

Track & Field begins preparation for KCAC championships

CHRIS NEWELL
Sports Editor

The track and field program is nearing the end of the season. With one meet left before the conference meet, the Bulldogs will be traveling to Baker University on Saturday, April 25.



Photo by Miranda Clark Ulrich

Art Hop, a junior in physical education, pole vaults at Southwestern University on March 10.

At the KT Woodman Classic on April 10, many of personal records were set, with one athlete even breaking a four-decade-long school record.

Laura Gibson, a freshman in physical education, ran a 4:58 in the 1500 meter race, setting a personal record and breaking McPherson College's 45-year-old record, previously held by Hall of Fame athlete, Kathy Rogers.

On the men's side of the team, Art Hop, a junior in physical education, came through with his usual dominant performance on the pole vault.

He earned the NAIA "A" standard with a vault of 16 feet and three-quarters inch. He now sits at fourth place in the NAIA and just a quarter inch away from the McPherson College record.

J'Moi Penn, a sophomore in business, ran a 10.93 100 meter time at Wichita State on April 10, putting himself at first place in the KCAC in the event. His teammate, Josiah Oyebefun, a sophomore in bio-chemistry, sits at second in the conference with just .02 seconds behind Penn. Oyebefun also put himself in first place in the KCAC at the 200 meter with a time of 22.17 seconds.

The following week after Wichita State, the Track and Field team traveled to the Prairie Wolf Invite in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Leading the men was Michael Barrett, a junior in mathematics, as he earned himself PR's in all three of his throwing events with the shot put (41' 1"), discus (111' 1") and the hammer (134' 3"). Dixon Cooney, a sophomore in mathematics, placed third in the 800 meter with a time of 1:55.82. He now sits at third place in the KCAC in that event.

For the women, Rea Samuels, a junior in psychology, placed first in the 100 meter and 200 meter. She sits at third place in the conference in the 200 meter. Gibson also put herself at fifth place in the 5000 meter run with a time of 19:15, a personal best.



Photo by Miranda Clark Ulrich

The Baker University Wildcat Relays is up next for McPherson College on Saturday, April 25. This is the last meet before the team readies themselves for the KCAC championships and a run at back-to-back titles for both teams.

Austin Smith, a freshman in history and political science, leaps in the long jump event. He currently ranks first in the event in the KCAC with a jump of 22' 5".



Students perform last play of season



Photo by Claire Crossman

Logan Schrag, a freshman in business administration; Scott Crist, a senior in elementary education; Nora Grosbach, a freshman in biology; and Amanda Leffew, a senior in philosophy and religion; interact in a scene in "The Foreigner."

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NEWS BRIEFS

Students urged to sign up for Interterm 2016

Course BA 342IT satisfies the global intercultural general education credit.

The course will be guided by Sheron Lawson, assistant professor of business.

For more information and questions, email Lawson at lawsons@mcperson.edu.

Awards Convocation to recognize students

McPherson College will recognize outstanding students of the academic year 2014-2015 at its annual Awards Convocation

The event will be May 1 in Brown Auditorium at noon.

Spectator searches for new staff members

The Spectator is looking for interested students to be on staff for next school year.

Applications and job descriptions were sent by email to students by ShaRhonda Maclin, dean of students Tuesday, April 21.

Interested students may email Laurina Hannan, editor-in-chief, at hannlau@bulldog.mcperson.edu or call her at 785-458-1357.

SGA constitution, changes ratified by students

RYAN KRESKY
Spectator Staff

Student employment at McPherson College has undergone some changes after Student Government Association's (SGA) new Constitution was ratified on April 9.

One change is to require a number of hours each SGA member has to work in the office every week. Higher officials like, president and vice president have to two and a half hours a week, while lower officials have to work two hours.

"We are here for the students," said Tyler Henning, president of SGA and a junior in automotive restoration and business. "We hope to get more students to

see SGA."

Another change aimed towards SGA was the GPA requirements were raised from 2.25 to 2.5. The reasoning behind this decision was to make sure students who apply for SGA could handle being a student while also working as a member.

The constitution also changed from being edited every year to every two years. The main reason is the time that drafting and editing take up. This will also be less of a burden for SGA members the next year.

There were also changes to intramural activities.

"We have had some requests from students asking for more things to do," said Elizabeth Newby, vice president of SGA

and a senior in elementary education. "We've suggested activities that we can put on but not limited to, that way we can have a good variety for everybody."

The constitution will also have an effect on the Spectator's budget. These changes were inserted to address concerns about covering costs like printing and salary.

Although the voting on April 9 was reopened after an initial vote was taken, SGA voiced willingness to consider concerns and or comments to assure a fair representation of the student body.

The amended constitution can be viewed by any student and faculty member on the McPherson College website at SGA's official webpage, www.mcpersoncollege.edu/students/activities/sga.



Photo by Ryan Kresky

Student Government members occupy their office in the basement of Hoffman Student Union during their regular office hours.

Women's Tennis earns No. 1 seed for conference tournament

TERRANCE GRANT
Spectator Staff

The women's tennis team won the KCAC Regular Season Championship for the second year in a row.

It was blowout type of victory as McPherson won 8-1 over Bethany College on Tuesday, April 21.

With this victory, the team is guaranteed their No. 1 seed for the upcoming conference tournament. This is the second regular season championship in program history.

In doubles, McPherson dominated each match. Brooke Vorhees, a senior in elementary and special education, and sister Nikki Vorhees, a junior in business, took down Bethany College's top duo at 8-0.

The No. 2 team of Nikki Thornburg, a junior in kinesiology, and Nadine Baquiran, a junior in psychology, was able to win easily with a score of 8-1.

