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The band's Christmas performance entertained a crowd in Brown Auditorium.

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The McPherson College

SPECTATOR

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December 11, 2009

THE STUDENTS' VOICE SINCE 1917

NEWS BRIEFS

Bulldog Express coming to town

During finals week, December 14-19, some faculty and staff will offer rides to students to the Wichita airport.

To schedule a ride, contact Karen Caylor by email or phone at caylork@mcpherson.edu or 620-242-0500.

SAB to host finals week snacks

SAB will be providing nightly snacks to give students a break from studying. Check your student e-mail for further information.

Flu clinic offered

The flu shot clinic will be held Monday December 14 from 4-6 p.m. in the Siek private dining room.

The \$20 shot fee will be charged to your school account.

Choir concert to be held Sunday

On December 13 at 4 p.m. at the Church of the Brethren.

Interterm and spring semester return dates

Interterm classes will commence Monday January 4. The spring semester will begin Monday February 1.

SAB to host Casino Night

Casino Night is scheduled to be held January 15 in the Student Union. This date is subject to change.

Book buy back to be held during finals week

On December 16 and 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. representatives will be in the basement of the Student Union to buy back used books.

New Interterm class announced

A new general education class entitled "Survey of Christian Spirituality (Transformers: Redemption of the Fallen)" will be offered and is taught by Dr. Kent Eaton.

Massages in SU

10 minute massages will be offered today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and are first come first serve.

Toy drive helps children in need

DUSTY KITCHEN
Spectator Staff

The business club's toy drive has started and continues through Dec. 11. Boxes will be placed around campus for donations and the club will post flyers alerting the college community on one way to open their hearts during the holiday season - donate to the toy drive for children who have been displaced from their homes.

The business club has been helping the Wichita Children's Home to put a smile on children's faces since starting an annual toy drive in 2007.

Business club advisor and assistant professor of

business Connie Kramer, who helped start the project, sees this as a great chance for students to help make a difference in their community.

"We see this as the service part of the college's mission," Kramer said. "This gives us a chance to help out in the community and reach beyond McPherson College to show we care."

The project first became reality in 2007 thanks in large part to Sheri Arceneaux, who at that time was the club's president. After graduating in 2008, she went to work at the Wichita Children's Home as the human resource coordinator and helped make the project an annual event



Photo by Ben Denton

Zach Hlad, jr., Sylvan Grove, puts a snowman toy in the donation box for the toy drive.

between the two groups.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to help especially while we are in a recession," Arceneaux said.

"No matter how small or big the gift is, it's the thought that counts."

Current business club

Please see Toy Drive, page 8

Nine seniors chosen for Who's Who



John David Brown



Nathan Clary



Rebecca Grosbach



Amanda Pangburn



Carley Sharp



Erica Shook



Ashley Andrews



Sonia Mast



Emily Ayres

KIMBERLI ROQUEMORE
Spectator Staff

Nine McPherson College seniors received the Who's Who Award this year.

The recipients of this year's Who's Who Award are listed as the following: Ashley Andrews, Oklahoma City, Okla., John David Brown, Baldwin City, Nathan Clary, McPherson, Rebecca Grosbach, Enders, Neb., Sonia Mast, Hesston, Amanda Pangburn, Albertville, Ala., Carley Sharp, Chanute, Emily Ayers McPherson, and Erica Shook, McPherson. All students are seniors.

"It is still an incredible feeling to know that my hard work is noticed and appreciated by others."

—Erica Shook

According to the Who's Who Among Student's official website, the award has been given annually for more than 60 years to outstanding leaders for their scholastic and community achievements.

"This award has shown me that all of my hard

work has paid off," Andrews said. "That other people have seen all that I have accomplished within my four years here at McPherson."

Students filled out an application and the faculty narrowed down the applicants. Applications consisted of listing all activities involved with during their four years at McPherson.

"We marked which ones we were involved in for what years and said if we held any offices in those clubs as well," Grosbach said. "The list was then narrowed down to us."

According to www.whoswhoamongstudents.com, criteria for being selected for the award includes GPA, participation and leadership within school organization and extra-curricular activities, community involvement and future leadership ability and/or potential.

"It is still an incredible feeling to know that my hard work is noticed and appreciated by others," Shook said. "And I know I am setting an example for my children, teaching them that others do recognize the effort that they put into everything they do and the time they give to others."

Pangburn honored at National Future Farmers of America Convention

SHANNON WILLIAMS
Spectator Staff

Amanda Pangburn, sr., Albertville, Ala., received the highest degree awarded for FFA in October at the National Future Farmers of America Convention held in Indianapolis.

Pangburn was awarded the American FFA degree as a member of the Geraldine FFA Chapter. She is the sixth person from her high school in Alabama to be honored with this award.

"I didn't realize how



Amanda Pangburn

important it was until I walked across the stage," Pangburn said.

To receive the American

Degree, Pangburn had to also receive a Greenhand Degree, a Chapter Degree and a State Degree for FFA. She had to take a certain amount of agricultural classes and earn and productively invest \$7,500 in a production agriculture or entrepreneurship area.

She started with a \$5,000 loan and invested it in diversified livestock, home and community development and beef production, and reinvested \$20,000 and paid her loan off in five years instead of seven.

"On one hand it was just a continuation for me, but on the other hand it was a goal that I wanted to reach since I was a Greenhand," Pangburn said.

Pangburn has been involved in FFA since she was in eighth grade and now serves as a member of the FFA alumni association.

"I look at FFA in this capacity as promoting Ag to the younger generation," Pangburn said.

As a member of the alumni association, she gets updated with FFA

news and events. The FFA alumni association is for anyone that wants to be involved in FFA past active membership.

For Pangburn's future plans, she is currently looking into graduate school in environmental engineering or agricultural engineering.

"After I gain a degree, I plan on working for a non-profit ag organization," Pangburn said. "My lifetime goals are to help end world hunger and poverty with agriculture."

LEAD EDITORIAL

“The Anti Homosexuality Bill” raises concerns with staff

When we were younger, adults always told us that we were the next generation. We were the change that the world needed. We could be who ever we wanted to be. Some people in this world decided to take away our rights has human beings and take the lives of innocent people for living their life.

It shames us to live in a world where death could be sentenced to anyone deciding to live their life the way they choose without directly affecting anyone else.

This week news spread of The Anti-Homosexuality Bill that Uganda wants to put into action. The bill is as follows:

- 1.Gays and lesbians convicted of having sex with same-sex partners would be sentenced, at minimum, to life in prison.
2.Execution for those who test positive for HIV
3.Forbids the promotion of homosexuality, which bans organizations working in HIV and AIDS prevention.
4.Anyone knowing of homosexual acts or a gay or lesbian person and does not report it can be sentenced up to three years in prison.

According to CNN.com, homosexuality is currently illegal in Uganda under colonial-era law. This must be stopped before this bill passes.

This isn't an issue with just the gay community. This is an issue of human rights. We cannot believe that we live in a world where people actually think this is right and just. This is why our generation needs to be that literal difference that others can see.

