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# The McPherson College SPECTATOR

Volume 86, No. 7

"Serving to inform a community"

February 22, 2002

## Thorburn begins term as president

Kara Reiff  
News Editor



Thorburn

As news of Gary Dill's plan to leave the college circulated the campus, the McPherson College community wanted to know what would happen next. Now, after working to answer this question, the Board of Trustees has selected Neil Thorburn, a retired college president with 13 years experience, to take the college through the coming semester and next year as interim president.

While the Board of Trustees was planning the search for a president, they realized that it was unlikely for them to select someone before the end of this school year. With that in mind, the board decided to appoint an interim president to serve as they searched for a permanent president.

The board contacted Tho-

mas H. Langevin and Associates and the Registry for College and University Presidents for the placement of an interim president.

The Registry was established in 1992 and members are former college and university presidents who are available for placement as interim presidents or in interim senior administrative positions.

"The Executive Committee

met on Jan. 12 on campus and interviewed candidates referred to us from the Registry of College and University Presidents that included Dr. Thorburn," said Vincette Goerl, chair of Board of Trustees. "We then asked Dr. Thorburn later that day whether he would agree to an appointment as interim president and he accepted."

Thorburn is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, and received his B. A. and M. A. in history from the University of Connecticut and his Ph. D. in history from Northwestern.

He served 13 years as president of Wilmington College, in Ohio. In 1995, he retired from that position and joined the Registry. This will be his fourth temporary assignment.

"Dr. Thorburn's experience as president of Wilmington College, a small liberal arts college affiliated with the

Quakers for 13 years, was attractive since Wilmington College seemed to be quite similar to McPherson College," Goerl said.

The board also felt that Thorburn's academic background and experience would be helpful with the academic programs at the college.

Thorburn said he was attracted to the college's long tradition of quality education, its enthusiastic Board of Trustees, solid financial condition and friendly atmosphere.

He has begun several initiatives for the college during his short time here.

Thorburn has asked each academic department to do a program review this spring. The purpose of the review, Thorburn said, is to find out what the college does well and focus on those things to help market the college to students. He wants to put more pro-

grams in place, similar to those of the Automotive Restoration and Teacher Education programs, to be used as marketing tools for the college.

"I want to play up our strengths," Thorburn said, "and use them as a marketing strategy."

Some other initiatives that are important to Thorburn are recruiting new students, working on retention of the students who are here and making a peaceful and friendly atmosphere for the campus.

To help with recruiting students, some professors have agreed to call students who have applied to the college. Coaches are also an important part of recruitment. Thorburn also would like to make the campus tours more effective.

A Retention Committee has been formed to guide retention efforts. Members of the committee include Alan Van

Asselt, chemistry; Bruce Clary, English; Laura Eells, sociology; Steve Gustafson, provost and dean of faculty; Kevin Hadduck, academic development; Dan Hoffman, director of athletics; Ron Hovis, economics and business; LaMonte Rothrock, associate dean of students; Fred Schmidt, admissions; Karlene Tyler, associate dean of academic records, and Carol Williams, financial aid. The committee has met twice.

Although the committee is just getting started, members do have some goals and things that they know need to be considered. When forming the committee, they wanted to make sure that every area that involves students was included in the task force.

The committee will focus on transition points for students, for example the transition from

See THORBURN, page 8

## Graves to speak at first Flory Lecture

Lectureship endowed to honor Raymond, Rowena Flory

Shandi Schoming  
Spectator Staff

Kansas Governor Bill Graves will be the first speaker of the recently established Raymond and Rowena Flory Lectureship in Public Policy on Saturday, March 2.

The endowed lectureship was established as a gift from one of Flory's former students, Dean Coughenour of Manhattan. Coughenour and another former student, Dr. Howard Mehlinger, Bloomington, Ind., worked with the McPherson College administration to create a series that recognized the Florys' interest in public policy issues and Dr. Flory's career at McPherson College.

The members of the committee will be looking for leaders in public policy to be future speakers in the lectureship series. Former students appreciated Dr. Flory exposing them to public leaders and want to bring these leaders to the campus.

Graves was chosen to lead the series because he is an important figure in the state. Bob Knechel, advancement, said the Roger Morrison family of Salina contacted Graves on the committee's behalf.

"The personal connection was what made the difference, particularly to honor a figure like Dr. Flory. Not many people serve 51 years in the same institution," Knechel said.

Knechel hopes that the lectureship will be able to maintain the high level of recognition with which it is premiering.

"Graves will provide visibility and signal the importance of this lectureship," Knechel said. Governor Graves will speak on educational funding and other priorities.

"Most states are experienc-

ing loss of revenue. There is simply not enough revenue to fund programs. Education needs to be taken into consideration when building budgets," Knechel said. "There is a great debate on how the pie is being divided. We are interested in Governor Graves' take on that."

Raymond and Rowena Frantz-Flory have been involved with McPherson College for more than 60 years. They are members of the class of 1940, and Raymond began teaching history and politics at McPherson College in 1947. During this time, the Florys served as pastor and pastor's wife to five Church of the Brethren congregations.

Flory taught for only three years in the history and political science department before becoming the first dean of students at McPherson College. At this time he continued to teach, chair the history department, and process financial aid.

He was named executive vice president of the college in 1964 and still continued to perform all his duties. During these years, he completed work on his doctorate at the University of Kansas while Rowena stayed home and took on the responsibility of their four children.

Coughenour and Mehlinger spoke to the Florys and asked how they felt about giving their name to the lectureship series. Knechel said the committee didn't want to move ahead without their consent.

"They were honored," Knechel said. "This will be a way for them to continue to contribute to the college. We have now invited their former classmates and friends to contribute to the endowed lectureship."

Governor Graves will speak at 8 p.m. in Brown Auditorium. It is free and open to the public.

## NATIVE AMERICAN DRUMMERS

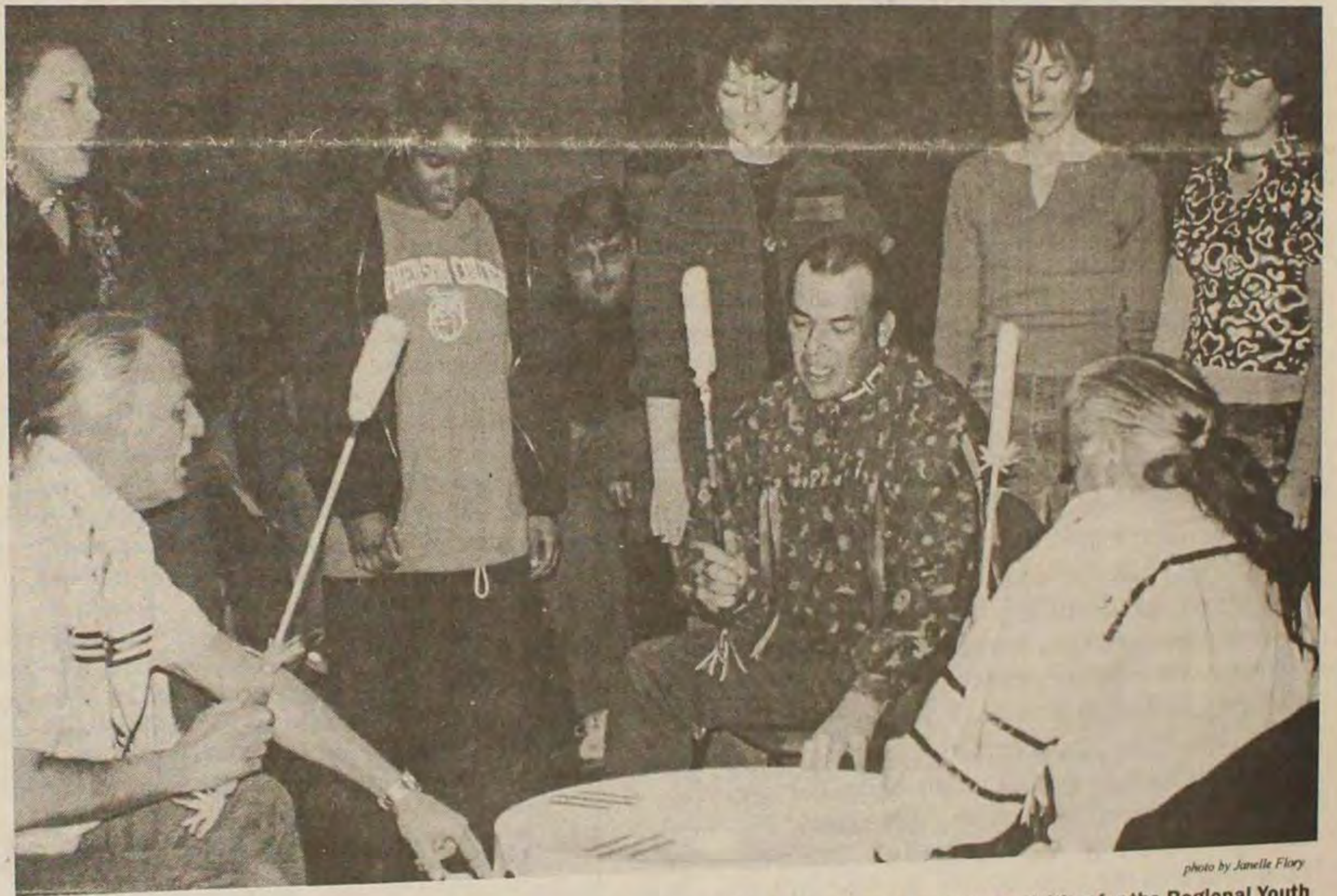


photo by Janette Flory

Native American drummers entertain members of the McPherson College community and those visiting for the Regional Youth Conference, Friday, Feb. 15. In Mlengenback Theatre. The drumming began at 7:30 p.m. and gave Mac students convocation credit. Pictured are Teresa Gonzales, Ebony Williams, Jr., Kansas City; Jan Diaz, associate pastor of the Church of the Brethren, Ryn Deltz, Kerstin Helst, sr., Loshausen, Germany; Steve Christian, Rodney Frye and Gayle Edmunds. See RYC, page 8.

## Tour cancellation produces mixed reaction from students

Kerstin Heist  
Spectator Staff

After years of touring, the McPherson College choir will not complete its planned trip to Colorado during the 2002 spring break.

Several people were involved in making the decision, including Fred Schmidt, dean of enrollment management, Dale Minnich, director of college operations, Bob Knechel, advancement, Steve Gustafson, provost, and Carolyn Coon, dean of students. These individuals took several things into consideration.

"The scheduling problem was the first thing we discussed, because this year spring break is over Easter," Knechel said. "Another critical issue was the change in leadership, which led to a conflict with students in the past."

After two years at Mac, choir director, Mary Heape, will be leaving in June. "The timing depends on the

coordination with the churches, but usually the tour is about one week, not taking into account the preparation of the music department and my office," Knechel said.

According to Knechel, the choir tour usually costs amount to a minimum of \$7,500. Some of the funding budgeted for choir tour will be used to fund an alternate student activity.

"Some of the money that comes from the church relations budget and was planned for the choir tour will now be given to a service project that is planned by some students who are going to Harrisburg, Pa., over spring break," Knechel said.

While, those who made the decision have reasons for their actions, students and others have mixed opinions.

"I was not part of the decision," Heape said. "The first thing I was told in January was that the budget was cut, and we could not afford a big bus, but there had been other

reasons, too."

