

The McPherson College SPECTATOR



A student investigates ultimate frisbee at McPherson College through his eyes

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A brief history of orientation rituals past and present

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Students discuss the issues from appropriate usage of words to the reality of dangerous games

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Volume 90, Issue 1

“Serving to inform a community...”

September 9, 2005

College lends hand to families hit by Katrina

AMANDA KEITH
Editor-in-Chief

When seniors Todd Davis, Louis Schneider and Alan Childress left their homes this summer to return to McPherson College for school, none of them could have predicted the full effects that Hurricane Katrina has had on their homes in the past few weeks. The three friends, all of whom live nearby New Orleans, La., have suffered many losses but have also learned many lessons in the aftermath of the hurricane.

Being at school and seeing the news reports on television and on the internet has been difficult. Communication has been hard all around with land phone lines down and incoming cell phone calls being rejected. Childress was relieved when he got a call from his mother, who told him that they were all safe, and that they were staying with some family.

Schneider heard from his parents by cell phone as well.

“The first time I talked to my mom she was upset, obviously. All she had left was the shorts and shirt that she had on,” Schneider said.

Davis’ parents left their home with only \$200 cash on them, not knowing how long they would be gone. They are staying in Georgia and have plans to visit McPherson, but not to stay. None of the families know what to expect when they are able to return to their homes.

“All our material stuff is probably gone, but my parents got out safe, which is really the most important thing,” Childress said.

The college began the process of responding to the hurricane by first discerning the needs of the three students’ families. Donation boxes have been set up around campus, faculty and staff have provided furniture

and essentials and the football team is hosting a food drive at Wal-Mart this Sunday.

“It’s pretty clear that the big issue is money. They (the families) just know that in the next weeks, it’s really going to be about resources to buy clothes, to relocate people,” said LaMonte Rothrock, dean of students.

Schneider’s parents, Louis Sr. and Linda, arrived in McPherson on Tuesday night and have moved into the college’s rental property at 1609 E. Kansas. Faculty and staff have been cleaning the house to make it ready for the Schneiders.

“They (the Schneiders) were just in tears. They could not believe that anyone would do anything like this for them,” Rothrock said of the family when they moved into the fully furnished house with a kitchen full of food that had been collected for them.



photo by Darren Hendricks

Personal counselor Kelli Johnson helps clean up the property for the family of one of McPherson College’s students. The family lost their home and possessions when Hurricane Katrina hit the New Orleans area.

Schneider’s younger brother, Will, has also moved to McPherson and will be attending classes this semester. Will attended Loyola University in New Orleans, but the school has decided to close for fall semester.

Childress’ parents have both

lost their places of work. They are planning to stay in the house with the Schneiders for about two weeks as they look for new jobs, though they may decide to relocate to McPherson.

“The college has been just great. It makes me happy I came to this school,” Childress

said.

Anyone can donate money to the relief fund that has been set up on campus. The money will first be used to meet the needs of the three families. Extra funds will be donated to the Red Cross or Church World Service.

“Fall Frenzy” of Activities



photo by Liz Waggoner

Junior Nick McKellip participates in a hula hoop competition during the luau this past week. SAB planned the luau along with many other activities for students to take part in.



photo by Darren Hendricks

Junior Adam Prince, and seniors Eric Vrtiska and Tim Cox enjoy some hamburgers in the midst of conversation while at the pool party. The party was in conjunction with orientation weekend and was one of many events hosted during Fall Frenzy.

Ministry team encourages student involvement

AMANDA KEITH
Editor-in-Chief

If campus ministry could be described with one word, teamwork would be it. Not only does campus pastor Shawn Flory Replogle collaborate with Tracy Stoddart, service opportunity coordinator and Kelli Johnson, personal counselor, to provide students with opportunities to foster their spiritual lives, he also encourages students to get involved in any way they can.

Replogle, Stoddart and Johnson are starting the year by organizing a committee of students to help steer campus ministry. Tentatively named BURP (Board of United Religious Programs), the group would coordinate campus-wide religious activities, possibly including in-depth chapel services and activities for the International Day of Peace on September

21. Replogle hopes to find six students who would represent a wide span of backgrounds and ideas in order to address the needs of students of all faiths.

“We’re trying to find something that would give voice to the diversity of Christian beliefs around the campus, but in some sort of unified way,” Replogle said.

Stoddart encourages students to get interested in volunteering and is already planning a few service projects. Al Dutrow, associate professor of agriculture, is coordinating a trip to Heifer International’s Global Village for Fall Break. Stoddart has been exploring possibilities for a Spring Break service trip to help the clean-up of Hurricane Katrina.

Johnson provides free and confidential counseling to all students on a variety of top-

ics, but emphasizes that it is important that spirituality “be included in the whole picture of well-being.”

Although there are plenty of on-campus opportunities for spiritual life, the team also works on connecting students to community congregations as well.

“I don’t have any illusions that they (students) are going to find all their spiritual needs met on campus, or that they should,” Replogle said.

The team members do their best to coordinate a wide variety of spiritual opportunities, but acknowledge that there may be more that they can do.

“If there are needs that aren’t being met, students can approach any of us and we will put whatever effort we can into meeting those needs,” Stoddart said.

Former Mac employee to perform organ recital

KIMBERLY MORRIS
Spectator Staff

A former employee of McPherson College is returning to perform an organ recital for the McPherson Arts and Lecture Series. Marilyn Sexton Mason will be performing in Brown Auditorium on Sunday, Sept. 11 at 3 p.m. Admission is free to McPherson College students.

“It was an honor to be asked to come back to McPherson College to present a recital,” Mason said.

Mason will arrive this evening and will spend Saturday rehearsing for her performance. The recital will include works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Johann

Pachelbel, César-Auguste Franck, Louis Vierne and John Leavitt.

While at McPherson, Mason worked in the Admissions and Financial Aid offices. She also directed music at the McPherson Church of the Brethren.

“McPherson is very special to me since I met my husband Steve while working there,” Mason said.

According to Steven Gustafson, professor of music, the McPherson



Arts and Lecture Series Committee was looking for someone who would connect with

Ways to Get Involved With Campus Ministry

** Join BURP

** Fellowship of Christian Students: Sundays, 9 p.m.

** Peacefully, Simply, Together

** Peace Awareness Club

** Contribute to Wednesday chapel

** Church of the Brethren activities



the McPherson community. “[Mr. and Mrs. Mason] have been long time supporters of McPherson College,” Gustafson said.

Mason lives in North Manchester, Ind., with her husband. She is the organist at Manchester College. She also teaches private harpsichord and organ lessons at the college and is the choral and theatre director at the junior/ senior high school in Manchester.

Mason’s recital is the first of this year’s McPherson Arts and Lecture Series. Upcoming series events include Kansas Brass and guitarist Brett Boyer.

Keep an open mouth

But make sure it's knowledgable

GUEST COLUMNIST



Eric Sader

Because I'm a freshman, I was a bit nervous about writing the Spectator's first featured editorial of the year. "What would I write about? Who should I appeal to?" However, the question that lingered most in my mind was, "What would people think?" I even considered writing under a pen name in order to deflect criticism that I may receive from my peers. Although I quickly dispelled this idea for a variety of reasons, the sheer fact that I even considered adopting an alias gave way to a major problem in today's society. Namely, mankind possesses a tendency to ignore and/or rebuke those opinions of his fellow man. It is my contention that: 1) We are all guilty of this negative practice, 2) The only truly bad opinions are those that are uninformed, and 3) Wisdom through aging should actually encourage tolerance to alternative ideas.