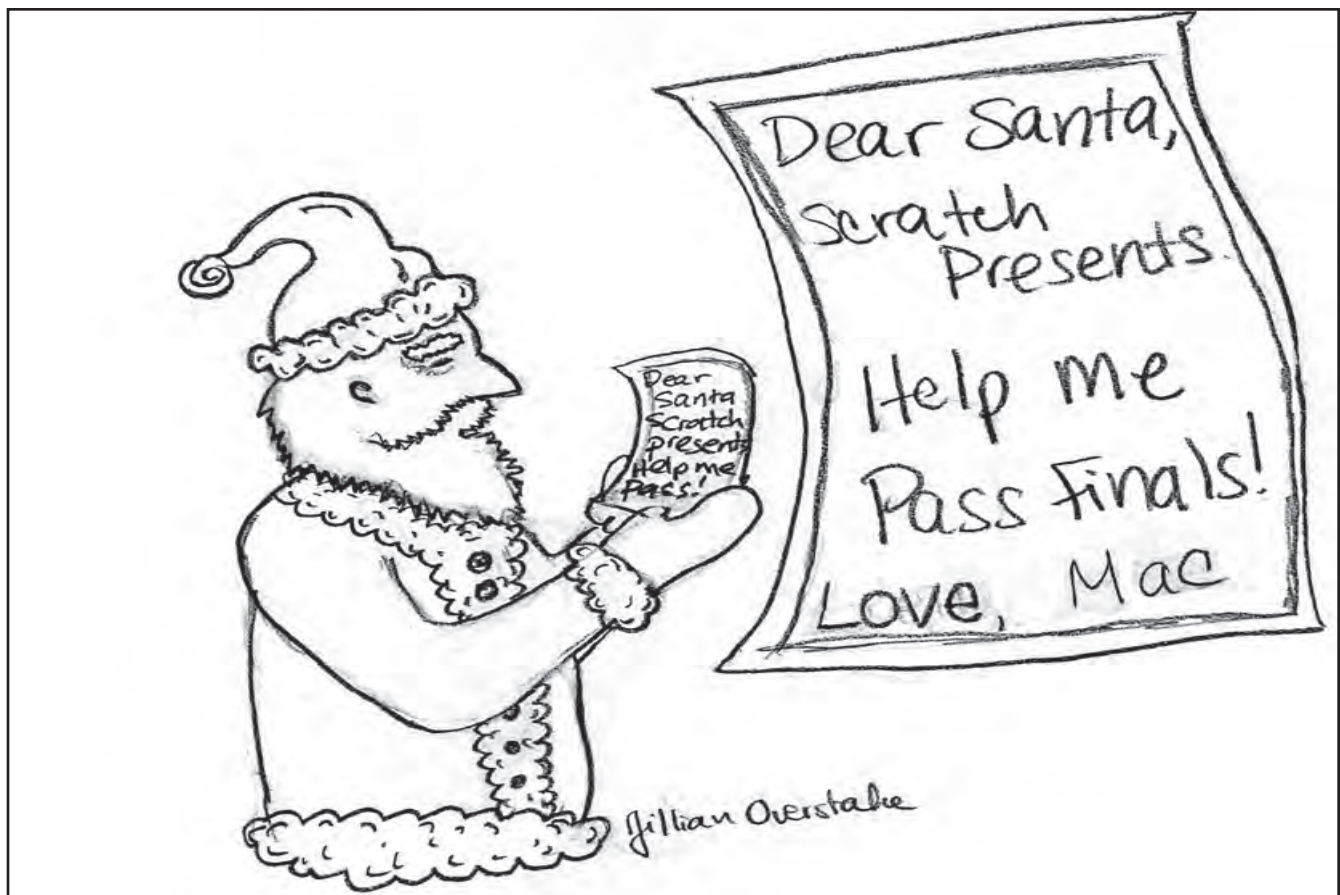
Being a Brethren-affiliated college, the school gives us the ideals to learn what it is to be a peaceful member of society. The Brethren motto, peacefully, simply, together, would help make this situation right. This situation would be more negatively looked on if it dealt with race, religion or political views.

But this is just as real. People could lose their lives because of who they are. Are you proud to live in this kind of world? What can we do about it? Treat everyone with kindness, even those who are different.

Who's to say what's normal and what's different? The more we put labels on the definition of "the norm," the more these things become issues. This is not the way the world is supposed to run. We hope that the rest of the world can see the problem with this just as we do.

ISSUE 1: Uganda's current bill
OUR POSITION: Not just a gay issue, it's a human rights issue

Not Necessarily Ordinary



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SGA's response to funding Washington, D.C., trip and rejecting SOA Watch Protest

In the November 20 issue of the McPherson College Spectator, Melisa Grandison, jr., Quinter, wrote an opinion article regarding Student Government Association and its funding choices. We would like an opportunity to explain to the campus community our reasoning behind the funding choices we have made.

SGA would like to make it very clear that the majority of the individual board members supported Melisa and Mira Coulter's, sr., Wakita, Okla., trip to the SOA Watch at Fort Benning, Georgia, and their desire to make a difference. However, the board could not fund their trip for the following reasons: First, this was a personal request and was not school affiliated. If each student came to SGA for personal funding, we would not be able to benefit the student body as a whole.

Our second reason is that The School of Americas and the SOA Watch is a highly political issue. We felt that if we would have

funded the two students, then we would be suggesting that the entire student body was in favor of this protest. Knowing that there were students who did not support the protest, we felt their money should not be used accordingly. If anything negative were to occur as a result of the protest and we had approved the funding, it could have come back not only on SGA, but also on McPherson College. We did not feel comfortable putting the school in that position.

In regards to the approval of funding the Washington, D.C. Leadership Seminar, we would like to clarify some claims made by Grandison. In her article she states, "It seems to me SGA is using student funds to serve its own needs," because the two individuals going to the seminar are SGA members. In fact, the seminar was open to the entire student body. There were posters and flyers located on campus, and anyone could have applied. Coincidentally, the only two students who expressed interest were SGA members.

These two students are enhanc-

ing their education by gaining school credit through this seminar. They will be able to bring back leadership skills that will benefit not only themselves, but also the SGA board, and in turn the entire student body. However, this does not come at a small cost to the students. This seminar is a substitute for their interterm class that they would have normally taken, but with extra expense. They are still paying for an interterm class.

Grandison is correct that SGA provided \$5000 to fund these two students. However, we did not fund their entire trip. The \$5000 is for the seminar fees and the airfare only. Food, local transportation and extra costs were not funded by SGA.

In conclusion, neither decision was a biased or personal decision. In both instances, we looked at the situation objectively, and ultimately decided what we felt was in the best interests of the student body as a whole.

Sincerely, The Student Government Association

Taking a risk, stepping into the spotlight of the theatre world

My stomach churned as I stood backstage, watching the lights change from black to pink and green and then blindingly white. A fellow cast member was standing by me, his lines, familiar to us both by now, echoing off the backdrop as he whispered them, trying one more time to memorize the dialogue before we went on stage. It was my first college theatre production, and I was terrified.

Rumors was my roommate's, Ashley Andrews, sr., Oklahoma City, Okla., senior project and when she told me to try out, I was reluctant. I hadn't done theatre since my senior year of high school. But

JILLIAN SAYS . . .



Jillian Overstake

I remembered my sophomore year at McPherson Herb Smith, professor of religion, told me that I should try out for a play. I had presented a monologue in his Hebrew Bible class, and almost every

time he saw me he told me to expand my horizons and get on the stage. He said it would be one of the most important things I could do in my college career.

I took into consideration that this was probably my last opportunity. I seized the moment and tried out. After the cast list was posted, I was pleasantly surprised. After the first read-through, I knew this was going to be an unforgettable experience.