Heape said that the tour would have been for six days.

"It's a disappointment," Heape said. "Some of the students might be relieved because they do not want to spend their break on a tour. Others like to go and were disappointed, too, so it is a mixed reaction."

Those choir members who share their director's opinion gave vent to their disappointment and annoyance.

"I thought we would go on a choir tour during spring break, so I made no plans, and when I heard halfway through the year it was canceled, I was really disappointed," said Nick Griggs, fr., Colorado Springs, Colo.

Mary Heape sees some alternatives.

"We're hoping to take the large choir to some of the local churches, Hutchinson for example," Heape said. "There is the possibility of taking the smaller ensembles for a

weekend, so that we don't need a bus, which is a big cost difference."

Becky Snell, soph., McPherson, understands the decision to not go on tour because spring break is falling on Easter, but she thinks it would have been a good tour because the choir is good. Staci Horton, sr., Inman does not take the decision as lightly.

"I am very upset that this opportunity was taken away from the underclassmen, and also because it was taken away from my program because it was required for music majors to have four tours to graduate," Horton said.

Horton feels that it was a poor administrative decision to pull the funding based on the choir's size and performance quality.

"The choir has worked hard to rehearse daily and prepare good literature and it feels like they have just pulled the rug out from under the choir's feet," Horton said.

STAFF EDITORIAL

# Program review is a good opportunity

**Issue 1: The new review of majors**

**Our Position:** The new review, while possibly frightening, holds promise for the growth of the college as a whole.

AS ONE OF HIS INITIATIVES AS INTERIM president, Neil Thorburn has asked all departments to institute a program review during the spring semester. Each department will go through a process of self-evaluation, taking a critical look at numbers of students in each major, faculty/student ratio and class size. They will be looking particularly for strengths and weaknesses in each program.

Once these strengths and weaknesses are identified, the department can focus on marketing its strengths to prospective students and creating plans for improvement.

To a certain degree, this type of program review could seem threatening to the smaller, yet crucial programs on campus. In the past, similar evaluations have led to the termination of majors. However, the focus of this review seems to be less about pin-pointing weaknesses and more about marketing ourselves as departments and as an institution.

As current students at McPherson, we have an opportunity to inspire growth during this time of transition. We know perhaps better than anyone else what attracts students to a small liberal arts college like McPherson. The faculty and administration are eager to answer our questions and welcome our input during the review process.

Although we may not personally experience the results of this review, we have a responsibility as students to take ownership and pride in our programs. If we're at all passionate about what we've come here to learn, then we will also want to see a tradition of academic excellence continue and grow at McPherson College.

## Fond farewells to a friend and a good administrator

**Issue 2: Carolyn Coon's departure**

**Our Position:** Coon will be sorely missed. She has done many things on campus to bring about growth. We wish her well.

AFTER A FOUR YEAR STINT CAROLYN COON, dean of students will be leaving McPherson. On March 1, Coon will embark on new employment at Fresno State in California. Her position will be much like the one she holds here.

Coon has certainly impacted our learning community positively. She has been open and available to students in and outside of her office. Students are always confident that taking a problem to Coon

will yield a response. For example, last year, when the tuition fees increased, Coon joined with Fred Schmidt and Dale Minnich to answer student questions at explanatory meetings in the Doghouse. At these meetings, she listened to problems, and she offered her ideas for solutions.

In four years, Coon has been a visible and active member of our campus. She has supported campus athletics, theater productions and club activities. Most recently, Coon teamed with other administrators to help a group of minority students form a minorities club, Minorities United Spiritually Inspired Collectively (M.U.S.I.C.).

Congratulations are in order for Coon. She is leaving a campus of approximately 400 students to assist in heading a campus of 20,000. While she will be missed for her administrative excellence, this is an opportunity that will expand her administrative skill.

Carolyn Coon, we wish you the best as you begin your next experience.

### The McPherson College SPECTATOR

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MAC OPINIONS

## Are you concerned about the review of majors?



"I think we need to add more majors. The selection we have isn't broad enough."

—Antwan Piper, Jr., Dallas, Texas



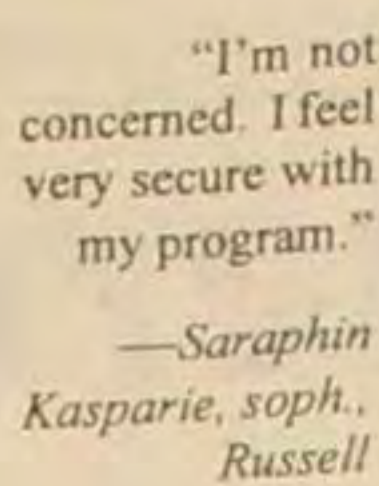
"I'm not concerned that it will affect my program at all."

—Brian Veal, soph., Kansas City



"I'm concerned that the scope of classes may decrease."

—Phillip Sill, Sr., Haven



"I'm not concerned. I feel very secure with my program."

—Saraphin Kasparie, soph., Russell



"I think we have a strong history department that will prosper and grow because of this"

—John Werner, Jr., McPherson



"I'm really satisfied with the way the president is handling everything. I am hopeful."

—Marie Rhoades, Jr., Harrisburg, Penn.



## Better food will build better unity

"Tis true, I think the only sinner is he that eats a shabby dinner."

—Ambrose Bierce

I like to eat. There is nothing better in the world than sitting down to a good meal with fine conversation and fine company. Excellent meals produce a sublime and wonderful feeling in me akin to nothing else in this world. Well-lubricated and well-fed, I become a highly Christian creature; I can hardly be agitated into any sort of rage even over the most grievous of circumstances.

Moreover, if I am well-fed, I can produce better work and in greater quantity. Nor am I alone in this-perusing some of the finest works of humanity, I mostly find that they were created by men with florid faces and rotund figures. Think of the last great work you read, saw or heard by a starving man. You won't likely find it.

So I am slightly more than agitated at the food situation here. I've tolerated bad meals before, for whatever reason, but never in such quantity or with such regularity. I do occasionally come across something worth my energy, such as Mexican buffet day, but those moments seem to be few and far between. I leave more often than not from our eminent house of victualry dissatisfied and with a bad taste in my mouth.

Nor am I alone. Talking with people, I find that the food here has become a scourge among many of us. I meet few who are happy with it or who wish to eat more. Quite a few of my non-traditional student friends refuse to pay for a meal here. If the cafeteria were left to private enterprise, I hasten to say that it would collapse in a week.

There are various arguments as to why we should tolerate this, and I find little logic in most of them.

The first argument I hear is that,



### Ramblings from a Room

LUKE CHENNEL

"Well, it's mass-produced college food. You can't expect much." Nonsense. If I was to try and argue along this line to a professor or a boss-i.e. "I deserve better marks/pay-after all, I'm only a college student," I would be laughed out the door. I do my best in whatever field I may endeavor, and I expect nothing less from anyone else.

The next argument I hear is that the food has improved from years past. So? Bad is still bad. Apparently since a bunch of slop was forced on our forefathers, we should simply take our medicine without pangs. I generally hear this from the same sort of people who talk of the days when you could have bought half of downtown for a wooden nickel, but it had been such a hard winter they burned all of them to keep warm.

I hear from the staff themselves-a wholly likable bunch of people, and not necessarily to blame for the food-a cry that their hands are tied. They most likely are, and I do have a modicum of respect for this argument. I haven't met a single one of the cafeteria staff who hasn't tried to please me in any way they can, and they always greet me with smiling faces and a willingness to work. They work hard, and I appreciate that a great deal.

Or there is the tack that "it's a good value for the money." How? If I can't manage to choke down less than half a plate of whatever I may get from them, I wind up at a different restaurant to get my fill (or worse

try and cook in the communal kitchens), and I have just purchased two meals. One inedible, and the other expensive (and bad if I cook it myself). What's more, for the price I pay here-something on the order of \$6, I could wander to nearly any quick eatery in town and get a passable meal. If I spend a few dollars

more, it is not out of reach to get a well-lubricated meal with a decent atmosphere.

To their credit, the staff has always been very kind to me, and very appreciative of me. They have never knowingly done me any wrong, or any harm. They are more than open to suggestion, and do their best to please.

Where, then is the source of this mediocrity? It doesn't seem to me to be my problem. My problem is that I don't have a way out of it. I am not refunded my meals that I don't eat, meaning that the cafeteria can serve me anything that resembles food and I am forced to pay for it. They have no incentive to produce quality, they only have the incentive to produce.

I could move off of campus, or argue long enough to get taken off of the meal plan, but I don't see the point in this. I like the cafeteria aspect of college a great deal, and it affords me a chance to get better company at my meals than if I were to just cook by myself or go to a restaurant. I'd rather do what I can to build campus unity by staying on campus than simply give up and wander off. I'd rather see a change for the better.

As a result of all this, we as students suffer. We are generally poorly fed and overcharged. I believe that it truly hurts our productivity and quality of work we produce here. We more often than not waste money, waste energy, and waste food. Something must be done.

## Miracle of birth clarifies the Lord's call

I could not tell you about one event that took place in my life that has made me who I am. However, I can definitely tell you about an event that defines what and who I am. This event chose me; I did not choose it. It is almost eerie the way it happened, like it was meant to be. I have always felt this way about my life. What way, you may ask? Destined.

The event I refer to is my birth. Not to say that I remember my childbirth, but the circumstances around it are pretty unique.

My mother lost a 4 month old baby girl to SIDS. My relatives tell me she was the most beautiful baby they had ever seen. Old and wise women would warn my mother of superstitions they had, that the baby was an angel or that they could see the baby's spirit. Many times my mother and I have talked about how she thought they were crazy and refused to listen to them. Still, deep down, the things they told bothered her.

One day, one of the elders in the church told my mother that her baby was an angel and that she could not keep her. As a parent, I can imagine how this must have been very creepy to her. I also can relate to how this must have affected my mom.

I can only speculate as to how this 19-year-old woman must have felt to wake up to a dead daughter. It must have been virtually unbearable. Mom tells me that night was like a dream. She remembers Sherice, her



### Cornerstone

DEMETREE GAINES

daughter, standing up in her crib and saying bye-bye mama, lying down and never waking up again.

A year later, my mother was pregnant again, and the loss of Sherice still haunted her. Unfortunately, in the fourth month of the pregnancy the doctor told her she had a cyst on her ovary the size of a baseball, and it was growing faster than the fetus.

She was told she had two options: to continue with the pregnancy, and lose the baby anyway because of how big the cyst was getting, and possibly her life as well, or they could take the baby and the tumor and save my mother's life.

She chose to have the surgery, and lost another baby. With all these heartbreaks, it is amazing that she even ventured to have another child. However, she became pregnant once again. This pregnancy was riddled with fear, pain and doubt.

She cried constantly, until one night the Lord came to her in a dream. She tells me that in the dream she was crying her heart out on her knees in a meadow covered with flowers

of many different colors. There was beautiful green grass as far as the eye could see.

The Lord appeared to her and said, "Woman, why do you weep? I have called your son from the womb to do great works in my name. Go your way and weep no more." She went her way, and from that moment on was no longer fearful or sad. On several occasions ministers of who I am now meeting for the first time, have told me that God chooses me, and it freaks me out.

My mom still looks at me like she knows something that I do not and says, "If you are obedient, you will teach the word. The Lord has called you Demetree." This explains why I feel the Holy Spirit with me at all time. I feel really connected to people.

