ventured to McPherson College and enrolled in 1947 — Charles Lewis from Shreveport, La., and Sarah Mae Williams from Mt. Union, Penn. Both persisted for four years and graduated in 1950, Lewis with a business administrative degree and Williams with a degree in psychology and education.

Today, African-Americans at McPherson College are still a small minority.

"I would like to have more black students on campus," said Shingo Kajinami, professor of chemistry. "I think that as we expand our enrollment, the minority rate will increase. The college does not actively recruit or discourage black enrollment."

McPherson College currently has 20 African-American students enrolled, consisting of only 4% of the student body.

As the enrollment rate of African-Americans at McPherson increased slowly after 1950, so did the number of African-Americans in leadership roles. James Craig, class of 1954, was the first Spectator editor-in-chief. Lucille Hobson, class of 1956, was the first class officer. Later in 1967, Ottawa Harris, class of 1967, became the first African-American senior class president.

Shay Maclin, jr., Oklahoma City, Okla., is McPherson's second African-American Student Government Association president, following John Hurley, class of 1973. Maclin was elected in May of 1997 and is currently fulfilling her second year as president.

"I had a dream that after I got president I would be assassinated. I didn't know how the campus would react to me being a black president and representing the college. I haven't been killed yet though, so I guess I'm doing something right. I also appreciate that it's a new look for McPherson College. It adds some diversity to have minorities in leadership positions," Maclin said.

McPherson College hired its first black faculty in 1989. Dr. Daisy Kabagarama, who was originally from Nigeria, was a professor of sociology from 1989 to 1994.

Carolyn Coon, dean of students, first hired in 1989, was McPherson's second black

faculty.

"The fact that I'm black doesn't seem to be important to the way I do my job or interact with the students. Being black is an important part of who I am but the fact that I'm a minority isn't why I'm here," Coon said.

Today McPherson College is taking its own stand to recognize African-American history and promote an anti-racist campus.

Two years ago, McPherson College was invited to join other area colleges with Anabaptist traditions in an effort to dismantle racism. Our team of nine members is constructed so that its own composition is racially diverse. Each member of Damascus Road has had training to help them understand the ways that racial prejudice affects our society.

"I see a pattern of racism permeating this society and affecting us negatively," Kajinami said.

Damascus Road has many goals for McPherson College. The group provides racial awareness training for all incoming freshmen seminar groups. It hopes to continue this practice and to present to faculty and staff as well. The purpose of these presentations is to make individuals more aware of how racism works and how it affects the whole community.

"We want to definitely dismantle racism and create a climate where we can accommodate people of color, giving them the same opportunity as white students," Kajinami stated.

One long-term goal Damascus Road has is to have this college take an anti-racism identity, including a sentence in McPherson College's mission statement. They also have hopes in completing a chronological wall of history portraying black history and intertwining McPherson's African-American history. They would use this timeline in their presentations as a visual aid of the progress African-Americans have made.

Black History Month is a time to appreciate black heritage and the impact African-Americans have had and will continue to have on society. McPherson College should recognize and celebrate the increasing diversity of our campus.

Note: The historical information on this page derive from a search through McPherson College Quad-rangles. Because Quad-rangles may not have pictured or recorded student achievements fully, additional search is necessary to confirm the accuracy of this information.

1998

Carolyn Coon joins McPherson as the first African American with faculty rank.



1989

Daisy Kabagarama, a native Nigerian, is hired as the first black faculty member.



1980

Joanne Hamlin joins McPherson College as director of residence life and becomes the first African American administrator.

1972

John Hurley takes on the role as the first African American SGA president and gains recognition in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.



1969

Black Student Union forms for first time.



1967
Ottawa Harris becomes the first African American senior class president.



Sports

6 Lady Bulldogs end season with loss to Southwestern

Kelly Steiner
Sports Editor

The McPherson College womens basketball team began this season with high hopes of post-season play.

That dream seemed attainable, especially because of their outstanding record of 4-1 early in the season. Loss and hard times were ahead for the Lady Dawgs, as the team went on to lose the next 21 games of the season. The final game for the women ended with a loss, bringing their season to a disappointing 4-23 close.

“After losing four starters it was basically like playing a varsity schedule with a junior varsity squad.”

Several key players left the Lady Bulldogs in January, very few upperclasswomen and experienced players remained to carry the team.

“After losing four starters it was basically like playing a varsity schedule with a junior varsity squad,” womens head coach Mel Wright said.