It wasn't until we took the stage at our first dress rehearsal that I was nervous. A few people were in the audience, I was wearing a ridiculous costume, super-high heels and a Mohawk, and I just wanted my lines

to be laughed at. When the laughter came, my butterflies disappeared. When the last night came around, I stood backstage with my co-stars and got a little sad. Not only had Herb been right, he had completely underestimated the feeling I got from being on stage. When the laughter came, my butterflies disappeared. People were enjoying the performance as much as I was enjoying being in the spotlight.

The cast, the performances, the humor and the fun - it was all an experience I will never forget. When the lights went black for the last time, I knew I would never forget Rumors.

The McPherson College SPECTATOR

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Good Dog / Bad Dog. Snow: You wanted it to stay away but now that it is here, it actually makes campus look beautiful. Anger: People need to control their emotions. Take up yoga to channel peaceful energy. Christmas: Though expensive, the feeling with family and friends is priceless. Trash: When frozen, isn't easily removed. Try the trashcan next time. Service: Thank you, Bulldog express. Late-night ruckus: Fun, but not during quiet hours.

CHEW ON THIS

"All that I desire to point out is the general principle that life imitates art far more than art imitates life.." -Oscar Wilde

"Art is not a study of positive reality, it is the seeking for ideal truth." -John Ruskin

Love those around you, lesson learned from disabled sibling

Teachings happen everywhere, even in the best theme park in the world

Ah the family vacation... Making sure everyone had their underwear packed, swimsuits, seizure meds, handicap accessibility- well maybe I should stop and explain my kind of family vacation. In order to understand my family and what daily life is for us, you have to know about my sister.

Kali was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at the age of 3 weeks. Many complications from limited speech and cognition to a severe seizure disorder have come from this diagnosis. One thing that the CP had no effect on what so ever, though, is her spirit. Even through brain scans, umpteen amounts of surgeries, immobility and pain, her love of life and all that comes with it has never wavered.

This past May Kali graduated high school. Due to medical needs she attended a special school for developmentally disabled children for her high career.

As a graduation present, Kali had one of her life-



LETTIN' Go
Kelsey Gray

long wishes granted. We gave her a trip to Disney World. Family, friends and neighbors all donated to make sure she not only went, but went in style.

Once we got past the line to check our bags, through

security (they didn't understand that Kali can't be taken out of her wheelchair or she will fall and have a seizure), we were on the plane and in the air, and we were finally as excited as Kali was. Once in Orlando, we were told that Disney would provide a bus that would take us to our hotel, and they would deliver our luggage to us. For some reason, the computers did not show that we had requested a handicap accessible bus. So we waited for an hour and a half for a bus that could work for us. Our hotel was absolutely gorgeous. We stayed at the Boardwalk Inn.

When we checked in, they told us our luggage would be in our room in 2-6 hours. This sent my mom in a panic. Airline regulations wouldn't allow my mom to carry Kali's seizure medications on the plane with us. She has to take them every morning and night before she goes to sleep to keep her alive. While she didn't freak out on anyone, the rest of the

night she kept saying how worried she was about our luggage. Luckily, everything showed up in our room by the time we got to dinner.

Since Kali can't do roller coasters or any rides, she only wanted to meet characters. And that she did! She got to see everyone from Woody and Buzz to Pooh and Tigger. The most memorable of all were the Disney Princesses. Without my mom's or my knowledge, the workers held up the line and let my sister just hang out with Belle, Cinderella, and Sleeping Beauty. We had no idea what was going on, we kept trying to pack up and get her back in her wheelchair and out of everyone's way. The worker finally stopped us, and told us to chill out and let Kali enjoy the experience. That was the biggest smile I had seen on Kali in a long time.

This was my third time at a Disney Park, and my favorite. My experience with my family was what Disney World is all about.

Dreams coming true. No, we didn't go to the water parks, or the roller coasters, and I didn't run around like crazy with my friends. Instead, I watched the joy on my sister's face as she got a hug from Minnie Mouse.

My sister and my family have taught me many things over my life. Kali has taught me unconditional love, and not letting the struggles you face daily affect your love for life. My family has taught me to embrace challenges, and know that family is always first.

In this season of thanks and giving, I thank my family for teaching me another lesson. That it is not about where you are or what you're doing.

Life is about who you are with. I learned to look past the stress of individual situations to enjoy the big picture. Every family has their own situations.

This is just mine. While at times I get frustrated and angry with it, I still wouldn't change it for the world.

Snow brings Christmas joy and holiday entertainment during times of tests, stresses and travels

With just a few days before finals students are biting the bullet to get all of those last minute papers, projects and presentations done before taking those last dreaded tests.

I am completely certain that I am not the only one guilty of procrastination and have had to pull some late nights getting everything done. With the stress of finals on all of our minds, I know I have not gotten into the Christmas spirit and I know I am not alone in this. With all of this, a new love-hate relationship has grown. That relationship involves you and your new friend snow.

For the past couple of days we have all had to stomp through the snow, walking from class to class sporting our winter coats and scarves trying our



FRESH VIEW
Emilee Reinhart

best to keep warm. The sidewalks are slippery and the parking lots are dangerous, and it seems like everywhere you go there is water and mud all over the place.

I love snow, and being from Kansas, I have had my fair share of it. Snow reminds me of the holidays. Who doesn't love

a good snowball fight or finding the biggest hill to go sledding? Snow can bring hours of fun and brings back old memories, but after awhile I get really sick of snow and the bitter cold weather that comes along with it, and we all know how hard it is to get out of our nice, warm, cozy beds when we know what faces us outside the dorm doors.

Even though I am starting to get sick of snow and it is supposed to get worse, it has at least reminded me that Christmas is almost here, and break is just around the corner.

I think we all deserve a break after all the extra hours we have put in cramming our brains with as much knowledge as we can pack in, in such little time.

Snow is also responsible

for some not-so-fun situations. Not only does snow leave roads very dangerous to drive on, I have seen several "almost" accidents and cars in the ditch.

Driving is slow and very scary with current winter conditions. All this cold weather and wetness brings sickness, and I really do not want to get sick during finals week, so do as your mothers say and bundle up and stay warm. May it be with your fuzzy blankets or a Snuggie, grab a cup of hot chocolate and your textbooks and study.

Looking at Christmas lights throughout towns is one of the main highlights of the Christmas season. Take a break from finals and see the town like you have never seen it before. Lights really do make a difference at Christmas. Here's an idea, take a trip

to Wal-Mart and buy a cheap set of lights to hang in your dorm window. It will cheer you up when stressed and be a cute decoration for others to look at.

Decorate ornaments for your hall. Get cheaper plain glass balls and glitter glue and draw their names on them. Easy and fun!

Finals will be here and gone before you know it.

The holiday season is officially here and the radio likes to constantly remind you of it playing every Christmas song imaginable, and no matter how hard you try several get stuck in your head, and you cannot help but hum along.

With all of this snow we are definitely going to have a "white Christmas, just like the ones we used to know."

On the Fly

If you could give any gift, what would it be and who would it be for?



"Donate money to the Desi Geestman Foundation."

Richelle Mascaro Jr., Tujunga, Calif.



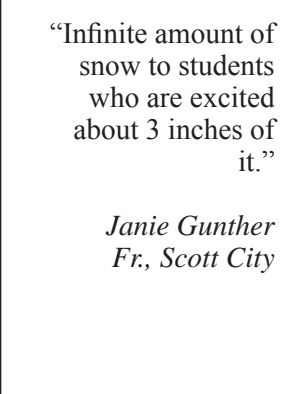
"Soccer gear to under-privileged children."

Amber McKinnon Fr., Littleton, Colo.



