



IN FEATURES
McPherson students share about intern travels and experiences.

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IN SPORTS
Bulldogs hopeful for victory at Bethany tomorrow night in last game of regular season.

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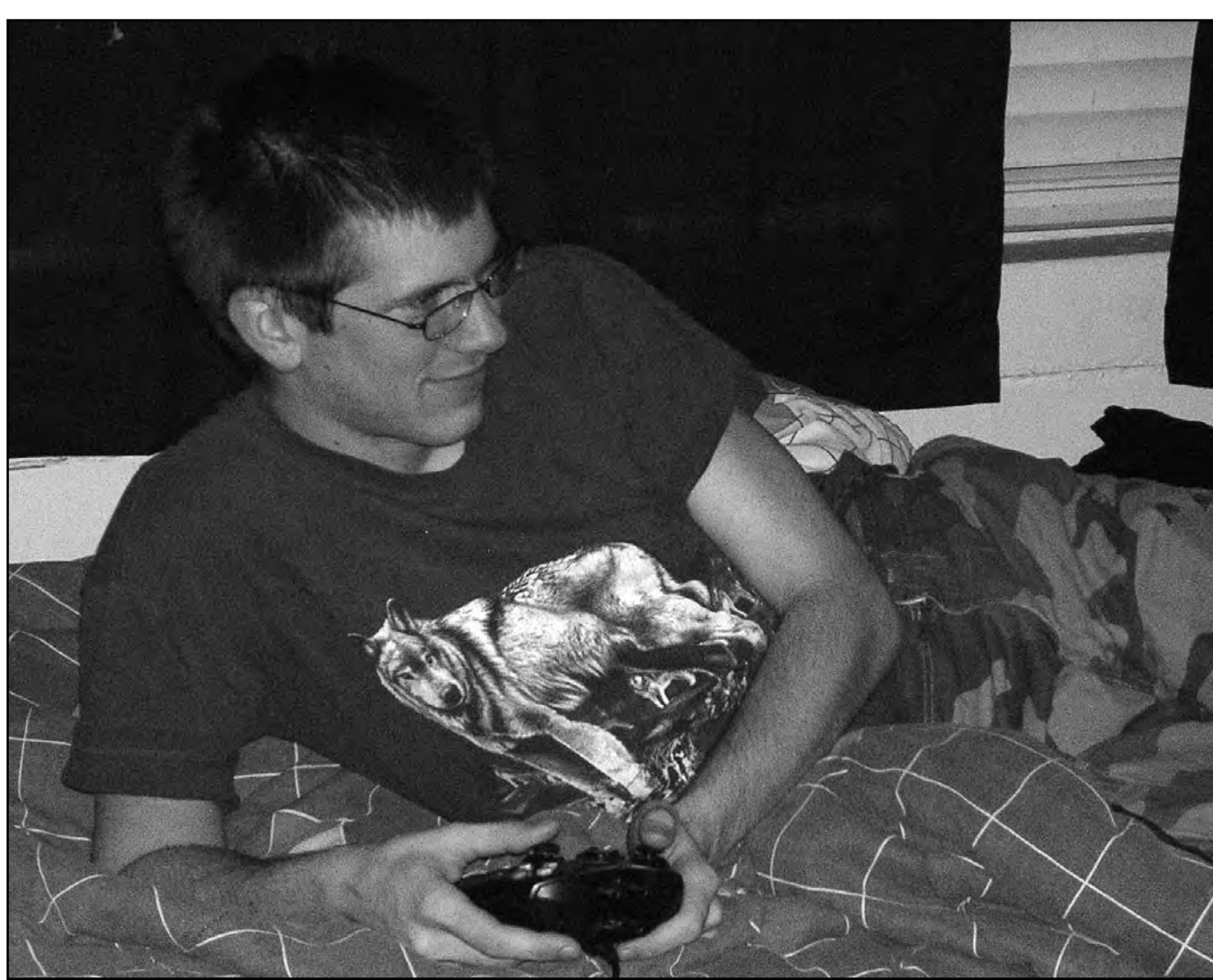


THE MCPHERSON COLLEGE SPECTATOR

Volume 90, Issue 7

"Serving to inform a community since 1916"

February 17, 2006



Chris LaBelle, sr., Ironwood, Mich., relaxes as he enjoys spending time playing video games in his dorm room in Dotzour Hall. All dorms on campus are expected to reach maximum capacity by 2007, though a room shortage is not expected next year. Students are encouraged to place room deposits during the first week of March.

Dorms to reach max capacity by fall 2007

KIM MORRIS
Spectator Staff

As McPherson College works to retain students and meet increased enrollment goals for the fall 2006 semester, adequate space in the residence halls has become a concern.

It is predicted there will be about 390 students living on campus in the fall of next year. This fall, there were 320 students who lived on campus.

LaMonte Rothrock, dean of students, said the dorms can house 430 students if all storage rooms are filled and all students, including resident assistants, share rooms.

Next fall the college is not

predicting a room shortage, but space in the dorms will be much tighter.

Because there will not be as much space in the dorms next fall, it is important that students get their room deposits in as soon as possible to reserve the room and roommate they want for next year.

Rothrock said rooms will be "first-come, first-serve."

In order for a student to insure his or her selected room and/or roommate, he or she must put down the \$50 deposit.

Residence life staff will take deposits and room reservations in the Student Union beginning Tuesday, Feb. 28.

Reservations will be taken for students who want to keep the same room on the 28th. Seniors can place deposits on Mar. 1, juniors Mar. 2 and sophomores Mar. 3. Beginning Mar. 4, staff will assign incoming freshmen to rooms.

Rothrock believes the dorms will be filled to capacity by fall of 2007.

Rothrock said one thing that will not change when the dorms fill up is the age requirement of 23 to live off campus.

The age was set at 23 because the school wants to try to keep the traditional students on campus and most traditional students graduate

by the age of 23.

The college believes students are more likely to graduate if they live on campus, so administrators want to keep as many people on campus as possible. They want students to get involved with college life; living on campus makes that easier.

However, not all students agree. Ben Cole, fr., Farnam, Neb., would like administration to consider some different options.

"I think that they should change the age limit back to 21 and/or buy some apartments off-campus for upper classmen that could be considered on campus," Cole said.

College paperwork to be available online

AMANDA KEITH
Spectator Staff

Seven advisors will test a new online enrollment program with their advisees this semester. If all goes well, all McPherson College students will enroll online next fall.

"ACCK (Accredited Colleges of Central Kansas) as a group has been pursuing this (idea) for several years," said Allison Mackey, assistant to the dean of academic records.

Karlene Tyler, associate dean of academic records, asked a few advisors to be a part of the test group. She will spend time training them in the new program, provided through the same company as the current database.

Students will continue to meet with their advisors to choose their classes. Instead of taking the paperwork to the enrollment office, advisors will enter the information online with the student.

"It will take away the paperwork portion and ensure that it is done correctly," said Kelli Johnson, a test advisor. "Then there will always be computer access to that information."

Though the enrollment process may be available next year, other elements including housing, financial aid and clubs on campus may take up to a year before they are available to students.

After the program is fully in place, students will be able to see which classes they signed up for, what paperwork they still need to fill out and grades from previous semesters. When the site is finished, it will be accessible off-campus as well.

Carol Williams, director of admissions and financial aid, said this new process will make all information throughout a student's college experience available online.

"(It allows) prospective stu-

dents and current students to review information for financial aid and housing," Williams said. "It basically adds that electronic element rather than sending out letters."

The enrollment office will be relieved of having to send out much of the paperwork they currently process. The new system will also correct some of the problems of the old system.

"One thing I can appreciate is that the system will let us know if we miss something," Johnson said. "It will also be the same for all students; not different forms depending on who you are working with."

