



IN FEATURES

Getting a taste of McPherson College students' fast food habits.

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Softball team to play in Sterling tournament with 3-game winning streak.

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THE MCPHERSON COLLEGE SPECTATOR

Volume 90, Issue 9

"Serving to inform a community since 1916"

March 17, 2006



McPherson firefighters burn a dilapidated house Saturday, across from Hoffman Student Union. Once the lot is cleared, McPherson College students are looking forward to an additional parking lot that will hopefully be ready at the end of May. Not only did the firefighters control the burn, but they used it for training purposes as well.

Campus mailroom processes observed

JEN MARQUETTE
Spectator Staff

Recently, there has been some frustration and ridicule directed at the campus bookstore and mailroom. Becky Dockum and a handful of students operate the campus bookstore and have the responsibility of sorting a large amount of mail each day. "Sorting the mail is not too bad during the normal times in the year," said employee Michael Jardon, jr., Baldwin City. "But it gets a little overwhelming around the beginning of the semester when we start selling books and having to sort mail, trying to get it all posted on time."

and I have gotten everything I wanted," Hoelscher said. Nikki Clark, fr., Panora, Iowa, also has not found any discrepancies with the campus mail system. But that has not been the case for everybody. Michael Cote, fr., Gorham, N.H., is a little skeptical about the campus mail. "I got a letter today (Thursday) from the school that was printed a week ago," Cote said, "so I don't think they give it (mail) to us on time."

Dockum had a few suggestions for both students and professors that may help the mailroom in the effectiveness of sorting mail. "It helps immensely when each article has clearly written information on it and if mail is being sent out to a large number of specific people it helps to have them in alphabetical order by last name," Dockum said. Another factor is that the trained employees and Dockum are not always doing the sorting and placing of mail into the mailboxes. Club officers, other students and professors also place mail in the boxes, and sometimes there can be confusion, causing a piece of mail to be misplaced, sometimes in the wrong box.

"At times it feels that we get unfair treatment when something gets put in the wrong box or something has not come in when [they] thought it should have," Jardon said. "Everyone needs to realize how much mail gets sorted every morning and afternoon. Every once in a while we're bound to make a mistake."

From there, the mail goes to Salina to be sorted and from Salina the mail either goes to Topeka for in-state sorting or to Kansas City, Kan., for out-of-state sorting. After being sorted in these locations, it is sent to each state's sorting center and then each region within that state.

Dockum agrees with Jardon. "I feel my workers do a good job and endure many demands by the campus community," Dockum said. "On heavy mail days we can sort mail for as long as an hour or sometimes even two hours."

There are problems that arise along the way when sorting mail. Several times a day the employees have to decipher handwriting and mislabeled mail.

Dockum urges anyone with any complaint to speak directly with her and hopefully a solution can be resolved. If that solution does not satisfy the student's wishes, the student may rent a mailbox at the McPherson Post Office.

"We also take the rap when the postal service or package service doesn't deliver as promptly as the recipient expects, something that is out of our hands entirely," Dockum said. Laura Hoelscher, soph., Bush-ton, transferred to McPherson at the beginning of the spring semester. In the short time she's been here, she said the mailroom employees do a good job. "My mail has been on time

A 'lot' in progress

KYLE RAJEWSKI
Spectator Staff

If students want a parking spot within 500 feet of the Hoffman Student Union they have two options: the parking lot to the south or along the sides of Gordon Street.

planned to feature at least 70 slots, will be located immediately south of Hoffman Student Union. The college is accepting bids from companies to contract the work on the parking lot.

But due to funds from the "MyMC" campaign, parking options are going to change.

Gaylon Green, business manager, said the new parking lot could be ready as soon as graduation.

The house that stood on the corner of Gordon and Eshelman was targeted for destruction by McPherson College around Christmas time last year.

"With the rising enrollment, parking around campus is going to be at a premium," Green said.

The college planned to get rid of the house in order to expand the current parking lot, so the city fire department was contacted. They saw it as a training opportunity.

Though a few students would rather have an abandoned house sitting on the corner, most are excited about the new parking lot.

Saturday morning, the McPherson Fire Department burned the house.

Off-campus student Darci Davison, sr., McPherson, is supportive of the additional parking.

The parking lot, which is

"It's (the new parking lot) a good idea because I can never find a stupid parking spot," Davison said.



Several McPherson College faculty and students observe as the McPherson Fire Department burns the house that sat at the corner of Gordon and Eshelman streets. The lot is now being cleared so an additional parking lot can be constructed. Plans to burn the house were postponed until Saturday because of inclement weather.

Spring enrollment up, attrition rate at its lowest

LARA LICHTY
Editor-in-Chief

Spring enrollment 2006 is the highest in McPherson College history since 1981. As of the 20th day of spring classes, that record-breaking number was 412 full-time students.

record-breaking figures. "I think the reason we're retaining students is because we're recruiting the right type of student," Williams said.

The attrition rate (number of students lost) of six percent is the lowest the college has seen in 19 years. With the low attrition and 30 new students this spring, members of the Retention Task Force, a group created to increase retention, are excited about the progress they've made towards their goals.

Williams said in looking at successful students her team can more easily decipher who will be a good fit at the college.

Carol Williams, director of admissions and financial aid, and Karlene Tyler, associate dean of academic records, are part of that team. Both agree the caliber of students recruited has been a big influence on the

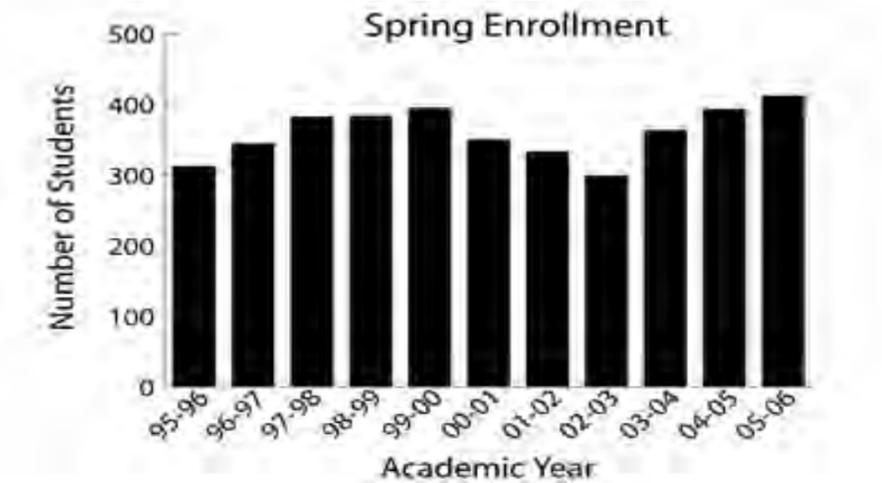
"When you're looking at retention, often times you're sort of stressed to look at why students are leaving," Williams said. "From an admissions standpoint, we try to take the data and look at who stayed and who graduated. We try to use that information in a recruiting model."

ics and student activities has improved," Tyler said. "The students that admissions recruited are a better fit. Not all students feel comfortable in a small town at a small college."

LaMonte Rothrock, dean of students and the head of the Retention Task Force, thinks it is important to be honest with prospective students for that very reason.

"From a retention standpoint, I think the main thing is you don't get that kind of high retention and low attrition rate if you're not recruiting students who match what it is we value and have here," Rothrock said. "The more that we're clear about who we are, the easier it is for us to match people that want to come here."

Aside from recruiting, the Retention Task Force tries to



identify at-risk students and work towards ensuring those students' success. The group meets, looks at five-week grades and absences and contacts the professors and coaches about the particular student.

Rothrock, Tyler and Williams believe the involvement in co-curricular activities helps with retention. The goal for next fall's enrollment is 490 full-time students. Williams is confident that her

team will make that goal. "In just looking at the data at this point it looks like we're going to be there," Williams said. "If I were making a prediction, I'd say we'll be at 490 or higher next fall."