Regardless of the huge personnel losses, the Lady Dawgs continued to play hard. The Lady Bulldogs showed great tenacity throughout the rest of the season as they dealt with each loss.

On Feb. 20, the women lost a hard-fought game to the Tabor Bluejays, 52-44. Sabrina Gallo, soph., Milford, Conn., led the Dawgs with 12 points while Dana Cordova, sr., Trinidad, Colo., continued her excellent play by scoring 11 points and grabbing six rebounds.

After being down by only four at halftime, the Bulldogs were outscored by 12 in the second half.

Another loss came last Monday, Feb. 23, to end the women’s season. The Southwestern Moundbuilders, took control of the game during the second half, when the Mac women again seemed to run out of energy.

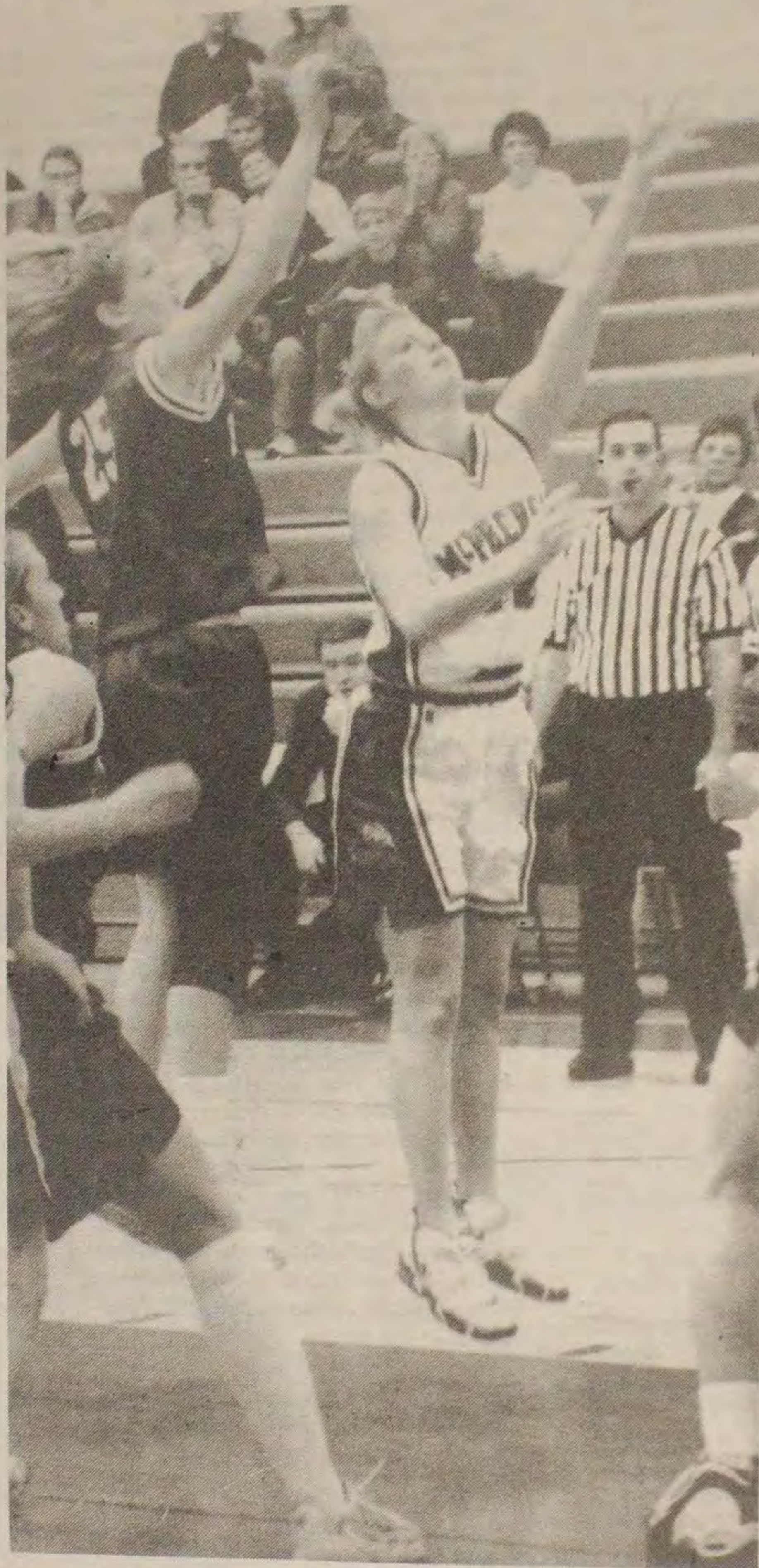
Southwestern outscored the Mac women by 12 points in the second half, leading to a 52-38 loss for the Dawgs. Gaining double-double figures in the game was Cordova, as she led the team scoring and rebounding with 12 points and with 15 rebounds.