Williams said the online process also opens up a whole new avenue for students, faculty and staff at McPherson College.

"IT'S AN ADDITIONAL FORM OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE STUDENTS AND IT'S EASY FOR THE STUDENTS AND THE INSTITUTION."

-CAROL WILLIAMS

"Its additional form of communication with the students and it's easy for the students and the institution," Williams said.

Other advisors participating in the test group are Jenni Richardson, Jd. Bow-

man, Rick Tyler, Kim Stanley, Garrick Green and Shane Kirchner.

"I'm excited to be a part of the testing phase," Johnson said. "I think it will be a huge benefit for everyone."

Midterm grades will also be recorded online this semester as part of the online trial. Tyler said the online grading system is not nearly as complicated to get ready for use, so all professors will be participating.

Eventually, students will be able to access their midterm grades online with a PIN number, along with receiving grades through e-mail.

Williams said currently each department is taking their turn as to when they can set up their portion of the process online. The college is working through ACCK, who gives each department the go ahead one at a time.

Doll addresses community about Kansas concerns

KYLE RAJEWSKI
Spectator Staff

John Doll, the democratic candidate challenging Jerry Moran for the 1st Congressional District seat in Washington D.C., spoke at McPherson College Wednesday night.

Doll shared his opinions about what should be done in Washington regarding some of the major issues in this country and more importantly, in the first district of Kansas.

Doll stressed the importance of the Kansas people and the potential resources in this state. He pointed out that Kansas could excel in the inevitable energy crisis in this country, also noting the importance of clean

energy such as solar power, air turbines, and ethanol.

According to his website, some of Doll's concerns are:

- Washington D.C. ignoring Kansas
- the beef embargo that Japan and South Korea have placed on us,
- energy prices,
- farm programs being cut,
- climbing interest rates.

Another one of Doll's major concerns was the yearly population loss in the first district.

He cited a lack of jobs as a major cause in the stunt of the population growth in Kansas.

Doll said people seem to grow up in Kansas and go to college;

then once they graduate, they move away because of the shortage of jobs.

Doll sees himself as just another Kansan. He grew up on a farm in western Kansas and really wanted to go to school so he could get off the farm.

On his website, Doll said, "I feel that it is time to put someone in Congress that has lived and suffered in this economic down turn."

Doll's goal was to be a division one basketball player, but he did not accomplish his goal, so he became a basketball coach.

Doll was a teacher and a basketball coach at both Scott City and Wichita Bishop Carroll for nearly 20 years. He would

tell his players and students to dream. Doll uses this mentality in his campaign also.

"If you can't dream it, you can't achieve it," Doll said.

In order to make ends meet while teaching, Doll bought a lawn care service. This company went from 60 clients to 600 clients during his ownership.

Doll has a wife and two children, a 15-year old son and a daughter who attends the University of Kansas.

Doll said if any McPherson College students are interested in starting a young democratic party on campus, they should contact Carolyn J. Elmore, the democratic county chair for McPherson County, at (620) 241-1845.



photo by Kyle Rajewski

John Doll spoke at McPherson College Wednesday about issues concerning Kansas. Doll is the democratic candidate challenging Jerry Moran for the 1st Congressional District seat in Washington D.C.

Watching out for the little people

After reading some news on the recent "terrorism surveillance program" installed, I'm not going to lie...I panicked a bit. You see, with this program (which has been in place for four years, but only now has surfaced to the public), the government has been wire-tapping telephones *without* a warrant. My heart beat a little faster, because, well...here:

I went on a peace march my junior year in high school. We traipsed onto buses and drove straight to Washington D.C. for the largest preemptive war protest in American history. A lot of good *that* did. But, that's a different editorial. The point is that I was officially "listed." Yes, that's right, call it a "youthful indiscretion" if you will, but I was placed on some list, somewhere, in some government office. I am officially a problem child of the United States.

So, this new "legal" secret wire-tapping thing, let's just say that the government thought I was some kind of potential "threat," maybe because I'm such a controversial editorialist. Maybe I should stop giving myself so much credit. In

Guest Columnist



JESSICA FOULKE

any case...

Here is a typical phone conversation with one of my friends from home:

"Hey Molly."
 "Alleluh...yeh?"
 "Alleluhblech!"
 "So aaanyway, how are you?"
 "Eh, schmeh. You?"
 "Ly...si...strata lysistrata lysistrata!"

"Ok, ok! Hokay, so I was thinking that we could hang out tonight or something. Maybe we could 'Tiptoe thru the Tulips' a bit and then we could watch Faryle move the house."

"And then we could play 'Dance Party'!"

"That sounds mazeltov! Ok, not really, that actually sounds awkward."

"You're right. Plus, I don't even know if my car will make it, it's such a piece of...tin."

"Well, at least you have a piece of tin, I don't even have a piece of tin."

"LeSigh."

And so on and so forth, with a couple more "schmehs" thrown in for good measure. If the government were in on this conversation, I would be arrested immediately. I shudder to think what "move the house" means in their list of code!

What would I do in prison?! I don't even have a speeding ticket. I'm only twenty years old - I can't even buy superglue, and I'd be doing hard time for sounding like an idiot in a telephone conversation! But I always sound like an idiot! Your favorite editorialist would be put away for causing a terrorist threat, when all I really did was have a conversation filled with inside jokes! I'd be a criminal - yikes.

Maybe I'm overreacting, but where does it stop? Can they check out my Google searches for Rufus Wainwright lyrics? Can they force the school to turn me over for writing this article? Can they see the books on Eleanor Roosevelt and Broadway musicals that I'm



Illustration by Seth Schoming

checking out from the library? What else will be done to us in the name of "protection?" When does it go from being security to being outright invasion? I think the line is really thin and is probably being crossed, or at least touched.

So, in the name of protecting yourselves, or at the very least me, read the news. Check out MSN-BC, CNN, BBC, Fox News (if you must). They're all online, and free to read. If you don't like to read,

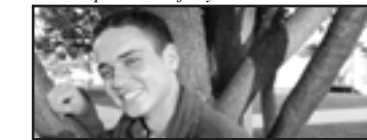
watch it (channels 24 to 27). I'm sure not all of my facts are right. That's not the point. You should find your own facts. If you don't like something that's going on, then do something about it. They can't take away our rights unless we consent to it. They can't strip us of our freedoms unless we sit back and watch them do it. Be responsible, or some of us may end up in prison for saying "dance party." That would not be very mazeltov.

Life: consider thinking about it sometime

Next time you're not busy, look around you. More likely than not, you'll notice that it seems absolutely no one gives any real thought to their actions. They simply go through the motions regardless of right or wrong and end their day the exact same way as they began it, as drones simply meandering through their surroundings. As I would like to think I am an individual focused on progress, along with the fact that as I am writing this I have a gaping, white blank hole on my page, I feel it necessary to call attention to this dilemma to potentially quell its externalities.

This is a call to action for all progress-oriented individuals out there (cough cough, that should mean all of you) to make it your goal this week to do something. Whether it be over-complexly engaging in a

Contemplations of my Mind



ERIC SADER

treasure hunt as my sister and I recently transpired upon, or doing something as plain as putting some extra effort into your scholastic endeavors, by the powers invested in me, (yes, didn't know I could do this did you?) I hereby proclaim the upcoming week McPherson College Week of Progress.

Step one of our Week of Progress should center upon the personality of the self. Now is the time for your self-examination of character flaws and weaknesses. Too often, even if they make it to this step, individuals in our society acknowledge they aren't perfect but determine

that their faults don't merit enough weight to be a cause of concern. If any of you are sweating right now, you're probably on the opposite spectrum so try not to be too hard on yourselves. However, for the majority of us, it is time to think about ourselves as a whole. Does the culmination of our defects merit concern? More than likely the answer to this is an astounding yes. It's time to slap ourselves into shape and at least give minor reformation a whirl for the week.

