

VOL. 104  
NO. 04

# THE SPECTATOR

March 13,  
2020

## MC ANNOUNCES NEW FULL-TIME ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

By Taylor Perez

The Athletics Department of McPherson College announced Chandler Short as the new full-time Athletic Director on March 2. After former Athletic Director Andrew Ehling announced his resignation, Short worked as the interim Athletic Director. Short is the second full-time Athletic Director, and the first woman to serve in this position.

Before taking on the interim position and the now full-time position as director of athletics, Chandler Short was the assistant director, and is finishing her third year. The transition from assistant to interim Athletic Director was smooth for Chandler. "The interim role throughout the last two to three months allowed me to immerse myself in all facets of the job, to gain broader understanding in certain areas,"

she said. Short worked as Andrew Ehling's assistant, "He truly set the groundwork for the department for how an athletic department should look." The new Athletic Director said that she is working on setting the new trajectory of McPherson College Athletics. The new trajectory "will be driven by the execution of our strategic plan," in the words of Short.

Like many other faculty and staff at McPherson College, Chandler Short was once a student on campus. "As a student-athlete, I do not think I recognized all of the hard work that goes into our student-athlete experience. Starting with our coaches and all of the hard work they do," she says, "those on campus who are here truly support each student in their endeavors, our faculty members who challenge and support us in the

classroom, and the Athletic Department staff who is continually working on advancing what we do and provide for our students." There is no doubt

that Chandler Short is confident in her ability to perform as the Athletic Director for McPherson College. Many students have had nothing but pos-

itive experiences when working with and around Short. She will bring a very positive energy to the Athletics Department and will work diligently to provide the best experience for her athletes.

When asked what advice she would give to the athletes at McPherson College, Short said: "I encourage all student-athletes to engage across campus in the opportunities McPherson College has to offer, as well as building relationships with Faculty and Staff they are here to help. McPherson College is committed to enhancing each of your college experiences." Giving advice to students who want to work as an Athletic Director, or work in the Athletic De-

partment at McPherson College, she said: "Gain all the experience you can. The wealth of knowledge you can gain from internships, summer jobs, senior projects and volunteering will help you as you start looking for opportunities within athletics. Athletics is a multifaceted career where there are always opportunities for continual learning and professional development. All experiences are valuable."



# NEWS



## A NEW RESTAURANT COMES TO MCPHERSON

By Meghan Smith

A new restaurant recently opened in the McPherson community. Five Loaves Restaurant was scheduled to open in November 2019 and is open now. It is located right next to the bowling alley, Starlite Lanes, at 900 West Kansas Avenue. Five Loaves serves southern comfort food, such as fried chicken and chicken fried steak.

Five Loaves is a family owned restaurant, and this is not the first restaurant they have opened. They own Neighbors Bar & Grill, located in Wichita, Kans., and in La., The Sweet Spot. Both of their other restaurants are known for good service and appetizing food. Neighbors Bar & Grill was bought from the previous owners, but was kept the same, with the same “great” food as described by customers. The cooking is homestyle in their

Wichita location. Sweet Spot sells homestyle dessert with 4.9 stars (out of 5). The owners plan to bring these attributes to their new restaurant in McPherson.

One student at McPherson College works at Five Loaves. Lacy Weaver, a freshman softball player, started working there around the beginning of February. She is a hostess and busser for the restaurant. Weaver likes working there a lot because they are flexible with her hours. Since Weaver works there, she has tried the food and said: “It’s freaking amazing, I love it. And it’s all homemade. Everything is cut fresh; everyday it’s new.” She also talked about how the people she works with are all very nice and friendly. If you are ever looking for a new restaurant to try, Five Loaves is now an option in the McPherson area.

## COVID-19 HOW TO STAY HEALTHY

### wash your hands

**Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.**

**If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.**

### take precautions

**Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.**

**Stay home when you are sick.**

**Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**

**Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.**

**Avoid sharing personal household items.**

### clean your living space

**Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.**

### other measures

**Get 8 hours of sleep.**

**Eat healthy and balanced meals.**

**Take vitamins.**

### IF YOU GET SICK

**If you experience fever, a cough that won’t go away, or shortness of breath, you should see a health care professional.**

**The McPherson College Campus Health Clinic is open Monday through Friday.**

**No appointments are necessary and doctor visits are free to all students.**

**More information about the health services available at McPherson College is available on Bulldog Connect.**

## PRIMARY ELECTIONS

By Taylor Perez

Primary elections are happening across the country. President Trump is ahead in the Republican nominee race by over 800 delegates. Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders are the two front-runners for the Democratic nomination, with Joe Biden ahead by nearly 100 delegates (at time of writing). This is not the first time Joe Biden has run for president, however, he has served two terms as Vice President under former President Barack Obama. Bernie Sanders ran for president in 2016 against Hillary Clinton, who eventually won the Democratic nomination. The presidential primary for the state of Kansas will be on May 2, 2020. The last date for the presidential primary across the United States is June 2, 2020. Following these primaries, each party will host a convention where one nominee will be chosen to run for president. The presidential election will take place Nov. 3, 2020. President Trump is looking to serve another term, while Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders are working for a chance to serve their first term.





# VIEWPOINTS

## WHAT IS AUTOMOTIVE RESTORATION? FROM A NON-AR STUDENT

By Meghan Smith

As a non-automotive restoration student, I've never really thought a lot about the life of an AR student or even what they do. As I have delved into what auto restoration is, I learned a lot on the journey. The basis of automotive restoration is restoring and preserving older vehicles.