This is why I do what I do. I have this cloud floating over me telling me no matter what I do it is okay. It does not have to be accepted nor liked by everybody because the Lord loves me. Call it arrogance, call it what you like. I prefer to call it destiny. Now some of you are thinking yeah, right, Demetree-you are far from righteous. How many people has the Lord called to do his works that were far from righteous? Just remember that many are called but the chosen are few.

I think that is the category I fall under-the chosen. Wait a minute, it is all superstition anyway, right? That's what my mother thought too.

# Putting the Earth first: one student's plan



Planet Watch

ADELINA CRIFE

Mother Teresa once said, "We can do no great things; only small things with great love." This philosophy can be applied to many social problems including crime, violence, and environmental destruction.

I hope to devote my life to trying to help stop environmental destruction. I know I will not change the world in a big way, but I hope to make a difference.

To prepare myself to make a difference in the world, I am majoring in environmental stewardship. This major encourages thinking of our relation to the environment in terms of stewardship. A steward is someone who lives and works on the land to benefit from it but also to conserve it. Most humans and their societies do not function under this

conception.

The environmental stewardship major educates students about environmental problems, the science behind the problems, and incorporates other areas of study. The major is interdisciplinary, allowing students to get a broader education than in a single major of study. Interdisciplinary education is becoming a popular trend in higher education. Thirty-two hours of basic science and then 30 hours of humanity, technology, religion,

history, and economic classes are needed for an environmental stewardship major.

The classes taken for the second 32 hours of the major are up to the student and what path they want to follow in environmental science. In addition, four semesters of a Stewardship Seminar are required. This is where students and their advisor meet to talk about certain environmental issues as well as how their classes relate to environmental issues.

McPherson is one of a few schools that offer such a major. Students should take this unique opportunity and major in it. It is very flexible, and students can focus on different and diverse areas of environmental study. Anyone who is undecided or not sure of their major should consider Envi-

ronmental Stewardship.

As a result of my studies in the field, I am starting to conclude that a major way humans can stop environmental destruction is by changing the way they look at the environment. This is the notion of stewardship.

The current mindset of most humans is that the earth is here for us to use and exploit for unlimited benefit. Changing this way of thinking is very difficult but I feel that it can happen.

To show that this change is not just a Utopian flight, I plan on using McPherson College as a guinea pig. For my senior project, I plan to evaluate the water use, energy use, and waste disposal of the college.

After evaluating this, I will create a conservation plan to try to lessen the impact that

the college has on the environment. I know that the college does participate in positive environmental activities, but I think that there are some areas in which the college can improve.

I know that the environment is not a major concern for everyone. We may have more to worry about and more to do than focus on the environment.

Many people feel that acting environmentally is inconvenient, and reflect it in their actions. Examples of this are when people drive their cars instead of walking to save time, or take a long shower just to relax.

But if we would begin to think as environmental stewards, change will occur. For instance, electric cars and low-flow shower heads are

hardly less convenient than what we already have, and provide real environmental savings.

One of the major reasons why we should start acting more environmentally is to leave the earth clean and healthy for future generations. The earth is not going to fall apart in our lifetime, but our actions right now will affect how the Earth will be for our children and our grandchildren.

The truth of the matter is humans need the earth for survival.

Without it, we will have nowhere to live. Why not take care of the home we have? The earth is here for us to use and draw from, but we can also take care of it. We should stop being exploiters and become stewards of the land.

# Exploring the deeper meanings behind a two-letter word



Big Chief's Tablet

ELISSA THOMPSON

"No." I can type it. It's too bad I haven't found a way to get the words from the inside of my brain to the outside of my mouth. I feel like Ado-Annie in the musical Oklahoma! "I'm just a girl who can't say no." It's not that I have a hard time turning down the opposite sex. I have a hard time turning down responsibility. Perhaps, I could learn the art of "no" from some of my peers who say it to me all of the time.

First, there is the beat around the bush "no." This form of "no" is used by the horrifically indecisive. I'm usually asking this person if they want to do something this weekend, and they have already made plans.

Their first reaction is to look down at the ground and start stuttering. "I, uh, uh, can't do anything 'cuz I, uh, uh, think that I was going to meet Joe and Bob later." After they have said this, I know that they have had plans with Joe and Bob for weeks.

They think that by stammering around and acting stupid, I will forget that I asked them to do anything in the first

place. They assume that all will be well as soon as I walk away. They are wrong because when I walk away I go to their car, and I slash one of their tires. Good luck doing something with Joe and Bob on three wheels!

The second form is the no-execute list "no." This no is thrown at me from someone who is turning me down to write for The Spectator.

I would write about this form of "no," but I have so much to do. My clothes are in the dryer, I have a huge stack of homework, my hair needs washing and I broke my finger in a bad accident with a pencil sharpener.

The third form of no is a the joke "no." This "no" is self-

explanatory. I get this one from someone when I'm joking around with him or her.

An example of this would be, "Will you please take me to the store?" The other person looks at me for a little bit, and says, "I'd rather get hit in the head multiple times with a hammer than take you to the store." Then, the person will walk away, or sometimes he or she will even run. On second thought, maybe it isn't a joke at all.

The fourth form is the simple "no." This is given to me reasons that encompass all of the above.

I think that this form is my favorite. I get so tired of just the delayed rejection. I think I'd rather get my heart bro-

ken in two quickly. I think you know what I'm talking about.

Don't you remember that time when you got nailed with an arrow?

When it was stuck there in your hip, could it lightly tug on it with gentle hands, letting the pain rip its way through every nerve in your entire body? Could you wimp out like a little baby crying for its mother and let the arrow stay there unshaken?

No! You yanked that puppy out like there was a fire under your tail.

If you had to do it over, would even change one thing?

I guess the only question here is, with all of this knowledge about the "no forms," why do I have such a difficult

time using them? This is a good question. I don't like hurting people's feelings. I worry about things that are insignificant. I want to do a super job at everything that I do.

However, I think the number one reason that I can't say no is that I'm spineless. I'm a big wuss, and it's only getting worse with age.

Buck up, McPherson College! Pick your battles, and stick to your guns, and practice these forms of "no" on the next person you see! Somebody has to do it.

If you are the one rejected just ask the next person you see. I'm sure I'll be walking by soon enough to catch your fall!

# Breaking down walls instead of building them will lead to a better life



Guest Columnist

LAURA MORGAN

As I sit here tonight trying to put into words what ideas are spinning around in my mind, it is rather difficult. Many of you that know me and know how I think understand that statement clearly.

For those of you that do not, I will give you the short version. I am a thinker, a dreamer, and often times I ponder things that many overlook. But believe me, I wish I had a switch to turn off my thoughts sometimes.

I have been thinking a lot lately, mainly about life. Life is the greatest gift we are ever given. If you really sit and think about that statement, I mean really sit and think about it, you will probably understand what I mean.

We all make choices in our lives. Some good, some bad, but that is how it is supposed to be. We are always taught that to every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. Or, in other words, things we say and do have consequences.

Do you ever just want to throw that and convention out the window? Well, you should.

We are all here to figure out who we are in life and usually because of what we see as the norm we do not always take the time to find ourselves.

We tend to let the day-to-day living get in the way or pain from our past or we are just too scared to explore the unknown. To me, that is not living.

We have to live life. We have to embrace it. When we say and do things in life, no matter how far in the past they are some of us still cannot look past those "bad times." We should. I know it is easier said than done.

I have been one of those people that couldn't look towards the future with a better attitude. I have been that person

that were taking place. But we can see past those events. We can move on in our lives.

I know that it just takes a little stubbornness and strong will. I have loved a person my whole life that at one point, I thought I was born to hate. Through that hate I built walls.

And some days I think those walls would still be up if it was not for my best friend. I know that I could not really appreciate love and people for who they are, flaws or imperfections, if I had never hated.

I love that person which I thought I was born to hate more than anything in life now. I know what patience, kindness, giving and receiving it takes to make love work. Many people never know what love is, but I think we all

**"We all make choices in our life. Some good, some bad, but that is how it is supposed to be."**

know what love is. Love is what we want it to be.

Love is what we are willing to give and receive from the other people around us. But let's look beyond love, because love is just one aspect of life.

I say we should appreciate bad days and welcome them with a smirk and laughter. Why? Because if we never had a bad day, we would not be able to appreciate a truly

great day.

If we never see a bad movie, we would never know what a great movie was.

If we had never been a bad friend, we would never know what a best friend is.

The summer after my sophomore year of college I really understood what it meant to value friends and people.

I lost one of my closest friends I have ever known to his own hand.

I will never understand how people can do that, but I do understand that they get to a place where they think they're alone, there's no hope, and they stop believing and caring about things around them.

That is the first mistake we always make. People hurt us and we build walls, close doors, and we shut down. We

should not do that.

We should open more doors and remove bricks from the walls, because those are the times where we can learn the most about ourselves. We should all be sucking the marrow out of life.

We all punish ourselves too much. We never give individuality the credit it needs. Most importantly, we need to believe in ourselves, in risks, and the people that are the closest to us and know us the best.

Giving up is not fun. Giving up is not living. I watched a really great movie tonight. The movie actually depicted the very things I have been writing about, and so I will leave you with these thoughts and this quote. "Find out who you really are and do it on purpose. Be an individual."

BY MIKE VRTISKA

## LETTER POLICY

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

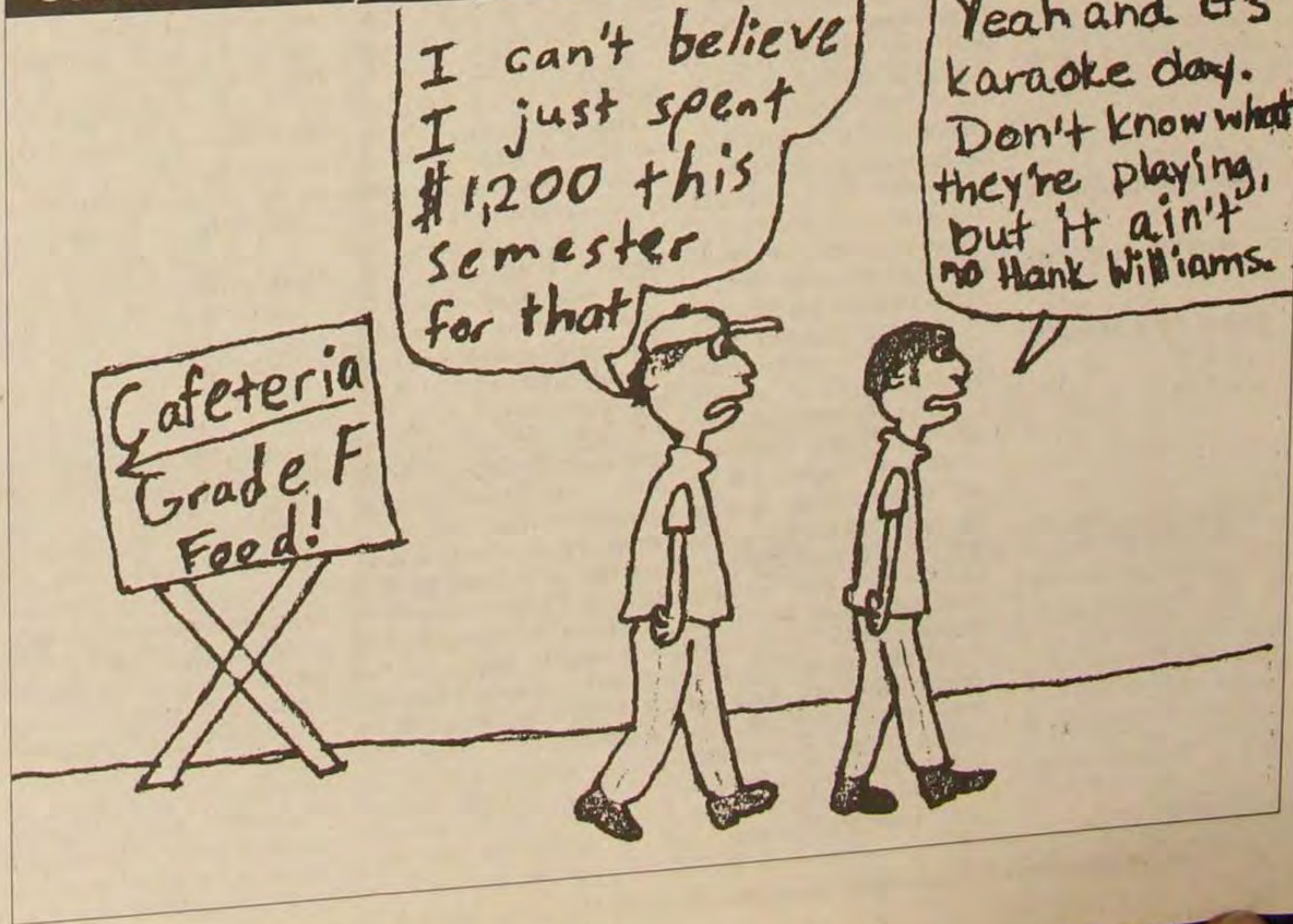
The following policy guides the publication of all letters to the editor:

- 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.

## COUNTRY MIKE'S CORNER



# London art, culture, history

## Entz, Frigard lead 15 students in search of English culture

Amy Sellke  
Features Editor

After much deliberation before Interterm on whether or not the Sept. 11 attacks could pose dangers for the London trip, the class departed on January 16.

Fifteen students, four alumni and three others, who met the group in London, traveled abroad under the supervision of Gary Entz, history, and Kelly Frigard, art.

After flying out of Wichita and into Houston, the group flew non-stop to London. They stayed mostly in the city, but they did venture out in vans to explore the cities of Bath and Stonehenge in West England.

Though nothing was new to Entz, who has been to London many times, he said, "Everything the students saw was exciting and new."

There was nothing new to Staci Horton either. This marks her second trip to London. She however, had not been to Bath before. "I really enjoyed it. It is a lot smaller and it is very comfortable."

Seeing Hampton Court was Horton's favorite part. She said it did not compare to other castles she's been to. "This one, to me, tops them all."

"It was more industrial than I thought it would be," said Andrew Gustafson, soph., McPherson. "My favorite time was the freedom in the afternoons."

Students could choose what they wanted to do. They were given an allowance for food and could also choose what they wanted to eat.

"Fish and chips were the favorite," Entz said. "Some also chose Indian food."

From an educational point of view, Kelly Frigard wanted students to gain appreciation for art and architecture, modern and old. Entz, on the other hand, wanted the travelers to learn what it was like to be part of an old city. He also wanted students to learn about the street grids from the Romans.

They saw Westminster Abbey, many museums, and of course the Tower of London.

One highlight was the medieval village outside Lacock. It has been perfectly preserved, thatched roofs and all.

Entz said nothing unexpected occurred, just a fairly smooth trip.

"There is something about London that no American city

could ever boast. It just has these buildings people restore instead of tearing down, that are older than the U.S. has been found." "It is a sense of history you cannot get from anywhere else. I love the nobility and the heritage of it," Horton said.

Coming home on Jan 23, was maybe hard for some and welcomed for others. They said

goodbye to Seth Good as he was staying in Europe to continue his exploration outside of London.

"I think that it was a tremendous experience for all involved. They certainly all enjoyed it. You can't beat it. It is a great way to spend interterm. We certainly plan to do more," Entz said.

## Good leaves group to tour Europe alone

Amy Sellke  
Features Editor

Leaving for London initially to travel with the Interterm group, Seth Good embarked on a five-week journey abroad. He plans to return to McPherson on Feb. 28.

When the group of Mac students led by Gary Entz and Kelly Frigard departed from London, Good, a senior from Anneville, Pa., split from the group to continue roving through the countries of which he's only read. "I wanted to make associations between the ancient world I've studied and the places that so many diverse people live in," Good said.

Extensive work goes into learning how to adapt to other people's cultures, Good said. Before heading to another country one must prepare, learning what to do and what not to do. Things Americans do with out thinking can be terribly offensive to natives of other cultures.

Language is a key factor in getting where you want to go; Good said that so far he has been navigating into cultures where he can't speak the language.

"I enjoy the stretching experience," Good said.

With so many things to see and do along the way, Good said he could not possibly list everything. Among the locations and activities on his itinerary were:

London (England):

**"I wanted to make associations between the ancient world I've studied and the places that so many diverse people live in."**

—Seth Good

sight seeing

Belfast (Ireland): visiting Natalie Dutrow (daughter of Prof. Al Dutrow, biology) and viewing political murals

Tralee (Ireland): hills, sheep, and lots of swamps

Paris (France): the train station

Lisbon (Portugal): "the coolest Helmund Kant paintings and a model shoot in a botanical garden"

Madrid (Spain): Michelangelo paintings

Algeracas and Morocco (Spain): Rock of Gibraltar, not to mention pickpockets and scams

Barcelona (Spain): Gouldi Church and park (Good said that it "belittles Frank Lloyd Wright")

Rome (Italy): the Coliseum and Vatican

Brindisi (Italy): the inside of a youth hostel and McDonalds

Athens (Greece): Acropolis and an Internet café

With another week left who knows what else Good will absorb.

"I have encountered along the way fun people, extreme variety in expectations, and good food," Good said.

The trip has been funded by a private source, not by a travel agency or sponsors.



Tonya Yang and Luke Chennell stand guard as Seth Good converses with the statues outside of the Houses of Parliament in London. Other places they traveled included the city of Bath, Stonehenge, Westminster Abbey, many museums, and the Tower of London.

# Time for Tuesday night movies again!

## Cinema IV Theaters

### A Walk to Remember

**Rated: PG**  
(1 Hr. 50 Min.) 9:10 p.m.  
Each spring in the little port town of Beaufort, N. C., when the wind smells of pine and salt and the sea, Landon Carter (Shane West) remembers his senior year at Beaufort High and Jamie Sullivan, the girl who changed his life.

Jamie (Mandy Moore) was the last person Landon was likely to fall for. Serious and conservative, the daughter of the town's Baptist minister, Jamie was not afraid of letting people know that her faith was the most important part of her life, even if it cost her some friends. Landon hung with the in-crowd. He had no plans, no future and no faith in himself.

One night a prank that he and his buddies set up goes terribly wrong and lands a kid in the hospital. As punishment, Landon must tutor a young student at a poor school and participate in the Drama Club's Spring play - two activities the principal hopes will teach him some humility. They also happen to throw him into close contact with Jamie. Clearly in over his head, Landon is forced to ask her for help.

Show price \$2.00  
Includes: ticket,  
popcorn and water

### John Q

**Rated: PG-13**  
(2 Hrs. 10 Min.) 9:20 p.m.

John Q. Archibald (Academy Award-winner Denzel Washington) is an ordinary man who works at a factory and takes care of his family. His wife Denise (Kimberly Elise) and young son Michael (Daniel E. Smith) are his world. But when Michael falls seriously ill and needs an emergency heart transplant operation that John Q. can't afford and his health insurance won't cover, he vows to do whatever it will take to keep his son alive. With time and options running out, a desperate gamble becomes his only hope — he takes the emergency room hostage.

As John Q. barricades himself inside the hospital along with his unwitting group of emergency room hostages, many of them in need of medical care themselves, he faces off with a veteran police hostage negotiator (Robert Duvall) and a quick-tempered police chief (Ray Liotta) who wants to bring a swift end to the stand-off.

### Collateral Damage

**Rated: R**  
(2 Hrs. 05 Min.) 9:15 p.m.

Gordon Brewer (Arnold Schwarzenegger), running late to meet his wife and young son at a downtown high-rise, witnesses a catastrophic bomb blast kill his family before his eyes. The explosion is credited to "The Wolf," an infamous rebel leader in Colombia's decades-long civil war. The intended targets were members of the Colombian consulate and American intelligence agents. Gordy's wife and child are considered "collateral damage," innocent people who lost their lives for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Gordy's only consolation is the hope that justice will prevail for the loss of his family.

When the official U.S. investigation into the Wolf's whereabouts stalls, Gordy realizes that bringing the terrorist to justice is no longer a priority. Gordy heads to war-torn Colombia to track him down. He puts his life on the line to bring the Wolf to justice. He has nothing left to lose. Gordy's relentless pursuit leads him from the jungles of Colombia back to the streets of Washington where the bomber is preparing to strike again.

### Dragonfly

**Rated: PG-13**  
(2 Hours) 9:05 p.m.

As head of emergency services for Chicago Memorial Hospital, Dr. Joe Darrow (Kevin Costner) is a respected expert in trauma and triage. But his professional knowledge provides little comfort when tragedy claims the life of his wife. A doctor herself, Emily Darrow (Susanna Thompson) was on a medical mercy mission when she died in a bus accident on a remote mountain road in Venezuela.

Reminders of Emily are everywhere, among them images of dragonflies, her personal totem because of a birthmark on her shoulder. And then there are Emily's former patients in the pediatric oncology ward. Joe promised to look in on them when Emily left for Venezuela, and now finds that they offer a surprising link to her.

To the kids, Darrow is not a burned-out ER doc, but rather 'Emily's Joe.' And as some of these young patients survive near-death experiences, Joe begins to believe that Emily is trying to communicate with him - from the other side.

Cinema IV Theaters  
318 N. Main  
McPherson, KS

# Students traveling return with experience

Dennis Pfeif  
Spectator Staff

Conquering the world was on the minds of eight students from McPherson College last semester as they studied abroad.

Shawn Allen, sr., Corpus Christi, Texas, Chris Curran, sr., Loma, Colo., Bryan Lucore jr., Springfield, Mo., and Katie Sue Nicklos sr., La Junta, Colo., studied in Athens,

Greece.

Marie Rhoades jr., Harrisburg, Pa., and Elizabeth Stover, sr., Quinter, studied in India.

Emily Tyler jr., McPherson, visited Cheltenham, England on her own.

Courtney Irwin, sr., Oklahoma City, Okla., is currently in France completing her second semester, and Renata Lichty, sr., Quinter is also currently abroad.

The students traveled with the organization, BCA, Brethren College Abroad. This organization gives students a chance to see a different world from their own and take classes at the same time. All of the travelers said they would like to make an abroad return and for Marie Rhoades it was her second trip.

"I loved going abroad," said Nicklos, "the trip left nothing to be desired. My favorite part was singing in the Theater of Epidaurus."

The sentiment of Nicklos was shared by all of the BCA goers. They enjoyed their time abroad, met new people, made friends and were able to spend their weekends sight-seeing.

"I enjoyed the freedom that I had," Curran said. "We visited islands, monasteries, and various cities around Greece on our weekend travels."