A peak into my world of self-observation

We all contemplate our daily lives: our family, friends, hobbies, goals, etc. However, we generally do so only on a very casual level. Others, like I, frequently go beyond this norm and consciously consider our existence in more detail. Never before, though, have I examined myself in such a formal format as that which I am about to reveal. In truth, however, it is really no different than what we do anyhow, simply an amp in recognition of the fact that we do in reality scrutinize the world in which we live.

Now, I suppose I should move on to the heart of the matter. Basically, the situation is that I determined quite a few of the individuals which I consider rather good friends and quite enjoyable to be around altogether did not generally seem to contact me for leisure purposes on a regular basis. I instead was the initiator. Therefore, I decided to take a backseat role and see what happened.

Of these college friends, five fairly outgoing males were chosen. For a week, I cut off any and all initiating of phone and online messenger or email communications (one quasi-essential exception admitted). If contacted by them, I recorded it if the purpose was for leisurely (non-business – ex. Not homework assignment needs) conversation and also acknowledged any activity requests. I made certain (or at least tried to) that I did not push any desire to engage in an activity unless

Contemplations of my Mind



ERIC SADER

requested by them.

I confess that I also originally wished to participate in a personal verbal initiation ban but gave up the idea shortly afterward due to a variety of reasons. I actually did do a test run with acquaintances one dinner and honestly zero words were exchanged, but I felt that at large, people often fulfill social etiquette and speak to others for the pure sake of the etiquette in itself. For that reason, along with a tidbit of laziness, I did not feel that it would be worth the effort. Additionally, I did not wish to appear standoffish and deter possible conversation by the other means of which I was actually taking official note of.

Admittedly, I must say that this week was exceptionally difficult for me to restrain myself, along with the minor disheartenment derived from the outcome. I mean it's just not natural – for me anyhow – to not say hi to someone if they're online. It's even worse to be talking with someone and not ask them to do something. To say the least, I am glad I only chose five individuals.

Well, I am assuming perhaps one person out there at least is ready to hear the results. Drum roll please... Of those relationships observed,

after two days of absolutely zero communication, I was contacted for leisure conversation four times and asked to participate in a leisure activity only twice. (Accidentally once, I did leave my messenger status set online when I was away from the computer and received a greeting but did not count this, especially since I did not know the purpose of the projected conversation.) Four of the five did not even initiate conversation with me at all (yeah, kind of a bummer), let alone inquire as to if I'd be up for doing something.

Overall, my null hypothesis that no one would contact me was rather sadly close to the truth in many regards. (Remember, these results only reflected five people's communication with me by phone, messenger and e-mail over a relatively brief – not for me – one-week period.)

Conclusion: (in least to most likely order – along with desirability conveniently enough)

1. I am totally inept at some social friendship situations and obviously need to raise my standards of deeming true friendship to include more attention reciprocation. I also could be unapproachable or otherwise fairly socially incompetent. [my fault theory]

2. As expressed in an earlier issue, people might just all be passive, do-nothings who merely go through the motions of a meaningless being. [their fault theory]

3. Individuals on campus (or at least those which fit my criteria for the study and possi-



bly me as well) might actually be exceptionally busy in their daily lives and genuinely have a lack of time and/or other legitimate reason for not contacting me. [society's fault theory]

4. My experiment in whole does not reflect the reality of the situation. Maybe these individuals expected me to take initiative as that is my general course of action. Perhaps due to errors on my part, along with other rationale, no significance can really be viewed. For example, my lack to cover all forms of communication (including failure to accurately assess face to face conversation) may be one lurking variable I simply could not effectively explore. [experiment's fault theory]

At large, I feel a combination of reasons three and especially four

to be the most probable culprits of result causation (at least from my knowledge of those relationships upon which I based my study). Therefore, I wouldn't recommend basing too much weight on such an unscientific endeavor. Okay, okay, so I may more than likely be giving in to the urge to see myself and others in the best light. Sorry, that's just the way it is.

All in all, I have to say I found the entire undertaking quite interesting and hope readers do not take offense or negative thoughts but instead a learning and thinking mindset from the ordeal. In truth, I have no idea how readers will react to this article, if they even reflect anything at all. Just know that life is amazingly interesting if you only stop and take a gander at all it entails.

One minute, ma'am, the heart attack can wait

I sat down the other week to watch the latest installment of "I Love Toys", numbers 60 to 41 (on a side note, I will eat up anything VH1 has to offer in the means of poking fun at pop culture – it's literally brilliant, Mo Rocca and others are definitely 'hero status' in my little yellow book). Anyway, I digress. As I was watching the show, I began to feel some neck pain. It started out small, like your friendly 'crick-in-the-neck,' but after a few hours it got to be pretty unbearable. Hot nor cold nor Aleve could cure this ailment. I turned into a regular whiny mess.

So, in "I'm in the play and need drugs to perform" fashion, I called a nameless doctor. This doctor shall remain nameless because a) I want to protect the innocent, b) you guys don't even

Guest Columnist



JESSICA FOULKE

really care, and c) I honestly don't quite remember this particular person's name.

After making an appointment, I headed to this doctor. Normally, had I had more time, I would have just gone home, but I highly doubt my drama needs a two and a half hour car ride – I simply don't have that much time. Anyway, upon arriving, I realized I didn't have my insurance card. Wasn't this all easier when your parent took care of it all (I'm talking kindergarten here because I've had the same doctor since then)? A quick phone call got the

numbers I needed but not the actual card -- which apparently I was essential. I think my mom is supposed to fax a copy or something. Ah, pish posh. So, I sat in the waiting room for a few/15 minutes, then a nurse escorted me to a room. "Success" I muttered to myself, grateful that they saw my plight and got me back there quickly.

But no. Seriously, I spent 45 minutes in the examination room. I read quickly but that was still two "Newsweeks" and one "Better Homes and Gardens." I didn't bring any homework and I seriously think that they forgot about me! I won't go into details here, but I was about to bash my head against the wall to get some attention when someone finally came in to see me, for five minutes. Then, she wrote me a prescription,

told me to have a nice day and left. Oh my God.

Well, I went to get my prescription, which ended up costing me \$50 and was only for three days, not to mention I felt more than a little loopy after taking it and it didn't really help with the pain (should've stuck with good old ibuprofen for that one). Luckily whatever it was that was causing my 'muscle spasms' (a very technical term, I might add, that was told to me by the person examining me) has gone away (I know you were all worried), though I still need to finish that prescription...

I must say that the people working at the office were nice enough and quite gracious about the lack-of-insurance-card thing but I will say that this is not a new situation. I've spent some time in

doctors' offices and when I say some time, I mean at least several days worth in my lifetime. When someone is sick (or in pain, as in moi), they need to be seen by a doctor. They don't need to see the examination room for forty-five minutes. C'mon here, I definitely could have died in there and they wouldn't have even noticed! Just even checking up on one's patients to make sure they're still breathing would be nice.

Maybe I'll just avoid the doctor altogether. What doesn't kill you will make you stronger, right? Either one sounds like a good option some days.

HAVE A GREAT SPRING BREAK EVERYBODY! And by all means, don't get hurt...you may end up spending the rest of it waiting to be seen by a doctor.

Entertainment can be legal

In the world of McPherson College, we've all learned that there really isn't much (legal) to do. It actually appears to be a trend all through Kansas... perhaps the entire Midwest! I, however, am here to tell you there is something you can do. It's called blogging.

Oh, I know that half of you are now going, "Aww, man, blogging is lame; it's for those stupid emo kids." A quarter of you are wondering what on earth "blogging" is and the rest are thinking, "Well, I have a blog." While certainly a large number of individuals who blog are 'emo,' you have a chance to change that proportion! By the way, emo kids, I love you so don't kill yourselves. You write better than many.

Guest Reviewer



ANN MASTERSON

So I got sidetracked. Sue me. The point is that you have a choice! You don't have to get drunk... or high... or even vandalize a building that is no longer there (though I greatly enjoyed the flames on the side of the house). There is a legal alternative. Some people even find blogging to be an excellent way to rid themselves of sadness or anger. Others, of course, find that it contributes to both but that isn't the point! Xanga and MySpace, two of the largest free blogging communities, are growing rapidly every day due to people just like

you! They are excellent means of communication that allow people like us, people who are no longer surrounded by high-school friends, to keep in touch with others. It's a way to express your feelings once and once only without having to explain to each individual friend what all is going on in your life. I swear it's a lifesaver.

