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The McPherson College SPECTATOR

Volume 74, Issue 7 | McPherson College, McPherson KS 67460 | February 12, 1990

Religious groups show diversity

Students do more than go by the Book

Lisa Lauver/Spectator

There are a lot of new and exciting events happening in the religious groups on campus said David Valeta, Campus Minister.

On the weekend of Feb. 16 and 17 is a retreat at the Cross Wind Conference Center in Hesston. The retreat is sponsored by McPherson College Campus ministries.

The retreat is based on a program entitled "Getting your ACT Together." It is a four-part video series for and about singles and their spiritual growth. After each video there will be time set aside for discussion.

The fee for the retreat is seven dollars. The cost includes overnight housing and Saturday's breakfast and lunch.

Any questions about the retreat can be answered by Valeta at his office in the student union. Everyone is welcome, but interested persons must act quickly -- the deadline for registration is Wednesday, Feb. 14.

Another new activity this semester is the formation of small Bible study groups. Currently, there are enough people interested in the program to make up two or three groups.

One of the groups will be studying single life. Another cluster will be focusing on a particular book in the Bible. Groups will be starting this week but it is possible to join anytime.

Oasis is not a new organization on campus. However, it has made a significant format change. Members of Oasis decided to stimulate growth and get more people involved by inviting professors and staff personnel to talk about their personal spiritual pilgrimages.

> **"I'm trying to put together programs that are interesting to students, and I'm trying to answer the students' questions about their life and spirituality."**
>
> ***- Dave Valeta***

Lisa Pierce (jr., Monument, Colo.) explains, "What makes this semester of Oasis so different and exciting is that we're facilitating personal contact between students, staff, and faculty members. This enables us to use valuable resources on campus."

Every other week a new speaker or two is invited to share their experience. The series began on Jan. 30 with guest speaker Dr. Leland Lengel.

Other guests will include Sharon Knechel on Feb. 13 and Dave O'-Dell on Feb. 27.

As a complement, Oasis has started studying a series from a workbook on success and spiritual growth and how they fit together in today's world.

Oasis member Anita Mast (jr., Hesston) thinks "the success subject will be very interesting. I'm looking forward to hearing more speakers. So far we have had only one session, and I enjoyed it."

Diane Feasenhiser (soph., Fruitland, Idaho) says, "I think the new book and speakers will bring mew life and more people in."

B.I.G. (Brethren Identity Group) has not had an offical planning meeting for this semester, but Moderator Shane Kirchner (soph. Cedar Falls, Iowa) has a positive attitude. "We're looking forward to an active, fun semester. Hope you can join us."

B.I.G. will be meeting twice a month. One meeting will be for enjoying fun and games, like volleyball. The other will be designed to discuss Brethren thought. Coming events include a barn dance and the annual love feast.

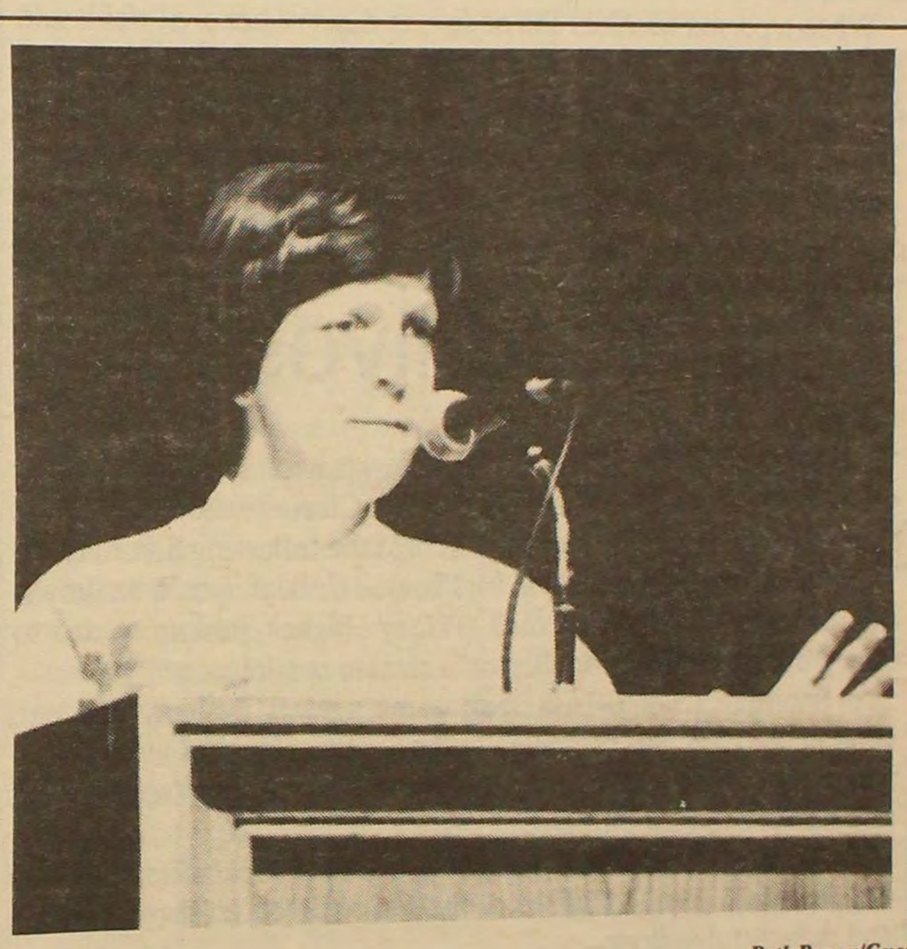
C.V.C. (Christian Vocations Club) is an ecumenical group organized to explore options in ministry. They are currently studying a book by Mennonite thinker John Howard Yoder entitled: "The Fullness of Christ : Paul's Vision of Universal Ministry." Anyone may attend.

Dawn Culbertson (sr., Houston, Texas) in an observation about religious groups on campus, said, "I think that religious groups on campus are stereotyped because they have the term 'religion' in them. And because of this, some people may miss out on some activities they might otherwise enjoy."

Another campus event to look forward to is the Regional Youth Conference (RYC). Students are needed to help. There will be an organizational meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 13.

Other activities include a free concert, Lenten projects, and the possibility of a work day with Habitat for Humanity.

Any questions about these groups can be answered by Dave Valeta at his office in the Student Union.



Beth Brown/Guest

Religious Heritage lecturer, Dr. Marianne Sawicki, discusses principles of Christian education at Convocations, Thursday, Jan. 31. Dr. Sawicki is the second in this annual series of endowed speakers.

Examples

Kansas governor Mike Hayden recently introduced a bill to the Kansas legislature that, if made into law, will add Kansas to the list of states that support capital punishment.

The legislature has denied his proposal before, and it is likely that they will again, for various reasons:

Capital punishment has not been shown to reduce crime. Most people murder in moments of great fear or emotional stress or under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Rarely does the murderer expect to get caught.

The cost of the death penalty is extimated at $1.8 million per person, twice as much as it would cost to put a person in prison for life.