Now that we've determined what we can do to become better individuals, it's time to concentrate on our goals and ambitions. Yes, thinking about life is an unfortunate necessity for successful completion of the McPherson College Week of Progress. What do you want out of life? Think about your major, career, family ambitions,

**"I HEREBY
 PROCLAIM THE
 UPCOMING WEEK
 MCPHERSON
 COLLEGE WEEK
 OF PROGRESS."**

etc. etc. etc. Yes, I am being a bit ambiguous. However, with people as diverse as those on our campus, assuredly our goals are as well. Pinpoint those aspirations and keep them in mind as you carry out being an active participant in our campus culture.

Finally, for the purpose of this article anyhow, our week of

deliverance should conclude with the general desire to continue dreaming about our future, our community and the global environment at large. Although I am only proclaiming the upcoming week McPherson College Week of Progress, I urge all of you to take everything previously mentioned henceforth into daily consideration of your lives.

In conclusion, it's time to break away from the daily routine of monotony. Do something (writing and assisting me would be nice if anyone is in need of suggestions), reach out to someone or if you feel that this truly is simply something you can just not do, face the fact that you're kidding yourself, and it's time to wake up and meet all that life has to offer. Enjoy your week my fellow optimistic progressives.

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On the Fly

What should be done about a possible room shortage next year?

"I don't know what to do. What can you do? Let me go get beautified."

-- Ryan Lander, jr.
 Shawnee, Ok.



"Lower the age of people that can live off campus."

-- Callie Coberly, soph.
 Gove

"Rent nice apartments for the upperclassmen."

-- Mark Tobias, jr.
 Conrad, Iowa



"First come, first serve."

-- Crystal Thomas, jr.
 Wichita Falls, Texas

"How about actually keeping track of who has a roommate and who doesn't?"

-- Mark Shobe, fr.
 McPherson



Staff Editorial

The Spectator applauds LaMonte Rothrock

We would like to commend the actions of LaMonte Rothrock, dean of students and athletic director, for his actions in the last two weeks.

In the men's junior varsity game last Thursday, one of our own basketball players and a player from Kansas Wesleyan got in a scuffle. A melee ensued as both benches cleared. Fans from the stands also walked onto the court during the altercation. As the scene calmed, the referees pulled both coaches to center court in front of the scorers' table.

The referees did a poor job officiating the game and lost control, which is why the squabble happened.

The coaches from Kansas Wesleyan tried to intimidate both the referees as well as the Bulldog coaching staff. Rothrock would not allow this. He told the Kansas Wesleyan assistant coach to return to the bench as the meeting at the scorers' table was just for the head coaches and the referees. As the Kansas Wesleyan coach tried to continue bullying the referees and the Bulldog head coach, Rothrock stepped in to back him off. The Kansas Wesleyan coach over reacted to a "touch" by Rothrock and began to yell at Rothrock. As athletic director, Rothrock put an end to the junior varsity contest with 13 minutes still to be played in the second half.

We also praise Rothrock for his professionalism in addressing student questions regarding the recent termination of staff member Bill Minard.

Encore for Encore Restuarant

Hutchinson, Kansas, a city only thirty minutes southwest of McPherson, has recently welcomed a new restaurant to the area. Encore, located on South Main Street, is a classy new place where one can eat amazing Italian cuisine and enjoy live music.

One Friday night, my friend Ann and I were in Hutchinson to visit her family and to have a much needed night away from the school. Because her parents wanted to go out dancing and we hoped to spend more time with them, we ended up at Encore.

The wall of Encore's building is home to a large mural of a family enjoying the sky. It is certainly an eye-catcher and rather hard to miss. We walked inside the restaurant to hear a woman singing a jazz song, accompanied by a live band. The restaurant even includes a dance floor on the main floor, just in front of the stage where the band played. As we waited for our drinks, one of the waitresses got up and sang a tune with the band. It was amazing.

There was just something about the atmosphere of the place that was outstanding, and the music on top of that made it even better. Even if the food hadn't been delicious (which it was) it would have been an amazing restaurant. When I was finally at the point that I

Guest Reviewer



ALICIA FOX

thought things couldn't get any better I was proved wrong, very wrong.

The band, to my disappointment, cleared the stage. Then someone announced that the Hutchinson Community College Jazz Band, a surprisingly small group, had arrived with a guest artist to perform for us. The band set up, and out stepped Jim Seeley, a musician from New York City, trumpet in hand. They played a few numbers, featuring many solos from Seeley. It was a phenomenal performance.

Music is meant to be, and is, the focal point of Encore Restaurant. Everything is set up so one can see the stage and appreciate the music, perhaps even to get up and cut a rug to it. So if you are looking for a place to hang out on a Friday night, someplace much more lively and entertaining than the same old he-haw that McPherson offers, I recommend that you check out Hutchinson's Encore Restaurant. The food and music is worth every minute of the drive.

Spring 2006 Photo Phenomenon



The newspaper is seeking interesting, entertaining and all-around unique photos for the contest of the ages. Each issue, a finalist will be chosen and their picture published. Upon a student vote towards the end of the year the winning photographer will be "rewarded."

Submit your photos to the Spectator through campus mail or email them to spectator@bulldog.mcpherson.edu.

Homosexuality: it's not going away

Two debate the morality of homosexuality: is it right or wrong?

Homosexuality and its morality, or lack of it, is a hot topic in society. Many people have strong opinions on both sides. Each of which is confident that it is correct. It has become the center of the 'a sin or not a sin' and the 'genetics or choice' arguments, but it all comes down to "is it right or wrong?"

My feelings about the matter have changed over time as I matured and met more people who were homosexual. As a child growing up as a strict Baptist, I was taught that being a homosexual was a choice and that it was a sin, and homosexuals would go to hell. As I got older, and made two friends in middle school who were gay, my own beliefs started to change. One reason was because these two friends felt affection towards the same sex since early childhood. This told me it was not a choice and that if a person was born with these emotions and feelings, a just God would not make it a sin. Another reason was because these two people were good people; they were very religious people and loved the Lord. I ended up leaving the church I grew up in to find more open-minded beliefs in other churches, because I found I no longer agreed with those previous beliefs.

That next summer, I set out to read the Bible. After reading it and discussing it with many others, I came to a decision; being a homosexual is not a sin. I feel that many people have translated the Bible during different time periods in history and in many different cultures, and those could be factors affecting their translations. Jesus does not say anything about same-sex relationships in regards to behavior or beliefs in the Bible. Paul did say some negative things about it, but it is possible that it has been misinterpreted. There are references, however, in the Bible about homosexual relationships, and they were not condemned as a sin: Daniel and