Plus if you're one of those people who really likes knowing every mundane detail of everyone else's life, here's your chance to be nosy and get away with it! You can subscribe to people you don't even know and just ... read all about them.

In the spirit of Saint Patty's day, I suggest joining a blogging site and looking around until you find an Irish person because it's good to connect

with people from other cultures and it's one of many things you can do online.

There is, of course, a downside. With all good things comes a price and with Xanga and MySpace the price is the utter sadness you experience every time you check your page to see if you've gotten any comments and see that no one cares. It is also the sadness you experience when you try to comment on a friend's page and discover that you have been blocked. However, the downside is not enough for me to discourage you from joining one or both. It's so much cooler to sit at your computer and try to keep in touch with friends you may never see again than to drink on campus. Blogging gets my vote.

On the Fly

If you could change one thing at McPherson College, what would it be?



"The cafeteria."

-- Sean McCrae, fr. Marietta, Ga.



"Don't let incoming freshman into Morrison."

-- Brian Meints Beatrice, Nebr.



"Sometimes the cafeteria doesn't stay open as late as it should and I don't get to eat."

-- Megan Meyer, fr. Beloit



"The price is too high. I would also have liked to have been more informed about everything that goes on here."

-- Orlando Dominguez Garden City

Staff Editorial

Mailroom investigation impresses staff

This issue, our staff decided to do a little investigative journalism in order to find out if the rumors of wretched campus mail sorting and delivery times were in fact accurate. To tell you the truth, we all felt they more than likely would be. To test our belief, we each inputted two mailings to another staff member into the on-campus slot along with one total off-campus note with a corresponding one dispatched to the mailbox located behind Miller Library.

Believe it or not, the bookstore actually does a decent job at following the guidelines they publicly present. Our apologies therefore go out to this campus establishment, for we admittedly had little to no faith regarding the matter. Most of the letters were quickly retrieved. For instance, one of the personal notes was picked up just a mere hour after another staff member dropped it off.

Our only quell, and a fairly minor one at that, is that the off-campus letter arrived a day later than the one dropped off at the outdoor mailbox. The original one sent via the bookstore was dropped off at that location an hour before off-campus mail was taken to be delivered. It is understandable then that perhaps another day passed before the note was finally sent out.

Overall, we wish to offer our congratulations to the campus mailing system for effectively combating the negative perceptions we had about it. We hope it keeps up the good work. We also encourage the same action to all other campus services that just may be where the *Spectator* will show up next seeking to expose the truth.

Gender Issues: separate but equal or one and the same?

Two debate the status of women and the presidency in this country

So, the question is, "Is the United States prepared for a woman president?" Well, is (y)our country prepared for a president? After 43 American presidents, I feel that the country is prepared.

I strongly believe in gender equality so what does it matter if the president is a man or a woman? Personally, I would rather have a woman in office than a male president who thinks he is being "misunderestimated" (to quote the current White House tenant). I would definitely prefer a woman to a man who decides to drop atomic bombs, causing the death of over 200,000 people as President Harry S. Truman did.

However, I can see why a woman holding the office of president would be an issue. Since its conception, there has never been a woman in charge of the United States. Out of the 196 countries worldwide, we only have 10 female Heads of State and 4 female Prime Ministers. Sükhbaataryn Yanjmaa from Mongolia was the first woman in modern history to hold the Head of State position in 1953.

The fact that women do not hold as many power positions as men do certainly is not because they are incapable of performing the job. There are women presidents and their countries are still standing. Furthermore, countries can in fact prosper with female leadership; Canada is the ninth richest country in the world and has had a woman in charge for seven years. Finland's president Tanja Halonen is the most popular president the country has ever seen. The fact that a woman has never occupied the presidency of the United States is the result of centuries of gender inequality not only in this country, but all over the world.

Women in this country were not allowed to vote until 1920. Obviously, if they were not even trusted with a political decision, how could they think of being trusted with the management of a whole country? For

Guest Columnist



AGNES TEIXIDO-GRANA

centuries, there has been a very clear difference between the place of men and the place of women. Until recently, the place for women has been inside the house fulfilling the traditional roles. Women have almost always been attributed the characteristics of being emotional and caring, thus becoming the "weaker" sex. Understandably, no one wants a weak individual leading the country.

It is unconceivable that some people still believe in unproven 19th century theories that stated that since women had smaller craniums and brains, they were inferior intellectually as well as emotionally. It is interesting to note that Albert Einstein, one of the greatest geniuses of all time, was missing a part of his brain. In no way are women inferior to men, as men are in no way inferior to women. So, why are women still discriminated against? Some would argue that men are physically stronger. Even if that were true, I have not seen the president loading any trucks or moving any furniture lately. As such, I can see no relationship between physical strength and political prowess which would inhibit a woman from becoming president.

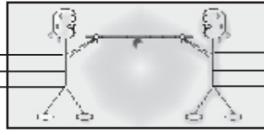
Some believe that if a woman gets to the presidency, it will be because she is favored for being a woman. Well, do not most of our male presidents get to office because of economic or religious interests?

The fact is that the people in this country seem to feel prepared for a woman president. Only 28 percent of registered voters think the country is not ready. There is no superior or inferior gender. We want the most qualified person to be president. Then, if that person happens to be a woman, I take for granted that the right thing to do would be to vote for her.

Illustration by Seth Schorning



THE BULL YARD



POWER POLL RESULTS: IS OUR COUNTRY READY FOR A FEMALE PRESIDENT?

YES: 53%

NO: 37%

UNSURE/OTHER: 10%

83 Students Polled

Some think a woman becoming president would be wonderful for the United States. I am not one of them. It is not that I think they are incapable of running the country. It is more along the lines of I do not think that they should.

Though there are currently 10 countries that are run by women, we still have to consider how other countries will react to this. The United States is one of the major powers in the world so the opinions of other countries do affect us. With the relationship we have with the Mid-Eastern countries currently being shaky, we should be concerned with who is running our country.

The countries of the Middle East do not typically respect women as we do. Therefore, putting a woman in charge of our country could be a bad move. I feel they would not respect, nor take seriously, the things a woman president says. If we threatened war, for any reason, I do not think they would believe us. It would be thought that a woman is not "tough" enough to follow through with the ideas she has.

I think these Middle-Eastern countries would also feel as though they could bully us and do whatever they'd like because "women are weak."

Most of the countries that have women rulers are not "major" powers. They are countries like Liberia, Bangladesh, New Zealand and Latvia. I do not believe the world has come to a point where women are considered equal enough for the United States to put a woman president into office.

Now that I have cleared up my view on how I feel the world would take it, I will move to my next point. I know a lot of people, especially the women that read this, are not going to like what I have to say but it is my opinion and I am going to stick to it.

I think women have their place and men have theirs. I

Guest Columnist



ALICIA FOX

am not saying women should not leave their houses and be nothing but housekeepers. I think it is great and wonderful if a woman wants to be a housekeeper. More power to her. I do not feel enough women give that any thought. Also, if a woman wants to have a career, then again, more power to her. However, I feel there are some jobs for a man and some for a woman.

Yes, most things a man can do a woman can as well, and vice-versa, but I do not think running a country is one of those things. An odd reason, which is almost always used as why it would be a good to have a woman president, is that a woman tends to be less likely to go to war.

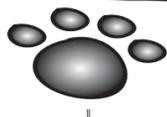
I am not saying every war has a good reason or that we should have fought in it. Most, in fact, I do not think we should have gotten involved in but I do think that sometimes war is a necessary thing. Without war, we would not be the United States. We would still be under the rule of Britain, Spain or France, and Hitler would have been able to take over the world. Although not always, war can solve problems. Yes, we should try diplomatic solutions, but when that does not work we need to be ready, if it is our place, to move in.