And, capital punishment is wrong.

The death penalty is no way to show that killing is wrong. The government and its officials are role models for the rest of society. They offer a poor example for the people when they, themselves, advocate killing. A government that kills to make a point can expect no more from the people it leads.

Fortunately, capital punishment is not a part of Kansas law, and it won't be if Kansans continue to express their disapproval of it to the state government.

The death penalty, in itself, is a crime. If murder is punished by death, why isn't rape punished by rape, or thievery by theft? The answer is simple-- because these things are violations of human rights.

When a person murders she no longer deserve her civil rights and laws should reflect this. But, human rights are inalienable and a government that doesn't recognize this has no right to ask the people to.

--George Gotto

Shattered lives

On Wednesday, January 18, the president of Bethany College suffered a heart attack which took his life. Classes were canceled for the day, and a memorial service was held the following Saturday.

Knowing that the students at McPherson College would be devastated if President Hoffman died, Tracey Hughes, junior, wanted to offer Bethany College McPherson's sincere condolences.

At Saturday's home basketball game against Bethany, a giant, home-made card was presented to the Swedes. Hughes was responsible for the idea, and she spent many hours encouraging faculty, staff, and students to sign the card.

Such action illustrates the generosity and service exhibited by many McPherson students. Hughes should be commended for her caring and thoughtful attitude.

--Anne Kletchka

The McPherson College
SPECTATOR
Volume 74, Issue 7
February 12, 1990

The official publication of McPherson College, McPherson, Kansas 67460.

Published twice monthly by the Student Council of McPherson College, allowing for the interruption of breaks.

Second class postage paid at McPherson, Kansas.

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National Lampoon Costa Rica vacation

Lynnette Herman and Jennifer Herman/Guests

Holiday road. Holiday road.

The adventure of nine students and two faculty from McPherson College began aboard Pan Am when Sharri Grove and Darci Hass discovered that their assigned seats in row 12 did not exist.

In fact the entire row was missing. We finally concluded that someone had played a great practical joke on Pan Am. To our relief the culprits had only taken row 12. The remainder of the plane seemed to be intact.

Upon arrival we were taken to our homes. Exhaustion from our day's travel had taken its toll. So after a short introduction to our family we headed upstairs to a much needed night's sleep.

We immediately noticed that our beds were adorned with only one sheet. However, we had spent the previous two weeks studying the tropical climate of Costa Rica and knew that a single sheet would be sufficient.

Wrong! We both awoke in the middle of the night and discovered that frost bite was setting in. Emergency measures had to be taken. We spent the rest of the night cuddled underneath our dual-purpose beach towels.

Needless to say we both felt like the rear end of a horse when we discovered two thick blankets in the closet the next morning.

We were able to laugh off our cold sleep the night before because we knew a hot shower awaited. As we stepped into the shower we discovered that the water in Costa Rica is pumped diriectly from Antartica, or so it seemed.

We soon discovered the culture shock was beginning to set in among the entire group. It seemed cold showers were a blessing. Some of us didn't have water at all.

We spent the next few days traveling through the various tourist spots. Some of the highlights were:

Saichi, home of the famous ox carts; a 26-acre orchid garden, a banana plantation, where we were given a tour by several young boys, and two active volcanoes.

However, as luck would have it, the days were cloudy and overcast. Instead of seeing lava and ash we had to settle for a nice, white cloud.

Our biggest adventure took place at the Monteverde rain forest. As the Gilligan's Island theme song goes, "We headed out on a three hour tour. The weather started getting rough, our tiny group was cross. Despite the courage of our fearlesls guide our group was lost."

Fortunately, we emerged from the tropical jungle five hours later. Despite our muddy attire our spirits were high because we knew that the next stop was the beach.

The Port of Limon, on the Caribean Sea, was our first stop. The sun was every bit as intense as we had anticipated. This was quite obvious the next day when we all boasted the Mac College color, red.

However, we recovered quickly as we headed across the country to the Pacific Ocean at Jaco Beach. Here we put the finishing touches on our Costa Rican tans.

Despite all of our mishaps National Lampoon's Costa Rican vacation was a huge success. The only thing missing was Chevy Chase himself.

Beverly Yokley/Spectator

With the help of their fearless guide the Spanish for travelers group emerged from the rain forest all wet.

Interterm, more work than it's worth

Anne Kletchka/Spectator

Schools belonging to the Associated Colleges of Central Kansas (ACCK) offer students the opportunity to earn credits during January. The program is called Interterm.

Students meet with their professors three to four hours a day, and in a month's time, they complete the amount of work that is normally covered throughout a semester.

Interterm is more work than it is worth, and should be removed from the academic program at McPherson College.

Students are pressured to be successful in Interterm, but class requirements can be overwhelming. Several classes taught during the 1990 session required students to take a quiz every day.

The quizzes covered three to four chapters, which is difficult for students to comprehend in full detail each day. The information is crammed into their heads.

Students struggle with several inconveniences when traveling to other ACCK schools for class. Ordinarily, McPherson College will not reimburse students for mileage traveled to participate in courses on other campuses.

Also, the school will not provide automobiles for transportation to those courses.

In addition, students face problems when transferring credits from other institutions. The school catalog states, "Courses transferred for credit to McPherson College will be accepted for no more than four semester hours credit, regardless of the amount of credit granted by the transferring institution."

(See Interterm, Page 3)

F.L.A Editorial

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Some facts on the death penalty: a Kansas issue

Mark Dooley/Spectator

Kansas has no death penalty. In the current session of legislature this issue is again up for decision. In place of my editorial I am using this space to present some facts on the death penalty.

Deterrence:

Almost three quarters of all murders involve family members or acquaintances, since these occur spontaneously there is no way the threat of the death penalty can prevent these "crimes of passion."

Most premeditated murders are by individuals who do not expect to get caught, so the threat of the death penalty will not prevent this kind of murder either.

In 1985 death penalty states had a median average murder rate of 7.1, while states without had one of 3.6.

Of the 16 states with the lowest murder rates, nine do not have the death penalty.

In 1979 New Mexico re-enacted its death penalty and its murder rate rose 22% over 1978. Rhode Island's death penalty was ruled unconstitutional the same year, and its murder rate dropped 20%.

In 1983 Texas and Florida had the highest number of executions and prisoners on death row; in 1985 Texas and Florida had the highest murder rates in the nation.

Our neighboring death penalty states (Oklahoma, Colorado, and Missouri) have exceeded Kansas murder rates in every year since the Supreme Court struck down the death penalty in 1973.

In 1975, the year before Canada abolished the death penalty, its homicide rate was 3.0% per 100,000. In 1986 the rate decreased to 2.19, the lowest in 15 years

Expense:

In 1982 the New York State Defenders Association found the cost of a capital murder trial and the first three appeals to be $1.8 million. In 1986 the cost of incarcerating inmates in the Kansas penal system was $10,763 per year.

In Kansas, the State Board of Indigent Defense Services estimated in December 1986 that the death penalty would cost Kansas $1 million per case.