Guest Columnist



HEATHER WILLIAMS

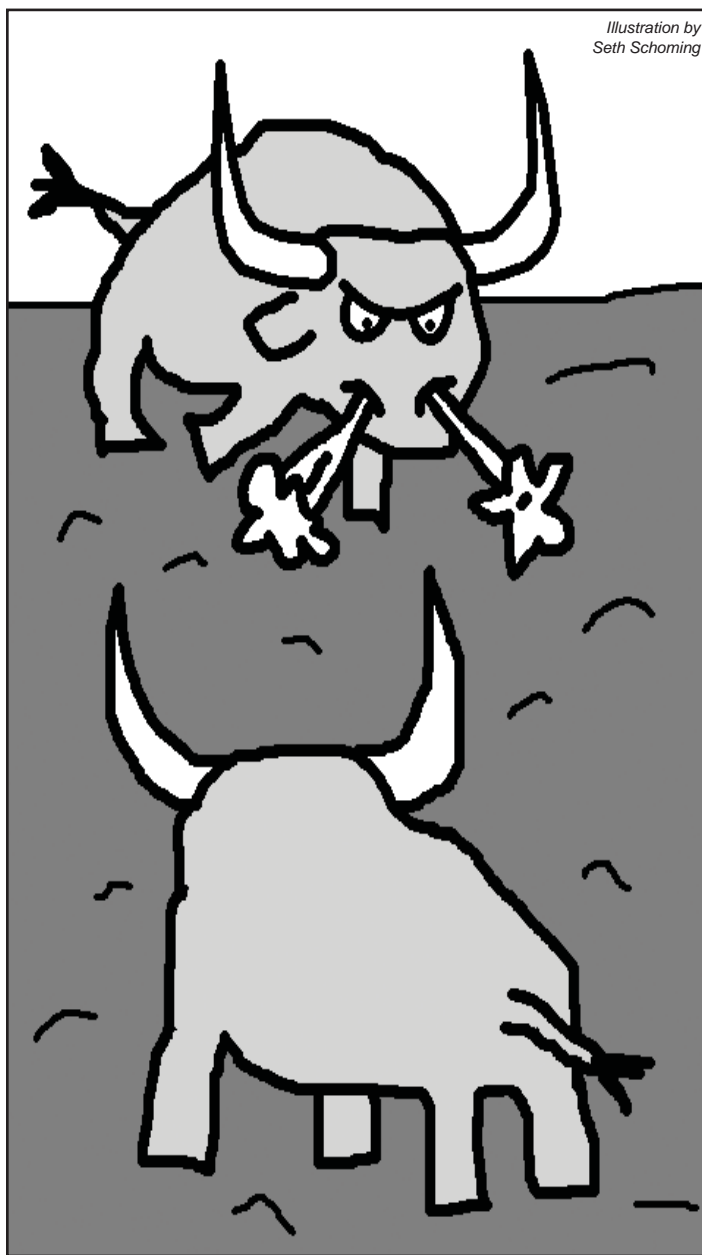
Ashpenaz, Ruth and Naomi, and David and Jonathan.

I think some people have chosen to become involved in same sex relationships, and some have it dictated to them through genetics and biology. I think some people try homosexuality and bisexuality as a way to rebel, find something they are lacking in their lives and to fit in with what is popular, (which being bisexual has become). But I feel for those who do not have choice, many try to fight it, hide and lock it

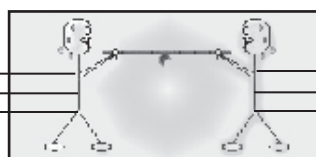
"IF A PERSON WAS BORN WITH THESE EMOTIONS AND FEELINGS, A JUST GOD WOULD NOT MAKE IT A SIN."

away, and many are harshly judged, ridiculed and discriminated against. In the end, we are all God's children. He loves us all, and we should respect and love one another.

Often times, it is the devout Christian who is preaching on the morality of homosexuality, but yet, they are the same ones who will not love their neighbor because of homosexuality. Christians become hypocrites and tend to forget the real messages of Christ once hot topics like homosexuality come into the arena.



THE BULL YARD



POWER POLL RESULTS: IS HOMOSEXUALITY WRONG?

YES: 37%

NO: 46%

UNSURE/OTHER: 17%

95 Individuals Polled

On my first day of high school, I remember feeling very awkward and self-conscious. I was in a whole new place, with no one noticing or seeming to care. All of the upperclassmen completely ignored me. Then I met Erik. He treated me very kindly, made an effort to talk to me and made me feel like I belonged. Everyone seemed to like him; he was funny, attractive and sweet. Later I found out he was homosexual.

I've known many homosexual people. I have relatives who are homosexual, and my parents have close friends who share the same tendency. I was brought up to believe it was normal and there was nothing wrong with it.

However, when I truly felt myself to be a Christian, I began reading the Bible. I believe that if you're going to be Christian and believe in the Bible, you should believe the whole Bible. If you start taking out bits and pieces, it's not "absolute truth" at all.

Romans 1:27 says, "In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion." Leviticus 18:22 reads, "Do not practice homosexuality, having sex with another man as with a woman. It is a detestable sin." 1 Corinthians 6:9-6:10 has a list of wrongs and homosexuality is among them. (The list was too tedious to write; look it up for yourself if you so choose.)

I know sometimes we find the truth is difficult to believe. I know I did. But in the end, for me, there was no way around it. I am a Christian. I believe the Bible. The Bible says that homosexuality is wrong. That's the end of it for me.

That being said, homosexuality must be a choice. If God says it's wrong, it doesn't make

Guest Columnist



JESSICA ARNOLD

sense that he would make a person that way and he or she would have no choice in the matter. I do believe some people are more prone to it than others; some people's spiritual weaknesses are pride or profanity, and others' weaknesses are their unnatural attraction.

Now, before you put me in a group with the homosexuality condemners, I would like to say that I have no idea if homosexuals go to hell. All I know is that it's a sin because that is what God's Word says. It is not for me to judge them; I have my own sins and temptations that are just as bad in God's eyes. I find those who simply go around and condemn homosexuals repulsive. Sin is sin, and we are all sinners.

For instance, I think having sex before marriage is just as much of a sin as homosexuality. I don't think it's fair that people who live together have benefits that homosexuals do not. Both are wrong. I'm not against giving homosexuals the same benefits as those couples, but I am against them getting a holy union from God—meaning marriage.

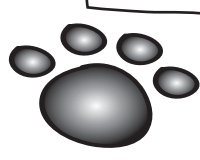
I find looking down on homosexuals, or treating them badly, detestable. They are people, and God lets them choose right from wrong. They should be treated with respect and love, while not forsaking the position of God's Word.

If you don't agree with me, I encourage you not to take my word for it. Read God's Word about it; search your heart, and ask Him for the answer. He'll let you know.

What became of Erik? Erik went on to college before me, and I never stopped missing him. Although he made choices I didn't agree with, he continues to be a personal hero of mine.

Good Dog

- The majority survived interterm unscathed.
- Dotzour vending machine works!
- Pizza in plenty was provided last bowling night.
- Dan Hudachek has been ranked nationally in the NAIA.



Bad Dog

- Vandalism and other unruly behavior has been escalating on campus.
- Individuals don't seem to recognize that the bathrooms are only cleaned once a day.
- National gun safety has fallen down on the priorities list.

A McPherson College moment...



- WOULD THE CAFETERIA PLEASE STOP PUTTING BUTTER ON THE VEGGIES?
- I'M STUCK IN A GLASS CASE OF EMOTIONS.
- I WISH LEON WAS A REAL ELEPHANT.
- I WANT BLACK AS A COLOR OF OUR UNIFORMS / PANTS / SCHOOL COLOR! (32 ENTRIES SUBMITTED)
- MANDY MORGAN, WILL YOU MARRY ME?
- STOP SENDING OUT CAMPUS EMAILS THAT NO ONE CARES ABOUT.
- LIBERALISM IS A MENTAL DISORDER.
- I WANT TO CALL THESE IN!
- HOW ABOUT SERVING BREAKFAST UNTIL 9:30 PLEASE?
- I WANNA HAVE A MCPHERSON COLLEGE DANCE OR PROM...
- SGA ROCKS! I LOVE YOU!
- I'M AFRAID OF AMERICANS!
- THERE ARE WAY TOO MANY GUYS NAMED NATE.
- FLIPPIN' AMAZING TREASURE HUNT!
- GOD IS A WOMAN!
- DON'T TIE YOUR SHOE BEFORE YOU PUT IT ON.
- SMILE!
- WOMEN'S BBALL IS ON A THREE GAME WINNING STREAK, BABY!
- JESSICA FOULKE WAS THE BEST OPINIONS EDITOR THERE EVER WAS.
- WOULD SOMEBODY PLEASE DEFINE 'MANLY'?
- MORE BINGO (2 ENTRIES) -- BINGO SUCKS / MIX THE NUMBERS UP (4 ENTRIES)

Got something to say? Shout it out!