“I believe the girls got better each game.”

Their season was tough; however, the women have a bright future. When the team experienced a rapid loss of membership, many freshmen and sophomore players were forced into starting roles.

These young players quickly gained the much needed experience, contributing more and more each contest.

“I believe the girls got better each game,” Wright said. “We will have a nucleus of our team coming back next year.”



photos by Cheri Norworthy

Above: Sabrina Gallo evades a Bluejay defender last Saturday night and lays the ball up for two. Above right: Bobbi Williams shoots for two, reaching above several defenders in the key. Right: Jessica Rainey drops her shoulder and drives to the hoop.

Bulldog Scoreboard

Mens Basketball		Womens Basketball	
Feb. 13 Kan. Wes.	92-96	Feb. 13 Kan. Wes.	34-81
Feb. 18 Bethel	71-82	Feb. 20 Tabor	52-44
Feb. 20 Tabor	66-69	Feb. 23 Southwest	52-38
Feb. 22 Southwest	85-81		

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photo by Cheri Norworthy

Post-season victory over Tabor advances Dawgs



Kelly Steiner
Sports Editor

The McPherson College Bulldogs beat the Tabor Bluejays last night in the opening round of the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference tournament. The win boosted the Bulldogs into the next round of post-season play.

The Bulldogs' play has improved as the team headed into the KCAC tournament.

"After the Southwestern game, I feel that we really have some momentum going into the conference tournament," said men's head coach Roger Trimmell.

"The team's really been playing hard, and we've lost several games by only a couple points."

As was the case last Saturday, Feb. 20, when the Bulldogs narrowly lost to Tabor by a score of 69-66. Josh Alexander, jr., McPherson, led the scoring for the team by putting in 21 points. Alexander shot 76 percent from the free throw line, which added another ten points to Mac's score. Ben Proctor, jr., Guymon, Okla., also scored in double digits with a total of 12 points. Alexander and Proctor also led the team in rebounds with five a piece.

The Dawgs met Southwestern for another close contest on Feb. 22. The

lead never settled comfortably with either team. After a very intense game, the Bulldogs managed an 85-81 victory.

Several Mac players scored in double figures. Ryan Hargitt, jr., Quinter, scored 23 points. Todd Hague, jr., Cheney, and Alexander led the rebounding tally with seven rebounds apiece.

Scoring by players from the bench proved to be a huge factor in the game. Non-starting McPherson Bulldogs outscored non-starting Southwestern Builders 32-9, a majority of the points coming from non-starter Hargitt.

The team as a whole, shot 46 percent from the field, which also helped tremendously in securing the win.

Colorado State University

Financial Aid Available for Graduate Studies in Radiological Health

The Department of Radiological Health Sciences at Colorado State University in Ft. Collins has funded research opportunities in the basic sciences relating to Cellular and Molecular Radiobiology, Comparative Oncology, Health Physics and Radioecology. Experiments funded by the NIH, DOE and NASA are performed on campus as well as at National Laboratories in the USA and Japan.