First off, I am not going to simply lecture others and pretend that I always keep an open mind. There are times when I have flatly put another individual down for raising an idea that to me is absurd. However, I would like to think that for the most part I am a tolerant and flexible person. If a political label were necessary, I would classify myself as a slightly conservative individual. That does not mean that I have not deliberated the works of

Michael Moore and Bill Clinton. Knowing both sides of an issue is the most valuable part of understanding it. The world is having trouble coming to terms with this, however. For instance,

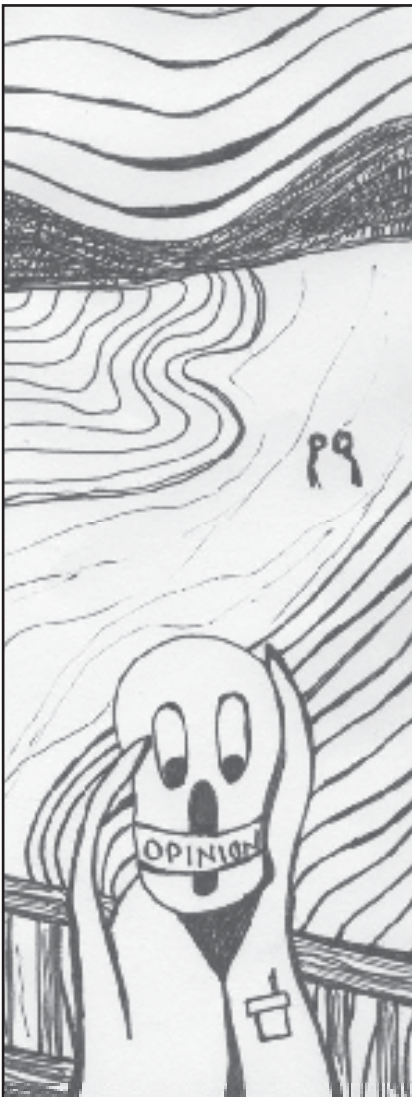


Illustration by Alisha Gridley

The Blog Herald is concerned that many Americans are becoming afraid to speak their minds.

This is a problem that should worry us all.

Secondly, one of my major pet peeves is for an individual to claim undoubtedly a clear position on a matter of which he justly knows nothing about. I would rather have someone argue directly against me with clear and valid points than to agree with me but possess absolutely no applicable supportive reasoning. As Paul Tillich emphasized, blind belief should never replace tested faith. I encourage everyone to speak their minds as long as they have both supporting rationale and a willingness to hear the other party out.

Finally, I have personally witnessed that the unfortunate stereotype that the older one gets, the more intolerant one becomes, holds absolutely true in most cases. Man acquires knowledge and supposed "wisdom" throughout his years and therefore feels that he now is the authority on all matters. However, Socrates rightfully defined wisdom when he informed Athens that "the wisest of you men is he who has realized...that in respect of wisdom he is really worthless." As one question is answered, many more are revealed, and one must take account of this in order to truly grow. Questioning and doubt do not inhibit but instead spur the learning processes of life.

Take note that our world is one of immense biases to which none of us are impervious to. Nevertheless, these biases should not prevent one from keeping an open-mind. Speak your opinions, but do so with knowledge and courtesy. No one is perfect, so don't pretend to be. Through true cooperation and mutual aid, wisdom is a gift that can be bestowed upon us all.

On the fly

How do you feel about people using the words "retarded" or "gay" in everyday conversation?



"I don't think its appropriate, because if you say it in the wrong place, it may hurt someone's feelings or make them angry."

-- Nikki Clark, fr.

"I've never really thought about it, but I think it's evidence of showing yourself as not very polished. I'm not sure it's derogatory to a certain group of people."

-- Tim Stanghor, soph.



"Acutally, saying something is 'gay' is a huge pet peeve of mine. I mean, honestly, how can an inanimate object be homosexual?"

-- Beth Krehbiel, sr.

"If I had a relative that was mentally retarded, I might take it personally, but as it is I don't really mind."

-- Jamie Rodriguez, jr.



" I think that in the context that they're saying it, it doesn't really bother me."

-- Eric Frees, soph.

McPherson College responds well to hurricane Katrina

STAFF EDITORIAL

When news of the devastation of Hurricane Katrina started coming in, one of the first questions that arose from every other part of America was, "What can we do?" And certainly, any student following the news is asking the same question on an individual basis.

When devastation happens on such a large scale, the amount of help available can be overwhelming. Only through careful management and organization can the offerings be used to their fullest potential.

In times such as this, every large organization should feel compelled to do what it can in such a time of need. McPherson College has admirably risen to the occasion. The administration did not unwisely jump into setting up donation centers on campus -- an act better handled by organizations such as Red Cross, which is already set-up to take such donations. Instead, they brainstormed avenues in which McPherson College could uniquely contribute.

Our first responsibility is to the students. The college has offered housing and food to families of McPherson College students who were directly affected. Faculty and staff members, as well as students, have responded by providing furniture and other necessities to make the families feel at home. Much has been done to assure the safety and comfort of those closest to us.

The McPherson College mission includes scholarship, participation and service. The college has prepared itself to accept students who can no longer continue their education because of the hurricane, and service trips to the area are already being considered. Of course, we must be aware that we may not be able to send students anytime soon.

As for the participation part, that is up to all of us. We should be proud of McPherson College for wisely and efficiently deciding its share in assisting those in need.



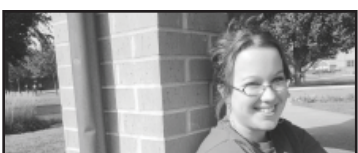
Illustration by Alisha Gridley

a McPherson College moment...



Fast food? a review

SPECTATOR STAFF



Ann Masterson

It's easy enough to imagine that college students should desire a midnight snack on occasion, no? We burn all that energy studying (and, let's face it, postponing studying), and many of us find ourselves running through town in a mad hunt for cheap, quick food. Certainly it can't be that hard to find one store, of all the fast food franchises represented in this town, which is open at 10:30 p.m., right? Wrong.

Despite signs proclaiming "Spice up the night! Now open late!" and "Drive-thru open 24 hours," two of the most commonly frequented fast-food chains close before the average college student's late-night craving.

Taco Bell closes at 10 p.m. on weeknights, 11 p.m. on weekends. Perhaps this is later than they used to be open, but it doesn't qualify as "late night" to night owls such as myself. My roommate and I frequently find our stomachs growling between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m....and no, we aren't always up that late, but it is a fair example of the hours which we desire the fast food franchises to be open. Even midnight would be more acceptable than the current hours available for chow-time.

McDonalds, however, is a mystery to me. I was under the impression that every McDonalds drive-thru was open until at least 1 a.m., most of them open 24 hours, except for that 45 minute period around 4 a.m. when they switch from dinner to breakfast. However, much to our dismay, when my roommate, some friends of ours and I made a 10:30 p.m. run for food last night, the drive-thru, though lit, was unresponsive to our pleas. We even drove up to the first window, looking into the well-lit restaurant, observing at least five workers, none of whom were paying us any attention. Desperate for food, we decided to drive to Wal-Mart to buy a microwavable dinner and then noticed that Subway, of all places, was still open.

Subway has never claimed to be a night-owl hangout, and doesn't really qualify as American fast food, as it lacks grease. I personally prefer Subway to all the others, but was under the impression that fast food chains professing to be open late would actually be open later than a place like Subway. We all piled out of the car and stuck our heads inside, half expecting them to tell us that they'd just forgotten to turn off the signs. It was, at this point, nearly 11 p.m. Instead, we were all able to order a meal, not even dealing with the inevitable bitterness of restaurant workers who have been interrupted in the middle of closing. The employees were pleasant; in fact they were much more willing to serve us than Taco Bell employees a few weeks earlier, approached nearly 45 minutes before they were due to close.

I feel that the fast food industry should pay special attention to their serving hours in a college town. I understand that this is far from being a Manhattan-or-Lawrence-sized college town and that college is rather a small one. However, there are two colleges in McPherson, as well as a decent number of high school students, most of whom, in my experience, desire to be able to eat after 10:00 p.m. Staying up late, whether hanging out with friends or doing some last minute studying, as most of us inevitably do, often requires extra sustenance. At the very least, said industries should stay open until they are actually supposed to close. So, "kudos" to Subway and its workers for operating in an unexpected manner and for actually being open.

Home Star Runner and Loafy a review

SPECTATOR STAFF



Heather Emery
ing to be various points of down time when we simply don't want to do anything other than just chill. And I'm talking about mindless chilling, not the type of lounging around where you actually have to think about something like reading a chapter or two out of Flaubert's "Madame Bovary." This type of lounging consists of you zoning out in front of the TV or, more often, surfing on the net. This brings up a question: where to surf? There's always watching the latest music video on MTV, but that can become rather hum-drum. You find an innate need for something humorous that mocks the stupidity of the human race. For those of you who haven't discovered the brilliance of Home Star Runner and Foamy, allow me to introduce you to them.