"I would buy myself a house."

Emily Ayers Sr., McPherson



"Infinite amount of snow to students who are excited about 3 inches of it."

Janie Gunther Fr., Scott City



"Bring my mom back for my brothers."

Will Powers Jr., Garden City



"Gift of life for anyone who needs it."

Loni "Junior" Tolutau Jr., Lahaina, Hawaii



SHOUT IT OUT!

To contribute to Shout It Out! put your shout in the submission box in Hoffman Student Union.

Three meals compared to four hours of work. Really?

Who busted out my car's windows? I'll find out. That's a promise.

The cafeteria stops serving food at 7:30 in the evening. If you come in later, you won't eat. It's that simple.

Where is my white bread?

Having to walk through a cloud of smoke to get into buildings is really obnoxious.

He has no chin!

Thank you maintenance for clearing the sidewalks early before classes! It made my day.

I love the slip-n-slide that occurs AFTER quiet hours. NOT.

Our hall smells like a burnt skillet.

Love the ping pong tournament.

I love my pink scarf. My neck is happy you're around scarf.

Packing cars with snow is fun.

Thank you performing arts program for making me laugh hysterically once again.

New York, New York; These streets will inspire you.

If this town is just an apple, let me take a bite.

I want to be on the news, too.

I wish I could walk a day in someone else's shoes. Just to see what the inside looks like from the outside.

Wednesday nights will never be the same.

I rode a bicycle this weekend. It did not end well. Thanks, gravity.



Courtesy Photo

Joey Staskowski, fr., Utica Ny, Emma Bromme, jr., San Antonio, Texas, Emily Donell, soph., Wichita, Jordan Rothrock, sr., McPherson, Ashley Andrews, sr., Oklahoma City, Okla., Isaac Levin, fr., Dighton, and Jillian Overstake, sr., Fort Scott, leave the audience wanting more as they pose for the final dramatic scene of "Rumors" on closing night.

'Rumors' captivates audience

Ashley Andrews' senior project "Rumors" earned rave reviews

STEPHANIE POLAND
Spectator Staff

We have all been involved in rumors sometime in our life. Although nobody likes rumors they are bound to occur. Some people do not even mean to spread rumors they just happen when trying to cover something up or maybe even when trying to help a friend. McPherson's stage was graced by a different kind of "rumors" this past weekend.

The production Rumors by Neil Simon was performed as Ashley Andrews', sr., Oklahoma City, Okla., senior project. This was the most recent production in Brown Auditorium.

"I thought the show was hilarious and a lot of fun to watch," said Rachel Arnold, sr., Valley Falls. "Ashley did a fantastic job and her character was a perfect role for her. You could tell through her performance that she really enjoyed it."

Rumors showed on the

4th and 5th of December and had an outstanding assembly of spectators. Over 500 people came to watch the two-day show, which is a higher number of attendants than recent shows have seen.

Andrews was excited to hear that her show produced such amazing results. "I don't get nervous about very many situations and this project seemed to be the first time that I was actually nervous," Andrews said. "The production turned out better than I imagined, it did great getting reviews."

"I loved it!" said Sean Grandin, sr., Pleasant Hill Ca. "The play was very Comical I loved how in the end the characters had to explain to the cops about not only a car crash but then a series of gun shots."

Ashley picked the play Rumors because it consisted of a large cast, which is something that she enjoys. This hilarious comedy was chosen because of her passion of comedic theatre.

"Rumors was absolutely hilarious, I could not stop laughing! If it was showing again next weekend I would go see it in a heartbeat."

- Bryanna King

Andrews started preparing for this show last summer when she started the assembly of the production. She worked closely with Rick Tyler, professor of speech and theatre, and Jd. Bowman, assistant professor of theatre, during the summer in order to design costumes for the show. Actual rehearsals started three and a half weeks before the show.

"What I got out of this experience was the ability to show everyone my passion for the theater and comedy," Andrews said. "If I was given the opportunity to do another production or being in a show, I would take the op-

portunity because of my love for the theater."

"It was absolutely hilarious and I could not stop laughing," said Bryanna King, sr., Gallup, Nm. "If it was showing again next weekend I would go see it in a heartbeat."

"The ending was definitely surprising because of all the rumors being thrown around between the characters, there was more of a cliff hanger at the end that made you think as you left your seat," said King.

Garrett Parker, jr., Springfield, Mo said "My favorite part was seeing Jordan run around waving his arms in the air and screaming like a mad man."

"My favorite part had to be when Issac or Lenny was telling his story," said Cody Compton, soph., Colorado Springs, Co.

King thought Rumors was one the better plays from previous years. "It was well done and reached a whole new level."

Fiber artist Barbara Barkley exhibits in Friendship hall

SARAH POWELL
Spectator Staff

Barbara Barkley, a fibers artist from New Mexico, is displaying her art during the months of December and January in Friendship Hall. Her show opened Thursday, Dec. 3, with a speech on the meaning of her art and how she prepares the fibers before the art work begins.

Her art is described as "transforming paper from floating fibers, swept up and fixed in stillness, as ethereal as capturing that which transforms and uplifts us in our quest for higher understanding and deepening spirit." Barkley has been published in 100 Artists of the Southwest and her art has been displayed in over 20 countries.

Starting her career in art history, Barkley took a class on Japanese papermaking the inspired her to become the fiber artist she is today.

"My post graduate work in transpersonal psychology and religion com-

bined with my art history background strongly influenced my art," Barkley said. "It is the feeling of antiquity and textural richness that so intrigues me when I approach my papermaking."

She has been a fiber artist for 20 years using both Eastern and Western styles.

Barkley starts the papermaking process by "gathering long, strong fibered plants, and cooking them in lye for several hours; then hand beats and floats them in vats of water for the sheet forming process. There is an alchemical feel to breaking down the flax, hemp, linen, cotton rag and sisal into fine fibers and pigments with natural earthen pigments and quality light fast pigments. Each fiber and color lends its own character to the final artwork."

"All color in my artwork comes from layering my colored fibers, which depending on the size of the piece could take as long as one-month to complete," Barkley said.



Barbara Barkley

Barkley likes to use both smooth and energetic expressive techniques in her art.

"It depends on what I want to say in my art, I will use both techniques in one piece if that is how I see it best being represented," Barkley said.

With every piece there's a deeper meaning than what's being shown.

"I feel like there is a part of me who leans on the light," Barkley said. "When there are hard times, I feel as if there is a ladder guiding us and we use that ladder to 'lean on the light'. I would like to find a timeless place that speaks to the public to-

day."

Art can serve a variety of purposes in society, both positive and negative. The contributions of art to society can be evaluated through realistic philosophy.

"Artists want to react to the social reactions today-war, poverty, life, love-everything that is going on in the world, artist want to show that through their work," Barkley said. "Nothing is more important to an artist."

Michael Zerishnek, fr, commented, "Her work keeps me thinking on why she chose her design. I like it though- Its different." Zerishnek is in Drawing and had the opportunity for a private session with Barkley the afternoon before the show opened.

Barbara Barkley and her husband Michael Colombo use the quietness of their mountain home to their advantage, which is a necessary part to their creative lives.

Barkley's art work will be displayed until Jan. 22 in Friendship Hall.

The Hot spot

A THOUGHTFULLY DEvised ARRAY OF QUESTIONS FOR FACILITIES OFFICER MANAGER CONNIE STUCKY

TAYLOR ADAMS



Q You are the facilities office manager. Tell me a little bit about what that job entails?