In Florida, taxpayers spent $3,178,000 per person killed to fund the death penalty. For that price, more than 200 years of imprisonment could be funded.

Unfairness:

The death penalty is applied unjustly and unfairly to minorities. Of the 2,110 prisoners on death row as of August 1988, 50% were minorities.

Forty five percent of the 101 individuals executed between 1977 and 1988 were minorities

Although minorities were executed for murdering whites or minorities, there were no executions of whites killing a black or Hispanic.

Executing the innocent:

Since 1900, 343 persons have been wrongly convicted of capital crimes. Twenty five of them were executed and another 19 were reprieved within 72 hours (some within minutes) of execution. forty nine such cases occured in the 1970's and in the first half of the 1980's.

Retribution:

The death penalty requires the state to carry out the very act, killing, which society condemns most. By deliberately and calculatingly taking a life, the state rejects an opportunity to uphold human life and dignity-- which should transcend the horror of any crime committed--by sending the message that we can solve problems by killing people.

Fundamental human rights are inalienable. This applies to the worst as well as the best of us. Human rights protect all of us.

There is no way of insuring that the death penalty will not be used against the innocent.

If these facts concern you, if you believe Kansas should remain free of the death penalty, write a state legislator soon.

Representatives from McPherson County are Dale Sprague, Ellen Samuelson, Leroy Fry, Joseph Harder. They can be reached at State Capitol, Topeka, KS 66612.

Israel: past or present, interterm reflections

Will Crago/Guest

During the January Interterm I was fortunate enough to go on a trip to Israel and the West Bank. It was the experience of a lifetime.

When most people think of Israel they tend to think primarily of the history of the country and not of the present day situation.

For example, Bethlehem is not in Israel, it is in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, land that has been taken by military force and kept by U.S.-backed Israeli soldiers.

But, when mentioning Bethlehem, did you not think primarily of it as the birthplace of Jesus?

For the past two years the Palestinians have resisted the occupation.

This is just a small example of many people's ignorance of the present day situation due to the preoccupation with the country's history.

For the past two years the Palestinians have resisted the occupation. They began what is known as the Intefada.

The Intefada is technically known as a nonviolent resistance group against the Israeli government. It has, however, become quite violent at times.

Palestinians try to avoid buying Israeli packaged goods and have to make most food from scratch. They also are on a continuous half-strike: all Palestinian owned stores close at noon every day for the past two years.

Many of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (P.L.O.) activities have not been so peaceful. There have been a few bombings that they have claimed responsibility for.

But when people see the big picture:

All of the Palestinians in jail who must first be released before they can stand trial.

All of the thousands who have been shot, by plastic, rubber, or lead bullets.

All those whose houses have been destroyed because their children threw a rock and were seen.

All those who have been beaten because they refused to show their identification.

All those who have been beaten because they refused to show their identification.

And all of the thousands of other worthless crimes that a Palestinian can be shot or jailed for.

When people see these images begin to understand the opprression going on there today.

I don't mean to forget the religious history: the sights were something to behold. The church of the Nativity, the wailing wall, the dome of the rock, and the mount of olives, all these significant places had their impact on me as well.

But one must remember that the place where events happened is not nearly as important as the fact that the event did happen, whatever it may be.

Upon returning to the U.S. I found one thing very interesting; I had a great deal of difficulty telling others about the trip.

For someone to understand what had happened to me I would have to sit them down for several hours and tell them all of my thoughts.

The smell of tear gas, the wounded Palestinians who had been shot, the unfired M-16 bullets I found 100 yards from the wailing wall and the soldiers everywhere.

And even had I done this, they still would lack the experience of having actually gone. But the trip affected me and hopefully I will be able to apply what I have learned to my life effectively.

I have promised myself that I will return some day. I just hope for now I can do whatever possible to help the situation from stateside.

Interterm

(Cont. from page 2)

Because Interterm is such an inconvenience to students, it should be withdrawn from McPherson's educational system.

If this action were taken, second semester would resume at the beginning of January which is earlier than other colleges in the state.

As a result, the school year would end in April, not May. This would allow students an extra month for summer employment in order to earn money that would be used to pay for the next year's tuition.

Seniors would also be able to enter the work force a month earlier than those attending other colleges. This would be a great advantage when looking for a job prior to graduation.

Interterm is a waste of students' energy. It can be time-consuming and expensive. If the Interterm program was disposed of, students would benefit academically and

The westworld, America and her allies, victorious

Emanuel Samci/Guest

The westworld has muscled its way into the nineties, standing victorious and towering over its helpless victims.

America, the land of milk and honey, where capitalism and democracy flourish, has become a notable world power. From coast to coast you can see all its splendor, might, and resources. Technology has been its foundation, the backbone on which everything politically rests. As a result of its success and undeniable power, the westworld has ventured to advocate its western lifestyle and ideology beyond its borders, claiming its motives are humanitarian rather than political.

We hear about American activity in Europe, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and recently Latin America (Panama).

America has developed the mentality that democracy and capitalism--western thought--are the answer to the problems of still developing countries. It has proven again and again that nothing will come in the way of its interests, even if it means resorting to aggressive tactics, such as armed combat.

The western world itself suffers from internal problems, which contradict the integrity of its "rightful" policy of democracy and capitalism.

Under its democratic government and capitalistic economy certain remarkable problems arise. High taxes, violation of human rights, complex societal problems (violence, discrimination, drugs, etc.), environmental catastrophies, and unnecessary military spending are a few that come to mind.

As a result America is in no position to judge or dictate to other countries. They do not need its watchful eye constantly monitering their actions.

While democracy, capitalism, and technology may be effective in western society, things are not necessarily the same in still developing countries.

America and its counterparts have to realize that the western way of doing things is not always the right way; might ain't always right!

Leadership skills abundant among RAs

Anne Kletchka/Spectator

As the women approached Hamly Hall, they heard the clattering of pots and pans. On second floor in the home economics room, the men bustled around as they finished preparing supper. It was their turn to cook, and the women could hardly wait to see the disastrous results.

However, when they entered the room, their mouths began to water as the smell of home-made spaghetti sauce drifted towards the door. On the table were a crisp, green salad and loaves of buttered french bread. The women were overwhelmed by the meal prepared for them.

The group devoured the food while discussing plans for the night. They had been in meetings all week long, and planned to relax before the freshmen arrived the next day.

In preparation for the 1989-90 school year, the resident assistants (RAs) at McPherson College spent many hours together. They arrived a week earlier than other students in order to develop skills which would assist them in their leadership.

Though the job required responsibility and dedication, they learned that it could also be fun, with lots of rewards.

According to Wendy Frankenberry, sophomore, one reward is getting to meet people. This is her first year as an RA. "You have to be ready to adjust to change because you must learn how to get along with a variety of people," she said.

"It's a chance to say I have the potential to be a leader," said Carolyn V. Coon, Director of Residence Life. "RAs are heard and their opinions are valued."