Stover said that because of her class schedule she was able to take several weekend trips around India. Touring New Delhi, Jaipur and Agra (home of the Taj Mahal). What she liked least was the language barrier and the relaxed pace of life. "It was frustrating at times, but taught me a

**"We visited islands, monasteries, and various cities around Greece on our weekend travels."**

—Chris Curran

whole new level of patience." Marie Rhoades found it useful to be in one place during her time abroad. "I was able to establish friendships and adjust myself to the culture."

Emily Tyler plans on returning to England to visit her new friends.

"I loved it, and I have a lot of new friends that I can't wait to see again someday."

Lucore believes that he will experience long-term benefits from his travel. "The trips; experiences; food; people I met; things I saw, did and learned were all great, life-long perks of going abroad," Lucore said.

Though everyone had an enjoyable experience, students were not fully satisfied with the BCA program.

"I wouldn't recommend

BCA," said Tyler. "They don't seem to have their act together, and I think they should if they are sending students to different countries."

Rhoades was also dissatisfied.

"Besides the BCA administration," said Marie Rhoades, "I disliked the classes. If a person does BCA, they should focus on cultural classes rather than general education courses."

Though students feel that the BCA program has a great idea; some think they just need to build on their communication and organizational skills.

"When we tried to get answers, they gave us the run-around and tried to blame everything on the events of September 11th," Lucore said. "Overall, I was upset with the

BCA administration and the way they, a business, treated us, the customer."

Curran shared the same sentiments.

"BCA wasn't completely forthcoming when students asked direct questions and on several occasions BCA said one thing, and then did another," Curran said.

Not all travelers were disappointed with the BCA program.

"The advantage of traveling through BCA is that its relationship with McPherson theoretically improves communication regarding transcripts and finances." She simply added, "In reality, there are numerous programs that are also worth looking into."



photo by Elizabeth Stover

Marie Rhoades concentrates and tries not to move from the elephant while it "blesses" her in Brihadishwara Temple located in India.



contributed by Emily Tyler

Emily Tyler and other BCA'ers visit Stonehenge in Wiltshire England. Tyler studied in England during the fall semester.



contributed by Bryan Lucore

Bryan Lucore poses with the "belly button" of the world in ancient Delphi. A myth says that Zeus sent out two doves and where they met was here at the "navel stone."

RATING (1-5) 5

## The best album released in 2001

Ours "Distorted Lullabies"

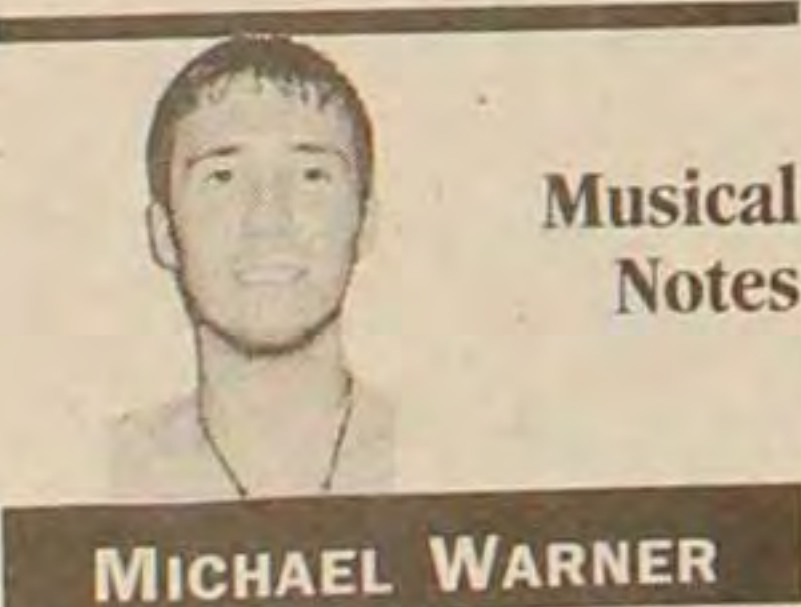
Ours "Distorted Lullabies" Produced by: Steve Lillywhite DreamWorks Records 2001

DreamWorks Records told frontman, and main creative force in the band, Jimmy Gnecco, to spend the better part of the next year by himself writing songs when Ours was signed to a record deal in September 1997.

Finally, in 1998, Ours entered a recording studio to work on the songs that Gnecco had been working on for months.

Surprisingly, DreamWorks told the members of Ours to take their time with the recording process. After three years of recording, it seemed like many people had their doubts that Ours could come up with a good album. Their debut album, "Distorted Lullabies," was finally released in May 2001 and silenced the skeptics.

"Distorted Lullabies" has been getting great ratings from both critics and online



Musical Notes

MICHAEL WARNER

music listeners.

Creating a big commercial album that would make a lot of money and make the band famous was not the goal of this album. "Distorted Lullabies" was produced more for the sake of making good music than for pleasing the record label. The music is haunting and after you reach the end of the album, it leaves you wanting more.

Showing true musical talent not only by making music, but displaying the various ways they can play it seems to be the only way for everyone in the band. Jimmy Gnecco vocals can go from a smooth, dainty whisper, to a crazed, blood-curdling scream in an instant.

When Gnecco was creating the songs that would later be recorded on "Distorted Lullabies," he learned how to play every part that would be played on the album. He hand-picked every member in the band that he not only believed was a great musician, but also felt in some way connected to the music.

David Milone, guitar, played with Gnecco in previous bands, and still shares the same chemistry they have had for years. Milone provides the main, sweet rhythm found throughout the album, and contributes greatly to the dark feel of the music.

Drummer Kirke Jan is the creator of the pulsating beat that pushes the music forward, drawing listeners deeper into the album.

Race, bass, creates a low sound that has a very independent rhythm rather than following the guitars and their progression throughout most of the record.

Keyboardist Anthony DeMarco provided the final com-

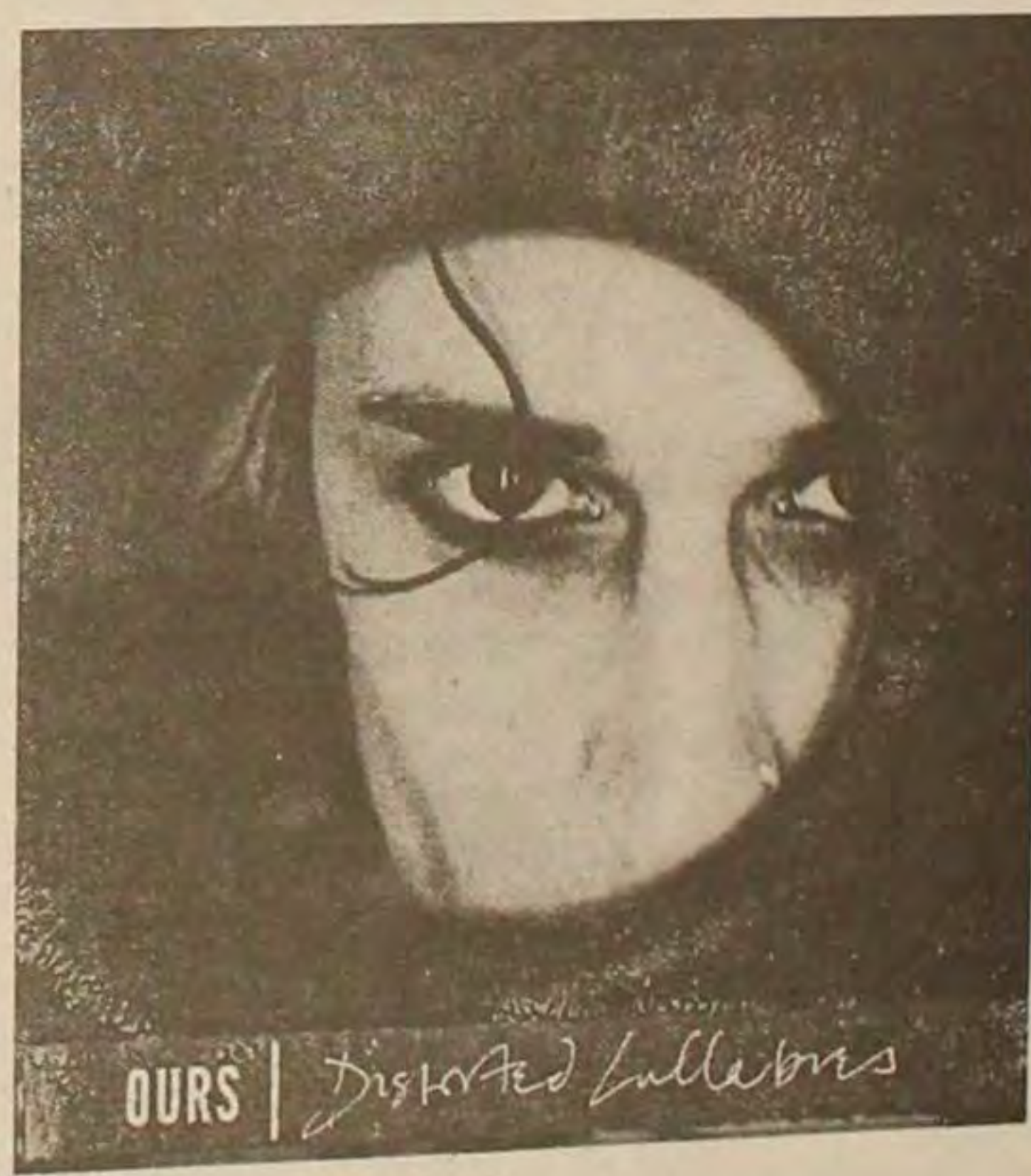
ponent that Gnecco was looking for. DeMarco supplies a nice, yet eerie, feel to the songs by reproducing an orchestral sound to add to all the complex rhythms.

Though the album is full of pain and misery, there is an undeniable sense of beauty in each individual song.

The opening song, "Fallen Souls," is the perfect intro to the album with the fade in of pounding drums and overdriven guitars. At the song's end Gnecco puts his powerful vocals to good use, seemingly screaming for all he's worth.

"I'm a Monster" shows a much more vulnerable side of Gnecco as he slows things down with a smooth-flowing and dainty acoustic melody. The song is about being bullied but feeling worse when the bullied finally stands up for himself.

With lyrics like "We live to see our children die / Turn to the bright to describe what we never will find / I'm a monster singing through the side of a left eye," Gnecco's pain is



Ours "Distorted Lullabies"

evident.

The band's first single, "Sometimes," captures the full essence of Ours as a band. The instruments may be loud and heavy, but Gnecco's fragile yet powerful voice complements the music like no other modern rock band out there today.

The lyrics in several of the songs are bound to chill you to the bone. In "Miseryhead," Gnecco sings "Turn around / What's that sound? / I'm in your head / I thought I heard him say he'd rather be dead than live life apart / We're

apart."

Interestingly enough, Gnecco says that this song isn't about misery at all; instead, he's laughing at his own misery.

All songs on the album are brilliantly crafted into what I believe is the best album released in 2001.

Official website: [www.ours2.net](http://www.ours2.net)  
Related Artists: U2, Radiohead, Jeff Buckley, Soundgarden

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Sports

6

# Lady 'Dogs trample Tabor, set sites on Saturday at Sterling

Janar Bradford  
Spectator Staff

Nailing 53 percent from the field helped the Lady Bulldogs thump Tabor, 94-65, in the Sport Center Wednesday night. The game was the quarter-final round of the KCAC post-season tournament.

The win matches the women against the No. 1-seeded and No. 2 nationally-ranked Sterling Warriors at Sterling tomorrow at 2 p.m.