The No. 3 tandem of Brittney Gourlay, a senior in physical education, and Chandler Short, a junior in physical education and sports management, was also able to win handily at a score of 8-1 to sweep the doubles for McPherson

In singles, Brooke Vorhees dominated her match and gave McPherson a commanding 4-0 lead over Bethany. In her sets, Brooke Vorhees won 6-3 and 6-2.

Chandler Short was very big for the team. At No. 6, she was what most people call "clutch" winning 6-2 and 6-3. The team was able to outlast Bethany the last three out of four matches.

The KCAC conference tournament for the women's tennis team begins Friday, April 24 in Wichita. Since McPherson is the No. 1 seed of the tournament, they will face No. 4 Kansas Wesleyan University in the opening round.

The Women are making back-to-back trips as the team, and members of the team are confident they will return to the national stage.

"Our goal all year has been to make it back to nationals," Brook Vorhees said. "There has never been a doubt in our whole teams mind throughout the year that we wouldn't make it back. This is just the first step in completing that goal for us."

The women will be looking to punch their tickets back to the national tournament with a victory in the KCAC postseason tournament.



Photo by Miranda Clark Ulrich

Nikki Thornburg, a junior in kinesiology, winds up a swing against Friends University on April 20. Thornburg is a transfer from Orange Coast College, California.

Upcoming Athletic Events

Women's Tennis - KCAC Conference Championship. April 24. Riverside Racquet Club, Wichita. \$5 for admission, free for students. Noon

Mens Tennis - KCAC Conference Championship. April 25. Riverside Racquet Club, Wichita. \$5 for admission, free for students. Noon.

Baseball - vs. Kansas Wesleyan University. April 25. Light Cap Stadium, McPherson. 1 p.m. & 3 p.m. Free

Track & Field - Wildcat Relays Hosted by Baker University. April 25. Baldwin City. Noon. Free

Mens tennis loses, earns No. 2 seed for tournament

TERRANCE GRANT
Spectator Staff

The men's tennis team went to battle with the No. 8-ranked team in the NAIA. They suffered their first KCAC loss to Bethany College at a score of 6-3 on April 21.

The loss cements McPherson as the No. 2 seed for the upcoming conference tournament on April 25 in Wichita.

In the double matches, they were all close and each match was between two and three points. Hector Carrillo Perales and Jose Maria Carrillo Reina, both freshmen in business, won 8-6. Hugo Ball-Greene, a freshman business, and Allen Darmawan, a senior in biology, were at the No. 3 position as they grabbed a victory with a score of 8-6.

McPherson's No. 1 team Joan-Marc Fajula Rodriguez, a sophomore in business, and Ahmed Lahlou, a freshman in business administration, lost at a score of 8-5. This was the duo's first loss in doubles on the season.

The team needed three points to win, but Bethany College stepped up their game as well. Bethany College took the lead after they won at the number one, two and three singles.

Ball-Greene's win took the lead back at the No. 4 position 6-1, 6-2. This was the only singles victory that the Bulldogs were able to take on the day. The remaining players didn't pick up a point, and the Bulldogs took

home their first conference loss of the season heading into the conference tournament.

For the KCAC Tournament opening round, the McPherson College Tennis team will face the No. 3 seed Friends University. The Bulldogs defeated Friends University at a score of 7-2 on April 20. The first day for the tournament begins Saturday, April 25 at the Riverside Racquet Club in Wichita.



Photo by Miranda Clark Ulrich

Joan-Marc Fajula Rodriguez, a sophomore in business, follows through on a forehand against Friends University on April 20.

Softball end season with scoring struggles

Team finishes with 4-35 record

THOMAS POTTER
Spectator Staff

The 2014-2015 season was not what the McPherson College softball team had hoped for as they missed qualifying for the conference tournament for the first time in program history. The Bulldogs currently hold an overall record of 4-33 and a conference record of 1-15 with one more series to play.

The Bulldogs lost their doubleheader series against Ottawa University at scores of 8-0 for both games that were played on April 21.

Emily Davis, jr., infielder, and Samantha Harrity, jr., outfielder, were the only Bulldogs to log hits in the first game.

In the second game, Mariah Wedel, sr., infielder, and Amanda Darrow, jr., catcher, each logged one hit each to tally for the two hits earned. Other than these players, offense was hard to come by for the Bulldogs against Ottawa.

The Bulldogs played their last game of the season on April 22 against Saint Mary's University. Unfortunately the series was too similar to the last, as the Bulldogs were unable to score a run in both games.

The first game saw the Spires of Saint Mary jump out early, and then score 7 in the fourth inning. Mariah Wedel was the only McPherson player to get a hit. USM took the first game 10-0.

In the season finale for the Bulldogs, the team was able to keep the game close, but could not score any runs. McKenna Deckard, outfielder, Sydney Lipton, third base, and Emily Davis all recorded hits in the loss.

This year the team was led by four seniors: Wedel, Deckard, Lipton and Hailey Beckett, first base.

Wedel and Deckard provided offensive upside for the Bulldogs as they both have held a batting average over .300 throughout the season.

Lipton was a defensive anchor for the team with solid play at both third base and catcher. Beckett had to undergo hip surgery and missed majority of the season but was a great leader for the team on and off the field as a role model for the future Bulldogs.

With losing only four seniors at the end of the season, the team will have 15 players returning for the 2015-2016 season.

Davis and Cassandra Moreno, jr., first base, are two returners who will be important with game experience that will be needed in the infield for next season.

As for the outfield, Harrity and Simone Donaldson, jr., will be the veteran leadership.

The Bulldogs will also be returning all three of their pitchers and their catcher Darrow to ensure stability in the pitchers circle and behind the plate.

Student evaluations to go from paper to online

ANDRÉ WHITE
News Editor

Student evaluations will now be done online rather than on paper, from Monday, April 27 through May 7.