DROP A NOTE IN THE SHOUT IT OUT! BOX IN THE SU. TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD.
Libelous comments will not be published.



photo by Shingo Nonaka

Shingo Nonaka, jr., Sapporo, Japan; took this photo of the Chicago skyline from atop the Sears Tower. Nonaka was one of four students that took the interterm class at the Urban Life Center.

Interterm Excursions

Students visit Greece, Ecuador and Chicago

PATRICIA RITCHA
Features Editor

Twenty-five students expanded their horizons while constricting their pocketbooks last month.

Herb and Jeanne Smith, professors of philosophy and religion and education, took 20 students to Greece over interterm.

They took two different groups for nine days each. The first group consisted mostly of MAC students, while the sec-

ond group was a hodge-podge of students, alumni, college affiliates as well as professionals and a few high school students.

The group traveled to Athens and visited the Parthenon, a magnificent temple built around 400 BCE.

They also visited Epidaurus, the healing center of the ancient world and home of the greatest acoustic theatre in the world. Myceneae, the proposed home of the Trojan ancestors, Olympia, Corinth and the Meteroa monasteries were also on the

travelers' itinerary.

Since the trip was not during a busy tourist season, H. Smith said they were able to have most of the places they visited all to themselves. Students were able to run on the tracks at the Olympic stadium and sing in the theatre at Epidaurus.

Ocie Kilgus, associate professor of modern languages; Shingo Nonaka, jr., Sapporo, Japan; Ellie Miller, sr., Kearney, Neb.; Erin Donigan, fr., Osage City and Patricia Ritcha, jr., Inman traveled to Chicago for three

weeks to participate in the Urban Life Center's January term. Students got the chance to live on the South Side of Chicago and to work, live and play in ethnically diverse situations.

Rhonda Hoffert, jr., Golden, Colo., went to Ecuador for almost two weeks with the New Community Project, an organization lead by David Radcliff that tries to build environmental awareness. The purpose of the trip was to show how the native people are impacted by changes in the rainforests.

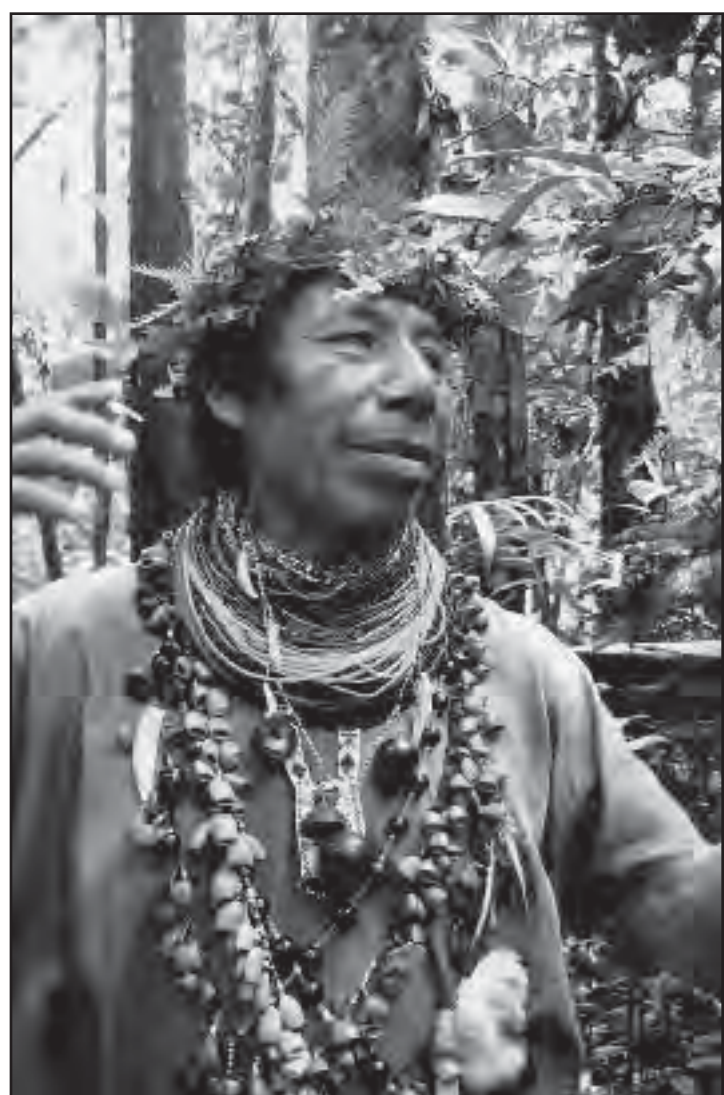
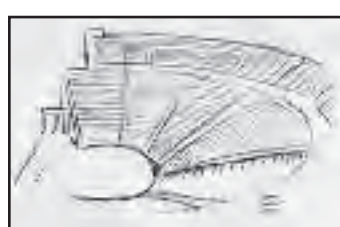


photo by Rhonda Hoffert



photo by Jeanne Smith



illustrations by Adam Shepard

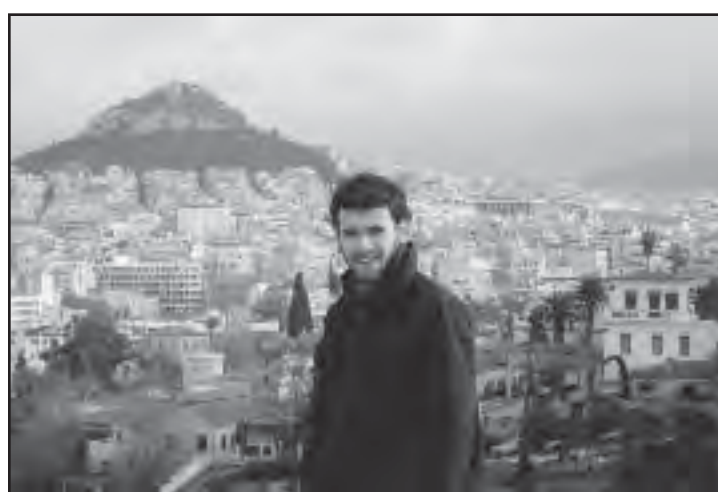


photo by Keely Walters

Above: Delio, the Shawman of Ciona, an indigenous community in Ecuador, gave a tour of the local flora and fauna to the New Community Project group that included Rhonda Hoffert, jr., Golden, Colo.

Far Left: Herb and Jeanne Smith accompanied by a large group of MAC students pose in front of the Parthenon in Athens, Greece.

Left: Myles Regier, jr., Henderson, Neb., stops on Mars Hill for a snap shot against Athens' cityscape.



photo by Travis Walker

Travis Walker, soph., Coffeyville; snapped this late night photo of the Parthenon in Athens, Greece, one of the major stops on the nine day interterm trip. This magnificent temple to Athena was built around 400 BCE.

STUDENT JOINS BLOCKADE AT SOLDIER'S FUNERAL

Military funeral protested by anti-gay group

LARA LICHTY
Editor-in-Chief

As other students were drawing interterm to a close, Brian Schippert, jr., Great Bend, did not quiet down. Instead, he revved his engine to speak out for something he believes in.

On January 21, Schippert traveled to Garden City to join a group of cyclists who blockaded a Westboro Baptist Church protest at a lay soldier's funeral.

Schippert became interested in the protests when some fellow cyclists contacted him about the Upchurch funeral. He said he looked up the church's website to learn more about the situation.

"I started reading [the website], and I couldn't sleep the rest of the night," Schippert said. "I don't understand how they get those ideas from the Bible."