The Bulldogs entered the tournament as the number four seed after finishing fourth in regular season play with a 12-6 record.

Head coach Mel Wright recognizes that the Sterling game represents a huge challenge, but he's proud of how his team has performed to get to this point. "We have a big challenge ahead as we look forward to Sterling, either the No. 1 or No. 2 team in the nation," Wright said. "But if we play like we played tonight, we will come out with our heads up, win or lose."

Sharla Odhams led the team against Tabor, scoring 20 points, but two freshmen, Crystal Richardson and Tiffany Conway, were vital to the victory, Wright said.

"Without them and their play, our season would be in the tank," Wright said. "The have stepped up big time. You can tell they're young, but they play like veterans."

The Bulldogs dominated the

floor from the start as Jessica Bond tipped the ball to Sharla Odhams, who scored on their first possession.

However, it was Conway, scoring 12 points in the first half, who ignited the women to a 21-6 start.

"I think I stepped up," Conway said.

Both teams shot well, but the Lady 'Dogs defense gave them more to capitalize on at the offensive end. With 11:16 left in the half, the women pulled away with a 25-9 outburst. Just when the Bulldogs started to feel confident, however, Tabor made an 11-0 run, cutting the margin to five at one point.

Wright called a timeout with eight minutes left to settle his troops, and like a group of soldiers, the Lady 'Dogs stepped back on the court and went on a 15-0 run.

Conway and Amber Jackson led the charge, helping the women expand their lead at halftime to a commanding 49-29 margin.

Wright knew to expect a charge from Tabor and at the half told his athletes to look for "scrambling defense by Tabor, an intense man-to-man and most important for the Bulldogs to be patient." "We were prepared and knew what to expect," Wright said.

Both teams came out cold to begin the second half. Mac and Tabor were both scoreless for three minutes before Erica Alvarez broke the ice

with a lay-up. Mac showed poise against Tabor's 2-2-1 full-court press, advancing the ball and making Tabor pay on the other end.

Richardson, who had three points at the half, caught fire, going three of four from trey-land as the Bulldogs hit 48 percent of its second-half, three-point shots.

"It wasn't just one person. The whole team hit us," said Tabor head coach Rusty Allen, a McPherson College product. "We couldn't just focus on one. We tried and someone else stepped up."

"We played awesome," Alvarez said. "Our defense won it for us, and our offense came through."

While pleased with their win, the Bulldogs still see things they can adjust that will help them improve.

"Defense, and better passing, and executing the offense better, having hands ready to catch the passes," Jackson said.

"The team support is tremendous," Conway said. "Everyone is pushing us, even when we mess up the team still encourages us. Basically, I feel no pressure. The team is behind me, I'm behind them, it all works."

Odhams led all scorers with 20. Richardson finished with 18. Conway and Alvarez scored 15 each, while Jackson finished with 11, Bond with 10 and Tamara Drescher with 5.



Tiffany Conway jumps ahead of her Ottawa opponent for a layup in last Thursday's game at home. In Wednesday's game against Tabor, Conway executed the offensive plays that were needed to fire up the Lady Bulldogs for a victory. The Lady 'Dogs will continue their post-season play at 2 p.m. in Sterling Saturday.

## Triple overtime ends with loss at Bethany

Moriah Hicks  
Spectator Staff

The Lady Bulldog closed out their 2-7 with a loss at Sterling Feb. 9.

"Although they had 12 games this season, the girls gained a lot of experience, they played with intensity, determination and heart," said head junior varsity coach Amy George.

But the highlight of the junior varsity season was an incredible triple overtime game that ended 93-94 at Bethany on Feb. 1.

The Lady Bulldogs entered the gym with seven players, only six of which were eligible to play.

"We played well at first," George said.

The women started strong, with shots falling and playing incredible defense, George said, but Bethany came back and pulled away from the Lady 'Dogs by 20.

In the second half McPherson gained strength and played with immeasurable heart tying the game at 66 sending it into overtime. In the first overtime, Jennifer Garcia fouled out leaving the Bulldogs with only four eligible players on the floor, but The women played strong defense. Tiffany Conway got open for a three that gave the Lady 'Dogs a two-point lead with four seconds left in the overtime. Just as fans thought it was over, a Lady Swede scored an open lay-up tying the score once more, sending the Swedes and the Bulldogs into a second overtime.

In the second overtime, Crystal Richardson fouled out, leaving the Lady Bulldogs with only three players left on the court, and tying the score once more at 73.

"I took a blow to my ribs, scrambling for the ball, but I wasn't about to give up to Bethany," said Treasett Horner.

With Desiree Bostic, Tiffany Conway, and an injured Treasett Horner left on the court, the Lady Bulldogs still managed to hold strong playing a 5 on 3 against Bethany. The three managed to obtain a steal from Bethany scoring two on the boards, with Desiree Bostic, and Treasett Horner adding three pointers, giving themselves a safe lead against the Swedes.

At the end of the buzzer of the second overtime, the scoreboard remained tied 93-93, sending the three Bulldogs into triple overtime.

With bodies hurt and tired, Mel Wright urged his players to leave the court, and the score board stood at 93-93. However, the records show that McPherson lost it 93-94.

"I could not have been prouder of them. My girls hung in there, took the blows, and remained strong until the end. We have strong shooters and we were strong dominating on the inside," George said.

The Lady 'Dogs determination was evident in the Bethany game.

# Softball improves with new coaches and players

Elissa Thompson  
Editor in Chief

With the return of eight players and the addition of seven, the Bulldog softball team will mix experience with young skill this spring in hopes of improving its record from last year. Practice began Feb. 1.

Head coach Mike McCormick is pleased thus far with the outcome of those practices. "Our expectations are real high," McCormick said.

Adding Tiffany Conway, Metapony "Tappy" Collette, Season Graves and Kim Taylor to the infield is a positive adjustment for McCormick.

"Our new players will improve the infield tremendously," McCormick said.

McCormick expects that the outfield will also benefit with the new play of Crystal Richardson and Kendra Nelson. These two will accompany returning players such as Lisa Salazar, Michelle Johnson, Shawnee Nelson, Amber Ontiveroz and A.J. Willour.

McCormick said the pitching staff will be improved also. Tara Switzer, who had a rough season last year due to elbow

surgery, will be back for her second season in full force. Julie Greep is also returning to pitch for the Lady 'Dogs. These two upperclassmen will combine with Collette and Taylor to cover the mound.

With the help of new assistant coaches Nathalea Stephenson, outfield, and Tennifer McCormick, pitching, the Lady 'Dogs should improve according to McCormick.

"Overall, we're looking to improve 90 percent," he said.

The Lady 'Dogs step into their new season in a tournament at Friends on March 1 and 2. The team expects its toughest matches will be against Kansas Newman and Peru State.

"Those are nationally-ranked teams. Playing with them, it will show us what we need to work on," Greep said.

A.J. Willour, a returning senior, agrees with Greep.

"No one around here is as good," as Kansas Newman and Peru State said Willour. The team's home season opens with a tournament March 16. The women will host Haskell, Central, St. Mary and Tabor. McCormick



Lisa Salazar lunges to swing during softball practice Wednesday. The team will open their season with a tournament at Friends on March 1 and 2.

said that St. Mary will present the toughest challenge for the Lady 'Dogs.

"The team to beat in conference will be St. Mary," McCormick said.

McCormick said. "They won KCAC last year."

McCormick is looking forward to achieving his goal to improve in the upcoming season.

"We've got some good talent," McCormick said. "If things go well and nobody gets hurt, we can finish in the top four in conference."

# Mudhuckers trek to Baton Rouge for ultimate tourney

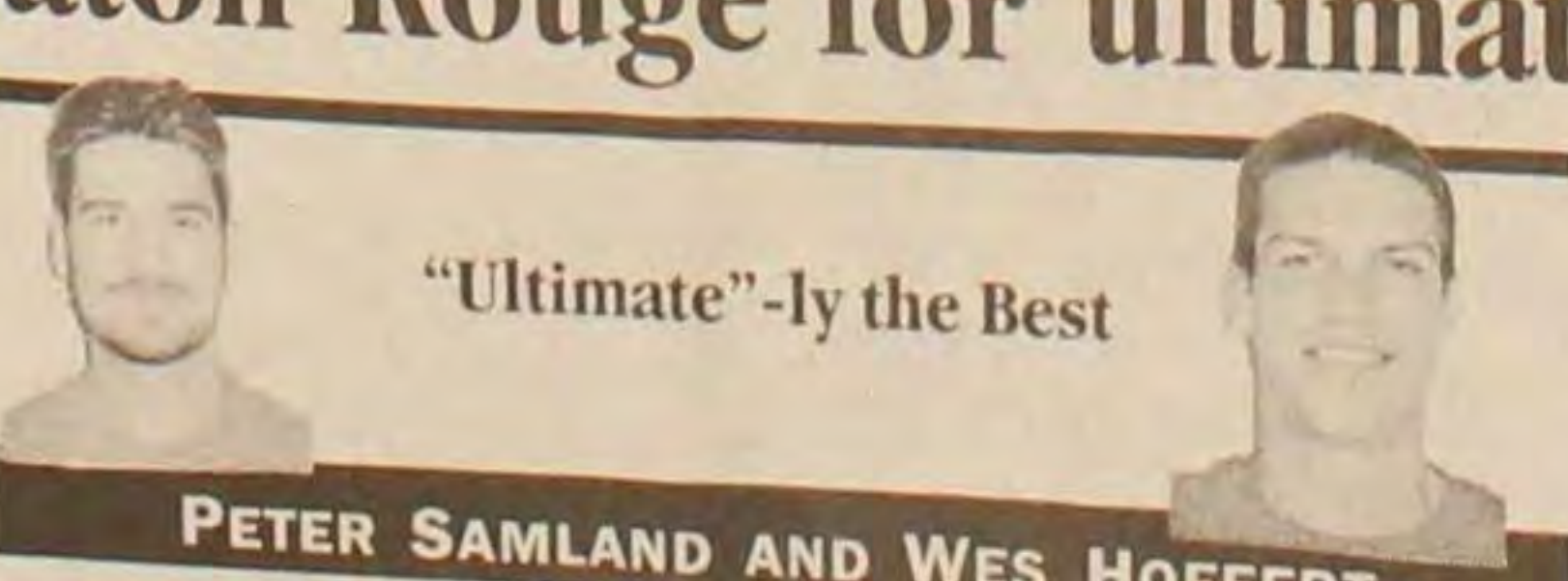
Ultimately, we have an ultimatum that the ultimate goal is to have an ultimate time. WordThe Mudhuckers took a trip to Baton Rouge, La., to play in a tournament. Here is our story:

A wise man once said, "Every journey begins with a single step." Our steps were taken out of the dorms at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 8, 2002. For Tim D'Innocenzo, the first step was a rough one. As he pushed off his left foot, a stray shoelace got trapped underneath the other shoe, and an ugly fall ensued. Things were not looking up. We had 800 miles to go, and Tim couldn't even move three feet.

The wise songwriter once wrote, "I would drive 800 miles, and I would drive 800 more." We drove, and we arrived in Baton Rouge at 3 a.m. We slept, we woke, we played.

Game one: McPherson Mudhuckers vs. Towson Somethings. We came out with a defining display of disc domination. The game started out 1-1, but then we scored 4 unanswered points. Towson came back and was up at half-time, 7-5. In the second half, a demoralized and tired Mudhucker team scored only one point, and Towson won the game 13-6. Down, but not out, the Mudhuckers moved on to game two.