If a woman ever ran for president, I might vote for her to tell you the truth. It would depend what she believed in. I am wary that she would be elected on the principle that she is a woman and not for what she stands for and believes in. Keep in mind though, I do not think a woman should be president of this country, especially during this period of time. I do hope that if she is elected, it will be because she is the best-qualified candidate to run this country.

Good Dog

Yay! Police finally responded to my obscure homeless inquiries.

Our applause goes out to Kim Stanley and Marilyn Kimbrell for helping to keep prisoners in contact with their families.



Bad Dog

Hey Wendy's, give us back our student discount!

Ummm, wasn't there suppose to be actual food in the basement for dinner a while back?

A McPherson College moment...



Illustration by Seth Schorning

- STOP GRIPING ABOUT THE SOFTBALL TEAM BEING SO CLOSE.
- LET'S TRY DIFFERENT CAFETERIA FOOD!
- WHAT IS AN OPEN RELATIONSHIP?!
- DON'T PASS OUT WITH YOUR SHOES ON!
- YOU MAKE ME ITCH!
- MANDATORY CONVOCATION IS AS PLEASANT AS A COLONOSCOPY. THEY SAY IT'S GOOD FOR YOU, BUT IN THE END ALL YOU GET IS A SORE BUM.
- BRING BACK BAKED POTATO SOUP!!!
- EVERY TIME I GO INTO THE BATHROOM I SEE A MAN IN THE MIRROR. IS THAT NORMAL?
- DON'T YOU THINK THAT IF YOU SPILL SOMETHING YOU SHOULD CLEAN IT UP? I DO!
- LET'S FINE EVERYONE EVEN IF THEY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!
- EVERYBODY'S IRISH TONIGHT!
- I HOPE YOU'RE AS HAPPY AS YOU'RE PRETENDING.
- I'M NOT LOOKING FOR AN ANSWER ... I'M TRYING TO FORGET THE QUESTION.
- I WANT YOUR UNCLE!!
- DON'T CRY BECAUSE IT'S OVER -- SMILE BECAUSE IT HAPPENED.
- ALL MY TESTS ARE OVER, WHAT A PIECE OF CAKE. NOW I'M GOING HOME, YAY FOR SPRING BREAK!
- NOTHING IS UNBEARABLE.
- WHEN YOU PUT YOUR NOSE THERE, THINGS CAN HAPPEN.

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 Benjamin Denton

Nick Shue, fr., Pasadena, Md., and Brison Gray, fr., Crescent, Okla., grab a late night snack at McDonald's. Some students worry about health issues when occasionally eating out at fast food restaurants while others are concerned with the high cost of eating out on a regular basis, but there are still some students who get their weekly allowance of the processed edibles without worry.

'Would you like fries with that?'

Students confess fast food habits

MANDY MORGAN
Spectator Staff

College students are perpetually concerned, in one way or another, with food. Often, they're worried about the cost of meals, the dreaded freshman 15 or simply their boredom with the cafeteria. Regardless, many students turn to fast food.

Many students view fast food as a necessary evil, especially after the controversial documentary "Super Size Me" threw the many health problems it can cause into sharp relief.

The responses to a recent email survey were, for the most part, very health conscious.

"[Being health conscious] does prevent me from eating most fast foods. I like to stick to the healthy fast food options," said Kendra Stephenson, jr., Salina. Even at Braums, she said she is careful to choose the healthiest ice cream-the 94 percent fat free vanilla yogurt.

Nathan McDaniel, jr, Ponca City, Okla., eats fast food but said he isn't worried about the health issues because he doesn't eat out very often. "I believe you shouldn't go overboard but it's all right if it is occasional," McDaniel said.

Other students don't take as much care to avoid fast food. Nick McKellip, jr, Caldwell, Idaho, chooses to eat fast food regardless of health consequences. "It does not bother me one bit. We are all going to die someday so you might as well live the life you want to live," McKellip said.

Although most students who participated in the survey don't eat out more than twice a week, McDonald's was by far the most frequented fast food restaurant, followed by Wendy's and Subway.

Nutrition facts are often available on company websites in order to help customers make healthier or more conscious decisions. For example, a Quarter Pounder with cheese at McDonald's has 510 calories. A large order of fries has a whopping 500. A large pop contains up to 350 calories. Healthy choices, however, are available-for example, a side salad is only 20 calories and fruit and walnut salads only have 310.

Subway sandwiches range anywhere from 135 calories for a Cheese and Egg on Deli Roll sandwich to 560 for the meatball marinara sub. They have options for the carbohydrate conscious dieter as well as salads. Subway features a Guide to Healthier Living on their site to help their customers make smart choices for weight loss. It recommends healthy foods whether one is eating at Subway or making choices at a local grocery store.

Some students, however, are more concerned about the cost of fast food. Eating out is often a strain on a college student's budget, another reason to limit visits to the local McDonald's.

Nathon James, jr., Lyons, believes it is possible to eat healthy at fast food restaurants but far more expensive.

"You can eat at McDonald's and order from the dollar menu, which is cheap but generally unhealthy, or you can go to Subway and get something healthy but you pay a lot more," James said.

Many students share his sentiments. Making good choices is difficult, especially after a long week of food from the same place-the cafeteria. Even so, as the cafeteria isn't always open, some students are forced to eat out because of a busy schedule. Brian Schippert, fr., Great Bend, said students have to consider the amount of time the cafeteria is open.

College students don't always have much choice when it comes to where to eat, whether it is due to health or monetary issues, so they're hard pressed to make the right decision where one "right" one doesn't seem to exist.

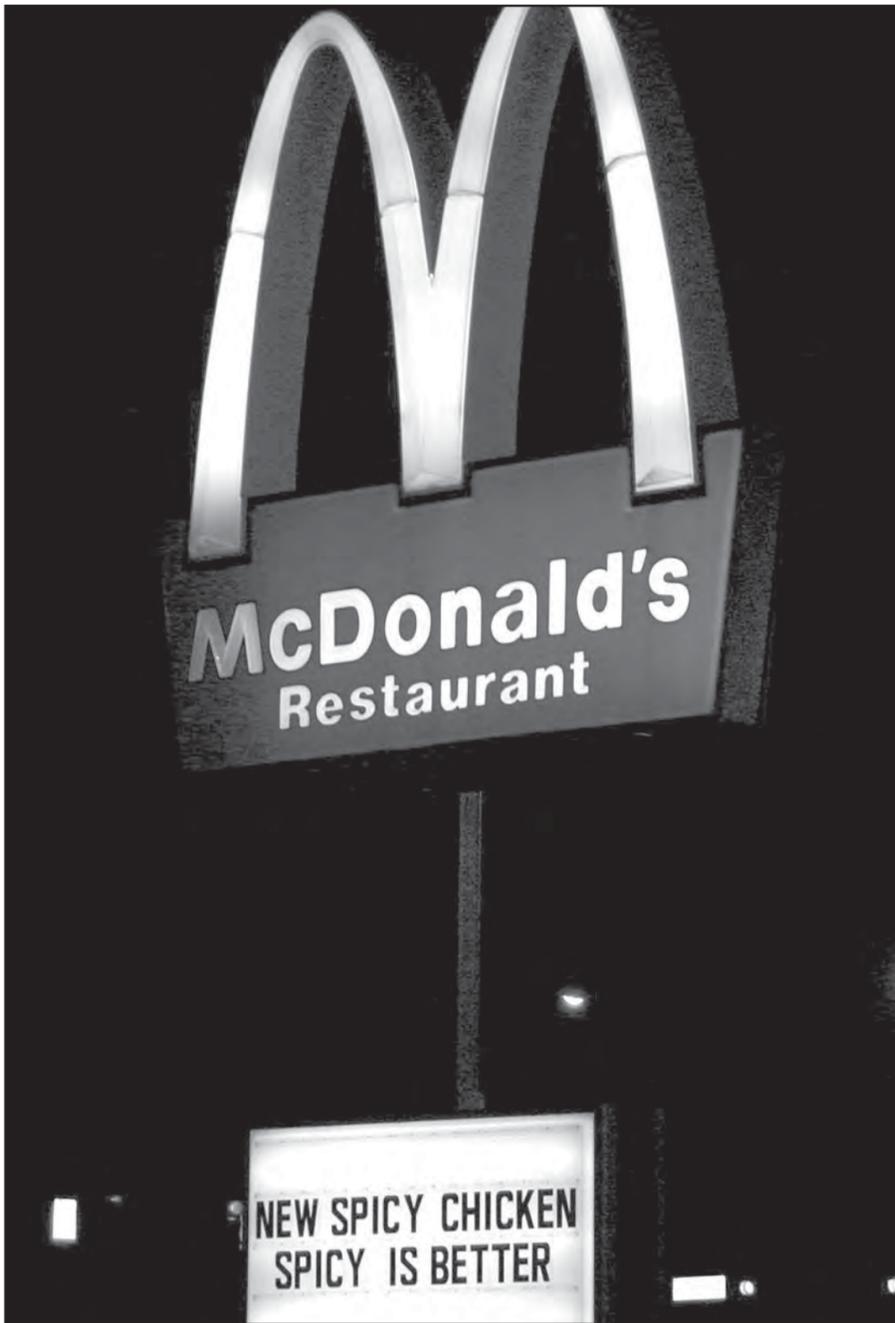
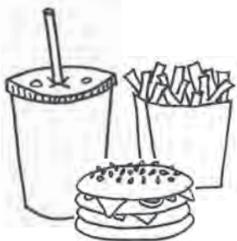