"Everything I've learned, I can take with me," said Ann Nelson, head RA at Dotzour Hall. She added, "And if I can't get a job in my field, I definitely have the experience to be a residence director!" Nelson is a third-year RA.

There are 21 resident assistants at McPherson College. Their duties involve general hall work, such as attending dorm council meetings and providing input about dorm activities, and being on duty three to four time a month, which requires anything from locking the doors at night to being available in case of emergency.

Most importantly, RAs are expected to provide an acceptable environment for the residents.

Resident assistants are also responsible for programming educational and social activities for their floor residents.

These activities "build community. . . and spark conversation," said Sharon Knechel, Vice President of Student Services. "They are important in developing a sense of belonging."

Coon also supports the social and educational programs. Each RA is responsible for one of each per semester. "The activities are beneficial if they (residents) take advantage of them," said Coon.

"The RA position represents the students to the college as well as the college to the students."

One RA is in favor of programming, but does not think the educational activities are beneficial. "A lot of residents feel it's forced on them," he said. "They're not going to try to learn and enjoy the activity."

Nelson also expressed concern about the programming. "We fail to look at what they (residents) want to learn," she said. "Too many times they feel like they are being preached at. We need to integrate fun with learning."

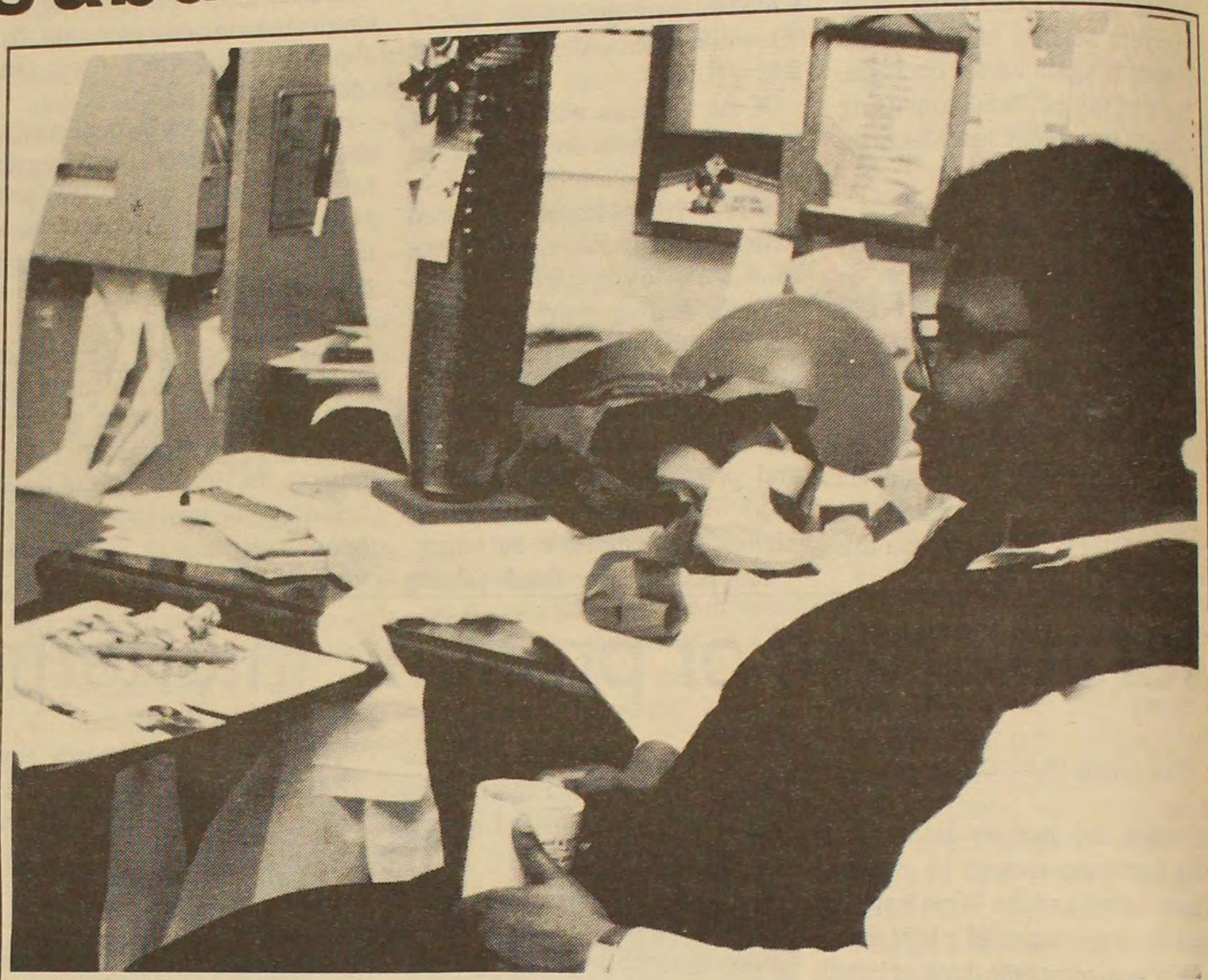
Educational activities which RAs implemented last semester included trips to the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson and the McPherson Museum. Social events included Christmas parties, decorating the halls for homecoming, and going out for ice cream.

The social/educational program is one of the many changes which have occured since Coon and Knechel became involved with the residence life program during the 1988-89 school year.

In addition, the selection process was altered last spring and proved to be successful, said Coon. Applicants were required to attend a class in addition to completing an interview. The class provided an overview of what the job entailed.

"We use that time to see how people interact with each other," said Coon. "They work in one large group and several small groups, because that's how the job is going to be."

Counseling, judicial situations, and the institution's organizational structure were discussed. The class was designed to improve the training and supervision of RAs so that they feel they have people they can count on, said Knechel.



Karen Winter/photographer

During Interterm, Director of Residence Life Carolyn V. Coon was overwhelmed with "paper work." Several students did not hesitate to become leaders when it came to decorating her office on January 22, which was her birthday.

While attending Manchester College, Manchester, Ind., Knechel was a resident assistant and a resident director (RD). "Out of that experience, I do have a personal understanding of the pressures of being an RA," she said.

Coon also held RA and RD positions at Bethel College. She learned that "when you're an RA you're a student, but you're different. Everybody is watching you."

"You can never walk away from the job, no matter where you go," said Knechel. "Students and faculty see you as an RA first."

Resident assistants face many frustrations. When they report an incident that happened in the dorm, they're the "bad person," even though they're doing their job, said Coon.

Nelson added, "I am furious at people who don't know or understand my job, yet they judge the things I do."

According to former Dotzour Hall Resident Director Brenda Rothrock, RAs worried about having to deal with disciplining their friends. "This is the thing that stuck out in the interviews," she said.

The RA class prepared the applicants for what the job is really like, said Coon. "It's the start of building the team."

"Each individual is a building block supporting our community," states the 1989-90 resident assistant application booklet. The training centers around the idea, said Coon.

"The (RA) position represents the students to the college as well as the college to the students," said Knechel.