Previously, computer-scanned evaluations meant professors didn't receive their classroom feedback for weeks. The evaluations are used to improve course materials, composition and execution for the following cycle of teaching.

"One reason this change is being made is to streamline the process," said Leland Williams, assistant professor of English. "Results will be almost instantaneous although instructors, as has been the case in the past, do not receive their class feedbacks until after final grades are in."

Professors stress that students need to provide their honest and realistic responses when assessing courses. These responses are also used by the faculty review committee to evaluate faculty members and to determine whether or not they should be on an improvement plan. This is a formal plan, according to Bruce Clary, vice president for academic affairs, may or may not have influence to their future continued employment with the college.

"It's use in that evaluation process to determine whether or not a faculty member is going to get promotion or whether they are going to continue to be employed here," Clary said.

With the evaluations online, the responses will be more accessible to professors.

"It will be interesting to see how effective the online access is," Williams said. "Will the forms be easy to access and complete and/or will students feel freer to make comments?"

The evaluation is a labor-intensive process for the office of academic affairs.

"The senior administrative assistant to the vice president for academic affairs,



Photo by André White

Brandon Lang, a sophomore in sports management, watches Tanner Horton, a freshman in automotive restoration management, use the Internet on a computer during a principles of management class on Friday, April 17.

Marylyn Matthaei, estimates that it takes her 110 hours every year to simply handle the paper and sort them," Clary said.

Previously, the evaluation forms were boxed up and sent to Matthaei and were sorted by her and others. Now it will be easier to college the online data, thus professors will receive feedback quicker.

"Typically faculty didn't have the responses for months and months and months after the evaluations were done," Clary said. "Now it will be immediate. Faculty will have the responses of the students' evaluation after they turn in final grades," Clary said.

Students will receive an email from the office of academics affairs on Monday, April 27 with a link and instructions to go to the student's course evaluation page.

While students can go to the link for evaluation at any time after they've gotten the email, Clary said that he doesn't

want that to happen. Clary said that students will only have access when their professor provide class period for them to take the evaluation.

"All the faculty are going to continue to provide class time for students to take the evaluations and so, we still think that the best process is for faculty to give the instructions to the students, perhaps make some explanation to why this is so important to them and students," Clary said. "This is important to students because this is a way how faculty members get better and do a better job in the future."

Students will receive the evaluation link in an email, but not all evaluations will be done on the same day. Students should follow professors' instructions that will lead them through the process. After instructions are given, the faculty will leave the room so students can complete the evaluation anonymously.

NEWS BRIEFS

Speaker for automotive restoration set for May

Jean Jennins will speak to automotive restoration students May 1.

Jennings is the editor of the automotive website JeanKows-Cars.com. In addition, she is the former president and editor of Automobile Magazines.

The event will cost per person, \$35. The event will be from 4:30 to 8 p.m.

Seniors invited to bunch graduation morning

President Michael Schneider is inviting seniors to a congratulatory brunch on the morning of graduation, Sunday, May 17.

This will be held in Hoffman Student Union. It is a come-and-go meal, from 8 to 10 a.m.

Seniors who will be attending should RSVP at www.mcpherson.edu/senior-brunch-reservation/.

Staff places at KCM contest

ANDRÉ WHITE
News Editor

Students received awards at Kansas Collegiate Media Conference on Sunday, April 12 and Monday, April 13. McPherson College was entered in the four-year private college category and five students won eight awards

for writing and other contributions to the paper. In addition the Spectator received an overall bronze award for the publication.

Spectator Advisor Adam Pracht and four members of the Spectator staff attended the KCM conference and listened to different workshops and speakers.

1st Place
2nd Place
2nd Place
2nd Place

Miranda Clark Ulrich, jr.
Miranda Clark Ulrich, jr.
Laurina Hannan, sr.
Laurina Hannan, sr.

Sports Photo
Sports Photo
Copy Editing
Interior Page
Design
Headline Writing
Editorial Writing
Editorial Writing
Column Writing

2nd Place
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention
Honorable Mention

Cortlyne Huppe, jr.
Jacob O’Gorman, jr.
Laurina Hannan, sr.
Scott Versaw, sr.



Sport Center to get 3 new offices

THOMAS POTTER
Spectator Staff

The Sport Center will go under construction to add three more office spaces by the end of spring semester. Presently, the Sport Center has 15 offices spaces.

Currently the full time assistant coaches are sharing office spaces with the head coaches but the new offices will help reduce the crowdedness. Andrew Ehling, athletic director, currently uses the Champions’ Room as his office.

Two of the new offices will be placed on the north end of the sports center in the common area just outside of the concession stand. The other office will be located north of the main entrance.

To accommodate for the construction,

maintenance workers have rearranged the lobby area in the Sport Center with the trophy case moved to the other side of the room and the vending machine close to the locker rooms.

“Our athletic department is growing and in order to accommodate for that, we needed to implement some more office space,” said ShaRonda Maclin, dean of students.

Andrew Gustafson, grounds supervisor, will occupy one of the offices. Full-time assistant coaches that have yet to be announced will fill the other two offices.

“The offices will allow the head coaches and assistant coaches to have office space within close proximity of one another and will also allow other people in the Sport Center to move to their specific departments,” Maclin said.



Photo by Thomas Potter

New offices are being build at the north and west ends of the Sport Center.

Baseball struggles against No. 10 Tabor College

CHRISTOPHER NEWELL
Sports Editor

Forced to move games from the previous weekend due to weather concerns, the McPherson College Baseball team played two different doubleheaders against No. 10 in the NAIA Tabor College on April 20 and 21. All four games had the same outcome and won four games with not much trouble.