Game two: Mudhuckers vs. Wisconsin-Whitewater. Wisconsin-Whitewater was comprised entirely of 6'4" sprinters who had the ability to throw a Frisbee through a pinhole at 300 yards. Needless to say, they were good. We did score the first two points against them. Whitewater answered by scoring the remaining 13. Final score: 13-2. A



PETER SAMLAND AND WES HOFFERT

poet once said, "Oh thou-est whitewater doth endeth and thy shall play game three"

Game three: Mudhuckers vs. Texas Christian University. TCU was one of those games where you can vividly remember everything that happened and you sit back and review every detail trying to figure out what happened. The score was 12-8 McPherson, and 13 points was all that was needed to win. The score was tied at 12-12, and we scored one more to make it 13-12, but you have to win by two. The time cap was called and the game ended 14-13 TCU.

After over four hours of Ultimate we were ready for showers, food and sleep.

Day two, Game one: Mudhuckers vs. Florida St. Fresh and rested we came out with a fury, and we battled point for point in a defensive game that ended 8-9 Florida St. due to the time cap. Another heartbreaking loss, but a good rival was found. Next year the tables will be turned.

Day two, Game two: Mudhuckers vs. CHS Bears, yes, the Catholic High School. At this point in our tournament we were getting ready to head home. The reality of the situation had hit, and our last game was to be against CHS. We thought this would be a guaranteed win, and we were right. In the end, a good time was had by all. The final score was 13-2 McPherson. In the tradition of all Ultimate tournaments, the victor sings a song to lift the spirits of the other team. The combined intellectual powers of the Mudhuckers came up with this...

In east Baton Rouge born and raised On the ultimate field is where they spent most of their days Chillin' out, relaxin', maxin' all cool Huckin' that Frisbee outside of school. When a couple of Mudhuckers were up to no good Started up a game in their neighborhood We got in one little game and our mom got scared And said don't be messin' wit those big bad Bears!

## 'Dogs defeated by Ottawa; end with 14-15 record

Elizabeth Stover  
Spectator Staff

The fourth ranked Ottawa Braves slipped past the eighth ranked Bulldogs last night, 67-58, ending the season in the first round of post-season play. Mac closes its 2001-02 season with a record of 14/15.

After the 81-82 overtime loss to Ottawa last Thursday, Feb. 14, the Bulldogs entered last night's contest with a vengeance.

"We wanted revenge from that buzzer-beater," said Roy McDonald.

The first half proved to be a challenge, however, ending with a score of 19-29. McPherson allowed 12 turnovers, which Ottawa was able to convert into 10 points.

As with last week's meeting with Ottawa, the Bulldogs came out of the locker room for the second half with new energy, lighting up the court in an attempt to recapture the lead. Thirty-nine of Mac's 58 points came in the second half. Jose Morales led the charge with five three pointers in the second half, ending the game with 19 points. McDonald also

**"This season has been a roller coaster."**

—Roger Trimmell

hit double figures with 11 points. RJ Davis, Art Baker, and Bryan Hookes also contributed five points each.

The weave motion offense that proved effective against Ottawa last week, aided McPherson as they whittled the deficit down from 15 points. While the Dogs struggled to match the inside points and key free throws made by Ottawa, the team was able to stay within range down to the wire.

In the last minute of the game, Hookes and Morales hit key field goals bringing the Bulldogs within three. After a McPherson foul and another missed field goal, the Braves were able to pull up to the final score of 58-65.

"It was a very hard fought game. We expected it to be physical. There was a chance [at the end] but then they hit that free throw," said coach Roger Trimmell.

Four seniors finished their college basketball careers last night. According to Trimmell, Tim Hayden, Chad Kline, Cameron Long, and Baker all provided important senior leadership.

"We'll miss them. They've given a lot and were very valuable to the program. It's always hard to end a season this way," Trimmell said.

A majority of the team is expected to return for next year's varsity season. Mike Perez was out this season with a back injury and is anticipated to return at guard. Trimmell also plans on hitting the recruiting trail in order to fill in holes left by the departing seniors.

"This season has been a roller coaster. We were ranked sixteenth in the nation early on, but then we had to overcome some injuries," Trimmell said. "All in all, I'm very proud of these guys. And tonight exemplified it. We got down, but kept on fighting."

## Sears honored by NAIA

Amanda Wells  
Spectator Staff

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) recently recognized Travis Sears as an Academic All-American for the 2001 football season. Sears was recognized for the award because of his participation in a college sport and for maintaining a cumulative grade point average of 3.57.

"I was very pleased to get the award," said Sears, who is a junior majoring in special education/psychology.

Sears had a great football season this last fall. He led the defense with 9 1/2 sacks and 11 tackles for losses. In his defensive end position, Sears had 59 tackles, 32 unassisted, and forced five fumbles. He was also able to block five opposing team field goals or PAT attempts despite being double-teamed much of the second half of the season.

Sears finished McPherson's season finale by picking up a fumble in the final game and returning it 26 yards for a touchdown.

Currently, Sears is training in the off-season football program. He is looking forward to playing under new head coach David Cunningham.

Cunningham sees Sears as solid player for next season.

"He could be the cornerstone of the defense," Cunningham said.

Cunningham foresees Sears' ethic paying off in defensive play and everyday life.

"I expect that he'll be a strong leader on and off the field," Cunningham said.



Chad Kline elevates to execute a jump shot in last week's home game against Ottawa. Kline played his last game in college competition last night in Ottawa. The Bulldogs were defeated by the Braves 67-58.

## Cunningham takes charge of football program; plans for strict off-season in the works

Adam Peer  
Spectator Staff

David Cunningham, the Bulldogs' offensive coordinator for the past two seasons, was named to the head coach position of the Bulldog football program Feb. 1.



Cunningham

In addition to his experience under previous head coach Dan Davis, Cunningham's football credits include serving terms as a defensive backs coach with the Houston Thunder Bears, an Arena Football League team; as an offensive coordinator and offensive line coach at Kentucky Wesleyan, and as head coach at Sue Bennett College.

After gaining his bachelor's and master's degrees from

Kentucky Wesleyan, Cunningham served as both a player and coach in three seasons in the European Football League. He worked with the Heathrow Jets (London), Terrassa Sticks (Terrassa, Spain), and Herlev Rebels (Copenhagen).

Cunningham is also a third generation coach and fourth generation teacher. His father was the head basketball coach at Campbellsville College, now University, for 25 years. David's younger brother Phil is an assistant basketball coach at Mississippi State University.

"We are excited about having David Cunningham as our head coach at McPherson College," said Dan Hoffman, director of athletics. "David has experienced life as a small, liberal arts college coach and recruiter. He knows McPherson College, its strengths and its weaknesses, and he is already making progress in

moving the program forward."

Carolyn Coon, dean of students, said that when entering into the hiring process, they were looking someone who would have a positive impact on the McPherson College campus.

"We believe we have the person we're looking for in Mr. Cunningham," Coon said. "David has the confidence of our returning players, and we believe, has the skills necessary to foster the positive development of these young men as well as those he'll bring to our campus, both as individuals and as a team, on the field, in the classroom, and across our campus and community," Coon said.

Cunningham has a strict work ethic that he plans to instill in the Bulldog program.

"We're going to flat out work people," Cunningham said. "We will be structured, organized and disciplined, and we're going to work."

In addition to including a four-day a week mandatory off-season lifting program and holding the athletes more accountable for their results, Cunningham plans to have the players play basketball once a week to develop quickness and flexibility.

"We have a good solid nucleus here on campus. We just need to work on developing physically and getting deeper through some of our other guys stepping up in workouts."

Coach Cunningham, though mostly pleased with the returning nucleus, stressed some concerns at the defensive tackle and defensive back positions.

"We are looking for some help at defensive back, and we just signed a new defensive tackle, which was big," Cunningham said.

Cunningham was realistic about the Bulldogs' past performance and future potential,

but stressed the importance of setting goals.

"Our goal is to win the KCAC. There is a lot of tough competition, and we were 3-7 last season. But, we know what it takes and we are willing to do the work," Cunningham said.

## Junior varsity 'Dogs end season with final minute defeat

Elissa Thompson  
Editor in Chief

Leading the majority of Saturday's game at Kansas Wesleyan was not enough for the Bulldog junior varsity basketball team to pull out a win. The Bulldogs dropped their last game, 94-92.

"We played well at times, but didn't run our offense well," said junior varsity coach Glen Gayer.

In the first half the Coyotes were biting at the Bulldogs' heels. The teams stayed within four points of one another throughout. With 2.7 seconds left in the first half, Trey Look made a lay up and drew a foul shot that he then made, pushing the Bulldogs to a four-point halftime lead, 46-42.

Mike Mitchell and Look opened the second half with four unanswered points.

The Bulldogs maintained their lead until late in the second half. A Kansas Wesleyan three pointer at with 1:23 remaining put the Coyotes up, 87-86, and the Bulldogs never led again.

Though the Bulldogs were never far behind, they

couldn't recover from the Coyote lead. Points from Mitchell, Tyler Abernathy and an attempt from Brent Wilson, who averaged 21.3 points a game, fell short of Bulldog domination.

"Three pointers from Kansas Wesleyan really hurt us," said Gayer. "That was probably the difference in the ball game."

Abernathy feels that while it was a good game, the loss was disappointing.

"We played good as a team," Abernathy said.

The junior varsity ended its season 7-8 overall, 5-7 in the KCAC.

Wilson led the team in rebound, with 38 offensive and 59 defensive boards for the year.

Mitchell led the team in assists with 50 and averaged 3.3 a game.

Justyn Shaw led the team in free throw percentage, ending the season with a 90 percent average.

"Of the eight that played, they all had good games," Gayer said. "They put in a lot of time."

As for next year, Gayer is

unsure which players will advance to the next level.

"It all kind of depends how hard they want to work on it in the off-season. It's entirely up to them," Gayer said.

Greg Bingham is already aiming to improve with his off-season workout.

"I want to grow another

three inches, gain 25 pounds, start jv and possibly play varsity," Bingham said.

Gayer is optimistic that the players on his team will improve in the upcoming season.

"I think some of them have a good chance to move up," Gayer said.

### BULLDOG SCOREBOARD

6-13, KCAC 14-15 Overall	12-6, KCAC 17-9 Overall
L v. Oklahoma Wesleyan 69-72	W v. Haskell 67-61
W v. Mt. Vernon Nazarene 74-59	L v. Mid-America Bible 73-83
L v. Haskell 74-59	L v. York College 71-75
W v. Mid-America Bible 71-62	W v. Haskell 80-52
W v. SW Christian 99-79	W v. Central Christian 79-77
W v. Oklahoma Wesleyan 88-75	W v. Bethel College 54-51
W v. Doane College 99-95	L v. Tabor College 66-71
W v. Central Christian 96-93	W v. Southwestern 93-61
W v. Bethel College 81-62	W v. St. Mary College 68-45
W v. Tabor College 73-66	L v. York College 74-80
W v. Southwestern 90-67	W v. Friends University 66-57
L v. St. Mary College 91-100	L v. Bethany College 70-79
L v. Friends University 62-80	W v. Central Christian 103-53
W v. Bethany College 82-74	L v. Sterling 74-87
W v. Central Christian 87-67	W v. Ottawa University 61-56
L v. Sterling College 68-97	W v. Kansas Wesleyan 74-59
L v. Ottawa University 63-74	W v. Bethel College 63-62
L v. Kansas Wesleyan 84-87	W v. Tabor College 69-59
L v. Bethel College 83-87	W v. St. Mary College 84-49
L v. Tabor College 54-67	W v. Friends University 69-61
W v. St. Mary College 93-65	W v. Bethany College 43-87
L v. Friends University 56-59	L v. Sterling College 48-93
W v. Bethany College 73-71	L v. Southwestern 67-76
L v. Sterling College 64-67	W v. Ottawa University 81-60
L v. Southwestern 78-79	W v. Kansas Wesleyan 83-59
L v. Ottawa 81-82 OT	W v. Tabor College 94-65
L v. Kansas Wesleyan 67-79	
W v. Southwestern 74-65	
W v. Ottawa University 67-58	

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## Technology brings new look for Mohler

Nichole Williams  
Spectator Staff

Instructional resource enhancements and other improvements were made over winter break to strengthen the learning environment in Mohler Hall.