Fred Phelps, minister of the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, says the United States is "doomed" because homosexuality is permitted within its borders. Phelps and his church claim "God himself has now become America's terrorist, killing Americans in strange lands for the 'Brokeback Mountain' fag sins."

On the "God Hates America" website, Phelps says it is too late to pray for the good of the United States of America. Phelps and his church pray for hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and collapsing mines to come forth as God's justice for this "evil, hateful nation." He and his followers believe the September 11 terrorist attacks, as well as Hurricane Katrina, were God's way of punishing a "gay-enabling" nation.

According to his website, Phelps has initiated over 20,000 protests across the nation in the

last decade.

Although Phelps has protested at homosexuals' funerals in the past, his current focus is funerals of people whom he thinks supported homosexuality. A recent Phelps protest took place at Coretta Scott King's funeral because she fought for homosexuals' rights. He also protested in Lindsborg simply because it claims to be "Little Sweden," and a man was arrested in Sweden for preaching homosexuals were an abomination.

Fallen soldiers' funerals have been another popular crusade for Phelps. He claims American soldiers are fighting for a nation filled with sodomy and calls the soldiers "godless brats." His church prays for the number of Americans killed in Iraq to increase from 2,252 to 222,252.

Clint Upchurch, a military police officer who died on January 7 when his convoy was attacked only three months after he arrived in Iraq, was one of those soldiers.

Although Phelps refers to these protests as "love crusades," members of the Westboro Baptist Church were holding signs at Upchurch's funeral that read "God hates fags," "thank God for IEDs [Improvised Explosive Devices]," "they turned America over to fags; they're coming home in body bags," among others.

Out of respect for the Upchurch's family, Schippert said he felt the need to join the blockade against Phelps. The blockade was formed by over 450 motorcyclists, over half of which were veterans.

The group of cyclists, called the Patriot Guard Riders, formed in response to Phelps' picketing at soldier's funerals and currently travels around the nation to blockade Phelps' protests. Their goal is to protect the family and friends of the



The Patriot Guard Riders, a group of motorcycle enthusiasts, have taken on the responsibility of counter-protesting Fred Phelps' Topeka based church, Westboro Baptist, at military funerals. Out of respect for the grieving family, the bikers form a line between them and the protestors.

photo by Brian Schippert

"It was almost heartbreaking to see them disgrace the American flag - standing on it and holding it upside down. To me, that flag stands for their right to do what they're doing."

-BRIAN SCHIPPERT



photos by Brian Schippert

Above & Right: Westboro Baptist Church members protest at military funerals because they believe the war in Iraq is punishment from God for the tolerance the United States has shown the GLBT community.



soldiers from seeing or hearing the protestors.

Schippert said members of the Patriot Guard did not communicate with members of the Westboro Baptist Church for fear that Phelps would sue as he has done in the past. They simply revved their engines when Phelps' group began to chant.

"That's the only form of retaliation we used," Schippert said, "and we used it just to drown them out."

Schippert said he was disgusted with the disrespect Westboro

members had for the family of Upchurch as well as for the country.

"It was almost heartbreaking to see them disgrace the American flag - standing on it and holding it upside down. To me, that flag stands for their right to do what they're doing," Schippert said. "Of all the places they could protest, why funerals?"

Schippert isn't the only one questioning how far Phelps

can stretch his first amendment rights. Several states that have been affected by Phelps' picketing are looking into bills banning or limiting protests at funerals.

In fact, Kansas state lawmakers are considering a bill that would require protestors at funerals to stay a minimum of 300 feet beyond the funeral site. In rebuttal, the Westboro Baptist Church released a press

statement stating God not only hates homosexuals but Kansas lawmakers as well.

Phelps said he is sure the lawmakers will not be able to tread on his constitutional right to free speech. In the 1990s, the last time the government tried to place limits on Phelps' protests, his law firm was awarded two checks, one from the state for \$170,000 and one from Topeka for \$47,000.

The Hot spot

A THOUGHTFULLY DEvised ARRAY OF QUESTIONS FOR OUR FRESH, BRAND NEW DEFENSIVE BACKS/SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR, FOOTBALL AND METZLER RD: O.C. WILLIAMS

TOLAN LICHTY
Spectator Staff



How did you wind up coaching at McPherson College?

Coach Cunningham contacted me down at Mississippi Community College and we kept in contact.

Do you have any advice for players now who may be interested in coaching?

For one: pay attention to what's going on, not just with your position, but everything going on overall on the field. Two: always try to stay in good standings with your coaches. Three: Learn as much as you can.

Are you married?
Yeah, I'm married.

At what point did you realize that coaching was something you wanted to do?

During high school games, when coaches would ask me if I had any suggestions to offer.

'ESPN the Magazine' or 'Sports Illustrated'?
'ESPN the Magazine'

Was there ever a game that you played or coached in that you think helped define who you are today?

We were playing Valley State University, and our long snapper got hurt. It had been five years since I long snapped back as a freshman in high school. The snap went well, and I guess that shows that I am up for any task, and that given the opportunity I can get things done.

Did you coach anywhere prior to McPherson?

First I coached at my alma mater, Alcorn St., as a graduate assistant. Next I spent two years at Richmond High School in Monroe, La. as a D-backs coach. Then lastly I coached at East Mississippi Community College.

'Hoosiers' or 'Rudy'?
'Rudy'

Where did you play football in college?
Alcorn State

The Throwback

Researched by Rhonda Hoffert

Be My Valentine

February 14, 1958

Have you ever wondered why the 14th of February, Valentine's Day, has something about it that expresses love?



Long before Christ, the Romans held a romantic holiday on Feb. 14 called the Lupercalia.

On this day the young people would meet, and each young man would draw the name of a girl from an urn. She would then become his sweetheart for the year.

This custom did not fit later Christian ideas, and the church fathers soon discouraged it. They thought a saint's name would help impress upon their youth the divine nature of love.

As they looked back in church history, they found the record of a Christian named Valentine, who had been martyred on Feb. 14, 270. Since the date fit perfectly, why not name the feast for him.

No history of St. Valentine's life is recorded. But we do know that in order to be a Christian in third century Rome, Valentine must have had a strong, selfless love.

Lady 'Dogs on 3 game winning streak

BRYAN GROSBACK
Sports Editor

With only one game left in the season, the Lady Bulldogs are holding strong in eighth place in conference with a record of 4-13, 6-18 overall. The final game for the team will be tomorrow night at 5 p.m. at Bethany College. Bethany is in second place in conference with a record of 14-3. The Lady Bulldogs are on a three game winning streak, the longest of the season.

Last night, the team traveled to Bethel College and came away with the victory 82-70. The Lady Bulldogs went into halftime with a 30-25 lead. The first half was very even as both teams shot 38 percent from the floor. The Lady Bulldogs turned on the jets as they scored 52 points in the second half, which gave them the 12-point victory. Leading the way for the Lady Bulldogs was April Woody, soph., with 28 points, 20 in the second half, six rebounds and six assists. April Bryley, sr., ran the point for the team and finished the game with nine points, all in the second half, six rebounds and seven steals. Angelina Fiorenzi, fr., and Shelia Bevan, jr., also finished in double figures with 12 and 11 points each.

Last Saturday, the Lady Bulldogs hosted Saint Mary College on senior night. The two teams battled closely as they went into the half with the Lady Bulldogs ahead, 35-33. The Lady Bulldogs tightened up the defense and only allowed Saint Mary to shoot for 28 percent in the second half. The Lady Bulldogs shot well the entire game shooting 44.8 percent. Out of 12 three point attempts, only two went in the goal. Leading the way for the Lady Bulldogs was Bevan who had 17 points and six rebounds. Bevan shot eight for nine from the field while only playing 17 minutes. Senior leadership was shown also as Ashley Kline, sr., had 11 points, 11 rebounds, six assists, and two blocks. Woody came off the bench with 15 points and five rebounds. Also off the bench with a strong game was Fiorenzi



Coach J.D. Gravina talks to his Lady Bulldogs during a timeout in the game versus University of Saint Mary last Saturday night.

photo by Katie Miller

with eight points, five rebounds and three blocks.