The series opened on April 20 with Tabor scoring 7 runs in the first two innings. In the final five the Bulldogs came out at 3 - 2, but the final score read 9 - 3 in favor

of the Blue Jays. Matt Bryan, jr., outfield; Evan Willow, fr., catcher; and Reily Martin, fr., outfield, all got two hits each for the Bulldogs.

The second game looked much like the first, and Tabor jumped up to a 3 - 0 lead after the first three innings. A double by Martin in the fifth inning prevented the shutout for Tabor when his hit brought in Shon Pinard, jr., infielder, to score the lone run for McPherson. The final score was 7 - 1.

Nathan Crowe, fr., pitcher, put together the most solid pitching performance of the week on the mound for the Bulldogs.

He went five and one-third innings while tallying four strikeouts.

In the second doubleheader on April 21, Tabor kept their pace from the day prior. The Bulldogs actually took a lead after their first appearance in the first inning. The Blue Jays quickly responded with four runs of their own to answer. By the end of the fifth inning, the scoreboard read a count of 14 - 3.

Despite it all, Stephon Miller, fr., second base, had a strong individual performance as he went a perfect 4 - 4 from the plate with an RBI.

The final game proved to be the most

difficult for McPherson. The three previous games against No. 10 in the NAIA may have begun to take its toll. Only Willow, Kyle McDonald, fr., catcher, and Bryce Strecker, fr., infielder, were able to tally hits and each hit one single.

McPherson College Baseball has two separate doubleheaders left for the year and will face Kansas Wesleyan University for both of them, as the last series of the year will be Saturday, April 23 in Salina against the Coyotes. The Bulldogs will look to salvage the season and improve their currently 8 - 40 record and 2 - 18 conference record.



Photo by Miranda Clark Ulrich

(Right) Stephen Miller, fr., second base, makes contact with a ball against Tabor College on April 20. Miller went a perfect 4 - 4 at the plate in the first game of a doubleheader on April 21. (Above) Bryce Strecker, fr., infielder, scores a run against Tabor.



College creates feeling of pride, belonging in students throughout career

I had a conversation with someone the other day about how proud I feel to be on a campus like McPherson College and they had the same conversation with someone days before.

That made me wonder why someone would not be proud to go to school here?

The amount of opportunities, connections and memories that we can make on this campus is never-ending.

Maybe that question is too corny or makes people roll their eyes, but think about how much it costs in tuition to go here and some people still do not take full advantage of those opportunities.

Personally, I do not think of my college experience in the amount I pay. I feel like focusing on where I will be after graduation is more important. Other people's priorities are

different and that is OK.

If there are people here who are not happy, then they could think about how they could change that.

I love that we are such a small campus because we have the opportunity and the resources to make change if we see a need for it. Even if it cannot be changed, it is a small-enough community that we can raise awareness. With so many people so close, there is almost always someone who feels the same as you.

If you are passionate about something, try and get support. Find another perspective and feedback that could execute the changes. The difference between state schools and us is that we are not just numbers when it comes to enrollment.

We do have voices and people care what we think.

Another thing I pride myself on is the amount of connections I have built with not only students, but also faculty and staff. At a bigger college, you do not get to eat or visit with faculty or staff and discuss other issues in the world or your own life.

I cannot tell you how many great conversations I have had with not only my own professors, but other faculty and staff members on this campus.

I think anyone that goes here and hates it

here needs to ask themselves why they do not like it here and they need to talk to someone.

People at McPherson College care. They want to see us graduate and go far in life.

If I could have seen where I am now my freshman year, I would not believe everything I have done or met the people I have. I am proud to be a Bulldog.

COLLEGE CREATED CHARISMA

Gabe Padilla



ON THE FLY

What do you do to de-stress before the week of final exams?

"Binge watch my favorite shows on Netflix."

Caitlyn Blagrove, soph., communication



"I spend the weekend before moving all my stuff home so when I'm done I can just drive back home."

Nick Greenway, soph., performing arts



"Sleep, go to a new place and do something fun or have a Netflix marathon."

Laura Puente, jr., business administration



"Gabriel Iglesias. He's funny and I like to laugh."
Karsen Stuchl, soph., automotive restoration technology



"I'll go to the ceramics lab. You really have to focus on what you are doing."
Whitney Zimmerman, jr., biochemistry



"I get extra rest. Sleep takes away my stress."
Geoff Pugh, jr., chemistry

Schneider defends dissertation, awarded doctorate with distinction

ANDRÉ WHITE
News Editor

Dr. Michael Schneider, president of McPherson College, now can use his new official title after earning a doctoral degree with distinction.

"I completed a doctorate program at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn)," Schneider said. "The program is in higher education management."

The president defended his dissertation and received distinction, which is the highest honor for a defense. His dissertation topic was focused on the Kauffman Campuses Initiative. He studied what happened and why. The Kauffman Foundation led an investment of nearly \$250 million to seed entrepreneurship across college campuses at 18 universities.

Schneider said that his family will now have time to see him, but not on his lap-

top studying or taking classes, he also highlighted the fact that he will now have more days of the year away from his classroom.

Despite having all these titles attached to his name and having a broad educational background, Schneider has no plans of departing McPherson College.

"I am in my 13th year at McPherson," Schneider said. "I've always taken it one year at a time, which is probably why I've stayed so long. I am excited to continue researching and writing about higher education topics."

After spending 19 years of his life trying to make himself better and more qualified, he said he has had persistence at the hallmark of whatever he has ever done. Taking one step at a time is also another aspect that defines the president's attitude toward his goals.

"Persistence is key in everything we

do," Schneider said. "Everyone at some point wants to quit. Keep going and find a way to execute your plan. Break down your goals into small tasks. When something does not work make the correction and try it again."