photo by Benjamin Denton

Students say their most frequented fast food joint is McDonald's followed by Wendy's and Subway.



illustrations by Seth Schorning



'Read to Me'

MAC professors organize prison reading program

PATRICIA RITCHA
Features Editor

Marilyn Kimbrell, professor of education, and Kim Stanley, professor of English and communications are organizing "Read to Me," a program designed to teach inmates in the Hutchinson Correctional Facility how to read to their children.

Participants in the program will be taught how to effectively read picture and chapter books to children. At the end of the sessions, they will be videotaped reading a book and the video and a copy of the book will be sent to their child.

One of the goals of the program is to keep offenders connected to their families. If they have a better support system it will be easier for them to reintegrate into the community after they have finished serving their time, Stanley said.

"I can't think of anything better for offenders to do who are trying to get back to being a father than that," Kimbrell said.

The "Read to Me" program is a collaboration between the Kansas Department of Corrections and the Kansas Humanities Council of which Stanley is a member. Stanley said the Kansas Humanities Council promotes literacy and the discussion of humanity's values and moral abstractions such as the concept of justice. Lately they have been trying to reach the underserved.

The Intervention Team Supervisor for the Kansas Department of Corrections applied for a grant from the Kansas Humanities Council for the reading program. The supervisor hopes the program will serve as a model for similar programs in other prisons in the future, Kimbrell said.

Kimbrell became involved in the program when Stanley mentioned the Humanities Council was considering a program along these lines. Kimbrell said she would be

"I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING BETTER FOR OFFENDERS TO DO WHO ARE TRYING TO GET BACK TO BEING A FATHER."

-MARILYN KIMBRELL



"PRISON IS A TERRIBLE PLACE TO BE AND ANYTHING TO MAKE LIFE MORE INTERESTING CAN'T HURT"

-KIM STANLEY



interested and since she is a college professor whose emphasis is in reading education, they jumped at the chance.

Another goal of the program is to improve offenders' literacy as well as the children's although all of the participants can already read, Kimbrell said. She said she plans to make the sessions very interactive. She will not make participants read aloud but plans to use a lot of modeling and a strategy called echo reading. "Talking books is one of the best tools to communicate," said Kimbrell. "It goes back to reading experience in childhood."

Organizers were hoping they could select inmates with children in the Hutchinson School District so they would be able to track their reading progress, Kimbrell said. Part of the goal is to put new books in the hands of the children. Scholastic Books and the Hutchinson Friends of the Library have already donated books to the program.

For participants with slightly older children, Kimbrell and Stanley have chosen *War with Grandpa*, a third- or fourth-grade level chapter book about a boy who loses

his room when his grandfather moves in. The boy declares war on Grandpa and the book is about the struggles of the two characters. Kimbrell and Stanley said they will teach participants how to ask good questions about the book such as, "Are the two characters being fair?" and "How do they feel?" The Kansas Humanities Council appreciates the affective aspects of the program accomplished through thinking and talking about the feelings of the characters.

"Life is better for everybody if people get together to talk about books and values," Stanley said. "The guys who come are really hungry to talk about books. Prison is a terrible place to be and anything to make life more interesting can't hurt."

"It has been a really exciting project for me to be involved in," Kimbrell said. "I'm so excited about using my expertise in reading in a manner that might make a difference. I can't wait to get started."

The program was supposed to begin on March 2 but each offender who signs up must be screened, said Kimbrell. She said they hope to start after Spring Break.

St. Patrick's Day

boasts long history

PATRICIA RITCHA
Features Editor

Are you ready for the annual 'Wearing o' the Green?'

St. Patrick's Day used to be a strictly Catholic holy day but it has gradually evolved into a secular event. Most non-Irish partiers probably do not even know the myths surrounding St. Patrick's life, much less the facts.

St. Patrick was born in Britain to wealthy parents and there is no evidence of him coming from a devoutly religious family. He was taken prisoner at the age of sixteen by Irish raiders and held captive. During his captivity he became a devout Christian. After six years, Patrick escaped and returned to Britain to follow his calling to become an ordained priest. He returned to Ireland to minister to the Christians already living there as well as to convert the Irish still practicing a nature-based pagan religion. Contrary to common belief, St. Patrick did not introduce Christianity to the Irish.

Part of Patrick's success stemmed from his choice to incorporate traditional Irish rituals into his religious teachings. He integrated the bonfires the Irish used to honor their gods into the Easter celebration and superimposed a powerful Irish symbol, the sun, onto the cross to create what is now known as a Celtic cross.

St. Patrick was rumored to have driven all the snakes from Ireland during a sermon on a hilltop, but in all probability, there were no snakes on the island in the first place.

The symbol of the shamrock actually has a stronger basis in fact. St. Patrick used the three-leafed clover in his sermons to explain the Trinity. He used the image of three leaves on one clover to symbolize how the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity. His parishioners made a habit of wearing a clover on his feast day and this is how it entered the St. Patrick's day tradition.

Since St. Patrick's day falls



photo by Lara Lichty

Beth O'Brien, Jr., Inman, shows off her new tattoo. This body art is a symbol of her family and their Irish heritage. Each member of her family has a puzzle piece of a drawing by her youngest son an American flag with a shamrock. She said they wanted to get the tattoos before her oldest son left for Afghanistan so he would have something to take with him.

during the season of Lent, Irish families would attend a morning church service and then Lenten prohibitions would be lifted and the people would dance, drink and feast to celebrate the saint's day. In Ireland, St. Patrick's day has traditionally been a religious holiday and up until the 1970s, Irish law forced pubs to close on March 17.

Even with the huge festival now annually held in Dublin, Ireland, the Dublin parade does not have nearly the long history that many such celebrations in the United States do.

The first St. Patrick's Day Parade took place in New York City in 1762. The parade in Dublin only has about a 50-year history where as the Montreal and New York City parades go back 200 and 300 years respectively.

Beth O'Brien, Jr., Inman, married a fourth generation Irishman. "To me it's fun," O'Brien said. But her husband's family takes their ancestry very

seriously. The whole family, O'Brien, her husband, Thomas, and her sons, C.W. and John, have matching tattoos of puzzle pieces of an American flag with a shamrock on it. O'Brien said they got the tattoos because her oldest son, C.W., is leaving for Afghanistan and they wanted to be able to share something that he wouldn't have to carry. Her youngest son, John, drew the tattoo.

The O'Briens participate in the Ulster Project, which is an exchange program for Northern Irish and American teens. The Ulster Project's goal is to improve the conflict between the Catholic and Protestant churches.

The family plans to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in their traditional manner.

"Usually we do an Irish dinner," O'Brien said. "[My husband's] mother usually makes a meal." She said they also call friends in Ireland to wish them a happy holiday.