A The kids get younger. The students get younger every year, meaning I'm getting older every year.

A I supervise the custodians, assign work orders for the technicians, and usually fill key requests. I also fill the school's master calendar.

Q Do you have as much interaction with the students?

A Not as much as I used to, or as much as I want to. When I first started I worked in the Sport Center. I was around kids all the time. I really enjoyed that.

Q What is your daily work schedule like?

A Well, I come in first thing and check my email. If people need vans or keys, I get to work on that.

Q Is there anything else you would like the student body to know about your job or you personally?

Q How did you come to Mac?

A I was born in McPherson, but I grew up in Galva.

A My husband also works here, for 31 years now, and this is like our second home.

Q How long have you been here?

A I have been here almost 19 years. I've only had this job for 7 or 8 years, though. I went from being a custodian to a custodial supervisor, and finally to office manager.

Q What characteristics does your job require you to display most?

A Patience, the ability to multi-task and a general understanding of all the activities on campus.

Q What are your plans for the future?

A I want to stay here, I enjoy my job.

Q What do you think of all the changes that are occurring on campus?

A I think the college is headed in a great direction. We are saddened though that our Facilities Director has resigned.

Q Do you live in McPherson?

A Yes, I live about five blocks away.

Q What is your impression of the community?

A I think we are very friendly and caring.

Q What makes McPherson College like a second home?

A Care and concern for the college, there are a lot of others that feel the same way and that makes us all like one big family.

Q How have you seen the campus change in your time here?



Emillee Reinhart

The band plays Christmas music as an enthusiastic audience pays rapt attention. The concert and jazz band's concert took place on December 8th at 7:30 in Brown Auditorium.

Choir and band perform Christmas concerts

TRICIA FENSKY
Spectator Staff

With the holidays right around the corner, what better way to get in the spirit than to listen to Christmas music? Everyone has their favorite Christmas carol, and a great way to hear these songs is to attend the upcoming choir and band concerts.

On Dec. 8, the concert band and jazz band

performed at 7:30 pm in Brown Auditorium. Students performed the songs "Match Point," "Kansas City," and "Nice n Easy Blues."

"This concert should be really fun and with our new director, Daryl Batchelor, we are really improving as a group," said Lane Allison, soph., Greensburg.

"I really enjoy band, and the teachers/directors are very nice and fun to be

around," said Kelsi Sowers, jr., Bluestem. The band and jazz band are directed by Kyle Hopkins and Daryle Batchelor.

On Dec. 13th, the McPherson College Choir will be presenting "A Concert of Christmas Classics." It will be held in the sanctuary of the Brethren Church at 4 pm. Attendees will experience new and familiar Christmas carols such as "The First Noel," "Fum, Fum, Fum," and

"Stay with Us."

"The songs we are singing are harder than previous years, but everyone has worked really hard and I am really excited about the concert," said Neika Iverson, soph., Salina.

Every other year the choir performs a major choral work with the orchestra. This year's featured piece is Daniel Pinkham's "Christmas Cantata." It has an interesting interplay between the instru-

ments and singers. The featured guest instrumentalists are Rob Tiemey and Tim Shade, trombone; Kyle Unruh, Austin McCabe-Juhnke, trumpet; and Genevieve Bishop, organ. Leah Fitzjarrald, sr., Great Bend, will be accompanying the choir.

To prepare for this concert, students have been attending daily rehearsals since homecoming.

"I am excited about the upcoming concert," said

Steve Gustafson, director and professor of music. "Students have worked hard, are well prepared, and are ready to perform."

"We have been continually having great rehearsals," said Adriana Drury, soph., Hesston. "This concert will be one of our best!"

Instead of just listening to the radio, come attend these concerts. They will be worth your time, and get listeners in the Christmas spirit.

How to manage end of semester stress

KIM ROQUEMORE
Spectator Staff

With five papers due, sports practice, two tests on Friday, a theatre production on Saturday and a part-time job to top it all off, it's safe to say that students might be stressed.

According to the American Institute of Stress, stress is an unavoidable consequence of life.

Kelli Johnson, personal counselor, stresses the point that "many college students are not adept at dealing with stress; therefore they may feel the effects more strongly."

The website www.helpguide.org defines stress as a normal physical response to events that make one feel threatened or upset one's balance in some way. This site also points out the value of stress: "Stress isn't always bad. In small doses, it can help you perform under pressure and motivate you to do your best."

But as college students can sometimes experience, stress doesn't always come in small doses and when the mother-load of anxiety and pressure hits, what can we do to reduce it?

"Taking care of your physical self is important (diet, exercise, sleep)," Johnson said. "A person's health can impact their stress level, and sometimes a person has difficulty managing their stress."

According to helpguide.org, people who suffer from stress (that's everyone) should avoid consuming an excessive amount of sugar and caffeine. Instead of helping the situation these temporary aids only mask the underlying

causes of the problem.

The American Institute of Stress advises that people set aside "relaxation time." This time will give students a break from the hustle and bustle of their lives and "recharge your batteries."

"I have to have my alone time and my lists," said Katie Beam, so., McPherson. "If I feel overwhelmed I usually just stay up late to get everything done."

Helpguide.org also suggests that people get a good night's sleep. "Adequate sleep fuels your mind, as well as your body. Feeling tired will increase your stress because it may cause you to think irrationally."

TIPS FOR STRESS MANAGEMENT

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Eat Healthy | 5. Avoid consuming excessive sugar and caffeine |
| 2. Exercise | 6. Engage in healthy relationships |
| 3. Get enough sleep | |
| 4. Manage time wisely | |

The power of debit cards: do you understand yours?

ASHLEY DAMERON
Spectator Staff

The debit card is a great benefit brought to us by the age of technology. But it's not without risks and fine print. Using a debit card can be very tricky, and students have to be careful about how they use them.

No one carries cash anymore. But using the debit card as cash for every transaction, instead of in specific situations, can get a student into a lot of trouble.

A lot of students don't fully understand the way the debit card works. This can lead to over drafting on an account.

"I use my debit for everything, I overdraft all the time," said Robby Tobias, sr., Conrad, Iowa.

"I over drafted once on my debit and had to pay thirty dollars for a chap stick," said Aaron Milam, jr., Hereford, Texas. "Ever since, I keep my receipts and check my

balance online."

So why is it easy to overdraft? Because a lot of people think that the money gets taken out the day of the transaction. However, most stores only take out one or two dollars, and then take out the rest later.

These fees are often 30 dollars per transaction overdraft, and they double for every transaction after that. It's easy for a few dollars here and a few dollars there to turn into a few hundred dollars.

Most gas stations take out fifty dollars automatically. When the transactions cleared, they'll put the money you didn't use back into the bank.

"When I use my debit card for gas the actual amount is posted that same evening. Many stations will charge more until the exact amount is posted to your account," said Connie Kramer, assistant professor of business.

"I use my debit card for everything, but I keep a close eye on my account balance," said Brittany Van Sant, jr., Colorado Springs, Colo.

It's a good idea to keep track of an account whether it be online, through an ATM, or going to the bank.

Students should never sign up for the personal overdraft privilege. This allows so much money to run over in the account balance, but still tacks on overdraft fees. Without the POP, students will not be able to keep making transactions after they have gone over their balance.

Debits can be a very helpful in saving time. Students just have to be careful and smart about using them. Every bank offers different plans for a debit account. If students have and use a debit card on a regular basis, they should talk to the bank about account privileges and rules.

How to...