Schneider has been a Bulldog since 1992 and graduated 1996. He earned his bachelors of arts in communication. Although business wasn't at the top of his priorities then, he went on to pursue his master's degree in business at University Of Denver in the Daniels College of Business in Daniels College of Business from 1999 to 2001. The went on to work as the chief operating officer of Summit, a full service publishing firm for six and a half years.

After graduating with his M.B.A from the University of Denver in Colorado, Schneider served as the vice president of advancement and admission at McPherson 2002 and 2009.



President Michael Schneider

Etch gets creative to raise funds

ALAINA JOHNSON
Spectator Staff

Etch may be faced with financial instability now, but they are still a functioning entity.

In addition, Etch is a student-run graphic design and marketing, not-for-profit business.

Corey Long, the transitioning co-director and sophomore in business administration, said that they will start doing some fundraising to get their funds back up.

"We have funds to keep going," Long said. "We just need to make money to not go any further than negative."

It wasn't pure management that caused Etch to fall into the negative numbers. They started off with a good system of workers. It was actually the clients. Etch started projects but weren't collecting funds in a timely manner.

Because Etch is a non-profit organization, they are not allowed to invoice, but

can only ask for a donation. Etch is in the middle of some projects that will be paid within upcoming months. That's where most of their rent money is going to make them even.

"That's what I'm going to do with fundraising, is to make sure we have a base so we can continue growth," said Long.

Despite being in the transition phase, the Etch will host fundraisers in Wichita. Etch will also help students gain experience and to get an education through a student workshop.

Etch will be offering service projects for graphic design majors. Johanna Hoffman, a sophomore in communication, was assigned the director of service projects.

"We want to push ourselves to give back and get involved in the community but instead of donating money we will donate time," Long said.

Etch is in the process of doing some hiring. They are looking for copywriters; therefore, students who are interested



Photo by Alaina Johnson

Corey Long, a sophomore in business administration and transitioning co-director of Etch, carries out his daily routine at Etch.

should check Bulldog email accounts for dates when interviews will be. These emails will be sent out in the coming days.

There are more opportunities for stu-

dents, even those not involved with Etch. The organization has also made an expansion of three extra rooms. These rooms will be rented out to Etch members and graphic design majors to use as private offices.

The Hot spot

BY: LAUREN IKENBERRY

A GLIMPSE INTO THE LIFE OF
TITO RUIZ, ASSISTANT SOCCER COACH



HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU PLAYED SOCCER?

I started playing soccer when I was four, and I haven't stopped playing since.

HOW LONG DID YOU PLAY SOCCER FOR McPHERSON COLLEGE?

I played four years here at MC. I came in as a freshman.

DO YOU HAVE ANY PREVIOUS COACHING EXPERIENCE?

Very little. When I would go back home to visit my family, I would help my dad out with his U-12 team that he took over. The academy sessions that the soccer program does in the spring, and then I've started the transition from player to coach with the current team.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO AS ASSISTANT COACH?

I'm looking forward to learning, broadening my knowledge and getting a feel to what being a coach really is. Also getting to build relationships and

having the opportunity of mentoring others so that they can improve. I love this sport. I've been playing it my whole life. When I was offered this job, it was an opportunity for me to continue being involved with the sport, and I felt it was something I just couldn't pass up.

DO YOU PLAN ON COACHING AT MC FOR AWHILE?

I haven't really thought about that. I'll just focus on what's happening now and start my new job as a coach. You never know what can happen in the future. Being offered this job is a good example of that. I didn't expect this at all. But I saw this job as a good career starter, so I'll see where life takes me and what God has in store for me. It's crazy how life works sometimes.

HOW DO YOU THINK THE TEAM LOOKS FOR NEXT YEAR?

I like how our team is looking. It's looking pretty good. We have a good amount of starters returning that were important to our championship winning team this last season. We also have some good guys coming in that will surely come in and make an impact. I'm looking forward to next season.

WHAT HAS YOUR BEST EXPERIENCE AT McPHERSON COLLEGE BEEN?

Being a part of this program and finally coming away a champion. The best times that I've had on and off the field have been because of my teammates during my career here. All these guys are my family and have made my college experience extremely enjoyable.

Choir sings at Iowa alumni event

LAUREN IKENBERRY
Campus Life

McPherson College Choir students performed for alumni and church members in Iowa from April 17 to April 19.

They performed for an alumni event at Stine Barn in West Des Moines, Iowa as well as the Waterloo Church of the Brethren in Waterloo, Iowa.

The event consisted of past graduates that came together to hear President Michael Schneider; Amanda Gutierrez, vice president for automotive restoration; Karlene Tyler, director of alumni and constituent relations; and Johanna Hoffman, a sophomore in communication; speak about a campaign to raise funds for the school.

"I love being able to travel and perform with my friends," said Elizabeth Lindsey, a junior in performing arts. "McPherson College has been such a great place for me

because of all the opportunities to travel and get to know the faculty and staff on a personal level. I had such a great time getting the chance to hear President Schneider speak about the school. We have a lot of great things to look forward to."

Karrington Sneed, a freshman in performing arts also enjoyed the trip.

"It was an awesome experience to travel to another state and be with a swell old group of people," Sneed said. "We worked hard over a three week period and I think we sang very well."

Joshua Norris, director of choral activities, began planning a month in advance to coordinate everyone's schedules. Nine of the choir members were able to attend the event.

The next choir concert is titled "Music To Die For," which will be Sunday, April 26 from 4 to 6 p.m. This particular concert will be a collaboration with other local groups.



Submitted Photo

Members of the McPherson College choir stand outside the Stine Barn during the alumni event where they performed in Des Moines, Iowa.