The Hot spot

A THOUGHTFULLY DEvised ARRAY OF QUESTIONS FOR OUR FRESH, BRAND NEW FINANCIAL AID ADVISOR: NICK GRIGGS

TOLAN LICHTY
Spectator Staff

What did you like the most during our time as a student at McPherson College?

Being able to participate in everything.

Do you have any advice for students who aspire to become Admissions Counselors?

Develop solid communications skills.

Comedies or horror movies?

Comedies



photo by Tolan Lichty

Who do you think will win the NCAA Men's National Championship?

Duke

Better comedian: Dave Chappelle or Chris Rock?

Chris Rock

Given the opportunity, would you rather be a famous football star or a famous actor?

Football star

What was your major?

Music education

What is your take on the female presidential candidate dilemma that our nation may soon be facing?

I am really indifferent on the issue. I feel that a woman could get the job done just as well as any man.

McDonald's, Wendy's or Burger King?

Burger King

'Dumb & Dumber' or 'Wedding Crashers?'

'Wedding Crashers'

The Throwback

Researched by Rhonda Hoffert

Thoughts on Women's Liberation

October 1, 1970

After consulting your pillow, ask also of your wife.

-Russian Proverb

The level of a people's civilization can be measured by the social position occupied by its women.

-Argentina

And be not so foolishly presumptuous as to go inspecting two or three prospective brides, for a girl is a human being like yourself and not a horse.

-Russian Proverb

If I were born a woman, I would rise in rebellion against any pretension on the part of man that woman is born to be his plaything. I have mentally become a woman in order to steal into her heart. I could not steal into my wife's heart until I decided to treat her differently that I used to, and so I restored to her all her rights by dispossessing myself of all my so-called rights as her husband.

- Mahatma Gandhi



The softball team comes together for a pre-game prayer before they begin their games last Saturday. This cool condition, the team was bundled up for their first game of the day.

photo by Bryan Grosbach

Softball in full swing

Team to play in tournament this weekend

ANGELINA FIORENZI
Spectator Staff

Today the Lady Bulldogs are playing in the Sterling College Tournament. The team is scheduled to play three games. Scheduled times are as follows: Graceland University at 10:30 a.m., Oklahoma Wesleyan University at 1:30 p.m. and Newman University at 4:30 p.m. The Lady 'Dogs are also scheduled for two games tomorrow versus Northwest Oklahoma State University at 10:30 a.m. and Central Christian College at 1:30 a.m.

Last weekend the team played in the Kansas Wesleyan Pack Attack Tournament. The team lost its first two games on Friday to Rogers State University, 7-3, and Southern Nazarene University, 7-0. The two losses put the Lady Bulldogs on a six game losing streak. However, the team showed they had a fight in them as they won all three games on Saturday. The team defeated Oklahoma Wesleyan University, 3-2, Haskell

Indian Nations University, 8-7 and Graceland University, 8-5. All three wins were won in the late innings of the respective games.

Leading the way for the Lady Bulldogs was Shalyn Skahill, jr., who had a batting average of .533 with three triples and five runs scored for the tournament. Leading the team in runs batted in was Jessica Yates, fr., with five and Rikki Viehman, fr., with four. Pitching leader for the team was Yates, who pitched in three games with an earned run average of 1.58, six strikeouts and two wins.

As for how the season has gone, Christa Blose, sr., said, "We've had a rough start but are getting better." The team's expectations are very high for the Sterling Tournament as they now have a three game winning streak after the Kansas Wesleyan Pack Attack Tournament.

"After our past weekend in Salina, I think we can keep the spark alive from the three tough games we won and will definitely be ready to play with confidence at

the Sterling Tournament," Skahill said.

The spring season officially opened on March 3 with the McPherson Tournament. The lady bulldogs started the tournament off with a 6-1 win over Haskell Indian Nations University. Darci Davison, sr., contributed seven hits, that included a pair of doubles, and Jessica DeCavelle, sr., finished with two hits. In helping to seal the win, Jessica Yates, fr., allowed only six hits while striking out eight. The remaining games left in the tournament did not go as well for the women, losing the last four games.

"Mental errors are something we need to get over. We need to start picking up each other as a whole after a troubled inning," Skahill said.

The team has high hopes for the remainder of the season.

Catcher Ellie Miller, sr., said she expects "the best softball season at McPherson College and to be conference champs and continue to regionals."



Darci Davison, sr., stands in the batter's box during a game last Saturday. Davison had three hits, one run and two runs batted in over the weekend

photo by Bryan Grosbach

What to watch for

Today
Softball @
Sterling College
Tournament 1:30
p.m. & 4:30 p.m.

Saturday
Softball @
Sterling College
Tournament
10:30 a.m. & 1:30
p.m.

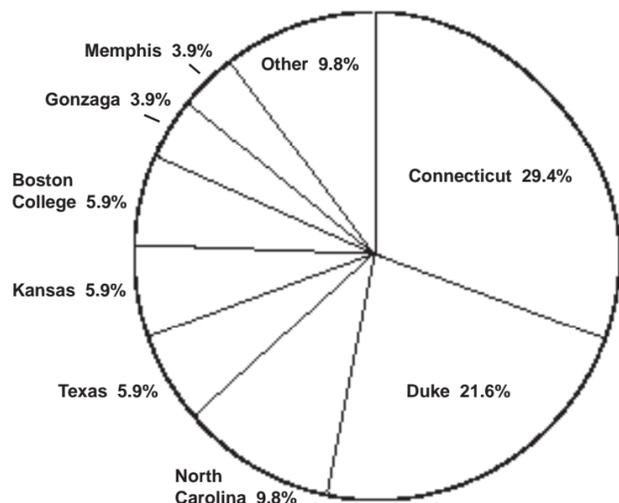
Monday-Friday
SPRING BREAK

Saturday,
March 25th
Track & Field @
Bethany Swede
Invitational
10 a.m.

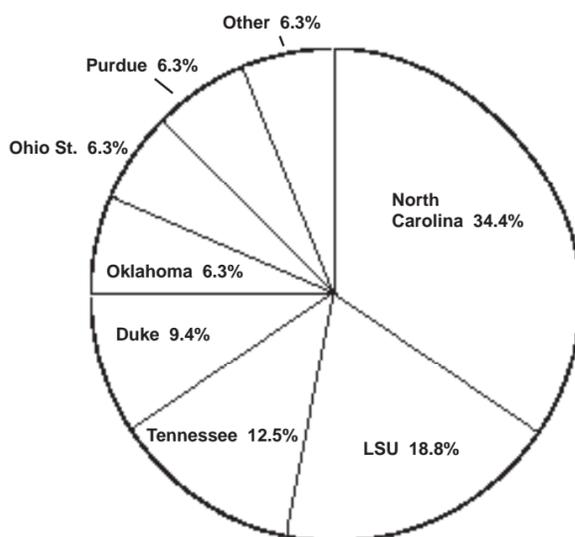
Bulldog Nation

Students predict who will win the NCAA Division I Championships

Men's



Women's



Who's winning as of now:
Lucus Lanning & Jace Lobato
(15 out of 16 games correct)

Outdoor track to begin

MALLORY YUNGBERG
Spectator Staff

With the track and field season underway, the team is excited for the new season.

This year, McPherson sent two athletes, Dan Hudachek, jr., and Jordan King, fr., to Nationals in Tennessee. Chris Benisch, soph., who qualified for the NAIA Indoor in the long jump, decided to by-pass his opportunity to compete.

King finished sixth in his heat with a time of 8.95 seconds for the 60-meter hurdles, which was just off of his season best time of 8.66 seconds.

Hudachek had his second best mark of the indoor season, tossing the 35-pound weight a distance of 51 feet, six and a half inches, only eight inches off his own school record. He placed 17th in the national meet.

As it was his second year competing at the national level, Hudachek felt more confident in his abilities.

"As a whole, nationals this year was a lot of fun. I was much more relaxed this year than I was at outdoor nationals last year. Having gone to several large meets this year, I had thrown against many of the top throwers in the NAIA and NCAA. I think that had a lot to do with me not being as nervous. Nationals was pretty much just another meet," Hudachek said.