The Brothers Chaps, Mike and Matt have created a website that has a number of various characters with their own quirks. Home Star Runner, whom the site is named after, acts as the co-star to the site www.homestarrunner.com. Home Star is a marshmallow-looking figure with no arms and a slight lisp that never ceases to amaze. His co-star, Strong Bad, is a cross between a bobble head doll and a figurine of a WWF wrestler. His "purpose" on the site is to mock every quirk and



Home Star Runner and Foamy entertain viewers daily at www.homestarrunner.com and www.illwillpress.com, respectively.

oddity of the other characters. I would highly recommend clicking on the link for "first-time viewers." It will introduce you to these two front men and give you a general idea of the insanity to come. The site is most notable for its Strong Bad e-mail, from which Strong Bad replies to his fan e-mails. He rants off suggestions and thinks of clever ways to insult the most common of names and devoted of fans. Overall, the website promotes a general feeling of happiness and glee that will leave one giggling for days to come.

For those of you with a more sarcastic, twisted humor, I would highly recommend www.illwillpress.com. Creator Jon Ian Mathers brilliantly pieces together the stupidity of fashion trends, the obsession with physical beauty and the overall absurdity associated with the daily matters of life. This isn't recommended for those faint of heart and sensitive to language, because one second he talks about how much he likes bagels with cream cheese and the next he spouts off cuss words and rants about anything and everything. Germaine, a character on the site, falls into the category of cliché, gothic poet complaining about the miseries of life while still worried about her weight, as seen in "The Jiggly Butt" episode. She and the main character, Foamy, create a view of reality that most can relate to, provided they have a dark side.

So the next time you're bored out of your mind and have no desire whatsoever to do your homework, check out www.homestarrunner.com or www.illwillpress.com. After all, we all need something, if not someone, to laugh about.

Graphics courtesy of www.homestarrunner.com and www.illwillpress.com.

The pass out "game" is not fun; it's downright deadly

CONVERSATIONS WITH MYSELF



Jessica Foulke

The pass out game. "Black-out," "funky chicken," "space monkey," "tingling," "suffocation roulette." Whatever it's called, please don't do it.

Kimberly Wilson was like a little sister to one of my dearest friends, Lauren. When Lauren called me, choked in tears, I had no idea what to tell her, how to comfort her. I sat in shocked silence as she told me that Kimber, as we called her, tied a plastic-coated bicycle chain around a dresser and tried to play the pass-out game in order to get a high. Kimber, only 15 years old, had played this game before, with friends and alone. This time, however, she didn't get high. She was killed.

The pass out "game" is played all over the country, something I didn't know until Kimber died. In fact, I'd never even heard of this, much less done it. As I've talked to friends, however, I've discovered that it's done everywhere, mostly with friends, mostly in secret. It's

played by good kids, by Boy Scouts, by Christians, by males and females. It's played by the wealthy and the poor. And Kimber is not the first to die. Kids are dying everywhere from this, and many people are oblivious to the problem, as I was.

There are two parts to the high that you get playing this game. First, you become light-headed due to reduced blood flow and therefore a reduced flow of oxygen to the brain. The second part, the rush, comes with the removal of pressure on the chest or neck which releases a powerful surge of blocked blood through the brain.

Because this high doesn't require substances, many kids believe that it's safe, you can do it with no real consequences. But think about it. Think about one of the names that it's known by: suffocation roulette. That title should say it all. There is nothing good that can come by stopping the flow of oxygen to your brain. Nothing. By playing this game you are gambling with your life.

It's dangerous enough playing it in groups of friends. Brain damage and other serious injuries can occur when participating in this activity. It's particularly deadly, however, when played alone. If there is no one there to remove the pressure on your neck, you will die. It's as simple as that.

So if you are playing this 'game,' I implore you to stop. It is not a safe high, it is not something that you can do without suffering repercussions. Whether you are alone or with other people, it's too much of a risk. If you have little brothers or sisters, talk to them. Ask them if they are playing this game, if they've been to parties where this game is played. Kimber's sisters didn't know that she was doing this. You might not either.

Don't play this game, don't let those around you play it. Stay safe.



Kimber Wilson was only fifteen-years old when she was killed playing "suffocation roulette."

sisters, talk to them. Ask them if they are playing this game, if they've been to parties where this game is played. Kimber's sisters didn't know that she was doing this. You might not either.

Don't play this game, don't let those around you play it. Stay safe.

Photo courtesy of www.kimberwilson.com.

Hey you?

Got something to say?

ANYTHING?

then...

Shout it out!

Call ext. 1115
after 6 p.m.

Shout It Out callers have 30 seconds to speak about any topic they wish. Spectator editors reserve the right to omit comments. Slandorous statements cannot be printed.

Good Dog

Student Government Association, for coming up with a plan to get themselves out of debt.

Opening Convocation: short and sweet!

Bad Dog

The new schedule that prevents half the school from being able to eat on Mondays and Convocation Fridays.

The new cafeteria tables and chairs. They promote bad posture, not to mention that rumor has it the tables have already broken once!

"Retarded" and "gay": Potentially harmful or not all that important?

GUEST COLUMNIST



Mason Adams

Slang terminology is used everyday by almost 89 percent of American citizens. Of that 89 percent, 58 percent of those citizens are teenagers or young adults between the ages of 12 and 25 years. More than likely, if you are reading this article, you fall into this category. "Cool," "tight," "clean," "sweet," "chilling," "pimp," "fly," and "gravy" are a few of the most commonly used slang terms. Most of these terms are considered appropriate by society, but there are also terms -- two that come to mind right now -- that can have a negative affect on society when used too loosely or in the wrong environment. These two slang terms are "gay" and "retarded."

In the United States today,

about one to two percent of all people are homosexual. Also, three to five percent of people in the United States today have been diagnosed with at least one form of mental retardation. Even though you may not be directly related to someone who is homosexual or who has a developmental disability, chances are that you have friends or family that are directly related to at least one homosexual or mentally retarded person.

The terms "gay" and "retarded" are used so loosely in America today that they have the potential, and do indeed hurt feelings, lower self-esteem and even send some people into hiding. The biggest reason for this is that most people do not take into consideration other people's backgrounds or feelings before they speak. They simply blurt out phrases like "that's so gay" or "you're retarded," these being two of the more mild ones at that.

Calling someone "gay" or "retarded," although intended as a joke, can have negative affects on people. These people might be the developmentally disabled, homosexual or friends

and family of these people. These hurtful words can make someone feel depressed, embarrassed, sad, ridiculed and generally down on themselves when they are called the words "gay" or "retarded." Even hearing them can be harmful.

In our society today, because of the diversity on the table, it is imperative that we are held accountable for our own actions.



Illustration by Rhonda Helfert

Speaking appropriately in public is one of these actions. Next time before you just blurt out something that could be taken offensively by others, think to yourself, "Caution: these words may hurt."

GUEST COLUMNIST



Jennifer Terhune

Let me preface this pseudorant by stating that I hate hearing the phrases "that's gay!" and "you're retarded!" as much

of argument is going to make such phrases go "out of style," so it is useless, even counterproductive, to demand a reprimand for such behavior.

Use of words such as "gay" and "retarded" isn't going away, politically incorrect as the practice may be. In fact, it is not aimed at hurting any group of individuals, whether they are homosexual, mentally disabled or otherwise. As much as I personally dislike that particular practice and attempt to choose my words carefully, I have learned to let go of the resentment I feel toward those who do not exercise such restraint. If people choose to demean themselves through use of such phrases, that is also their right as Americans. The rest of us don't have to like it, but we should try to get used to it, and it will go away (And if it doesn't, we will stop being so negatively affected by it.)

The people who most often tell me "you're retarded" are my friends. They know that I take the word "retarded" at its most literal meaning, "slowed." They know that sometimes I truly am 'slowed'. When my

friends call me "gay," it is most commonly because I'm excited

about something trivial, like the appearance of a squirrel or ketchup with my macaroni and cheese. In these cases, I am being excessively happy, which in turn makes me "gay." I am neither severely mentally challenged nor homosexual, but I have learned to live with such labels.