The winning streak started for the Lady Bulldogs as they upset Kansas Wesleyan at the Sport Center by a score of 75-64. The Lady Bulldogs went into the half-time break down 26-32. The team needed the victory, but they shot only 27.6 percent in the first half and were heavily out rebounded

by Kansas Wesleyan 19 to 28. There were some signs of hope for the Lady Bulldogs as Christa Blose, sr., came off the bench and scored eight points, a perfect three for three from the floor in the first half. With the team down at half, Coach Gravina fired up his ladies for the second half, and they came out on fire. Kansas Wesleyan was overwhelmed as the Lady Bull-

dogs went on run after run, and out scored Kansas Wesleyan 49-32 in the second half.

Leading the way for the Lady Bulldogs off the bench was Blose who finished the game with 24 points and seven rebounds. Blose shot seven for nine from the floor, four for four from three point land and scored 16 points in the second half. Crystal Thomas, sr., also

helped with the scoring frenzy in the second half as she scored 22 points, 17 points in the second half. Bryley helped lead the team from the point with seven points, eight rebounds, seven assists and five steals. Kline also pitched in with eight points and ten rebounds. The team shot 53.8 percent from the floor in the second half and 40 percent for the game.

McBroom dreams of playing on Sunday

ANGELINA FIORENZI
Spectator Staff

Every college athlete dreams of going to the highest level of play in their sport. Whether it's the NFL, NBA or the major leagues, all athletes think about it from time to time. Senior football player, Troy McBroom, Manteca, Calif., has the chance to fulfill his dream.

McBroom will be attending NFL, AFL, and CFL Combines in the upcoming months. There will be two Combines in March and one in April where McBroom will be evaluated on his talent as a football player. Head football coach, David Cunningham thinks McBroom will have no problem at the Combines.

"Troy has a good chance to play at a high level of football. He has the height, size and the athleticism," Cunningham said. "If he gets in the right situation, he will go far."

Cunningham thinks playing in the AFL2 league, a developmental league for Arena Football, would be best for McBroom. It would allow him to



photo by Bryan Grosbach

Troy McBroom continues to train as he prepares to tryout for football representatives at football combines in the next few months.

brush up on his skills.

Being able to compete at this level means the athlete must be physically and mentally ready.

"I work daily to improve being prepared mentally and physically, but when my opportunity presents itself, I will be ready," McBroom said.

McBroom looks forward to the opportunity to excel.

"Athletes that are good, and in most cases better than myself, will only be a positive

thing for me. I've always been a competitor, there's just something inside of me that drives me and constantly tells me that I can improve mentally, physically and skillfully," McBroom said. "The NFL is out there for the taking. In all reality I'll play Arena League for a few seasons, then the NFL will be a possibility. Just keep a lookout for me, and don't be surprised to see me on your TV network or EA sports video games."

Indoor track & field team to compete again this weekend

BRYAN GROSBACK
Sports Editor

The indoor track team will travel to Lincoln, Neb. today to run on one of the only banked tracks in the country, which is also home to one of the top indoor track and field facilities in the U.S. The team will be competing in the Prairie Wolf Invitational hosted by Nebraska Wesleyan University. The meet will take place on the campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The Thinclads also plan on sending a few runners to the Kansas State Open tomorrow morning. A few athletes considered running in both races, but the team will mainly send the distance runners who can recover enough to race two days in a row.

The team had a lot of problems with injuries and illness this winter. Those athletes who have not been sick or injured have competed well for the Bulldogs. On Saturday, Feb. 4, eleven men and one woman traveled to Nebraska for the Doane College Invitational.

This was the Thinclads' first meet only featuring other NAIA schools. Even with the long drive the team was ready to run. Brooks Reale, jr., ran a 6.88 for the 55-meter dash. Also running the 55-meters was Nick Shue, fr., with a season best of 7.11 and Jarrod Smith, jr., with a 7.65. Shue ran the 200-meter dash in a time of 24.76. Also running with Shue was Jordan King, fr., who ran a 24.90 for the 200-meter and 8.27 for the 55-meter hurdles.

Although Sean McCrae, fr., showed his speed on the soccer field this fall, he now shows his speed in the middle-distance events. He ran a time of 54.93 for the 400-meter. Brent Bailey, fr., and Andrew Paull, soph., are also part of the middle-distance team. They both ran the 600 meters in 1:30.39 and 1:32.08 respectively. Bailey's time was good enough to place him eighth in the competition. Brent Caswell, fr., finished fifth, with a time of 2:13.46 in the 800 meters.

The distance team is looking strong with two strong performances from Tolan Lichty, fr., and Jacob Merrick, soph., both running the 1-mile and the 3,000 meters. Lichty's times were 4:54.16, good enough for



photo by Bryan Grosbach

Brooks Reale, soph. (front left), and Nick Shue, fr. (front right) lead Jordan King, fr. (back left), and Jarred Smith, soph. (back right), in a jog down the hall during track practice on Thursday.

tenth, and 9:51.15, while Merrick ran times of 5:05.48 and 10:27.91, which was a season best. Ben Cole, fr., ran a mile time of 5:54.32.

The Thinclads put two relay teams on the team that day. The men's mile relay, McCrae, Paull, Bailey and Shue, finished with a time of 3:44.53, and the 2-mile relay, Lichty, Merrick, Caswell, Cole with a time of 9:36.78.

Megan Meyer, fr., competed in the 800 meters and the mile with times of 2:53.25 and 6:30.15.

The Thinclads sent their throwers and jumpers to Bethany College for their Ted Kesinger Invitational. Three men went to the competition and all three placed in their respective events.

Zane Walker, jr., placed fourth in the high jump with a height of six feet even. Chris Benisch, soph., took first in the long jump with a distance of 22 feet and nine inches. This was good enough to earn Benisch

a provisional qualifier for nationals.

The performance of the day went to Dan Hudachek, jr., who took first in the 35-pound weight throw. Hudachek threw the weight 52 feet and two and a half inches, which was an automatic qualifier for nationals and the school record in the 35-pound weight throw.

Last weekend the Thinclads were supposed to head to Bethany again for the Bethany Winter Duel.

With the weather not being as nice as expected, the teams took no runners or jumpers to the meet. Hudachek and Jessi King, jr., were the only athletes to compete for the Bulldogs. Hudachek threw the weight 47 feet nine and a half inches. King threw the shot put 33 feet four and a half inches.

The team looks to keep improving their times and distances as they begin to think about the end of indoor track and field and the start of outdoor track and field.

BULLDOG FAN NIGHT



photo by Katie Miller

Two weeks ago on Saturday night was Bulldog Fan Night. Students were encouraged to dress up more than usual for the home basketball games versus Ottawa University.



photo by Katie Miller

The starting five of Tim Cox, sr. (11), Chris Nixon, sr. (24), Lee Gustafson, sr. (back left), Art Soto, sr. (back right), and Cody Dickerson, soph. (right) huddle up before their game versus Ottawa University. The starters talk about how they want to play defense and offense and fire each other up as the game gets ready for tip-off.

Men's basketball to play for a home playoff game

BRYAN GROSBACK
Sports Editor

The Dogballers are looking to end their regular season with a victory, when they travel to Bethany College tomorrow night for a game at 7 p.m.

The team is looking for a win after last night's loss at Bethel College. The loss brought the Bulldogs to 14-13 overall and 7-10 in conference.