The national meet completed the indoor season for the two athletes, who will now be preparing for the outdoor season. For outdoors, King will be running the 110 meters high hurdles and Hudachek will transfer his efforts to the discus and hammer throw.

"The main thing I can say for track as a whole is that we'd really like to have more people come out this year," Hudachek said. "We have a lot of freshmen that came here exclusively for track and cross country but we need people from other sports to come out too. We have a pretty good chance of winning the ACCK meet and a slight possibility for KCAC as well. But we really need more bodies out there -- not just throwers but in every event."

The team is now focused on the first outdoor meet of the 2006 season on March 25th, at Bethany College.

McPherson College will host its Bulldog Invitational on Saturday, April 1. The starting time is scheduled for 11 a.m.

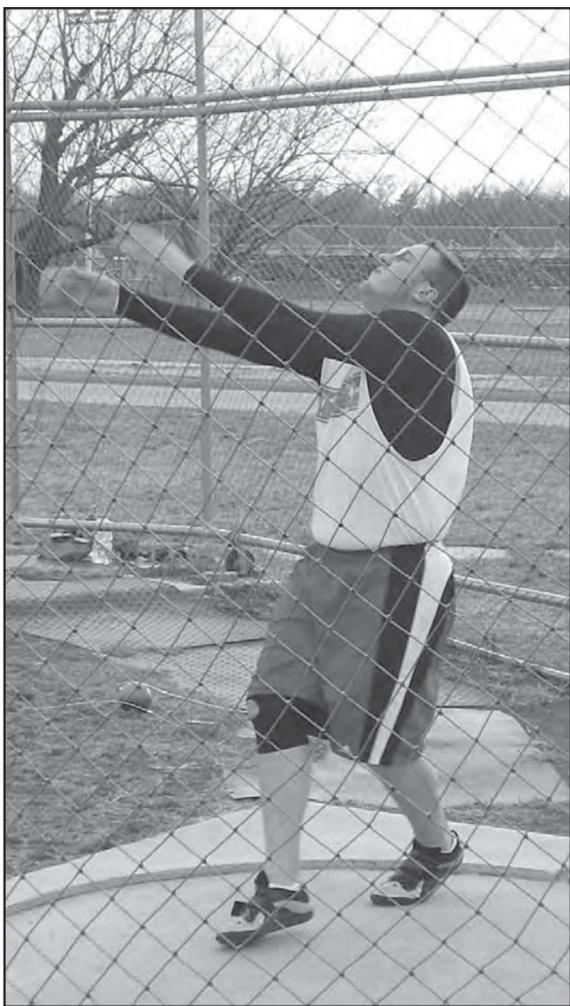


photo by Bryan Grosbach

Dan Hudachek, jr., practices the hammer throw this week. Hudachek was one of the top hammer and discus throwers in the conference last spring.

Let's hear it for the trainers

March recognized as National Athletic Training Month

BRYAN GROSBACH
Sports Editor

Every March, athletic trainers around the country celebrate National Athletic Training Month. National Athletic Training Month is dedicated to increasing the awareness of the athletic training profession. This year's slogan is "Be Active, Stay Healthy."

Many states recognize National Athletic Training Month and have proclaimed one day in March as Athletic Trainer Day.

According to Rob Azelton, assistant athletic trainer, there are approximately 32,000 members to the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA). About 25,000 of these members are certified trainers and the rest are either students or associate members such as doctors.

According to Azelton, there is a big push to see more certified athletic trainers in high schools. Most colleges and universities have a full-time athletic trainer on staff. Many of the major high schools across the country are the same. There has even been a movement with major industrial companies who hire athletic trainers to deal with on-site injuries and therapy. The NATA is trying to see more trainers going into all of the high schools.

According to the NATA website, the NATA had its first meeting in 1950 in Kansas City. There were approximately 200 athletic trainers who attended the meeting to discuss the future of the profession.

The roots of athletic training date back to ancient Greece, but the athletic training profession as it is known today is different, according to the NATA website. Athletic trainers used to be known for carrying the water jugs and acting as the team manager but this is very different today. Athletic trainers are now certified and highly educated to deal with many different conditions that can occur to the human body.



photo by Bryan Grosbach

Lee Gustafson, sr., is a student trainer. With only two certified athletic trainers employed, Gustafson is a great help to the athletic program.

Box Score

Softball (4-6)

Kansas Wesleyan Tournament

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		R	H	E
Rogers State	1	0	2	0	0	4	0		7	15	4
MAC	0	0	0	0	0	3	0		3	4	2

	AB	H	R	RBI	BB
DeCavelle 2B	3	0	0	0	1
Evans SS	4	0	1	0	0
Skahill CF	3	0	1	0	1
Yates P	3	0	1	1	0
Viehman 3B	3	0	0	0	0
Ziegler RF	3	2	0	1	0
Davison 1B	3	1	0	1	0
Miller C	3	1	0	0	0
Crist PR	0	0	0	0	0
Yungeberg, Man. LF	2	0	0	0	0
Yungeberg, Mal. P	1	0	0	0	0

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Yates	5.2	13	7	3	0	0
Yungeberg, Mal.	1.1	2	0	0	2	1

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		R	H	E
MAC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	2	4
Southern Nazarene	0	0	0	3	2	2	x		7	9	0

	AB	H	R	RBI	BB
Koch 2B	3	0	0	0	0
Blose SS	3	1	0	0	0
Skahill P	2	0	0	0	0
Ziegler P	1	0	0	0	0
Yates CF	3	0	0	0	0
Hill 1B	3	0	0	0	0
Yungeberg, Mal. 3B	2	0	0	0	0
Miller C	2	1	0	0	0
DeCavelle PR	0	0	0	0	0
Crist LF	2	0	0	0	0
Parsons RF	1	0	0	0	0
Steinmetz RF	1	0	0	0	0

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Skahill	5	7	5	1	1	2
Ziegler	1	2	2	1	1	0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		R	H	E
MAC	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		3	8	1
Oklahoma Wesleyan	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		2	11	1

	AB	H	R	RBI	BB
DeCavelle 2B	4	1	1	0	0
Evans SS	4	2	0	0	0
Skahill CF	4	4	2	1	0
Yates P	4	1	0	1	0
Viehman 3B	3	0	0	1	0
Ziegler LF	4	0	0	0	0
Davison 1B	3	0	0	0	0
Miller C	3	0	0	0	0
Koch 2B	0	0	0	0	0
Steinmetz RF	3	0	0	0	0

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Yates	8	11	2	1	1	5

	1	2	3	4	5	6		R	H	E
Haskell	0	2	1	0	4	0		7	8	2
MAC	0	1	0	1	4	2		8	13	4

	AB	H	R	RBI	BB
Koch 2B	4	2	2	0	0
Skahill CF	4	2	1	0	0
Viehman 3B	4	3	1	3	0
Steinmetz PR	0	0	1	0	0
Yates LF	4	1	1	2	0
DeCavelle C	4	1	1	1	0
Yungeberg, Mal. P	2	1	0	0	0
Parsons PR	0	0	1	0	0
Ziegler P	1	0	0	0	0
Yungeberg, Man. RF	3	2	0	1	0
Hill 1B	2	1	0	1	1
Crist PR	0	0	0	0	0
Davison PR	0	0	0	0	0
Blose SS	3	0	0	0	0

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Yungeberg, Mal.	4.1	7	7	4	4	1
Ziegler	1.2	1	0	0	1	0

	1	2	3	4	5		R	H	E
Graceland	4	0	1	0	0		5	7	0
MAC	1	1	6	0	x		8	14	1

	AB	H	R	RBI	BB
Steinmetz EF	1	0	1	0	0
DeCavelle 2B	3	1	1	2	1
Evans SS	3	2	0	2	0
Skahill CF	2	2	1	1	1
Crist LF	3	1	0	0	0
Davison 1B	3	2	1	1	0
Ziegler P	1	0	0	0	0
Yates P	2	1	1	1	0
Yungeberg, Mal. 3B	2	2	1	0	0
Miller C	3	2	1	0	0
Parsons RF	2	1	1	1	1

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Ziegler	1	6	4	4	2	0
Yates	4	1	1	0	0	1

Feel the power



photo by Benjamin Denton

Robert Moreno, soph., attempts to bench press over 400 pounds during the football team's off-season power-lifting competition.