Make Your Own Christmas Gifts

JACOB NELSON

Christmas time is here, but you don't have a lot of money to buy a gift. That's okay because Christmas isn't about how much you spend on a gift, it's the thought you put into your gift giving that counts. So put some thought into your gifts this year and make your own Christmas gifts.

The best gift you can give is a Christmas card because it can be personalized very easily. Most

computers have programs to make Christmas cards. Handwritten and hand drawn cards are nice too. Include some pictures and a nice greeting and you have yourself a homemade gift.

Make Christmas ornaments. They can be made out of almost anything. Make angels out of pasta, make balls out of scrap fabric, snowmen out of Popsicle sticks or even a simple candy cane can become an or-

nament. It's a chance to be creative.

Food can also become gifts. Give Christmas themed cookies, hot cocoa and marshmallows in mugs, caramel popcorn, Christmas fudge and anything that tastes good. People like junk food gifts.

The most meaningful gift that you can give is a picture of you and the recipient. Find a great

picture that you want to give. You can buy a frame, or if you are feeling extra creative, you can even make your own frame. Wrap everything up and you have a personal, meaningful gift.

Make your cheap last minute Christmas gift a meaningful one. Don't just go buy a gift and wrap it up, put some thought into it to make your own. After all, it's the thought that counts.

WALNUT SNOWFLAKE COOKIES

- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
- 3/4 cup confectioners' sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups unsifted all-purpose flour
- 1 cup finely chopped walnuts
- 1 3-oz bar white chocolate, melted

- In medium-size bowl, with electric mixer on med speed, beat butter, sugar, and vanilla until fluffy. Reduce mixer speed to low; gradually beat in flour until well mixed. Stir in walnuts.
- Divide dough in half and shape each half into an 8-inch-long log. Wrap with plastic wrap and refrigerate dough for 1 hour or until it is firm enough to slice.
- Heat oven to 325 degrees. Cut each log crosswise into 16 slices. Place 1 inch apart on ungreased large baking sheets. Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool cookies 2 minutes on baking sheets, then transfer to wire racks and cool completely.
- Place melted chocolate in pastry bag with writing tip and pipe a snowflake design on each cookie. You can use a baggie with a tiny, tiny hole cut out of one corner. Cool chocolate until set.

Off to a flying start

Men's basketball rises to 2-0 in conference play and 8-2 for overall record



Photos by Benjamin Denton

Sophomore Aaron Frazier (Left) and senior Marlon Dominique (Right) dive into enemy territory, maneuvering in the air for attempts at the basket. As a team, the Bulldogs shot 40 percent from the field and three from nine from behind the three-point arch. The Bulldogs forced the Braves to turn over the ball 20 times, gaining 26 points as a result.

ALEX STILLWELL
Spectator Staff

The McPherson College men's basketball team is having a good season with an overall record of 8-2 and a conference record of 2-0. With a recent 69-56 win over Ottawa University on December 5, the Bulldogs continue fueling themselves for victory.

Leading the Bulldog offense against the Braves was senior guard Mike Reece with 17 points, including sinking 7 out of 8 free throws. Senior guard Charles Moore II also had 13 points while senior forward Dwayne Thomas claimed 11 rebounds, 11 points and three steals of

his own.

As a whole, the Bulldogs shot 40 percent from the field with 3 out of 9 from beyond the arch. The Braves were forced into 20 turnovers and committed 20 personal fouls resulting in 18 of the Bulldogs' points.

"I am very pleased with how our team is progressing," head coach Tim Swartzendruber said. "Our seniors are doing a great job leading us and I believe this will be the key to our overall success this year. We hope to see strong student support throughout the year."

The week prior, the Bulldogs played against Kansas Wesleyan in their



Photos by Benjamin Denton

Senior Mike Reece drives past the Braves opponent for a lay-up. Reece also led the team in points with 17 points.

first conference game. They soundly defeated the Coyotes with a score of 64-52.

Senior guard Marlon Dominique dominated offensively with 23 points. He was 5 of 8 from the field, 1 of 2 from beyond the arch and sunk a perfect 12 for 12 free throws.

The team as a whole shot for 90% on free throws in the second half, something that sealed the victory for them. The only downside of the Bulldogs' play was their 24 turnovers which turned into 21 of the Coyotes points.

The men are playing once if not twice a week plus practicing and so putting in a lot of work this

season. The team hopes to go undefeated in conference play and the players believe it can happen.

"Our teamwork and character will determine how far we can succeed," freshman Mason Hewitt said.

Their next and last game before break is tomorrow at Bethany. Tipoff will be at 7:00 pm and students are invited to come and support the team.

The Bulldogs are planning to dismiss the players on December 17 and give them a practice-free break until the 30th. Their next game after break ends will be January 4 at home against York. Tipoff is at 8 p.m.

Mid-America knocks Bulldogs out of playoffs with fourth quarter play

JORDAN ROQUEMORE
Sports Editor

The Bulldogs ended their season during the first round of playoffs on November 21 with a loss to Mid-America Nazarene. Their final overall record stands at 9-2 with a conference record of 8-1.

The team managed to get 273 yards of total offense, 192 passing and 81 rushing. Wide receiver Andy Skinner led the offense with 11 catches for 112 yards.

Quarterback Shane Mascarenas was intercepted three times and completed 20 of 39 passes. He finished the season with 3,201 yards and 33 touchdown passes.

Running back Aaron Lafitte carried the ball 25 times with 114 yards and two touchdowns. He rushed 1,030 yards for the season, the highest amount since 2003.

Defensively, McPherson had three players finish



Photos by Benjamin Denton

The Bulldogs rally in a huddle before the game against Southwestern on October 24. The victory against the Moundbuilders added to the team's winning overall record of 9-2.

with double-digit tackles led by middle linebacker Will Powers. Powers finished the game with 11 total tackles (5 solo), while Jeff Paulson and Scott Jones recorded 10 apiece. The game went back and

forth, with the teams going into the locker rooms at halftime with a score of 21-20 in favor of the Bulldogs. The men would go on to score a field goal as their last points of the game. The Pioneers went

on to blast open the point board through the Bulldog's four fourth quarter turnovers.

The Pioneers went on to win 40-24, knocking the Bulldogs out of the playoffs.

Basketball Schedule

- Dec 12 @ Bethany College in Lindsborg
- Jan 4 Columbia College McPherson
- Jan 7 Southwestern College in McPherson
- Jan 9 @ University of Saint Mary Leavenworth 5:00
- Jan 14 @ Friends University in Wichita
- Jan 16 Sterling College in McPherson
- Jan 21 Bethel College in McPherson
- Jan 23 @ Kansas Wesleyan University Salina
- Jan 28 @ Ottawa University in Ottawa
- Jan 30 Tabor College in McPherson
- Feb 4 Bethany College in McPherson
- Feb 6 @ Southwestern College Winfield
- Feb 11 University of Saint Mary in McPherson
- Feb 13 Friends University in McPherson
- Feb 18 @ Sterling College in Sterling
- Feb 20 @ Bethel College in North Newton

Widening recruiting range

Coach Bwalya signs international players for tennis program

DUSTY KITCHEN
Spectator Staff

The tennis season still hasn't started, but head coach Sidney Bwalya isn't letting that slow him down. He's travelling as much as he can to get recruits to come to McPherson for the 2010-2011 season.

"Recruiting is going fairly well," Bwalya said. "I have been up and about talking to high school students, parents and several coaches within and outside the state. I am spreading the word out to my recruits that McPherson College is really a place to be right now."