The team is looking to host a play-in game for the post-season tournament if they finish in either seventh or eighth place in conference.

The team needs a win or a Bethel loss to host a home play-in game.

The Dogballers went to Bethel College on Thursday night and lost to the Threshers 78-55.

The Bulldogs were down 42-16 at halftime as they only shot 24 percent from the floor in the first half.

The lead was too much for the team to over come as they fell to Bethel. The Dogballers were lead by Tim Cox, sr., with ten points and Chris Nixon, sr., with nine points. Lee Gustafson, sr., had a quiet night with only six point, four assists, and three steals, but only one rebound.

Bethel just couldn't be stopped as they shot over 50 percent for the entire game.

Last Saturday, the team hosted Saint Mary for senior night. Coach Trimmell put four seniors in the starting line up. The Dogballers shot 37.5 percent from the field and only hit four of 18 three pointers.

The team's defense made the

difference as they held Saint Mary to only 25 percent shooting in the first half. The 'Dogs went into halftime with a 30-24 lead.

The second half was much of the same. The team shot 45.8 percent from the floor in the second half and won the game 65-57.

Leading the way to victory was Cox with 18 points and seven rebounds. Gustafson who has been averaging double digits in points, only scored four this game, but had seven rebounds, five assists and four blocks. Jordan Carter, jr., has shown signs of great shooting in the past month as he turned in 11 points, three for seven from three point land, in the victory. This night was no exception to Travis Allen's dependability as Allen put in six

points and had three blocks. It was a team defensive effort as seven different players had steals in the game.

Last Thursday the Dogballers lost a heartbreaker to Kansas Wesleyan 69-61. It was a tough game for the 'Dogs as Kansas Wesleyan shot 47.2 percent for the game to the Dogballers 37.7 percent. The men were also out rebounded 40 to 30.

Art Soto, sr., was the top scorer with 15 points. Cody Dickerson, soph., also chipped in with ten points and Gustafson had nine points and five assists. Nixon had another strong, yet quiet night with seven points and seven rebounds.

The Dogballers hope that this loss won't affect their post-season chances too much, as they are currently eighth in the conference.



photo by Katie Miller

Coach Roger Trimmell gives instruction to his players during a timeout in the Bulldogs game versus Saint Mary on last Saturday night.

The Box Score

Men's Basketball (14-13, 7-10)

MAC 31 30= 61
Kansas Wesleyan 38 31= 69
LEADERS:
Points: Soto 15, Dickerson 10, Gustafson 9
Rebounds: Nixon 7, Gustafson 4, Cox 3, Soto 3, Klumpe 3
Assists: Gustafson 5, Soto 3, four with 2
SHOOTING:
Total FG: 23/61 37.7%
3-point FG: 12/33 36.4%
Soto 5/9

MAC 30 35= 65
Saint Mary 24 33= 57
LEADERS:
Points: Cox 18, Carter 11, Dickerson 9, Nixon 9
Rebounds: Cox 7, Gustafson 7
Assists: Gustafson 5, Dickerson 5
Blocks: Gustafson 4, Allen 3
Steals: seven with 1
SHOOTING:
Total FG: 23/56 41.1%
3-point FG: 9/29 31%

MAC 16 39= 55
@Bethel 42 36= 78
LEADERS:
Points: Cox 10, Nixon 9
Rebounds: Nixon 5, Cox 4, Hadachek 4
Assists: Gustafson 4
Steals: Gustafson 3

Women's Basketball (5-18, 3-13)

MAC 26 49= 75
Kansas Wesleyan 32 32= 64
LEADERS:
Points: Blose 24, Thomas 22, Kline 8
Rebounds: Kline 10, Bryley 8, Blose 7
Assists: Bryley 7, Harvey 5
Steals: Bryley 5
SHOOTING:
Total FG: 22/55 40%
3-point FG: 9/19 47% Blose 4/4

MAC 35 38= 73
Saint Mary 33 32= 65
LEADERS:
Points: Bevan 17, Woody 15, Kline 11
Rebounds: Kline 11, Bevan 6, Blose 5, Woody 5, Fiorenzi 5
Assists: Kline 6
Blocks: Fiorenzi 3, Kline 2
Steals: Bryley 4
SHOOTING:
Total FG: 29/63 46%
Bevan 8/9
3-point FG: 2/12 16.7%

MAC 30 52= 82
@Bethel 25 45= 70
LEADERS:
Points: Woody 28, Fiorenzi 12, Bevan 11, Thomas 10
Rebounds: Bryley 6, Woody 6, Harvey 5
Assists: Woody 6, Harvey 4
Steals: Bryley 7

Indoor Track & Field

Doane Invitational
MEN:
55m Dash: Reale 6.88, Shue 7.11, Smith 7.65
200m Dash: Shue 24.76, King 24.90
400m Dash: McCrae 54.93
600m Run: Bailey 1:30.39 (8th), Paull 1:32.08
800m Run: Caswell 2:13.46 (5th)
1-Mile Run: Lichty 4:54.16 (10th), Merrick 5:05.48, Cole 5:54.32
3,000m Run: Lichty 9:51.15, Merrick 10:27.91
55m Hurdles: King 8.27
4x400m Relay: McCrae, Paull, Bailey, Shue 3:44.53
4x800m Relay: Lichty, Merrick, Caswell, Cole 9:36.78
WOMEN:
800m Run: Meyer 2:53.25 (7th)
1-Mile Run: Meyer 6:30.15

Bethany Invite (Throwers & Jumpers only)
High Jump: Walker 6-0 (4th)
Long Jump: Benisch 22-9 (1st) (provisional qualifier)
35lb. Weight Throw: Hudachek 52-2.5 (1st) (school record, automatic qualifier)

Bethany Indoor/Outdoor Invite
MEN:
35lb. Weight Throw: Hudachek 47-9.5 (2nd)
WOMEN:
Shot Put: King 33-4.5 (3rd)

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

FRIDAY
Track & Field @ Prairie Wolf Invitational (Neb.) 1 p.m.

SATURDAY
Track & Field @ Kansas State Open 11 a.m.
Basketball @ Bethany College 5/7 p.m.

MONDAY
Basketball - KCAC Play-in games 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Women's Basketball - KCAC Quarterfinals 7 p.m.

THURSDAY
Men's Basketball- KCAC Quarterfinals 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, Feb 25th
Track & Field @ Southwestern Throws Meet 9:30 a.m.
Basketball- KCAC Semifinals 2/7 p.m.

MONDAY, Feb 27th
Women's Basketball- KCAC Finals 7p.m.

TUESDAY, Feb 28th
Men's Basketball- KCAC Finals 7 p.m.

National Report: Winter Olympics competition on day 7

MALLORY YUNGBURG
Spectator Staff

The Winter Olympics are underway with new and different talents. There have been isappointments, controversy and shocking results. One never knows what will happen when the Olympics roll around.

In the last Olympic competition, Canadian skaters Jamie Sale and David Pelletier finished their routine and the spectators felt they were on their way to the gold. However, Russians Yelena Berzhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze ended up on top.

Because it was wondered if a judge issued biased scores, the International Olympic Committee declared the Russians and Canadians co-champions. A new scoring system was then created for this year's games.

A blow for the U.S. team came when one of the most nationally known American figure skaters in history, Michelle Kwan, was replaced by Emily Hughes, sister of gold medal winner Sarah Hughes, due to aggravating a lingering groin injury in practice.

So far the medal count is led by Norway with 13 medals, Russia with 11, Germany with 10, United States with 9 and Canada with 8 medals. The United States is in the lead with 6 gold medals.

With many hopes and dreams achieved and some crushed, many competitors still have that one hope of getting the gold medal or medals for their own country.