To anyone who is not yet convinced, I have one last piece of advice: don't sweat the small stuff, because there is bigger stuff out there. Should we not focus on more morally reprehensible behavior, such as the expression of racism, bigotry, age and gender discrimination, and other biases in our society? On a larger scale than that, would thinking about how to solve world hunger or cure cancer not be a more productive use of the time we spend thinking (and bickering) about such comparably trivial issues as a slang term? Now I'm the one being offensive with the rhetoric; you readers have my apologies. But the point is clear: worry about what matters, what will make a difference in someone's

THE REST OF US DON'T HAVE TO LIKE IT, BUT WE SHOULD TRY TO GET USED TO IT...

-JENNIFER TERHUNE

Dangerous stereotypes



Letters to the Editor

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 will be handled by the editors.
- All letters must be signed when they come to the editors, and 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. The editors reserve the right to edit letters to make them conform with the stated standards. If changes of any consequence are made, the editors will notify the writer.
- To submit a letter to the editor to the Spectator, drop it in campus mail addressed to the Spec; give it to one of the editors; or leave it in the envelope on the bulletin board outside the Spectator office, which is located in Beeghly Hall.

The final deadline is Monday before the Fridays on which a paper is published.

Students tell their summer tales

Alicia Fox
Spectator Staff

Another summer has come and gone again. No classes, no homework, no pressure. Let's take a look at a few MAC students who made the most of it.

Jamie Rodriguez, jr., Oklahoma City, interned in Boston, Mass. this summer. She did studies on Electroporation, a process involving DNA and bacteria, and she grew pathogenic stomach bacteria called *Enterococcus Faecalis*. She didn't spend all her time in the lab though.

"I learned how living in a big city is and about the East Coast. The first two weeks I was claustrophobic. There was no horizon; it was compacted. The subways during rush hour were like sardines in a can," Rodriguez said.

Rodriquez enjoyed the shopping in Boston, a Red Sox game, and whale watching.

"There are great restaurants and free concerts in the summer. Cities like Boston offer more things to do. There is a lot of history there. During my last week my boss gave me a farewell party in Little Italy. He told the serenades to sing a sad song since I was leaving, so this ninety-year-old looking guy with makeup sang a sad song for me. It was really funny," Rodriguez said.

Katie Hill, jr., Alma, did a very different kind of internship. She worked in Washington D.C. for Kansas Representative Dennis Moore for one-and-a-half months. Hill is a history major with an emphasis in political science and is required to do an internship. Since she wanted to go to D.C., Hill thought this was a good chance to go. She gave tours of the Capitol to tourists from Representative Moore's district.

"I was not as overwhelmed as I expected. I got an insider's prospective of how things are handled and the steps a bill has to take. Getting around using public transportation and not my own car became common quickly," Hill said.

Mike Schaarschmidt, sr., Northampton, Pa., an automotive restoration management major, spent eight months in Europe. He interned at the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Stuttgart, Germany.

"I learned a lot from this internship, and I have a whole new appreciation for Mercedes-Benz cars. I worked on everything from early 1900 race cars to the famous 300 sl Gullwing," Schaarschmidt said.

The Classic Center is a large shop and garage mainly for the museum, but they also repair classic Mercedes-Benz cars.

"The best part for me was working with the guys. They have about ten mechanics, all with different specialties, and they all know their stuff. I was there for six months, and I couldn't retain all the information that they were telling me. My least favorite thing was probably being thrown into a different culture; it was only difficult for the first



Mike Schaarschmidt, sr., Northampton, Pa., takes a break from working on the conservation of this Formula 1 race car to pose for the camera. Schaarschmidt spent his summer continuing an internship in Stuttgart, Germany at the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center.

month. By the end of the internship, I was very comfortable there and it was very hard to leave. I would most certainly do it again," Schaarschmidt said.

While Schaarschmidt did his internship, he travelled around Europe. He visited Germany, Switzerland, Italy, the Vatican City and Poland. Transportation was varied; he flew, took trains, drove the autobahn and walked across the German-Swiss border.

Alyson Holman, soph., McPherson, had a different summer experience. She and her family went on a six-day cruise to the Caribbean on a three-mast 80-year-old Barquentine sailing ship called the *Mandalay*. They sailed to a different island every day.

"The ship was beautiful, especially the sails. We went because we all loved "Pirates of the Caribbean," and I have always considered the idea of being on a sailing ship romantic and adventurous," Holman said.

Feeding a seagull out of her hand and jumping into the water from the top deck are some of Holman's fondest memories.

"My favorite was definitely sailing. The passengers were called upon to help raise the sails because there was intentionally not enough crew. One of the burly crew members would holler, 'Volunteers!' and we would race over to the rope they had out on the deck. Then, to the sound of "Amazing Grace" being played on the bagpipes over

the speakers, we all raised the sails of that magnificent ship, then glided through the mist-shrouded islands to our next destination. It was actually quite spiritual. Everyone got quiet and many were teary," Holman said.

Alyson got to visit Norman Island, the island which inspired Robert Louis Stevenson to write "Treasure Island." This island was the headquarters for Caribbean piracy. Numerous musket balls, flintlocks, gold belt and shoe buckles and broken rum bottles could be found there.

"In one of the three caves near the main bay, the pirate Captain Morgan, a founder of the Pirates' Code of the Brethren, hid 16 barrels of treasure. Only four have been found. We visited that cave on a snorkeling trip. However, as if the water had been cursed to protect the treasure, the waves were filled with thousands of jellyfish that actually stung us. I thought it was very exciting and mysterious," Holman said.

The only unpleasant aspect of the trip for Holman was the drinking and foul language of some of the passengers.

"A funny story, the one I can think of at the moment, was when we were jumping off the top deck into the water while at anchor," Holman said. "Shortly after I jumped off a thirty-foot jump, Captain Steffon dove off. He came up grinning and spitting out a

mouthful of water, and then said, 'It's salty!' He was one of the few who dared to dive off of the ship."

"I would definitely go again," Holman said. "It was the adventure of a lifetime."

Laura Engquist, jr., McPherson, could have been found in Aruba playing on a U.S.A. international soccer team.

Approximately 15 girls came together to compete with other teams. The team played and won five games to become the champions of the tournament.

"The best part about the trip for me was probably seeing the different personalities of the girls come together and be undefeated," Engquist said.

When Engquist wasn't playing soccer, she was out on the town, getting to know the girls, dancing, lounging on the beach and playing sand volleyball with her teammates.

Another highlight for Engquist was being asked to join several of the same girls in Australia next summer. She is already planning on making the trip.

Although Engquist has already begun planning her next summer's activities, most of us will take all year devising our own adventures.



The Hot spot

A THOUGHTFULLY DEvised ARRAY OF QUESTIONS FOR OUR FRESH, BRAND NEW LECTURER OF ECONOMICS AND TENNIS AND WOMENS' BASKETBALL COACH: J. D. GRAVINA

Tolan Lichty
Spectator Staff



J.D. Gravina, economic lecturer and coach, proves his capabilities to his new students and athletes.

Do you have any specific goals for your teams for the upcoming seasons?

For tennis, I plan to mainly get organized since the season doesn't officially start until 2006, and I am putting in a lot of recruiting work right now. For basketball I am looking for improvement, building team chemistry, practicing six days a week, running multiple drills and sessions, which include speed and power workouts, and a lot of individual skill training. Our main goal is to be competitive in the conference.

"Friends" or "Seinfeld?"

"Seinfeld."

Coke or Pepsi?

Pepsi.

Shaq or Kobe?

Definitely Kobe.

Why did you choose McPherson College?

McPherson is a great school and the athletic department seems to be improving steadily. The school has enough resources to continue to make significant improvements in the near future, and the community and campus are both very special as well.

What is your current marital status?

I am single.

Are you looking?

Of course.

Could you give us a typical day in the life of J.D. Gravina?

I spend a lot of time planning and organizing future practices, training sessions and preparing upcoming lesson plans for my class. I also spend a lot of time recruiting, usually by phone or through mail. Twice a week, we have four one hour-long training sessions for four groups of athletes to try and strengthen the players' individual skills. After training I teach my money and banking class.

Mustang or Hummer?

Hummer.

What is your favorite fast food place?

Subway.

How many years have you been coaching?

I coached for two years at William Jewel, and I also coached at Missouri City and Putnam County (High Schools) as well as UMKC. I have coached a total of five years now.

What is your favorite movie, if you have one?

"Hoosiers." I guess it goes with the trade.