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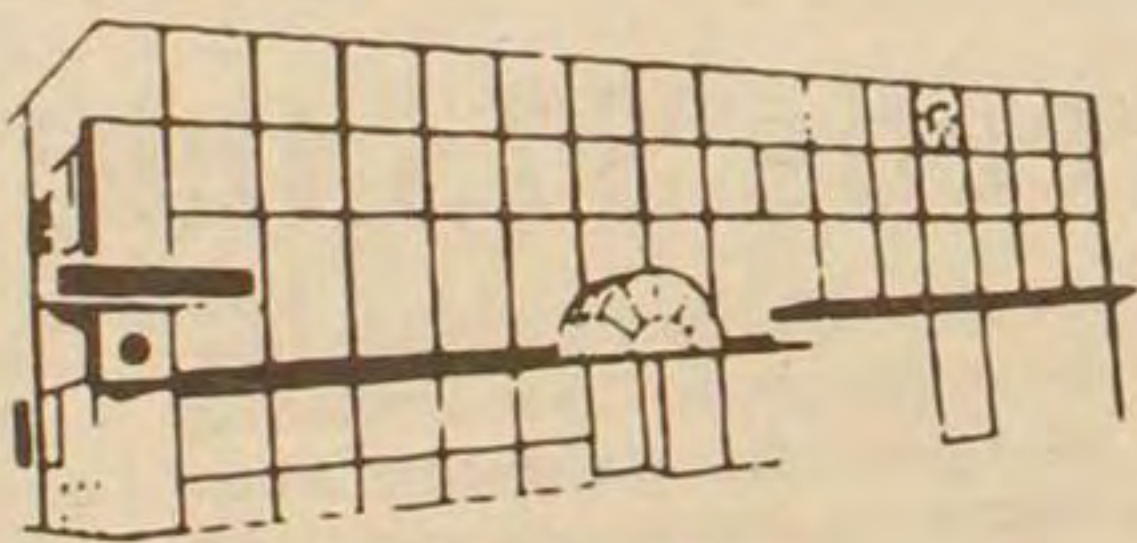
www.colostate.edu/Depts/RHS/



Todd Hague strains towards the backboard, pushing for two more points against Tabor in the Feb. 20 contest. The Dawgs lost to the Bluejays by three that night, but later avenged their loss during the first round of post-season play with a victory over Tabor.

photo by Cheri norsworthy

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Colleges continue cooperation

Shelly Hendricks

Spectator Staff

After exploring the possibility of developing cooperative arrangements with McPherson College's teacher education program, Central College appears to be leaning toward establishing such a relationship with Tabor College instead.

Central College, also located in McPherson, is a two-year school affiliated with the Free Methodist denomination. The college currently has two four-year programs: Christian ministry and business. According to Dr. Jerry Alexander, academic dean of students, Central is moving toward developing "a greater four-year identity."

Central College is taking steps to meet this strategic goal by starting a teacher education program. The school approached McPherson College administrators about the possibility of participating with McPherson College in a teacher education program.

Alexander, Central College president, Donald Mason, McPherson College president, Gary Dill, and McPherson's

dean of faculty, Steve Gustafson, met and discussed the teacher education possibility "in friendly dialogue," according to Alexander.

"We encouraged them to be in touch with the state department of education," Dill said.

Central also approached Tabor College, located in Hillsboro, about the possibility of doing a partnership with Tabor in teacher education. According to Alexander, Central College is leaning toward Tabor.

"It's tentative, no agreements have been signed," Alexander said.

One reason Central is leaning toward Tabor instead of McPherson is because of Tabor's rural setting according to Alexander. That difference could provide more teacher placements for Central College students, Alexander said, since Bethany College in Lindsborg, Bethel College in Newton, and McPherson College place their students in the more populated areas.

Alexander also said both institutions know about the possibilities, and Central College will continue its strong relationship with McPherson College,

regardless of the outcome of the teacher education program decision.

"We've had a very beneficial relationship with McPherson College for over 30 years," Alexander said.

Students from McPherson College have been able to take courses from Central College and vice versa since the 1970's. Cross registration privileges were developed because of joint Title III grants available from the federal government. Cross registration allows students to enroll in other schools' courses through their "home" institution.

According to Gustafson, this relationship with Central College increases students' exposure to other faculty, as well as broadening the number of courses available to students.

Gustafson also said each campus should serve its own students' needs first. If there is room for other students, students from Central College, can enroll in McPherson College courses.

Administrators from both schools show appreciation for the cooperative relationship.

"We've had an excellent relationship with McPherson College, and we hope

Rainmaking in McPherson



Chris Rice, Mike Besceglia, Raechel Sittig and Drew Hutchison rehearse for "The Rainmaker" being performed at 8:00 p.m. on Feb. 26 and 27 and Mar. 5 and 6. Tickets for "The Rainmaker" are available at the box office, ext. 1211. McPherson College students receive free admission.

photo by Cheri Norsworthy

that will continue," Alexander said.

"Central has been very good to work with," Gustafson said. "We appreciate

the opportunity to work with Central College."

President proposes new board structure

LeAnn Wine

News Editor

The McPherson College Board of Trustees will meet for its spring session Mar. 5. The board will hear several reports and deal with agenda action items. The restructuring of the board is one action item.

President Gary Dill laid out a proposal suggesting the board switch from a three committee structure to a five committee structure. The three committee structure was modeled after McPherson College's past administrative structure which included three vice presidents. The vice presidents acted as the committees' liaisons to the college.