LEAD EDITORIAL

Cramming not as beneficial as studying for final exam retention

As the year winds down, it's a good time to reflect on all that has been accomplished. Before we do that though, there is still one more obstacle: final exams.

Final exams are getting close and most college students grow more and more anxious as they come.

It can be hard to study for these exams, and sometimes there is no way to study for them.

The student either learned and retained the information throughout the semester, or they didn't.

They are not simple test questions a student could memorize the answer to or a definition of a word. They encompass everything learned in a comprehensive test.

Dartmouth College found that there are

certain ways of studying that help increase retention. On their website they provide a page entitled "Improving Concentration, Memory and Motivation."

The first tip Dartmouth gives is to study in chunks. Taking breaks helps the brain process and retain information.

The British Broadcasting Corporation, or BBC, published an article on Sept. 18 2014 about why cramming for tests is never a good option.

Tom Stafford, the author of "Memory: Why cramming for tests fails" found 99 percent of students admitted to cramming and 72 percent believed that cramming was beneficial to them.

According to the article, the information they cram is familiar, it is not remembered. Stafford said, "being able to recognize

something isn't the same as being able to recall it."

Although cramming may seem like it is helpful, it's actually not. The student vaguely remembers, but they did not learn the material.

Dartmouth College says studying is most productive in the daytime. In order for the studying to be successful, the student should make a list of their classes and rank the top three. Prioritizing what is most important and going in order.

Finding the right place to study can also be helpful. Somewhere the student is comfortable, but not too comfortable.

A chair with good back support and a comfortable seat is the best in our opinion.

Finding somewhere quiet is also a good tip for helping retention.

Everyone learns differently. Some people are visual learners and need to see what they are doing in charts, graphs or spelled out.

Other people are hands-on learners. They need to see or write out for themselves the problem and figure out how to fix it.

Some students need to be told exactly what to do rather than being handed a piece of paper with directions.

Ultimately, finals are just another obstacle before the end of the school year.

Find a style that works best, a quiet place during the day and break up the studying.

Walk around, stretch and get some fresh air.

Then get back to studying to ace those final exams.

- The Editorial Staff

Tips for improving your first impression with future employers

First impressions are hard to change.

People are judgmental by nature. It is instinctive to immediately categorize someone into a box based on inferences drawn.

Michelle O'Connor, a writer for the Daily Mail, wrote an article about how quickly people make judgments and how stereotypes play into those preconceived notions.

O'Connor quoted clinical psychologist Linda Blair, "It takes only seven seconds for us to judge another person when we first meet them."

Today, jobs are not in abundance. When an opportunity to interview arises, the person should take full advantage.

U.S. News published an article on May 2, 2012 about what interviewers notice first. Jada A. Graves said interviewers notice several aspects.

The first being the time the interviewee

arrives.

The interview begins the moment they step through the door. It's often said "on time is late, 10 minutes early is on time"

There is truth to the statement.

Graves said the second aspect the interviewer notices is attire. Dress appropriately for the job you are trying to get. Graves said if you are unsure, call the front desk and ask what the dress code is. Dress comfortably too, nothing that will cause fidgeting or need adjusting.

A person's body language says a lot about how they are feeling, too. Graves says that the interviewee should try to look comfortable and relaxed. Fidgeting and the crossing of arms send a specific message to the potential employer.

Graves said communication style is the fourth aspect employers notice. When a person wants someone to like them, they try to mimic their style of talking

and sitting. If the opposite person leans forward, they should too.

How prepared the interviewee comes across is also a very important aspect of creating a good first impression. Graves said interviewees should do the research beforehand and know what the company does, who they serve, what their mission statement is and why he or she wants to work for that company.

If the interviewee is excited about what they are talking about, then the interviewer will be, too. Enthusiasm is contagious.

Employers want to know that their employees care about what they do.

The last aspect that Graves said is important to a potential employer is the potential employee's qualifications. They want to know that the interviewee has the skills to do the job they are interviewing for.

Even though first impressions can be nerve wrecking, they are easily manageable with Graves' tips.

IMPECCABLE IMPRESSIONS

Megan Hamlett



Possible theories on name origin of April 20 holiday

This past Monday was April 20. To some it may have been just a regular Monday, but to the ever-growing marijuana culture, it was a day of celebration.

Smoking weed should be more accepted in society today if we are really as accepting as we say we are.

Each year, April 20 is embraced around the world as “weed day” by people who smoke marijuana.

There is a holiday for the plant itself, so why are people scared to talk about it, give recognition to the day or question the reasons that the day got its name.

Many ask the question, “When did 4/20 begin, and where did the term come from?”

There are multiple theories suggesting why the number 420 is associated with marijuana.

Rumors circulated around San Rafael, Calif. in the early '70s that it was a police code for “marijuana smoking in progress.”

After smokers heard police call it this, they started using the expression as an underground term for getting high.

Several former San Rafael High School students came forward and claimed that 420 wasn't a police code, and that they had in fact coined the term.

This group of stoners called themselves “The Waldos” and would pass each other in the halls, exchanging knowing glances and muttering “420.”

Michael Goldstein, a writer for LA Weekly, said in an article busting the myth of 420 that the numbers were actually a code for a homicide.

“The Waldos” used 420 as a code word

for their marijuana-related activities so no one would know what they're talking about.

It was considered just a joke, but it became a code for phrases such as: “Do you have any?” or “Do I look high?”

Within 10 years, marijuana enthusiasts were using it across the country and around the world.

The 420 awareness began to bloom once being recognized in pop culture and being a cliché within the marijuana community.

A reference to 4/20 can be expected in movies, TV shows or songs mentioning marijuana. Many

businesses in states that have legal marijuana prosper on April 20 due to the amount of tourists that come to celebrate.