"We need all different kinds of RAs. The common denominator is a person of integrity in terms of relations with students, staff, and the institution," noted Knechel. "We really look for a wide range of personalities.

The resident life program is successful because the people who are involved are at strength, Knechel said. The leadership of Carolyn Coon and the resident directors and the commitment of the resident assistants are responsible for the success of the program, she said.

"I will remember individuals. There's a wealth of student leadership at McPherson College," noted Knechel. "I will remember Christmas parties and gift exchanges . . ."

Coon will remember friendships. "There are some (students) I know better, and those relationships wouldn't have happened otherwise, she said.

She will also remember the "things that are funny."

"There are situations that you come upon, and you try to have a stern expression on your face, but inside you're cracking up," she said.

When leaving Dotzour Hall one day, she glanced up and saw a student on the top of the flagpole. As she stood at the base, the student glanced down and fear overtook his face. He managed to say, "Oh hi, Carolyn!" With a stern expression, she told the student to come down.

Applications for 1990-91 resident assistant positions are currently available in the Campus Information Center. They must be returned by Friday, Feb. 16, and the first training session begins Sunday, Feb. 19, 1990.

Students visit Berlin after Wall crumbles

Jeanne Smith/McPherson College Publicity Office

"In East Germany you couldn't chip at the Wall, but you could hear the people tapping on the West," said Amy Roesch, junior, of the experience which she and eight other McPherson College students and professors had in January when they visited the Berlin Wall.

Guards on the East kept people from chipping the 45-year-old barrier which has separated East and West Germany. On the West, however, tourists and those favoring unification are doing their part to dissolve the wall which has separated families and countrymen for more than four decades.

The McPherson College Interterm trip, entitled, "European Consciousness: Reform and Resistance," took students to various locations to explore historical sites where Luther, Bonhoeffer, and a number of Anabaptists resisted or reformed the political and religious establishments of their day.

During the planning stages of the trip, a minister from West Germany offered to lead the group across the Iron Curtain.

"The fact that the Berlin Wall came down only a couple of weeks before departure was strictly serendipitous," said Dr. Jan Van Asselt, Professor of Languages.

Van Asselt related that even now, weeks after the East has opened, many still gather at the Brandenburg Gate to collect souveniers symbolizing their long-awaited freedom.

The atmosphere between East and West has relaxed considerably since mid-December. Students found Russian guards jesting and eager to have photos taken with them. "These were soldiers who might have shot us only a couple of months ago," said Ron Engler, sophomore.

What was the mood of East Germany since the Berlin Wall had come down? Numerous families related that the church had served as a basis for free speech in the East.

On Wednesday evenings churches are packed with people sharing both religious and political testimony. One participant told how he was beaten simply for reading a West German newspaper.

Another related how the government gave her husband the choice of his job or his marriage. Another shared his experience when he first learned that the government had resigned.

He was in church that evening. Off to the side, someone was listening to the radio. Suddenly, the listener, overwhelmed with emotion, announced to the people that the East German government had toppled.

"There was weeping, wailing, and shouting in the church," said Dr. Herb Smith, Professor of Philosophy and Religion. "People began rhythmically clapping and stamping their feet. The pastor called off the service for fear the centuries-old building would crumble down."

Students' impressions of East Germany ranged from intriguing to depressing. "The country seemed to be in a time warp from depression days," said Junior Peggy Collins.

"We knew things were bleak, but stores look like second-hand stores going out of business. Many displayed only one or two items in their windows. In some cases, one of us could have bought everything in a store with the money in our pockets," one student said.

"Our student guide was a devoted Leninist," added Dr. Van Asselt. "She was, however, not pleased with the way Marxism was implemented in her country. She believed East Germany to be most fortunate because of its economic superiority to the USSR. Then, in December, she travelled to West Germany and experienced, for the first time, the wealth of the West. She was amazed."

Another emotional encounter occurred at Buchenwald, one of the largest concentration camps which existed during World War II. Martin Niemoeller, the camp's most famous prisoner, was a powerful preacher/theologian during the late '60s and '70s.

"Buchenwald reduced us to tears," said Dr. Smith.

"It felt like death hanging overhead," said Collins.

"We literally cried when we saw the ovens where the people were burned," added another student.

The group was particularly sobered when they returned to their host family in Holland to learn that the woman's father had once been incarcerated in Buchenwald.

According to the students, the German people did not have any forewarning about the Berlin Wall's demise. One minister theorized that in Leipzig on November 9 a highly respected leader pleaded with his people not to have a violent protest meeting.

The pastor believed the same plea was made by a city politician to the army. People are at a loss to explain how the country was transformed in such a peaceful manner.

The European people are moving quickly to help their friends in need. "A city church in Wittenburg donated 5,000 East marks one evening," said Dr. Van Asselt. "That's an enormous amount; the highest paid East German only earns 700 marks per month."

Each student researched, in advance, a famous theologian or reformer, and made a presentation at the appropriate location on the trip. Topics included Martin Luther, Detrich Bonhoeffer, and Alexander Mack, founder of the Church of the Brethren.

European friends of Dr. Van Asselt hosted the group to various sites of interest, including the Wartburg Castle, a castle in Marburg, and the Van Gogh Museum in Holland.

Among the hosts were city officials, bankers, teachers, and school superintendents, all of whom gave the students first-class tours of their respective countries.

Jeanne Smith/Publicty Office

Students collected pieces of the Berlin Wall during a trip to Europe in January: (back row) Bryan Hite, junior; Brent Atwater, senior; Dr. Jan Van Asselt; (front row) Ron Engler, sophomore; Garland Shuff, junior; Peggy Collins, junior; and Amy Roesch, junior. Not pictured are Dr. Herb Smith and Sandi Willis, junior.

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Bulldogs remain in playoff hunt

Brent W. Zamora/Spectator

The McPherson College Men's basketball team has been trapped inside an elevator throughout the season--going up and down but never gaining any real ground.

However, due to strong play as of late and timely upsets throughout the conference, the Bulldogs are on the verge of taking the elevator to the conference penthouse and a third consecutive trip to the district ten playoffs.

The Bulldogs are currently 11-10 overall and 7-6 in the KCAC going into the Feb.10 game at home against Sterling College.

The Mac cagers won a must- win game over Ottawa in Ottawa on Wednesday. Feb. 1, behind the solid play of senior post Mike Dunekack, who was 11 of 14 from the field en route to a 25 point outburst.

The Bulldogs then travelled on snow packed roads to Wichita for battle-royal with the Friends Falcons. Despite a great first half and overall valiant effort the Dogs dropped the game to the Falcons.

That meant that once again their backs were to the wall as they entered into a live-or-die game with the Southwestern Moundbuilders in the Sports center.

The Bulldogs came out strong but play was sloppy by both squads, but behind big games from Randy Semadeni and Scott Pedersen the Bulldogs escaped with a 67-63 victory to keep their playoff hopes alive.

Semadeni, who got his first starting nod of the year filling in for the injured Mike Dunekack had 19 points and Pedersen aadded 15 to help the injured and ailing Bulldogs to the win.