Groups set focus on Christ

ADRIELLE HARVEY
News Editor

A group of four McPherson College students had a common goal they wanted to make a reality.

What they came up with was a place for friends, fellowship, the Bible and Christ.

Jessica Arnold, fr., La Cygne, Alyson Holman, soph., McPherson, Ashley Mitchell, fr., Great Bend, and Amy Parnell, fr., Liberal, wanted a place for McPherson students to come together with Christ as their focus.

"We thought it was important for people to have something to be encouraged by and grow together in God," Mitchell said.

For this reason, the four friends contacted Zach Fleming, youth pastor at the Free Methodist Church. They, along with Fleming, began the Bible study on campus and invited Central Christian College students to join the group as well.

"I was blown away," Fleming said. "They (Arnold, Holman, Mitchell, Parnell) were so hungry and so passionate about God's word."

After a short time, the Bible study group discussed switching the location of the Bible study so that one week it was on the McPherson campus and one week it was on

the Central campus.

Instead, the group decided to meet at The Hearth Room.

Jerry Rogers, whose family owns The Hearth Room, is friends with Fleming and Brandon Pitts, sr., San Antonio, Texas. Pitts attends the Bible study each week.

Rogers said Fleming and Pitts introduced him to the idea of having the Bible study at The Hearth Room.

Rogers was excited about the opportunity to host the Bible study at the downtown coffee shop.

"I've always wanted to be involved with college kids doing Bible studies," Rogers said.

Mitchell said there is an average of 10 people who show up each week but would like to see that number increase.

"It's (Bible study) for everybody," Mitchell said, "whether you know a lot about God or know nothing about God."

Fleming said the main goal of the Bible study is to "see Mac and Central students come together to wrestle through God's word and to build some relationships and friendships."

But this Bible study is not the only project the four girls began. They have started a girls' Bible study on campus and are studying the book "Marriable" by Haley and Michael Dimarco.



A Central Christian College student and McPherson College student Brandon Pitts, sr., San Antonio, Texas (right) discuss a passage from the Bible during last week's Bible study at The Hearth Room. The Bible study is one of several started by McPherson College students and features a study time, prayer time and a time for fellowship.

photo by Adrielle Harvey

Mitchell said the focus of this study is on purity and relationships. She would like to see more girls get involved.

Pitts, along with Jon Toland, jr., Plano, Texas, recently started a

praise and worship night that takes place on Friday nights in Melhorn. Both McPherson and Central students attend.

Pitts said the goal of praise and worship night is "fellowship, com-

ing together and praising God." Each group has one focus in mind: God.

"The only qualification is to love God and want to know more about Him," Mitchell said.

NEWS



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

West to east, north to south: Students plan trips all across the U.S. for spring break

JUDY JACOBS
Spectator Staff

Road trips, visiting family, relaxation and spring cleaning Spring break is the time many students look forward to. It also serves as a reminder that summer is just around the corner and the semester is halfway finished.

McPherson College starts spring break tomorrow, giving students a little vacation until classes convene on March 27.

The weeklong break gives students enough time to plan a trip or do whatever may fit their budget.

Jeremy Hoffman, jr., McPherson, Anthony Kelley, jr., McPherson, Brandt Busse, sr., McPherson and Landon Snell, soph., McPherson, plan to drive 17 hours straight to Utah. There, they plan on jet skiing and canoeing at Bear Lake, snow skiing at Powder Mountain and hiking.

Other students have plans to help with hurricane relief.

Brandon Pitts, sr., San Antonio, Texas, Sheila Bevan, jr., Macksville, Sheree Kriley,



Graphics from Microsoft Office Clipart Online

Lacy Johnston, fr., Arlington, and Jered Heinen, jr., McPherson will travel to Mississippi to aid those who suffered the destruction of hurricanes in the south.

Not all students are taking trips this spring break.

Some students find a week worth of work and extra cash

in the wallet more appealing than spending money on a vacation.

"I will be working in the Wichita Airport bar all week," said Kim Koharchik, jr., Wichita. "I would not give this job up for anything."

Many students also find the weeklong break gives them

time to take care of things they may not have time to do during a normal school week.

"I will be working on my father's farm, helping him finish building some sheds," said Tim Stanghor, soph., Newton. "I will also be working on some of my auto restoration projects and vehicles that I

can't bring to school here."

Several students not only shared their present spring break plans, but also reminisced of past spring breaks.

"The spring breaks since I've been here have just been crazy," said Joe Biggs, jr., Barnard. "I went to South Padre last year and the year before that. This year might top them all. My friends and I are heading to Vegas; going to get real crazy and lose all my money."

Beth Krehbiel, sr., Pratt, said her favorite spring break was last year while studying abroad in Ireland. She got two weeks off from school and went backpacking solo to France, Italy and Spain.

"Lots of crazy things happened," Krehbiel said. "I was invited to a castle in northern France. Later, I ran out of money in Rome. Among other things, I spent a fair amount of time on buses and trains but the scenery was beautiful and the whole trip was amazing."

Spring break may give students the opportunity to make mistakes to be laughed at later or the possibility to create a memorable experience.

Keeping Up With SGA



Upcoming SGA Elections: April 4

All positions for the 2006-2007 SGA executive board are open.

If you are interested in running, pick up a petition from Rhonda Hoffert or Sheila Bevan.

Petitions are due March 30.

Earth Week April 18-22

15 employees recognized for service at McPherson

AMANDA KEITH
Spectator Staff

Fifteen McPherson College employees and two trustees were recognized at the annual Service Recognition Banquet on March 3.

Jack Harter, class of '54, and Marlo Oltman, class of '58, were recognized for their years of service on the trustee board. Both are retiring from the board this year.

Harter was recognized for 31 years of service as a trustee. He has served on the Development Committee, the Financial Services Committee, the Advancement Committee, the Executive

Committee and the Committee on Trustees. He received the Citation of Merit Award in 2004.

Oltman served 20 years as a trustee. He also served on the Academic Services Committee, the Executive Committee, the Budget & Facilities Committee and the Financial Affairs Committee.

He received a McPherson College Citation of Merit Award in 1998 as well.

McPherson College employees were recognized for their service of five-year increments.

Marcia Walters, secretary for alumni, church and community relations, and Donna Swenson, administrative assistant to

the vice president of advancement, received a certificate and a chamber check for serving 25 years at the college.

"It is nice to be recognized," Walters said. "Not everyone stays anywhere for 25 years anymore."

President Ron Hovis read statements about each person while Vincette Goerl, chair of the board of trustees, presented each person their memento and certificate.

Those recognized for 15 years of service were David Barrett, associate director of admissions and financial aid, and Connie Stucky, building services supervisor.

Staff and faculty recognized for 10 years of service were Linda Barrett, assistant director of adult education; Renee Carlson, lead custodian; Laura Eells, dean of faculty; and Deb Wagoner, executive assistant to the president.

Those recognized for five years of service were David Cunningham, head football coach; Lisa Easter, accounts clerk; Garrick Green, instructor of technology; Christy Lam, custodian; Allison Mackey, assistant to the dean of academic records; Karrie Rathbone, assistant professor of biology; and Nathalea Stephenson, head women's volleyball coach.

News Briefs

Imperial Show Choir performs at McPherson

The "9th Street Singers" from the Imperial Show Choir performed at McPherson College last night. The choir is a group of high school students from Imperial, Neb., who stopped in McPherson on their way to a competition in Branson, Mo.

Campus business hours for spring break

Miller Library

Saturday - Sunday CLOSED
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Bookstore

March 20-24 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Mail will be posted by 10:30 a.m.

New Life Foursquare Gospel Church

Sunday Services:
*Traditional Service--8:30 a.m.
*Contemporary Service--10:30 a.m.
*Sunday School for All Ages

Pastors Chuck & Andrea Baker

811 N. Ash
McPherson, KS 67460
620-241-7771