Rooms have new desks, video equipment, or pictures on the walls. Also, room 227, the old computer lab, is now the primary teaching space for the religion and philosophy department.

"I had given up hope that I could get a room on second floor Mohler close to my office," said Herb Smith, philosophy and religion. "This came as a wonderful surprise to have a classroom that could be decorated and arranged as an arena for religious studies."

"I carried so much stuff from my office in Mohler to the library or Harnly in the past," Smith said. "This room is a dream come true."

Smith is making other changes in the room to complement his teaching style. He plans to use pillows and art work to turn one end of the room into a living room setting for informal discussion and a comfortable place to exchange ideas.

Although Mohler still has a computer lab, it is smaller. Room 229 holds only six computers compared to the 16 for-

merly in Mohler 227.

The English department is also pleased with the improvements in Mohler. After many years of wanting larger desks for students, professors' wishes have been fulfilled. Rooms 204 and 212 were refurbished with desks like those in Melhorn Science Hall. The new desks provide space for students to spread out while they are working in the classroom and are more convenient for left handed students.

"I am so pleased with the desks. I've lobbied for years to get desks that accommodate left handed people," said Kim Stanley, English. "The students just seem more comfortable in my writing classes."

Video equipment has also been added to all classrooms. This new equipment consists of five color televisions and VCRs, all of which are mounted in a front corner of a classroom. These allow professors to use video resources without using the video cart.

The video projector from Miller 101 has been ceiling-mounted in room 212. Some new maps are being purchased for use in rooms 212 and 227.

The projector that used to reside in Mohler 212 will now be used in Miller 103 by the education classes.

More changes will be made.

## RYC brings Brethren youth to McPherson

Rebecca Stover  
Spectator Staff

McPherson College hosted the Church of the Brethren's Regional Youth Conference last weekend. Manny Diaz, campus minister, Marie Rhoades, jr., Harrisburg, Pa., Ebony Williams, jr., Kansas City, and others planned an exciting weekend of activities that concluded after at the Church of the Brethren worship service on Sunday.

An estimated 40 youth, college students, and adult sponsors participated in activities scheduled in Mingenback Theatre and Friendship Hall.

The college sponsors RYC every year as a service to the denomination and as a recruiting tool for Brethren students in surrounding districts. Youth attending the event come from Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Iowa, and Missouri.

"It is a great recruiting event for the college, and it gives us college students a chance to get to know some of the prospective new fac-

es that may be on campus in future years," said Matt Tobias, soph., Eldora, Iowa, who chaperoned the youth.

Rhoades played an active part in the conference.

"The greatest thing about RYC is that it gives youth a chance to experience their faith in a college environment," Rhoades said.

She believes that RYC helps potential students realize that they can make future decisions based on faith, not just career.

"This year's theme ["For Such a Time is This: Exploring God's Call"] was especially great at incorporating that idea," Rhoades said.

To kick off the weekend, registrants, joined by McPherson College students getting Convocation credit, attended a Native American drumming presentation. After an evening of storytelling, music and dance, the group loaded up and went downtown to catch "A Walk to Remember" at the downtown movie theater.

After spending the night on the floors of Mingenback and Friendship Hall, the group was up early to begin a full day of



B.J. Jones, Jr., Lamar, Colo., and Church of the Brethren youth go through the lunch line on Saturday, Feb. 16, during RYC. Jones was one of several college students who helped supervise and coordinate the events of RYC weekend.

activities. Meals at the church, sessions with guest speakers Dave and Marcia Shetler from Bethany Seminary, service projects around the community, workshops of choice and swimming at the YMCA filled the day's schedule.

Saturday night concluded with a late night game of cap-

ture the flag across campus.

Sunday morning, the group attended Sunday school and participated in worship at the Brethren Church. After church, the group said their good-byes and left for home.

"It went really well," Diaz said, "It's the college students that make it work."

## Coon resigns, takes position at Fresno

Elissa Thompson  
Editor-in-Chief

Carolyn Coon, dean of students, will be leaving McPherson College, March 1, to occupy a spot in student affairs at Fresno State University in California.

Though Coon's position will not have an exact title, she will be doing much the same thing that she did in her four-year stint here. She will be working in student affairs on student projects and fielding much of the student traffic.

"Their system is so much bigger," Coon said of the 20,000 students that populate Fresno's campus.

Coon signed the contract at the beginning of February, but she had been discussing the position for a while.

"We've been talking about positions and this one evolved.



Coon

It was almost like a courtship," Coon said.

In lieu of the recent change in administration, Coon is afraid that some people may misconstrue her reason for submitting her resignation.

"I'm worried that people will think this has something to do with Dill or Thorburn," Coon said. "This is just a personal thing, and the timing worked out that way."

This is Coon's second time to leave McPherson. She also served as associate dean of students from '88-'91.

LaMonte Rothrock, associate dean of students, first became acquainted with Coon while working as the resident director of Dotzour Hall in 1988. In the last eight months, Rothrock has been able to work with Coon again.

"I've learned a lot about student services from her," Rothrock said.

Rothrock feels that Coon is accepting a job that will be "a wonderful position for her."

"It says something about her

that she is able to jump from Mac student services to a huge department," Rothrock said.

Steve Gustafson, dean of faculty, feels that "it has been a distinct pleasure" to work with Coon.

"She understands the small college and is always the advocate for students and student learning," Gustafson said.

Gustafson said that in most colleges there is tension between student and academic service. However, he maintains that this is not the case at McPherson College.

"We work collegially and try to create a holistic student experience that draws the two areas together," Gustafson said.

Students will also miss Coon, especially the students who benefited from her participation and leadership in M.U.S.I.C., which is a club for minority students on campus.

Lovie Pace, jr., Kansas City, said that Coon's decision has made her think twice about returning to McPherson.

"She encouraged the minority students, kept in touch and asked us questions to make sure that everything was OK," Pace said.

Pace appreciated the friendship she shared with Coon and the help that Coon was with M.U.S.I.C.

"Anything we needed, she got done for us. She was a big support," Pace said.

Janice Haldi, administrative assistant to the dean of students, recognizes that Coon will be missed, but chooses to focus on the positive aspects that lie ahead for Coon.

"It's a great opportunity. I'm really happy for her," Haldi said.

It has not yet been determined who will fill the open position and therefore Coon's tasks will be dispersed.

"When Dr. Coon leaves, her responsibilities will initially be reassigned so that services to students are not jeopardized," Gustafson said. "Permanent replacement will occur at the appropriate time."

## Trustees to discuss proposed third feature program, search for permanent president, Harnly Gardens

Kara Reiff  
News Editor

A search for a permanent president, a proposal to name economics and business as the college's third feature program and a proposal for Harnly Gardens are a few of the issues on the agenda of the Board of Trustees. The board will meet on campus Thursday, Feb. 28 and Friday, March 1.

During the board meetings several committee members and members of McPherson College will be reporting their findings or proposals for things they have been working on.

In the area of academic program and student life, the board will be brought up to date about progress on the college's new Web page and changes in the recruitment and retention program. The Web site will be unveiled the week of the meetings.

According to Vincette Goerl, chair of the Board of Trustees, one major component of the Strategic Plan, which is usually discussed at spring

meetings, is enrollment and retention.

The Academic Program and Student Life Committee will also hear from some students in each of the three academic programs, which are currently being reviewed. The program reviews are one of the initiatives that interim president Neil Thorburn has begun.

Ron Hovis, economics and business, will propose approval of economics and business as the third feature program. The proposal is just a framework for the plan to accept the feature program.

"The specific initiatives and goals still require discussion and refinement," Hovis said.

However, those working on the plan have a goal of increasing both the number of students enrolling in and graduating from the program. They hope to upgrade the department's instructional resources as well as implement two annual competitive scholarships for majors. There may also be adjustments in classes offered in the major.

It is also important to "become involved with the McPherson business community," Hovis said.

Hovis believes that this will help students find service opportunities and internships.

Some of the reasoning behind proposing economics and business as a featured program is that it is one of the larger programs on campus and it is believed to have a large potential for growth.

An advisory task force will be established to help with the progress of this plan.

During each spring meeting, the board also considers recommendations for tenure and advancement for personnel.

The Budget and Facilities Committee will share the preliminary budget proposal for 2002-'03. They will also give an update on construction and the budget cost evaluation.

Along with the proposal of Harnly Gardens, John Holthaus, chair of the college Advancement Committee, will discuss the naming of the plant operations building.

Paul Ediger, chair of Endowment and Investments will discuss the college endowment guideline for the 2002-'03 academic year.

The board will also elect a vice chair and two special committees, the Transition and Future and Marketing Recruitment and Retention committees, will report.

"This meeting will be a little different from the past, because we will be taking the time to celebrate Dr. Dill's term as the 12th president of the college, and we will also be hosting a reception to welcome Dr. Thorburn to McPherson as our new president," Goerl said.

Thorburn feels that the board is well organized and has put a lot of planning into the meetings.

Students can meet informally with trustees at the Doghouse, in the lower level of Hoffman Student Union, March 1 at 3:30 p.m. Trustees will also be eating in the cafeteria and available to meet with students at Friday lunch.

## Thorburn

from THORBURN, page 1

freshman to sophomore and sophomore to junior. The committee will also try to identify the factors that motivate students to leave the college. Some of these factors could be problems with academics, financial aid or residence halls.

According to Gustafson, the committee is aware that students who are involved in co-curricular activities tend to be more successful and better connected with the college.

McPherson College has worked on retention in the past, but Gustafson believes that this time they have a more effective plan.

"It brings everything together and coordinates the efforts of the college," Gustafson said.

He said that once the group knows what the problems are and what issues are factors for students to leave, they can put plans in place to help with retention.

Although this is a major change, Thorburn said that everyone has been very welcoming to him since he took the position.

"From what I have seen and heard, the college community has welcomed Dr. Thorburn very warmly as expected they would," Goerl said.

Thorburn has had meetings with both faculty and staff and students. He does not have any formal plans to meet with students again in the near future, but he is willing to do so if students have questions or want to talk to him.

"The students here seem to be very realistic about the college plans," Thorburn said. "They seem to be a good fit for their chosen major and they should be very happy here."

The search for a new president should begin in late winter with the president beginning his or her term with the 2003-04 school year.

"The board is in the process of putting together a Presidential Search Committee that has board of trustee members as well as members from the faculty, staff, students, alumni and the McPherson, Kansas community," Goerl said.