"The board should be structured to best fit the governing needs of the col-

lege," Dill said. "Since we don't have vice presidents any more, the three committee structure doesn't fit."

The new structure includes five committees: College Advancement, Budget and Facilities, Membership and Development, Endowment and Investment, Academic Program and Student Life. One of the five executive officers of the board sits on each committee along with a college staff liaison.

"Each of the five committees parallels a specific function of the college," Dill said.

The restructuring proposal goes to the board with the unanimous recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

The three subcommittees of the board meet on Mar. 4. The Academic Services

Committee will hear recommendations about the interior design and history majors.

Susan Taylor, dean for instructional resources, and Wayne Conyers, associate professor of art, will recommend to the committee that the interior design major be eliminated. Interior design students wishing to complete their study at McPherson will be able to do so, but the major will no longer appear in the college catalog.

Kim Stanley, professor of English and chair of the History Review Committee, Connie Andes, professor of history, and Steve Gustafson, provost and dean of faculty, will recommend the history major continue to be offered at McPherson College.

The review committee recommends

that "we continue a department of history and a major in history and that this history department be staffed by two persons. One person with a Ph.D. would teach full time in history. The other would teach half time in history and half time in another area of academic need at the college."

Other items on the tentative agenda include faculty tenure and sabbatical leaves. Faculty members taking sabbatical leave and newly tenured faculty will be announced following the board meeting.

A presidential assessment is scheduled toward the end of the agenda. According to Gustafson, this assessment is like the routine assessments of faculty members.



New logo debuts

Sara Myers

Spectator Staff

McPherson College will introduce its new logo in July. The logo features a capital M, with a classic Greek column as the right-hand vertical stroke. The column includes three interior pillars.

The three pillars represent scholarship, participation, and service. The column those pillars form "suggests the ancient Greek tradition of scholarship and learning." The three pillars are an allusion to the trinity.

By changing the logo, the college is attempting to identify more strongly as a place of learning.

The process of selecting a new logo began in 1997. A focus group consisting of faculty and staff selected a logo created by a local artist. Later, the committee decided to hire the firm of Craighead and Harford Inc. to create other options.

Kris Boyer, director of communications, organized an advisory group to meet with the design firm. This group discussed how to portray McPherson College's ideals through a logo.

"The advisory group felt that the college needs to be identified as a place of learning, not a place of worship," Boyer said. "It was their first choice that the design team work with symbols of learning."

The firm came up with three logo proposals. The advisory group took a suggested logo to the administrative team.

The college's official documents bearing the new logo will be put to use in July of 1999.

Annual phonathon exceeds \$75,000 goal

The 1999 Phonathon was declared a success on Monday, Feb. 22 when callers surpassed the \$75,000 goal. Twenty-two students have been calling alumni and friends of McPherson College the last two weeks to raise money for the college's annual fund.

The group had planned to call for five more sessions, but completed all of the contacts well ahead of schedule.

"It's a real tribute to the student callers that we finished so far ahead of schedule," said Amanda Gutierrez, director of

"It's a real tribute to the student callers that we finished so far ahead of schedule."

annual giving. "They did a wonderful job communicating about our campus to our alumni and friends across the country and raised important funds for the college at the same time."

Construction crews take advantage of mild weather

Construction progress is noticeable as crews continue work across campus.

■ Fine arts: Work continues on the basement walls. Crews have already poured parts of the north and east walls.

■ Mingenback theatre: The exterior brick walls are complete! Next week the concrete floor will be poured inside the building.

■ Electrical work: The crew continue to bore lines to create a loop for the east

half of campus.

■ Chiller: The chiller is the new air conditioning system that will service Mohler Hall, Brown, and Hoffman Student Union. It will be located on the east side of Brown. The work is now beginning on this area. Four trees will be removed to make way for the concrete pad and new brick wall.

■ Plant operations: Construction of the facility is complete. Shelving and

furniture have been ordered and will be arriving in the next couple of weeks. The building cannot be occupied until the electrical work is done (as part of the project above.) Southwestern Bell will be on campus soon to move all of the telephone, and fiber to the new "control center" within the new facility.

Signs have been put out to show what the buildings will look like when they are finished. The signs are courtesy of

the McPherson College Office of Communications.

The Mingenback addition will be completed for occupancy by the beginning of the fall semester, 1999. The Hess Fine Arts facility will be completed for occupancy by the beginning of the spring semester, 2000.

Construction update courtesy of Shirley Reissig.