From Bagpipes to Beanies

Tracing the history of McPherson’s Orientation Tradition

LARA LIGHTY
Features Editor

The year is 1943, and school has just begun. You are a freshman. The alarm sounds, and you have 30 minutes until biology. You put on some clean clothes, grab your green beanie and start walking to breakfast. Then you see the massive group of upperclassmen ahead of you. Your stomach turns, and you question whether you should turn around and go back to the dorm or not. Then, Dick Roberts, captain of the football team, turns around. You are spotted, and there is no turning back. Dick hollers out, and the rest of the guys line up and remove their belts. You grab your books tightly and hope your legs will carry you quickly through the line so your body will be spared

from too many swats. Now it is 2005. One minor march with the bagpipes, and the freshmen have already integrated into the campus. Has the decrease in orientation traditions been a loss on campus, or are we moving in the right direction? The situation above, although fictional characters were used, is based on real McPherson College life in the 1940s. Freshmen were required to wear green beanies everywhere they went for a minimum of six weeks. When they approached upperclassmen they had to do whatever was asked of them. Some sang the school song, while others polished shoes or carried books. Doris Tyler, McPherson College student of the 1950s, remembers upperclassmen putting oil in her hair and mak-

ing her learn the college song within the first few weeks of school. The beanies turned maroon after the soldiers returned to campus and students were not using such cruel tactics to initiate freshmen. Instead, when approached by upperclassmen, freshmen were to put their index finger on the button on top of their beanies, spin in a circle and recite a phrase. Freshmen still had to stand up on chairs and sing the school song. “We had to wear the beanies until the first touchdown of the year,” said Al Dutrow, freshman of the late 1960s. Other traditions from the 40s, 50s and 60s include cookouts, freshmen groups and tug-of-war competitions between the freshmen and sophomore classes. Classes in the 50s had to wear

the beanies until the tug-of-war competition. If they lost the competition they had to wear them for another week. Many alumni have fond memories of the tug-of-war competitions. According to Dave O’Dell, freshman of 1968, his class out-smarted the sophomore class. The sophomores traditionally tied the rope to a car and gathered around the competition so no one could see the car was slowly backing up to help out the sophomore class. A classmate of O’Dell saw what was going on, slowly slipped behind everyone and untied the rope from the car, allowing the freshmen to win the competition and surprise all the sophomores. Kent Noffsinger also recalls a unique tug-of-war competition in the 60s. He remembers

his sophomore year when the freshmen class actually started to pull the car into the water and people had to scramble around to untie the car. As time progressed, orientation traditions began to wind down. Hazing was starting to be recognized as a dangerous and degrading practice. The beanies left McPherson College. Although they were of a lesser extreme, a few traditions continued into the 70s. Bruce Clary, freshman of 1973, remembers participating in a “snake dance” with all the other freshmen. This was an old tradition in which everyone held hands and walked down Euclid together weaving back and forth across the street. In the same time period, alumni recall having barbecues, wiener roasts, watermelon feeds,

and small group meetings. “Faculty Follies” was also another popular event of the time. This was the one event where faculty did little skits or talents so that students could see that they were normal people as well. As the college progressed into the 80s and 90s more formal approaches were used in orientation. What we now call seminar groups were formed. In fact, Shane Kirchner, freshman of 1988, remembers using a book entitled “How to Become a Master Student,” which should sound familiar to some of us as students of the 21st century. Here we are; it’s 2005, and although the belt line may be too extreme for modern day, is one minor bagpipe march enough to initiate our freshmen into this campus community?



Above: Bagpipes lead the freshmen through campus on their orientation march.
Left: At the request of upperclassmen, freshmen of 1959 do a dance in their beanies for their orientation.

The Throwback

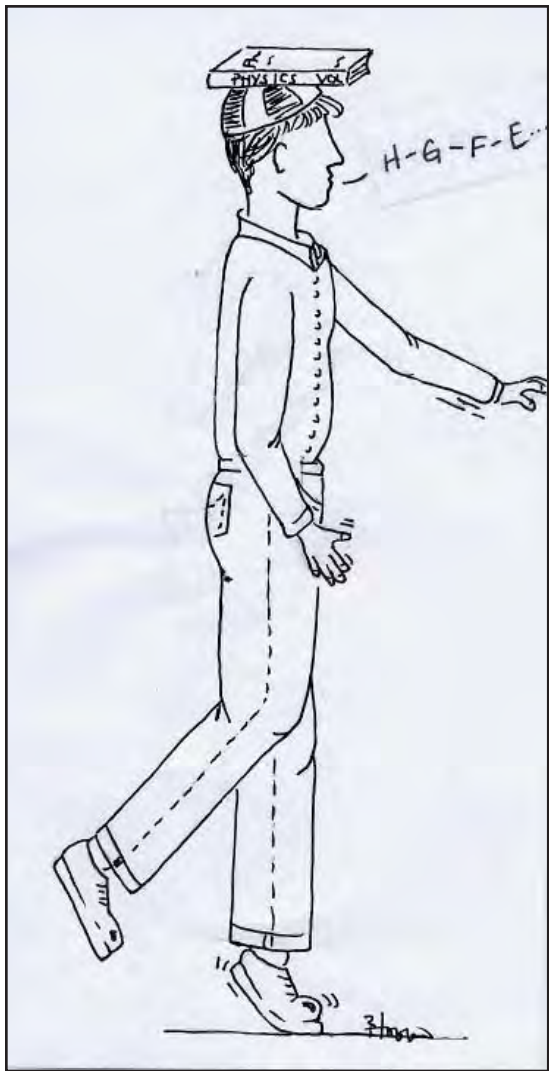
The Throwback will be a regular feature in this year’s Spectator. Each Throwback will display news items from Spectators dating from the early-to-mid 1900s. The Throwback is researched by Spectator staff member Rhonda Hoffert.

Watermelon feed aids in getting acquainted

Printed on Tuesday, September 15, 1925

About three hundred students enjoyed the mixer held on the campus Saturday night. The mixer, which was in the form of a watermelon feed, was under the auspices of the YMCA and YWCA. The students gathered at about 7:30 p.m. and were directed in playing games by Coach Gardner. Nearly all the games were old-fashioned ones familiar to all. “Drop the Handkerchief,” “Flying Dutchman,” “Ruth and Jacob” and “Three Deep” furnished much fun for all. Following a group of greatly appreciated Italian readings by Ester Wilbur, the college cheerleaders took charge and led the group in singing the college song.

- A letter to the Spectator,
- I was a student at McPherson College off and on from the fall of 1929 to the spring of 1938. My one enduring contribution to the college is the name Jezebel for the college whistle. I thought you might be interested in how it came about.
- I was writing a regular column in the Spectator titled “College Daze,” the diary of a not too literate freshman. This allowed me a running commentary on the passing scene.
- Something happened to the whistle that announced the hours. To fill in, the maintenance man, Frank Forney, who we all loved but regularly vilified, rigged a noise-maker comprised of a series of automobile horns of the a-oo-gah type then in vogue, mounted in a large wash tub for resonance.
- That thing went off one day just as I passed the desk of Dr. Ray Petry’s Old Testament class, in time to hear him say, “that thing is the offspring of perdition.” This comment was duly reported in that week’s College Daze, suggesting to me the name of Ahab’s wicked queen, Jezebel.
- The name stuck.
- All the same, I was surprised when visiting the campus years later, during a brief period as a college trustee, that the whistle was still Jezebel.
- So I have one thing to be remembered by. Generations yet unborn may well pass to classes to the sound of Jezebel.
- John D. Bower, age 93
- *A note from the editor: The college still has the capabilities to “ring” Jezebel. How appropriate would it be if we, a school of auto restoration, would play a bell of automobile sounds in between classes as Frank Forney did?



Volleyball brings out the MC-Hammer

ANGELINA FIORENZI
Spectator Staff

The Lady Bulldogs hope to continue the start to a successful season Thursday as they host Bethel College.

The volleyball team began the season 3-1 in their second annual volleyball tournament at the Sport Center last weekend.

Last Friday night, the Lady Bulldogs rolled over their first opponent, Bacone College. The team finished the match with scores of 30-15, 30-8 and 30-13. Chandra Mayhan finished with 11 kills and seven defensive digs. Jessica Miller also finished with seven defensive digs and eight kills. Kendra Stephenson, the starting setter, finished with 25 set assists and only one service error.