Hotels are booked, restaurants are full and various venues are set up for people to safely participate in this nontraditional holiday.

April 20 is given recognition around the world, so the acceptance should be worldwide, too, rather than in individual places.

CANNABIS CELEBRATED

Jared Whitten



Letters to the editor

Any student, staff or faculty member can submit a letter to the editor for the Spectator.

Letters should be limited to 350 words in length. The letter must be accompanied by the signature of the authors; letters may not be sent anonymously.

Letters may be edited for grammar, spelling, content or length. The newspaper staff reserves the right to refuse publication.

All letters should have a point

that is constructive or contributes to the enhancement of the student body; the newspaper staff will not print libelous material.

Anyone can submit a letter to the editor at any time if time of publication isn't vital to the author.

Letters can be printed and then submitted directly to any member of the newspaper editorial staff or emailed directly to the Spectator at hamlmeg@bulldog.mcpherson.edu.

Views Expressed

The viewpoints pages provide diverse views on contemporary issues to stimulate discussion and promote the shaping and progression of ideas. Editorials are the official position of the newspaper, but are not the official views of the student body, staff, administration or McPherson College. Other views are the opinions of the individual authors or artists.

The McPherson College SPECTATOR

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Speaker discusses nonviolent retaliation

LAUREN IKENBERRY
Campus Life

Rick Polhamus talked to history and political science classes about living in war torn areas and the struggles that come with it on Friday, April 17 and at the Brethren Church Sunday, April 19.

He is a member of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT), an international organization that sends peace workers to conflict areas around the world.

Polhamus shared his experiences and showed how to make a difference in the world. His lessons were about helping students understand different cultures.

“I really enjoyed listening to Rick Polhamus, said Gary McDonald, a senior in physical education and health. “I cannot imagine being in some of the situations he has experienced. I truly admire and respect his work.”

Polhamus has had a passion to help others from a young age. After an injury made him unable to play for the Kansas City Royals, he began his work in conflict resolution in the mid-1980s.

“The moments that really matter in making peace for me are those individual situations where people quit looking at each other as ‘the other’ and see the humanity in the person that they’ve been in conflict with,” Polhamus said.

Polhamus has worked in South Dakota; Chiapas, Mexico; Vieques, Puerto Rico; Hebron, Occupied Palestine; and Iraq. He has worked in these areas for 13 years.

During these trips, Polhamus has helped hundreds of people and has been in dangerous situations, including being held at gunpoint multiple times. Although he has seen death and destruction, he still promotes nonviolent retaliation.

“If the use of violent force kills indiscriminately, even if it is killing the

worst human being on the planet, they have family and friends and come from a community and at some level your hurting all of them and alienating a group of people that might be sympathetic to reaching out with you,” Polhamus said.

One of the most important concepts that Polhamus tells college students is to learn another language and connect with people from other cultures.

“I think learning languages and taking part in cross-cultural things is important,” Polhamus said. “Whether it’s people from outside coming here or people from other countries that you know on campus. Really, really listen to their stories and what they’re saying, what their life’s like. It’s those kinds of stories and relationships that make a difference. Take chances to build a bridge.”

Polhamus recounted a story when an Israeli soldier in a shopping mall held him at gunpoint. Instead of running or cowering, he talked calmly to the soldier until his release. He said he saw the good in the soldier instead of the bad.

“To me the significant part of that experience was when I made the conscious decision to quit looking at the soldier in front of me and to look at the eyes and face of the young man in front of me,” Polhamus said. “I made that distinction in my mind.”

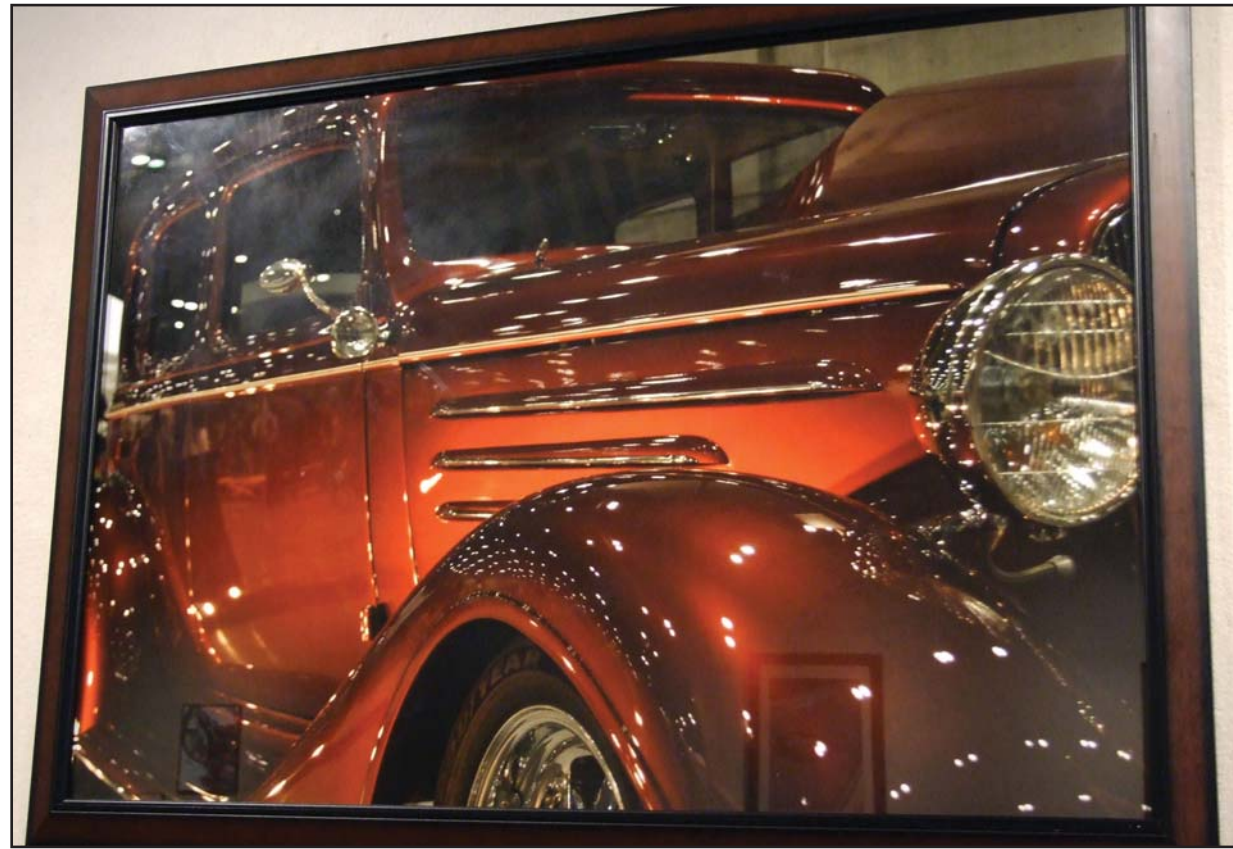
He continued to speak about his work and CPT.