Bwalya, who is in his

first year of coaching at McPherson College, is trying to spread the word to as many players as he can that McPherson is ready to be a serious contender in the KCAC. He knows it will take time, but with help from young recruits, he believes it will be beneficial for everyone.

"One of the things that I have told them is that we could offer them the opportunity to play high in the lineup in their first year," Bwalya said. "At some schools, players of these guys' abilities are still fighting to get in the top six. They are going to get the experience here that will help them be-

come great players down the road."

Bwalya hasn't had to go too far for some of his recruits. In McPherson, Bwalya has found several players he believes are interested and could benefit the team.

"I am excited that Ashley Allmon from McPherson high school has indicated strongly that she will join our team," Bwalya said. "We are hoping that Mark Gayer and Nathan Werman, who are both stand-out players and great students from McPherson high school will also join us."

Other players that Bwalya says that have shown

interest towards McPherson College include sophomores Andrew Johnson and Brittany Osborne from Barton Community College, Tiffany Antigone from Seward Community College, Alex Jenkner from Dodge City High School, Lynn Tran from Newton High School, Sarah Ulrich from Augusta and Megan Quinley from Salina South.

Though Bwalya would have to wait for players to actually play for McPherson, there might be a few new faces on the team this spring. On the men's side, Domenic Yaric from Poland, currently ranked 325 ITF junior, and Den-

nis Woerts, a number 320 rank in Germany, may join the team. On the women's side, Tabtip Louhabanjong from Thailand and Ericka Schnaas from Mexico are just some of the recruits with strong indications.

However, while recruiting is important for Bwalya, he still believes this year can be really turned around by the players if they want it to.

"I am really excited with the current team and I think a lot of players have great potential and tons of room for improvement," Bwalya said. "We just need to get some players to start believing in themselves and in things that they are able

to do on the court. Once we change that attitude, I think the possibilities are endless."

Bwalya wants to see improvement in his players until they are able to compete at the top of the conference with ease.

"I know we have a young team," Bwalya said. "However, my goal is to build this team and program back to what it was before if not beyond. It's going to take us a few years to get back to where things were before, but I expect us to be competitive in the conference right away and knocking on the door of the Top 2 very soon."

String of player injuries plague season for Lady Bulldogs



Photo by Benjamin Denton

Sophomore Brooke Weisenburger runs down the sideline, watching her Brave opponent for an opening. The Lady Bulldogs beat Ottawa with a close score of 69-61, gaining their first conference win out of two and bringing their overall record to 4-5.

DUSTY KITCHEN
Spectator Staff

The Lady Bulldogs have had a series of bad injuries this year, but despite the losses the Ladies find themselves 1-1 in conference and their overall record at 4-5 after defeating KCAC opponent Ottawa 69-61 last Thursday. The next game for the women will be away Saturday against Bethany.

After losing yet another post player in senior center Stephanie Poland during the November 24 game, the Bulldogs opened conference play with a tough loss to a very strong Kansas Wesleyan 29-86. However, the Bulldogs defeated their second KCAC opponent, Ottawa.

"Injuries are never fun to deal with but they are obstacles that we must overcome," said Head coach Shelly Prescott. "The ladies are doing a good job of working through the changes. They are continuing to battle and that's all I ask."

Senior guard Kristen Ozbun, who had 13 points in the Ottawa game and shot 4-4 from the free throw line and had five assists, felt that the team did great coming back after the big loss from Kansas Wesleyan.

"We played really well



Photo by Benjamin Denton

Freshman guard Shireana Robinson shoots from beyond the arch for three.

together," Ozbun said. "I think the loss on Thursday was a real motivator for our team. We felt like we had something to prove."

The big push in the Ottawa game came from freshman guard Shireana Robinson. Robinson led the Bulldogs with 24 points, led in total rebounds with 11 and even had a block and a steal.

The Ottawa game was far from a one-person show. Sophomore guard Brooke Weisenburger contributed nine points and two steals to the Bulldogs, while senior guard Michelle Ducey had eight points and eight rebounds. McPherson beat Ottawa on the boards 55-42.

The Ottawa win was also Prescott's first KCAC conference win at home since she took the job, but she said that didn't run through her head at all after the game.

"Honestly even though it was our first KCAC win at home since I have taken over, it didn't feel much different," Prescott said. "A win is appreciated no matter when, where or how it takes place. Historically, Ottawa has had a great program so it feels good to beat an opponent of that caliber and I'm happy for the girls."

Next up for the Bulldogs will be the 2-8 Bethany Swedes who are 0-2 in conference in Lindsborg Saturday night to finish off the Bulldogs season till after break.

Cheer coach relocating to California

LANGSTON RHYNES
Spectator Staff

Anita Parks will be stepping down as cheer coach at McPherson College. She will most likely be leaving at the end of the school year unless otherwise asked.

"The reason I will be leaving is because my husband has taken a job offer where me and my family will be relocating to California," Parks said. "I feel that working at McPherson and with the cheer and dance program has been very enjoyable, and I am very sad to have to leave this program."



Courtesy photo

Anita Parks and family

Cheerleaders have also expressed their sadness at losing their coach at the end of the year.

"I'm sad to see our coach go, she will be missed," said Becky Harris, sr., St. Joseph, Missouri. "She

has not only been a good coach to our team, but a good friend as well. I wish the best for her and hope she and her children have a safe move."

There hasn't been any word of who will be replacing Parks at this time.

Parks husband has already relocated to the Irvine as his job has already begun. Parks, not wanting to pull the kids out of school or leave the cheer team without a coach, opted to stay longer.

"I will say it has been a

joy to be a part of the McPherson College staff and it has been a joy to work with everyone," Parks said. "I hope the cheer and program continue to stay very productive and wish nothing but the best for the program."

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Dickhudt receives SEMA award

TAYLOR ADAMS
Spectator Staff

Joe Dickhudt, assistant professor of technology, received the Jeff Moses Memorial Award, an honor mostly given to students, at this year's Specialty Equipment Manufacturer's Association show.

"It was a fascinating trip," Dickhudt said. "It's just huge... It's kind of like going to Disney Land." Close to 130,000 people visited the SEMA show this year, according to SEMA's website.

The award is typically given to students just entering the restoration field, but the committee chose Dickhudt for his passion for continuing education in the restoration field.

Dickhudt went through the two-year program five years ago, after a long ca-



Photo by Rod Barlet

Joe Dickhudt poses in front of the 1929 Model A Ford Woody in Templeton Hall.

reer in engineering. Six years ago he was working in Washington, D.C., and had no idea he would be here today.

"If you'd have asked me then, it would have been the last thing I would have expected," Dickhudt said. As far as his career at the

college, "I think I'll stay here as long as they will have me."

Members of the Automotive Restoration faculty at

the college have received numerous awards for their work or for cars they have restored, according to Chris Paulsen, donor relations coordinator.

The show, which encompasses restoration equipment, tools, racing equipment and new products, housed close to 7,000 vendors in 2009, according to SEMA's website.

Numerous celebrities in the restoration community were present at the SEMA. The award was presented to Dickhudt by Dennis Gage, host of "My Classic Car," a popular show on the Speed network. Other appearances included Chip Foose, Mario Andretti, Barry Meguiar and Jay Leno.

Jeff Moses, before his death 8 years ago, was president of the Automotive Restoration Market-

ing Organization and a fervent restoration entrepreneur.

"He had always wanted to be a teacher," Dickhudt said. "He graduated from Florida State with a degree in education, and never lost interest in education."