What made the victory such a treat for Mac was the rash number of upsets in the KCAC that night as conference leader Bethany fell at home to St. Mary's and Tabor College dropped a decision to Kansas Wesleyan. The Dogs will travel to Hillsboro to clash with the Bluejays on Tuesday,. Feb. 13. Ottawa dropped their third loss in four games by falling to Sterling which has become a real spoiler of late, knocking off McPherson, Bethany and the Braves in recent weeks.

The Bulldogs without question have the talent necessary to reach their playoff goal but they must win four of their last five games to remain a serious contender. That includes three tough road games against Tabor, Bethany, and Kansas Wesleyan in the final game of the year.

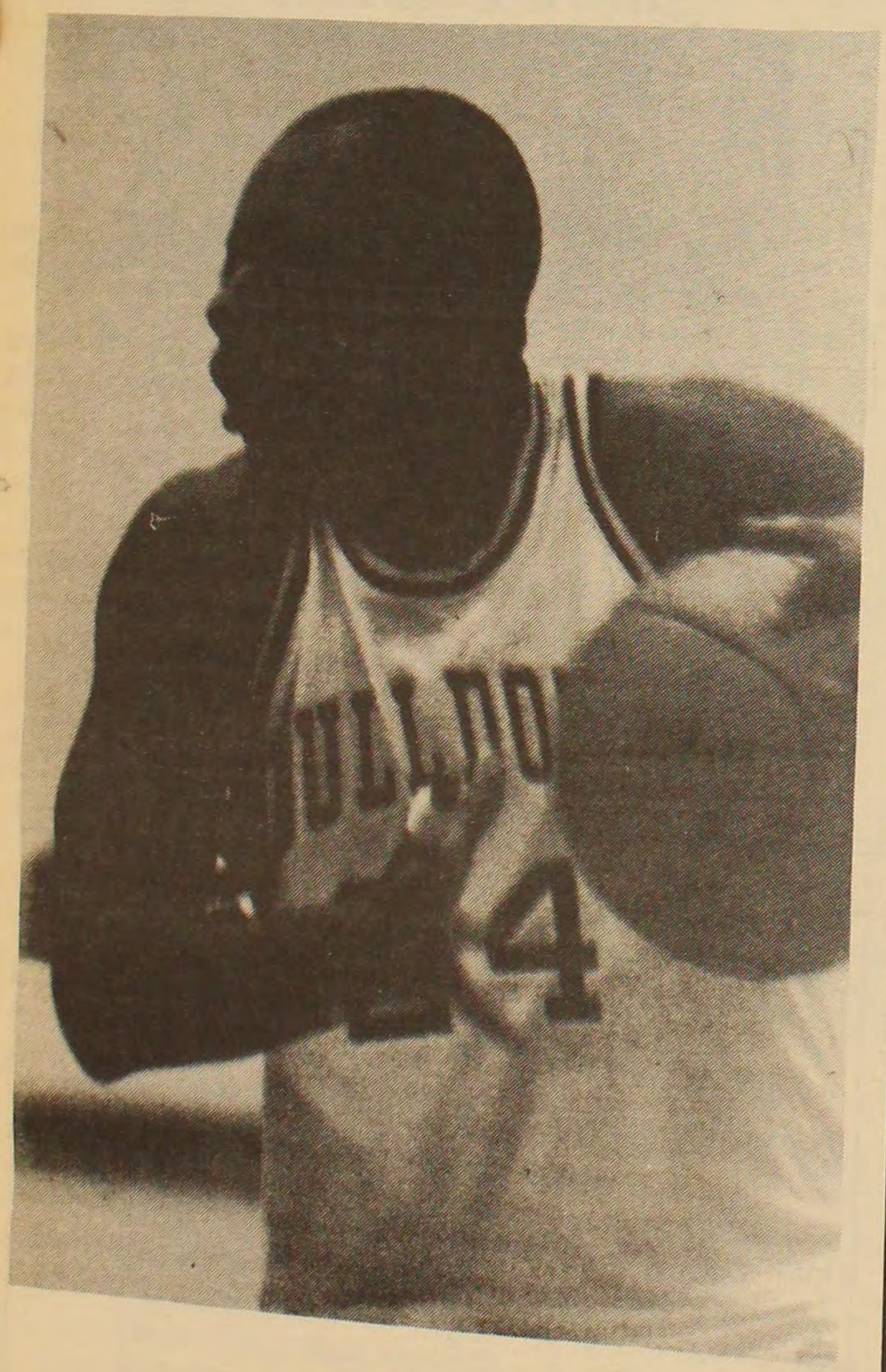
Bulldog fans will remember Mac's last visit to KW in the infamous "game the clock stood still" in which the highly controversial last play resulted in a one point Bulldogs loss and a shot at the conference title.

Retraction

In the Dec. 11, 1989, issue, the Spectator said that the name of the McPherson College Women's athletic teams had been changed by the athletic committee. The Committee has notified the Spectator that the name change has, in fact, been discussed but not finally changed. The Spectator regrets the error.

Beverly Yokley/Spectator

Mac College Bulldog Jonathan Sowell drives to the basket while teammate Randy Semadeni prepares for a possible rebound in Saturday's loss to Sterling.



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Mac Women hope for strong finish

Brent W. Zamora/Spectator

The McPherson College Women's basketball team continues to improve on last season's 6-20 overall mark.

The Bulldogs knocked off conference foes Ottawa and Southwestern in recent games to lift their overall record to 10-11. They are currently two victories away from doubling their win total of a year ago.

Senior center Ann Nelson has uplifted her totals of a year ago by becoming a serious offensive force of late and has definately become one of the conference's elite performers this season.

Sophomore. guard Tracy Parks has been the model of consistency this year. Parks is currently leading the team in scoring, field goal and free throw percentage and assists along with being one of the most dangerous three point threats in the KCAC.

Junior. Ann Williams is leading the conference and is among the district leaders in rebounding, averaging over 10 rebounds a game. The Mac "chairman of the boards" can score as well, as she's averaging 11 points a game also.

Junior. April Sacha, continues to play well and give the team a more balanced scoring attack as well as being an aggresive defensive player.

Freshman. Trudy Case has been a tremendous lift to the team as one of only two freshman on the squad. Case has become a defensive gem with her all out hustle and heads up play.

Tammy Bunk has given the Bulldogs a spark off the bench and steady play at the guard spot. Bunk is also currently among the KCAC leaders in three point shooting.

Crystal Fitzpatrick and Cindy Noll add depth to an already talented backcourt and both have contributed offensive punch as well.