“I think that’s a crucial thing in peace work that we don’t look into the stereotype image that is in front of us but look at the common humanity of who is front of us,” Polhamus said. “I think that is the most important part of the work that CPT does and should be done more.”

Polhamus hopes to continue his work for CPT and return to Hebron, Iraq or Palestine sometime this summer.



Rick Polhamus



Photos by Ryan Kresky

Senior projects "Darkskies," a men's body line project, by Phoebe Barton (left), and "The Red Car," by Kala Tiemann (above) are on display in Friendship Hall until April 28.

Art exhibitions wrap up '14-'15 school year

RYAN KRESKY
Spectator Staff

Two separate exhibitions now show artwork created by this year's seniors in Friendship Hall. The exhibits will consist of works students have created during their years at McPherson College.

The shows have been divided between studio work in April and graphic design in May. The first senior exhibition is showcasing Phoebe Barton, graphic design and studio art major, and Kala Tiemann, technology auto restoration design major. Other students like Cierra Bowers, Kevin Aka, Kala Stevenson, Nick Unruh, and Xavier Bartee, all senior students in graphic design, will be showcased in the May senior exhibition.

The art reception party for the April

exhibition will be on Friday, April 24 and the May exhibition reception will be on May 15. Both events will go from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Wayne Conyers, art professor at McPherson College, said that this was the "capstone" event for his students. He further explained that this event was to promote experience among the different art majors and to promote presentation of artwork.

"Students have the option on however they want to approach it," he said referencing their work in general. The artwork in the April and May exhibitions will vary in style, color and media. Their work will be accompanied by a statement, which will explain the artist's intentions.

Since Conyers' stay at McPherson

College, the art department has always held exhibitions showcasing seniors' artwork in Friendship Hall. Both exhibits will last around two weeks with the May exhibition showing through commencement. The reason why there are two separate shows is the increase in the graphic design program.

Conyers also said they have classes that prepare art majors for the senior exhibition and even include senior classes where they can create and "perfect" their work. They also have concentrated study during their junior year so they can prepare for the show.

He had to work around the Central Kansas League Festival in Friendship Hall on April 29. The festival is only for one day so the April exhibit will be taken down on April 28, and after the festival

is finished, the May exhibition will be up on April 30.

"We want people to put up a show together," Conyers said.

The objectives of the exhibitions are to professionally pull off a body of work and show it, show a professional presentation of that work and to make them ready for after college for whichever track the student is in.

"They remember their senior experience," Conyers said, mentioning that these exhibitions serve as a "Grand Finale" for the graduating students. Conyers views these as important for his students to know because any artist's life is entrepreneurial. He mentioned that with graphic design students they have to find their market niche if any company wants to use their designs.

'Foreigner' closes season

CLAIRE CROSSMAN
Spectator Staff

It was hard for the actors of "The Foreigner" to stay in character when an actor accidentally didn't follow the script, on Saturday, April 18 in Brown Auditorium.

Logan Schrag, a freshman in business administration, tossed a glass of apple juice into the face of Scott Crist, a senior in elementary education

This was just one of the more memorable moments for Nora Grosbach, a freshman in biology, and the rest of the cast for the last show of the semester.

Not only was this Grosbach's first time in a show on campus, but her first theater production. She played the character Catherine, a wealthy heiress who seems skeptical of her future life with the Rev. David Lee, the villainous character of the play. Although not a theater major, she has always had an interest with trying her hand with acting.

"Addie and Jd had been pushing me towards doing this the whole year, so I thought why not give it a try," Grosbach said. "Half the time on I was stage, I didn't have to think about my lines. It came naturally."

She also was able to get a large amount of support from Amanda Leffew, a senior in philosophy and religion, who acted as a mentor for the freshman.

Many students had positive comments to report on the play, including those who have never attended one of the schools productions, like Karsen Stuchl, a junior in automotive restoration.

"I usually am not one to go to a play, and I wasn't expecting to enjoy it as much as I did," Stuchl said.

Grosbach will not be able to be in any productions next semester because she will be in Columbia, but plans on acting in future plays because of the great experiences this play has given her.



Photos by Claire Crossman

(Above) Scott Crist, a senior in elementary education (top left), and Nora Grosbach, a freshman in biology, act out a scene in the last production of the year, "The Foreigner." (Below) Actors play Klu Klux Klan members to search for the foreigner.



Amanda Leffew, senior, and Grant Tuttle, freshman, both philosophy and religion majors, interact together in a scene.