McPherson College is a recognized name in the restoration community. "The ARMO reception was about 400 people," Dickhudt said. "I wore a nametag that said McPherson College on it, and everybody seemed to know the college. It's hard to believe.

"It's an honor to be part of an elite group that gets to teach this and live this every day," Dickhudt said. "It's an honor to work with those I get to work with. We make up an eclectic group."

Toy Drive: a way to give this season

from Page 1

president John David Brown, sr., Baldwin City, is hoping that this year, with a better marketing plan, the campus community will be informed of the event and want to chip in what they can.

"The hardest thing is getting the word out," Brown said. "The more people that know the better response we get. That's why this year we are planning on doing a better job on marketing for the drive.

It doesn't matter what the toy is, when the children open it on Christmas morning, they are always very thankful."

Kramer wanted to share a similar feeling about giving whatever possible, no matter what its personal worth.

"You can buy a \$1 MatchBox car out at Walmart. To you it's just a \$1 car, but to one of these kids, that car is worth millions."

Smith to travel to Nigeria next February

REBECCA GROSBACH
Spectator Staff



Herb Smith

An unpaid leave of absence will take a well-known professor to Africa next semester.

Dr. Herb Smith, professor of philosophy and religion, and his wife Jeanne, will be traveling to Jos, Nigeria next February for the spring semester. Smith has accepted a teaching position at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria to teach New Testament Studies there.

The courses Smith will teach will be taught in English, as it is the universal language of Nigeria, and the official language of the education system.

Smith is greatly looking forward to observing and learning about the Nigerian worship ceremonies.

"I can imagine that one service could last for up to two-and-one-half hours at least," Smith said. The services are very active, with singing and drums.

He also looks forward to learning about the anthropology of the culture.

"If there is a wedding or funeral going on while we're there, I'll be sure to go," Smith said.

One thing that greatly concerns Smith is the amount of violence there is in the region. That area of Nigeria is very volatile. It is where the Muslim region and the Christian region of Nigeria meet.

Because of this, a lot of violence takes place.

"That type of Islam is very aggressive, and they are against any type of Western beliefs," Smith said.

A number of people have been killed recently in that area, as well as churches burned.

"If it looks like things aren't safe, the only thing we can do is stay indoors," Smith said. To help keep in touch with each other, he and his wife are planning on buying cell phones after arriving in Nigeria.

While he is gone next semester, several others will be teaching the religion classes here on campus. Ken Stevens, Pastor at the UCC Church here in McPherson will be covering some, as well as Tom Hurst, campus minister, Dr. Kent Eaton, vice president of academic affairs, and Dr. Paul Hoffman are all teaching classes.

Smith is looking forward to this opportunity.

Gustafson takes sabbatical

REBECCA GROSBACH
Spectator Staff

A desire to live in a new culture, an opportunity to learn about the German education system and the thrill of travel is what is driving Dr. Steve Gustafson, professor of music, towards the sabbatical he is taking next semester.

Gustafson and his wife Gail are moving to Steinfurt, Germany, on March 25 where he will begin his sabbatical, his first in 23 years.

Gustafson has a lot scheduled for his time in Germany. He will be observing teacher education classes at Münster University.

"I'm interested in seeing how teaching and learning functions in the German university system," Gustafson said.

He will also observe at the Gymnasium, which is a German school similar to a college prep-school.

Gustafson is planning on focusing a lot of his time on church music. Both of his Master's and Doctoral programs were in the area of organ and church music, so this is a way to further his education in those areas. He

has arranged to sit in on rehearsals at the Münster Cathedral, as well as helping with the music at the Grosse Kirche in Steinfurt.

Another opportunity that Gustafson and his wife plan to take advantage of is the opportunity to travel.

"I love to travel," Gustafson said. They plan on traveling to northern Germany, to the birthplaces to J.S. Bach, Handel and Mendelssohn. A five-day trip to Paris, France, is also on the list to take in all the churches and museums. And, if time and money allow, they will travel to Turkey for a week.

Being culturally immersed is very appealing to Gustafson. While they are there they will be participating in a house exchange with friends of theirs. They will live in the house in Steinfurt, and the friends will move to McPherson to live in the Gustafson home. The idea for the exchange came during the 2008 European Choir Tour when the choir was staying in Steinfurt.

Gustafson applied for the sabbatical a year ago last September with these



Steve Gustafson

opportunities in mind. However, in case it didn't work out, "there were a couple of other suggestions that I would have pursued," Gustafson said.

What makes Gustafson the most nervous for the trip is his language skills. From the end of this semester until they leave in March, Gustafson and his wife will be working on their German.

Gustafson bought a Rosetta Stone program, and is also planning on having "German coffee tables" with Jan Van Asselt, a former McPherson German professor to help him with his language.

"It wouldn't be very helpful for me to be sitting in on rehearsals and/or classes if I have no idea what's going on," Gustafson said.

In his absence, Gustafson personally requested James Keith, a former McPherson College student to be his replacement for the semester.

Keith has a Masters in choral conducting from the University of North Carolina Greensboro and is now working on his doctorate in choral conducting from the same institution.

"I think it would be really helpful for students to have a different perspective, to have someone who is a bit younger," Gustafson said. "I think James will bring some really neat ideas to the vocal music program."

Gustafson is foreseeing that he will be able to bring back skills from his sabbatical when he returns to teaching next fall.

"Sabbatical leaves are a really great opportunity for rest and renewal," Gustafson said. "I'm anticipating that I'll bring back new choral literature, new insights into another culture and perspective. Having experienced time in another culture, I think it will help me to be a more helpful advocate to students."

McPherson College FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE Fall 2009 Semester

Final Exam Time	Monday Dec. 14	Tuesday Dec. 15	Wednesday Dec. 16	Thursday Dec. 17
8:00 a.m.	<u>12:30 Classes</u> MWF MTRF	<u>9:30 Classes</u> MWF MTWF	<u>10:30 Classes</u> MWF MTWF	<u>8:30 Classes</u> MWF MTWF
10:30 a.m.	<u>10:30 Classes</u> TR	<u>2:30 Classes</u> TR	<u>9:30 Classes</u> TR	<u>1:30 Classes</u> MWF MWRF
2:00 p.m.	<u>3:30 Classes</u> MWF MWRF	<u>2:30 Classes</u> MWF MWRF	<u>8:30 Classes</u> TR <u>3:30 Classes</u> TR	<u>1:30 Classes</u> TR
7:00 p.m.	Monday Night Classes	Tuesday Night Classes	Wednesday Night Classes	Thursday Night Classes

Note: The 11:30 Seminar finals will take place during the last class period for the semester.

Find the regularly-scheduled time for the class. At the top of that column is the day the exam will be given. On the left-hand column is the time of the exam.

Students enrolled in appointment classes should check with professors to determine the examination schedule. STUDENTS WITH MORE THAN TWO FINAL EXAMS SCHEDULED ON THE SAME DAY ARE ENCOURAGED TO TALK TO THE PROVOST AND DEAN OF FACULTY ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ALTERNATE EXAM TIME. STUDENTS WHO EXPERIENCE A CONFLICT WITH ANOTHER EXAM TIME MAY TAKE THE EXAM AT A NONCONFLICTING TIME (CONSULT YOUR PROFESSORS).

Note: Student exchange policy with McPherson College is that the priorities of the host campus take precedence. The home campus will be flexible. In case of severe disagreements or student hardships, the two deans should consult and make a decision.

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