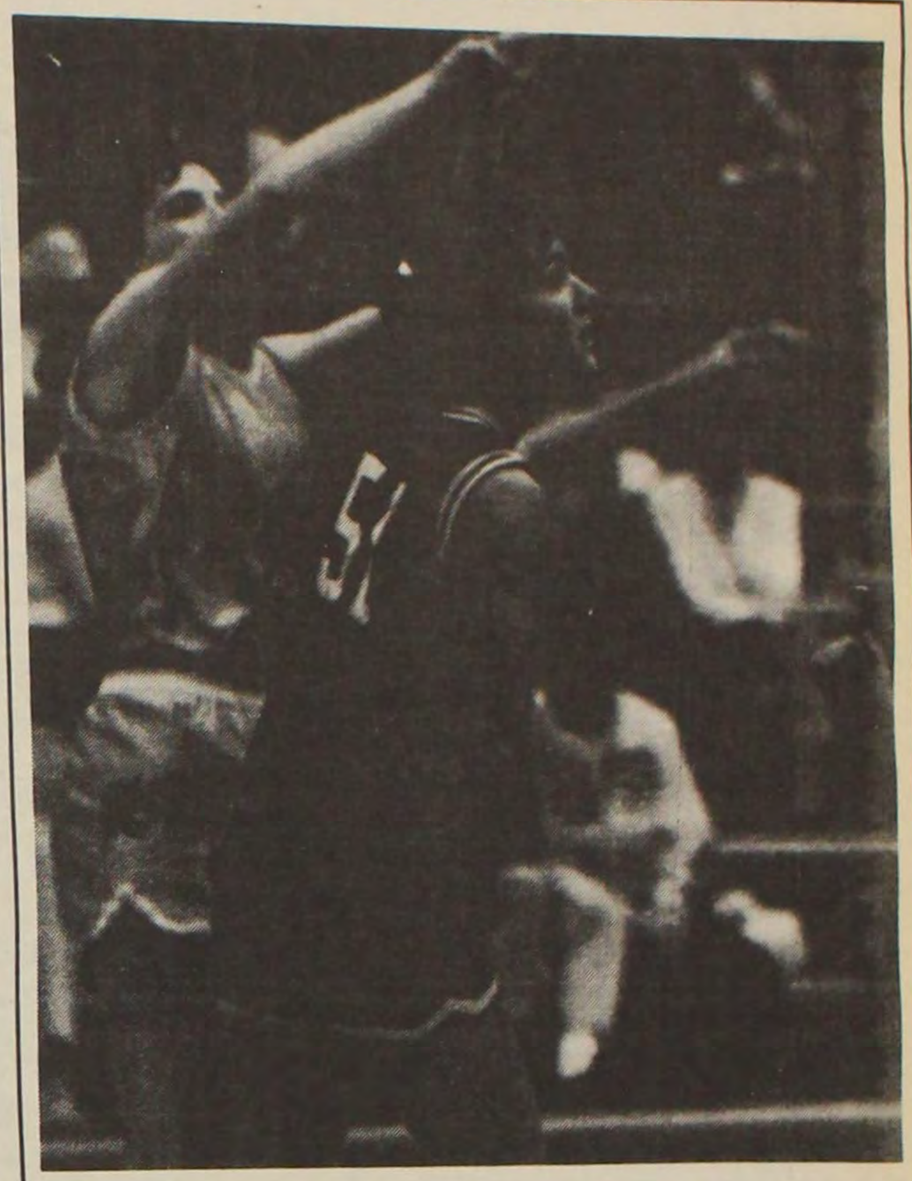
Konni Nanninga and Janet LeValley add depth to the Mac front court and will be looked toplay bigger roles.

Christy Allen will also be attempting to return with a rehabilitated knee. Her return would give the team even more optimism for next season.

However, that is next year. This years' team is still looking to make noise in the KCAC and hopefully achieve a district playoff appearance.

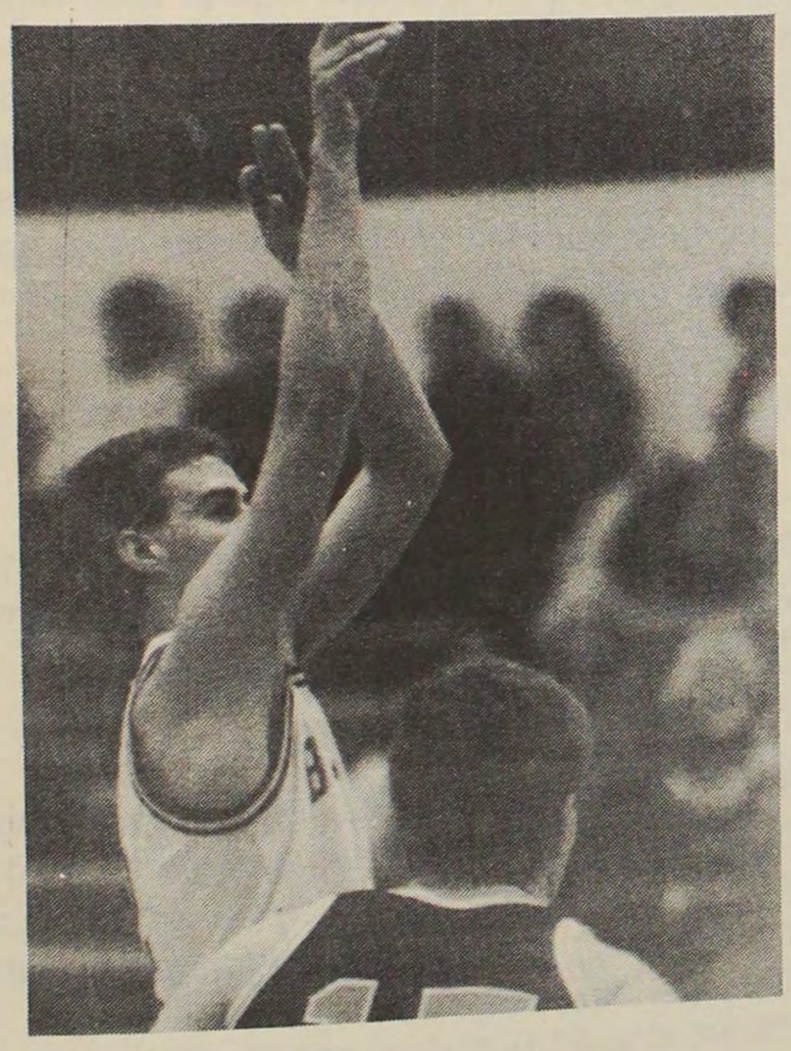
Winning their remaining five games would put the Bulldogs at 15-11 overall and 10-9 in conference play and that may be good enough to earn them a playoff trip.

The Mac women will attempt to win their 11th game on Saturday. Feb.10 in the Sports center and then will battle Tabor and Bethany on the road next week.



Beverly Yokley/Spectator

McPherson's Ann Williams blocks out in an effort to rebound. Williams had 19 rebounds in Mac's 64-61 upset win over Sterling.



Beverly Yokley/Spectator

McPherson's James Gunter fires in a free throw in Saturday's J.V. game against Sterling. Gunter had 18 points and hit the game winner in the 68-66 Bulldog Win

Defensive J.V. cagers attack rivals

Brent W. Zamora/Spectator

The 1989-90 junior varsity version of the McPherson College Bulldogs has enjoyed 1990 a lot more than 1989.