The next day, however, started off slow for the women. Even though they showed tremendous hustle they fell 24-30, 17-30 and 22-30 to Black Hills State. Jennifer Marquette finished with eight kills and two blocks while Mayhan finished with six kills, one set assist, three defensive digs and one block.

Another contributor to the hitting staff was Ashlee Douglas, who finished with five kills, one dig and one block. All their efforts were boosted by Stephenson's 24 set assists.

The team dominated the final two matches of the day. The first of the two matches, against Stephens College resulted in scores of 30-14, 30-20 and 30-11. The next match was versus Central Christian College and brought them scores of 30-15, 30-17 and 30-21. These two matches showed just how well-rounded the team is, from the hitting staff to the diggers.

Marquette finished the four-match invitational with a total of 30 kills and six blocks. Mayhan finished with 30 kills and 22 defensive digs. Miller had 29 kills, 31 defensive digs and two blocks. Mandy Morgan finished

with 18 kills and 11 defensive digs. Douglas finished with 23 kills and two blocks. These hitters had the help of Stephenson's combined 109 set assists in the four matches and Kelsey Crist's 15 aces and 44 defensive digs.

Stephenson feels that the team is "going to surprise a lot of people in our conference, even though we have a young team".

As far as what they need to work on, Miller thinks that they are "pretty inconsistent in some areas like serving and passing, but with more practice, we will improve."

Many of the girls have similar goals. Crist would like to "finish higher than we were ranked and to play well as a team." The

team's performance in the four matches proved that they have a tremendous talent and a lot of potential. If they keep working hard and keep up the intensity on the court, the girls hope to make it to the top of the conference.

Their first conference test would come Thursday

night at Tabor. The Lady Bulldogs played well according to Coach Nathalea Stephenson, but fell to Tabor in three games at 30-22, 30-23 and 30-28.

"We serve received much better and we covered (the court) so much better. I felt like we shut down their best hitter," Coach Stephenson said.

The Lady Bulldogs were never out of the match. In all three games the team had the lead at some point. Twelve aces kept the team in the match, but eight errors on serve were part of the team's down fall.

"Eight serve errors is a 16 point swing," Coach Stephenson said. The 16 point swing and a low kill percentage hurt the team. The Lady Bulldogs only had 41 kills on 116 attempts during the match, but Coach Stephenson is hopeful.

The Lady Bulldog's next game is Tuesday night at home versus Bethel College at 7



photo by Agnes Toledo-Grana

Sophomore Ashlee Douglas goes up for the block during a game at the McPherson Invitational while teammates look on. The Lady Bulldogs went 3-1 at the tournament. The Bulldogs will face Bethel Sept. 13, in the Sport Center.

p.m.

"We beat Bethel the last game of the season at home last year. The girls will come to play," Coach Stephenson said. She also made comments on how nobody in the conference can take the Lady Bulldogs for granted.

"We always show up and we always play hard," Coach Stephenson said.

Let's hear it for the team

MALLORY YUNGBURG
Spectator Staff

The new cheerleading program has already begun. Because cheerleading is now a part of the athletic program, the team will follow the same eligibility and program guidelines of all McPherson College athletics, including the KCAC and NAIA requirements.

Elmi Sanchez, a returner to the squad, said, "We have more resources and money, so we can go to (cheerleading) camp." Also, she was glad that cheerleading was finally recognized as a sport because Jaymie Bickford, another returning cheerleader, has been trying for that since they were both freshman in the fall of 2002.

"I'm excited about being able to do co-ed stunting, and it's nice to have a coach because we are more organized," Sanchez said.

Bickford said that "overall we have more spirit and we have better technique." Bickford also said that she hopes the faculty and staff will take the cheer-



photo by Ryan Heller

Senior Kathleen Realmuto and freshmen Hilary Chapman and Ashley Laudick practice cheers for Saturday's football game in the fitness room.

leading squad more seriously.

The new coach for the cheerleading squad is Tia Leach. Coach Leach has had more than

twelve years of experience in cheerleading and dance at High School, Collegiate and competitive levels. She hopes now that cheerleading is an official sport it will increase school spirit and get the crowd more into the games and athletic programs.

"I'm really proud of the girls who I took to camp," Leach said.

Coach Leach wants to get a consistent number of 20 members in the squad. However, she hopes that the squad will get larger as the season progresses.

"Hopefully people will be proud of the girls because they have gone through a lot to increase school spirit. Also we we're going to do more community stuff, and we will try to make it to all other sport activities," Leach said.

Now that cheerleading is an official sport, the squad will have a fresh start with more involvement and more spirit. If anybody would like to join the squad Coach Leach is the one to contact.

Harriers look to turn heads in '05

LIZ WAGONER
Photo Editor

Starting the season with seven freshmen and three returnees, the cross country team looks to have a fresh start despite several injuries.

"I expect a lot of top to bottom competition," Coach Dave Smith said. "Our attitude is good and our work ethic is good."

Although the team is young,

they are still looking to the returnees for leadership and consistency. Using that consistency as a guide, the newest harriers bring their own flare that should lead to several key finishes.

"I want to help build a program that has the potential to be a powerhouse," Brent Bailey, a freshman from Simla, Colo., said.

With only three participants and two actually running, the girl's cross country team may

use this year as a building year for the future of the team's success. Past years have ceased to bring about much interest in the sport, so having three interested girls helps a lot.

"Even though we don't yet have a girl's captain, we look to 'Captain Planet' (Bryan Grosbach) for leadership and guidance," Megan Meyer, a freshman from Beloit, Kan., said.

College looks forward to new tennis program

JESSICA ARNOLD
Spectator Staff

McPherson College has athletics for everyone, but are there enough choices? The college is now trying to broaden the students' horizons yet again. Starting in the fall of 2006, tennis will be the newest sport on campus.

The college has already debated and approved the upcoming tennis program. The new girls basketball coach, J.D. Gravina, will handle coaching the new tennis team.

When asked why he thought tennis was a good thing to have at the college, Coach Gravina

replied, "Tennis is a lifetime sport that players can benefit from their entire lives. Tennis demands grueling physical effort; plus, it requires intense mental focus. For this reason, I believe, tennis belongs on a college campus." Coach Gravina has a lot of drive for tennis and is excited to start.

The college does have a history when it comes to a tennis program. In the 1970s and early 1980s, the women's team won the Kansas AIAW crown and a pair of KCAC titles, coached by Doris Coppock, professor emeritus of physical education, about that same time, the

mens tennis team battled for the KCAC title under Coach Gerald Holman.

Six other schools in the conference have men's and women's tennis. Competition is said to be tough. However, Coach Gravina is optimistic.

"Central Kansas has a plethora of tennis talent, which will give us a strong local recruiting base. We will also look to our alumni connections to help us recruit quality tennis student athletes from outside the immediate area. I believe both programs have the potential to be very competitive in the KCAC," Coach Gravina said.

EVENT	OPPONENT/LOCATION	DATE	TIME
Cross Country	Friends	Sept. 9	6 p.m.
Men's & Women's Soccer	Greenville College (H)	Sept. 10	1 p.m. 3 p.m.
Football	@ Sterling	Sept. 10	7 p.m.
JV Football	@ Kansas Wesleyan	Sept. 12	7 p.m.
Men's & Women's Soccer	@ Central Christian College	Sept. 13	2:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.
Volleyball	Bethel (H)	Sept. 13	6 & 7 p.m.
Men's & Women's Soccer	York College (H)	Sept. 15	6 & 8 p.m.
Volleyball	@ St. Mary	Sept. 15	7 p.m.
Cross Country	Bulldog Invitational (H)	Sept. 17	10:30 a.m.
Volleyball	Avila College (H)	Sept. 17	2 & 4 p.m.
Men's & Women's Soccer	@ Oklahoma Wesleyan	Sept. 17	2 & 4 p.m.
Football	Bethel (H)	Sept. 17	7 p.m.

Soccer kicks off versus USAO

WOMEN PLAYERS

POSITIVE ABOUT SEASON

MEN RANKED

FIFTH IN THE REGION

JENNIFER MARQUETTE
Spectator Staff

Despite a rocky start, the Lady Bulldogs soccer team will forge ahead to their game against Greenville College of Illinois on Saturday. The ladies opened their season with a loss to the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma at Bulldog Stadium on Tuesday, Sept. 6.

Ten minutes into the game, USAO put the ball past Mac's defense to take an early 1-0 lead. Shortly after that, the Lady Drovers pushed the ball through to jump up 2-0. With four minutes and 18 seconds left until half-time, USAO scored once again to leave the field with a 3-0 lead over the Lady Bulldogs.

A weary McPherson team returned to the field after half-time while the Lady Drovers were still going strong, putting two goals past McPherson. With six and a half minutes left to play, USAO netted one last

goal, defeating the Lady Bulldogs 0-7.

"The game against USAO was a good test for our team to see where we are. They will probably be our toughest competition all season and it was a hard loss, but we will come back from it. I have total confidence in our team," said Rylee Miller, sr.

Earlier in the season, the Lady Bulldogs lost their returning goalie, sophomore Lindsey Latham. During practice, Latham broke her tibia and is out for the season.

"What happened to Lindsey was just plain unfair. She worked so hard this summer to be ready, and I was excited to see that pay off for her," Coach Doug Quint said. "Lindsey will be a better goalkeeper and person after this. She is a fighter, so I really expect her to learn a lot and come back twice as good next year."



photo by Lindsey Latham
Senior Rylee Miller (above) looks for an open teammate during the game versus USAO while freshman Jose Reyes (right) darts around another player during practice.

SEPT. 6 vs. USAO	
Women:	0
USAO:	7
Men:	1
USAO:	3



photo by Ryan Heller

1-3 loss.

Freshman Ramsey Asad took a pass from sophomore Trey Hutchins and put it past USAO's goalkeeper for his first collegiate goal. The Bulldogs ended the first half with a 1-0 lead over the Drovers.

Although the Bulldogs were outshot 9-2 in the first 45 minutes of the game, sophomore goalkeeper Mike Davis came up strong against any USAO attempts.

In the second half, USAO scored, tying the game at 1-1. Shortly after their first goal, the Drovers were awarded a penalty kick after a call against McPherson.

With the score now 2-1, the Bulldogs struggled to close the gap.

By the end of the game, five yellow cards had been handed out.

With less than a minute on the clock, USAO was awarded yet another penalty kick. The Drov-

ers completed the kick, defeating the Bulldogs 3-1.

"All the players looked really good and ready to go. We have some that are performing much better than others but a lot of that has to do with experience. The returners have stepped up their leadership roles tremendously this year. All the returning players came in fit and ready to go, which set the bar for the newcomers pretty high," Coach Doug Quint said.

On Tuesday, Sept. 6, the Bulldogs accomplished a McPherson College first by receiving the #5 ranking in Region IV of the NAIA.

"I believe we earned that #5 rating," Quint said. "I expect us to be right there for the conference title this year and will be disappointed otherwise, as will the players."

The Bulldogs will host Greenville College of Illinois on Saturday, Sept. 10 at Bulldog Stadium at 3 p.m.

A student perspective: What is Ultimate Frisbee?

JAMES KEITH
Guest Sports Columnist

Have you driven down Kansas Avenue and noticed a large group of kids tearing up the grass at Lakeside Park while playing a game not usually associated with tearing up anything? That would be the McPherson College Mudhuckers: the proud, loud and usually injured ultimate frisbee team.

"We're no different than any other athletic team," said team president Jeremy Hoffman. Ultimate frisbee has been a relatively quiet sport in the grand scheme of things until recently. The popularity of ultimate frisbee is on the rise and is catching the attention of most colleges and universities around the nation.

McPherson College and Kansas State University have had



Illustration by Seth Schomring

City, Oklahoma City, Iowa, Texas and even New Orleans for some Mardi Gras Frisbee.

Currently there is no relationship with the University of Kansas. Beth Krehbiel has a good reason for that; "Oh not KU! They're the ones that broke my collar bone."

This past summer marked the fifth year of the Mudhuck-

ers' participation in the K-State Summer Frisbee League in Manhattan. Out of town tournaments are an experience that words can barely do justice.

Tournaments are usually held over the course of a weekend, with the Mudhuckers leaving on Fridays, and getting to the tournaments sometime in the wee hours of Saturday morning. Saturday's events commence with matches from 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. The close of Saturday, regardless of current rank, consists of finding pizza, chicken wings or any other food they can find large amounts of for very little money. Then it's off to bed, joined by about 12 people crammed into the same single hotel room.

"There is no awkwardness when you're a Mudhucker," Hoffman said.

So what is ultimate frisbee?

"Think soccer, think football, with a little bit of Frisbee action," Krehbiel said. Ultimate frisbee resembles football in the fundamental patterns of playing. For example, there is a kick-off of sorts when one team "hucks" the Frisbee across the field at the opposing team. It is returned in football fashion to goals at either end of the field. It's the getting there that is tough to get used to.

"It's not supposed to be full contact, but..." Krehbiel said. Whoever receives the frisbee can only move two steps before passing it to another player and so on until the disc either finds its way into the hands of a player in the team's goal or into the hands of the opposing teams. If the disc hits the ground, it's a turnover to the other team.

This fall your Mudhuckers will host the 5th Annual "Flat-

land Freezer." This year it's guaranteed to be a true freezer; the dates are set for Dec. third and fourth at Grant Park on the north end of McPherson. In the past, the Flatland Freezer has seen teams from Colorado to Missouri, Texas to Minnesota. This year they're expecting another high turnout from around the Midwest. The tournament will see corporate sponsorship from Gaia Ultimate, Inc., the largest ultimate frisbee apparel and equipment supplier in the world. The team, as with all other campus teams, has a faculty sponsor, Ken Yohn.

"He's a big help at the tournament. He makes things run, but won't run himself," Hoffman said. The team co-captains are Alex Tyler and Alan Grosbach, but a very fragile Tyler recently had the hardware from his broken collar bone removed and

will be "on the bench" for another six weeks.

"I've been playing for six years, but now I'm so depressed that I can't play. I cry myself to sleep," Tyler said.

If you're interested in joining the Mudhuckers, they are more than happy to see new faces at Lakeside Park for practices. To find out possible times of practice, contact Tyler, Grosbach or Hoffman. Although, the most effective way might be to just join in when you see them practicing, which is almost daily in the afternoons.

"We're open for anyone to join, get hurt, huck a little and make new friends," Hoffman said.

By the way, "hucking" is the action of throwing the frisbee. Also, in regard to the squirrel turds, I have no idea why that's on their bright pink shirts, but

A fresh start for Bulldog football

BRYAN GROSBACK
Sports Editor

The football team ended last season with disappointment. After finishing the season with a 4-6 record and 5th in the KCAC, the Bulldogs need to revive themselves. They started the 2004-05 school year as the pre-season number one team in the conference and the 16th team in the country. Unfortunately, injuries and some bad luck early in the season pointed the Bulldogs in the wrong direction, but this is a different year and a different team.

This season the Bulldogs are picked to finish 7th in the conference by the coaches and 8th by the media. Coach David Cunningham has other plans. He says that the team needs to "play hard, practice hard, and execute" if they want to succeed this year.

"Talent will allow for a good season," Cunningham said.

When asked how this year will be different, Coach Cunningham replied, "It's a younger team, but I think a bit more talented. It was kind of tough being picked first last year, that's something we're not used to." Coach also made reference to the fact that the Bulldogs were picked to finish in the bottom half of conference, which

will give players a chip on the shoulder.

Even after graduating several seniors last year, Coach Cunningham is confident with his players. He can name off numerous returners that he predicts will make an impact and many young and new faces that will play key roles for the Bulldogs this season.

Cunningham points out that one of the keys for the team this season is "getting the offense going again." Last season the Bulldogs averaged only 15 points per game, while in 2003 the team averaged 30 points per game. Coach Cunningham is confident that the defense and special teams will keep up their end as they have the past two years.

"We need to play more on the edge," Cunningham said.

Coach Cunningham is looking for a lot of excitement out of the team.

"We had a lot of dead weight last year, and I don't think we have that this year. We'll have more people who will contribute from top to bottom this year than we did last year," Cunningham said.

The Bulldogs open their season at Sterling College on Saturday night at 7 p.m.