The Bulldogs, after getting of to a rough 1-4 start in 1989, put it together for a 5-2 record in January. The Bulldogs' current mark going into the Saturday, Feb. 10, game with Sterling is 7-8.

McPherson's J.V. team gives new meaning to the word depth as they use all 12 men on the roster. There is never any set starting five, and friendly yet strongly competitive rivalry is always present in practice.

The Bulldogs' three sophomores have provided team leadership and played big roles in the team's recent success.

Tim Cossaart gives a great deal of hustle and goes to the glass well. Cossaart can score as well, as his 14 points in a big win over Sterling will indicate.

Jerry Rank and James Gunter are the team's top scorers and both are among the team leaders in rebounding and shot blocking as well.

Rank has scored or been close to 20- point games several times this season. In recent games Rank led the way with 20 points against Central College and then came back with 15 the next night in a win over Southwestern.

Gunter, after missing several games first semester, has come on strong since his return. In his last four games he has scored a total of 83 points including a 31 point outburst in a game against Friends.

Freshmen Andy Tanking and Andy Hett are two of the team's better defensive players and are seemingly always pressuring the ball in an effort to force turnovers.

But Tanking and Hett are by no means the lone defensive players. Head coaches Mike Rohn and Clint Kinnamon constantly enforce the importance of defense, of being in the ball, blocking out, and taking knock downs.

Those philosophies are not surprising coming from the two coaches who in their final game as players combined for seven steals and ten rebounds.

Point guards Todd Lechtenberg and Darren Crumrine form a steady platoon, as both players have shown flashes of brillance while directing the Mac offense this season.

Jason Thomas and Daniel Johns are among the squads top rebounders and have used their skills well this season.

Kent Wine and Scott Richards add scoring punch in their key roles on the squad and both have led the team in scoring during games this season.

Brandon Watkins adds versatility to the Bulldog backcourt. Watkins has proven his ability to play off guard or the point slot this year.

The defense -emphasized Dogs will try to finish the year with wins over Sterling, Tabor, Kansas University's J.V. team, Bethany, Bethel, and Kansas Wesleyan as they wind down their season and look towards next year and varsity play.

Tai students make Mac home

Emmanuel Samci/Guest

They come to the cafeteria in a group and sit at the same table, speaking what seems to be gibberish to those around them. Who are these people and where do they come from? What do they want?

Recently McPherson College has added some new faces to its campus. Among the old familiar faces desperately seeking knowledge are new, inuisitive faces.

These new faces are going to be around for awhile on McPherson campus.Twenty Taiwanese students are presently enrolled in one of McPherson's most recent classes: Intensive English.

This class is designed for foreign students to whom English is a second language. It is taught by Prof. Sarah Sloat, a native of Plainfield, N.J.

Sloat graduated from Refords University in New Jersey with a master's degree in English Education. Linguistics, cross-cultures, and Chinese language and history are among her areas of expertise.

Apart from learning a little about the Chinese at university, Sloat has had the memorable experience of actually living in China. While teaching English there she was introduced to President Hoffman and his wife. "I never expected to see them again," says Sloat.

Sloat meets with her two English classes daily. In class, she uses standard English textbooks, phone books, maps, newspapers, menus, and anything that makes the students deal with everyday situations. As they improve they are "released" to more advanced classes.

How long a student has to stay in the class depends on how fast he or she learns things, said Sloat. Learning English is supposed to help them excel academically. "They have to be able to understand," she said.

As these students try to overcome the difficulty of learning a foreign language, they also have to deal with the sometimes unpleasant reality of culture shock. Jack Kuo, a journalism major, said, "I am great to talk about culture shock." He added, "People are so curious about foreign students." "I feel some people don't like me, kind of like despise me," he said. "Some of them look at me strangely when I come to the cafeteria, but some of them are real nice to me."

Some students, however, feel that the Taiwanese students seclude themselves, making them unreachable.

"The reason I come here is to learn English," Kuo said. "Education is open" in America, in contrast to Taiwan, where a rigorous examination and a little "back-scratching" is required to get into local universities.

Kuo misses everything about home, but finds it easy to adapt after serving two years in the army.

George Gotto, a senior from Wiley, Colo., lives at Fahnestock Hall near most of the Taiwanese students. "They are very nice people, and easy to get along with," he said.

Gotto, who is also one of the tutors that plans to help Prof. Sloat, says: "This program not only helps the foreign students considerably, it gives the other students a chance to interact and become acquainted with other races and cultures."

Peace Awareness responds to action

Lisa Lauver/Spectator

Peace Awareness is sometimes mistaken for a religious group, but this is not the case.

> **"This semester we're trying to go beyond awareness and take positive action on governmental policies that affect us."**
>
> ***-- Mark Dooley***

Peace Awareness is a group that addresses social issues of today's world.

Thursday Feb. 15, the death penalty will be discussed and letters written. Anyone is encouraged to attend no matter what their view on the subject.

Mark Dooley (sr., Hutchinson), president of Peace Awareness, said, "This semester we're trying to get people to go beyond awareness and take positive action on governmental policies that affect us."

Some things Peace Awareness will be involved in are a CRC's demonstration and a faith resistance protest at McConnell Air Force Base.

Shannan Kirchner (soph., Cedar Falls, Iowa) said, "I would like to see more student involvement in things that are affecting all of our lives."

Any questions about Peace Awareness can be answered by Mark Dooley or by attending a session. Meetings are Thursdays at 5:30 in the private dining room.

Beverly Yokley/Spectator

News Briefs

BE ALERT for possible classroom changes today. Sterling Drug is hosting an Employee Workshop Day from 8 a.m. to 4:30p.m. Lunch will be served for students in the S.U. basement

SHARON KNECHEL will be the featured guest in Oasis this week. Join in the discussion at 9 p.m. Tuesday, upstairs at the Student Union. (See related article on front page.)

DON'T FORGET yearbook pictures! Please be on time.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to assist with Regional Youth Conference. There will be an organizational meeting Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 5 p.m. in the Private Dining Room.

THE STANDING UP FOR PEACE contest invites young people, 15 - 23, to talk face to face with someone who has refused to fight in war, pay taxes for war or build weapons for war, and then express themselves through writing, art or music. Deadline: May 1, 1990. $500 and $100 prizes. For a contest booklet, contact the Standing up for Peace Contest, Fellowship of Reconcilliation, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y. 10960

R.A. APPLICATIONS are due Friday, Feb. 16, to Carolyn Coon. Packets can be picked up in the Campus Information Center.

WRITERS can compete in the Kansas Voices writing contest. There are two categories: short story and poetry. The work may be fact or fiction, set in any time, and must reflect Kansas culture in some way. The deadline is MARCH 1. For guidelines and entry forms, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:Kansas Voices, 2012 Iowa, Winfield, Kan. 67156.

THE GOSPEL IN HISTORY, a book by Religious Heritage Lecturer, Dr. Marianne Sawicki, is available for purchase from Dave Valeta, campus minister. The cost is $11.