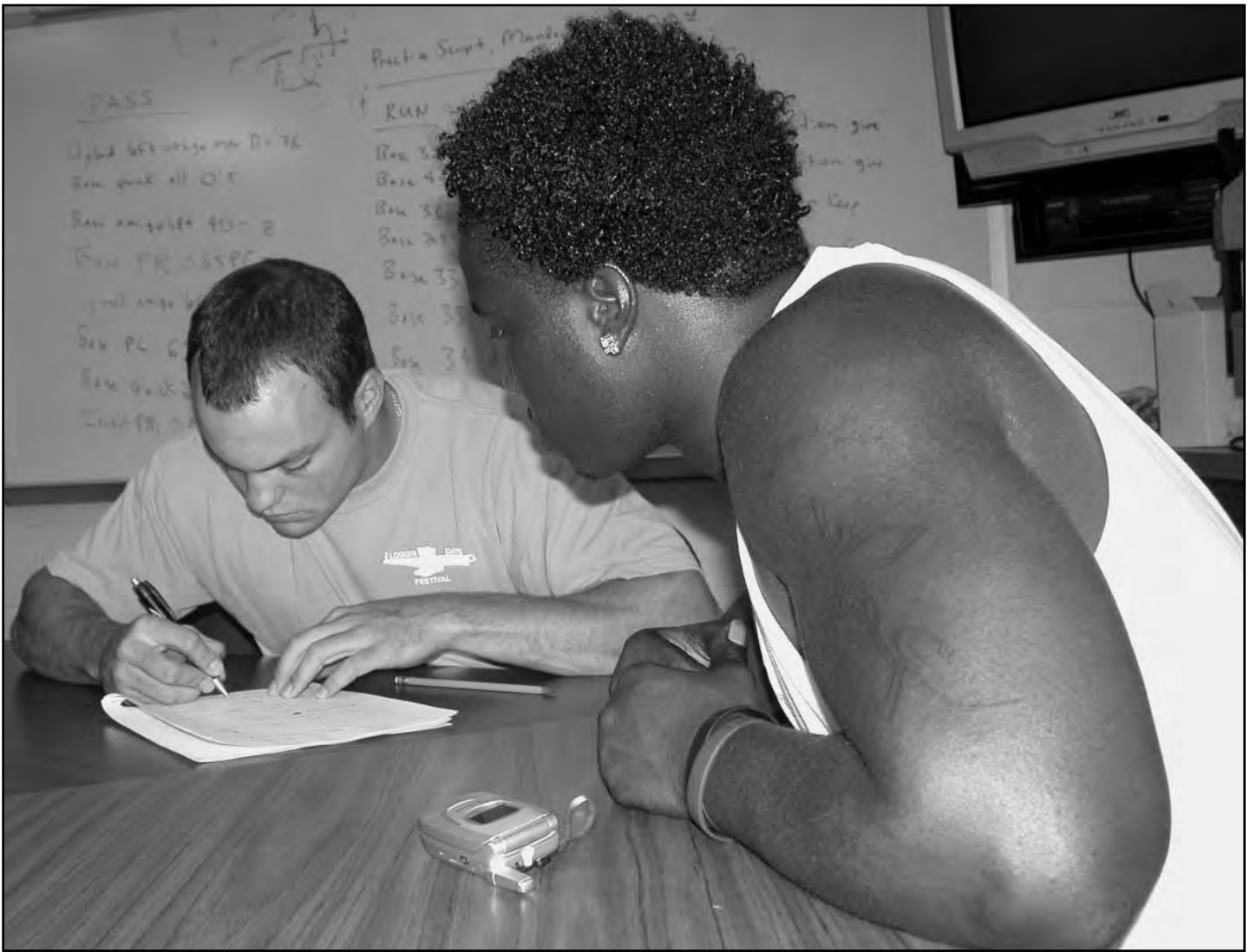


photo by Liz Wagoner

Senior John Irvine (left) and sophomore Damien Sanders study their defensive plays, as they prepare for tomorrow night's season opener at Sterling.

If you are interested in contributing to the *Spectator*, please call us at ext. 1115 or e-mail us at spectator.bulldog.mcpherson.edu.

Keeping Up With SGA



SGA has made the following changes to the Homecoming process:

- **There will be no Homecoming court. All individuals will be selected from the senior class only.
- **Nominations will be made by faculty and staff based on scholarship, participation and service.
- **SGA will tally nominations, narrowing the candidates down to 5 males and 5 females.
- **A video clip of the 10 candidates will be shown to freshmen and transfers so they have a chance to "get to know" the senior candidates.
- **The final vote will be on the Friday of Homecoming and winners will be announced during half-time of the football game.

Popular game raises new concerns

Number of fatalities on the increase

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News Editor

Although the "pass out game" has long been a way to have fun for many junior high, high school and college students, the game has recently caused a rise of concern. The game, also known as "space monkey," "funky chicken," "blackout," "flatliner," and "suffocation routine," has seen an increase in the amount of fatalities within the past year.

According to students who have played, there are a number of reasons why the game has become so popular.

Megan Meyer, fr., Beloit, witnessed a friend playing the game early in high school after hearing about it from her brother, a senior at the time.

"She (Meyer's friend) just wanted to try it," Meyer said. "I thought it was cool."

Aside from the idea that the game is cool, other reasons young people gave for playing the game are to increase sexual pleasure, to obtain a drug-like high without using illegal substances and simply to see how people react when they pass out.

However, as in Meyer's case, many people are unaware of the dangers of the pass out game.

Scott Hammarlund, soph., McPherson, disagrees about the dangers of the pass out game. He believes that if done correctly, there should be no negative outcomes.

"If you do it the right way, I don't see a problem with anyone getting hurt unless they fall," Hammarlund

said.

As a high school student, Hammarlund participated in the game a number of times. He stated that his reason for playing the game was because he and his friends were bored and were not old enough to drive.

Hammarlund, as well as other students, gave his definition of the "correct" way to play the game. He explained that if a person plays

the game affects a person's senses.

"Your senses come back at different times. Hearing comes first, sight last," Hammarlund said.

In more serious cases, a person uses other methods to cut off air supply, such as belts, ropes and plastic bags. Many times, subjects are alone and it ultimately leads to self-strangulation and death.

"For some people, the feeling is so good, they keep doing it and it becomes addictive, and that's when they start doing it alone," said Kelli Johnson, personal counselor.

Johnson said she personally knows of cases on the McPherson College campus involving the pass out game, but others are unaware of these activities.

"I have not heard of that ever happening on campus," said Lamonte Rothrock, dean of students.

Rothrock stated that just because he is not aware of it, does not mean it has not happened. He explained that students seek out a goal and one of the ways to meet is by being challenged. However, he feels the game is a negative challenge and an unnecessary risk.

"Nobody ever assumes they're going to be the one who ends in a bad result. You just assume that you'll be in that 95 percent," Rothrock said.

For more information about the pass out game check out the web-sites listed above.

What to watch for:

- **Bloodshot eyes
- **Headaches
- ** Unusual marks on the neck
- ** Belts and ropes with unusual knots found in the person's possession

For more information go to:

kidshealth.org

www.cnn.com

msnbc.msn.com

www.cbsnews.com/stories

the game with other people around, nothing should go wrong because those people can make sure the person wakes up. Hammarlund said he feels the game is dangerous only when people begin to play the game alone.

The most common way to play the game includes having one person cut off the oxygen to another person's brain using their hands. After about 15 seconds, the person will pass out for about five to ten seconds. When the person wakes up, he or she may experience euphoria, temporary amnesia, dizziness, shaking, severe headaches and confusion, as well as other phenomena.

Hammarlund also described how

On the Go With SAB

SEPT. 9, 8 p.m.

Texas Hold 'Em
Tournament
SU Basement

SEPT. 11, 1 p.m.

Sand Volleyball
Tournament

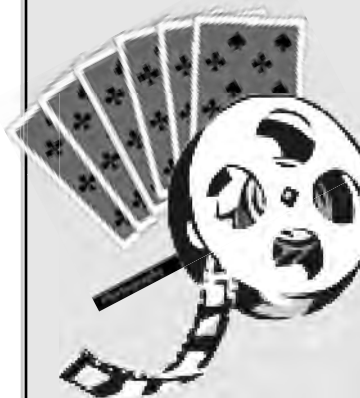
SEPT. 17

Home Cross
Country Meet
10:30 a.m.

Home Football
Game
7 p.m.

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Tuesday movie
nights at the
McPherson
Cinema!
Bring your
Mac ID!

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first Friday of every
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Cosmic Bowling at
Starlite Lanes.
10:30- Midnight
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