McPherson College is the only college that offers a four-year Automotive Restoration major. It started over 43 years ago with a very large and generous donation. A Kansan,

local to the area, donated 125 classic cars that helped spur interest in the art of studying old cars. When first starting out, the Auto Restoration program at McPherson College was a two-year associate's program. Sixteen years ago, the program changed to a four-year bachelor's degree with another generous donation. Mercedes-Benz helped with the change, along with scholarship money from collectors, and a partnership with the Ferrari Club of America.

The McPherson College Cars Motoring Festival be-

gan 20 years ago. Although I am not an AR major, I still have a huge appreciation for all the work they do and for the beauty of old cars. Last spring, just under 400 cars were overflowing on the grasses of McPherson College campus. Not only is the show student run, but it attracts cars from across the nation. The event usually begins on a Friday night with a cruise downtown to give a preview of some of the cars. The cars start showing up on the McPherson College grasses on Saturday at 8 a.m. Throughout the day, there are demon-

strations, tours of the AR facility and performances by the college and local high school bands. After all of the festivities, awards are announced.

From across the nation, students come to McPherson College to get an Automotive Restoration degree. One of those students is Benjamin Falconer from Greeley, Colo. "When you want to apply to college, you want to find something that interests you." Falconer grew up being interested in cars, so he decided to pursue that interest, and it led him here. Falconer talked about how AR majors work mostly on cars pre-1970s. Before this

time, companies didn't have mass production and didn't know how long cars would last. Due to this factor, lots of older cars have bare metal that rusts away. This then requires restoration and repair from someone like Falconer and other McPherson College AR majors. Falconer's specialty is working on racecars.

Not only does McPherson College have an automotive restoration major, but it also offers an emphasis in different areas, allowing students to specialize in what interests them most. The AR emphases include: Historic Automotive Technology, Automotive Restoration

Management, Automotive Communication, Automotive Restoration Design and Automotive Restoration Technology.

McPherson College has a unique experience that is offered nowhere else in the nation. Students from east and west come to a small town in Kansas to get a four-year degree in Automotive Restoration. Personally, I think having students that are so different from business majors or health science majors makes MC even more appealing. Different students who offer unique experiences and perspectives are part of what makes McPherson College so special and welcoming to everyone.

### THE SPECTATOR STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.....TOMI SIMMONS  
MANAGING EDITOR.....TAYLOR CUNNINGHAM  
NEWS EDITOR.....TAYLOR PEREZ  
CAMPUS EDITOR.....GEOFFREY SMITH  
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR.....HANNAH BUTLER  
SPORTS EDITOR.....CHLOE JONES  
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR.....HANNAH MCKAY  
WEB EDITOR.....DYLAN DILKS  
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR.....MICAHA GILBERT  
BUSINESS MANAGER.....BRETT CARTER  
ASSISTANT BUSINESS MANAGER.....ISRAEL ACOSTA  
ONLINE COPY EDITOR.....MEGHAN SMITH  
PRINT COPY EDITOR.....CALI GODWIN  
PUBLISHER.....STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
ADVISOR.....DR. JULIA LARGENT

*The McPherson College Spectator is published by the Student Government Association of McPherson College, P.O. Box 1402, McPherson, Kansas 67460. The Board of Publications, a sub-committee of SGA, directly oversees the publication of The Spectator.*

*The Spectator is published about once a month, allowing for the interruption of school holidays. Student activity fees subsidize publishing costs, and all McPherson College students are entitled to a copy of each issue without cost.*

*Subscription information for non-students is available from the The Spectator Editor-In-Chief at [spectator@mcpherson.edu](mailto:spectator@mcpherson.edu) or on our website: [spectator.mcpherson.edu](http://spectator.mcpherson.edu)*

Four Automotive Restoration students, Daniel Journey, Gerardo Mendez, Kevin Boeckman and Tim Luring, attended The Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance this year where they served as apprentice judges, attended auction events and seminars, and networked with industry leaders. Pictured here are the four students and Amanda Gutierrez and Brian Martin.



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Spectator encourages readers to submit letters to the editor regarding topics covered in the paper. Letters should be no more than 400 words in length and are due to [spectator@mcpherson.edu](mailto:spectator@mcpherson.edu). For printing schedule, please consult with the Editor in Chief. The Spectator reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, space and libel. For any questions, please email us.

# CAMPUS



## “WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?” ART SHOW NOW OPEN

By Meghan Smith

This spring, McPherson College presents the “Who Does She Think She Is?” art show. The show is open to the public from Feb. 24 to April 18, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The theme of the art show is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, which gave women the right to vote. Leading up to 1920, women spent almost 70 years fighting for the right to vote, with many women imprisoned and killed over it. The art show offers an opportunity to celebrate the history of women and their struggle for equal rights.

Another important aspect of the art show focus-

es on showcasing the art of many different women. Before the 1970s, women artists weren’t referenced or celebrated for their work. As Michaela Groeblacher, the coordinator of the art show and Assistant Professor of Art stated, “Women artists have been completely underrepresented as artists.” Although gender discrimination is less prevalent in art today, women do still have obstacles to face. For example, in museums, art by women is underrepresented worldwide. Part of the art show is allowing women to have an opportunity to showcase their work to a larger audience.

Groeblacher said, “The show is all about women.”

She then went on to say how all of the artists, poets and writers in the show are women from Kansas. Groeblacher invited 30 women to show their art, ranging from professors at McPherson College and other universities and colleges, to students who go to McPherson College. Some of the artists even range from younger to older, with some work being contemporary and some being more traditional. Groeblacher’s goal with this show was to represent women in art and celebrate women’s history. She also wanted everyone to know, “We love men, we are not against men, we are just celebrating women.”

When walking through the art show with Michaela Groeblacher, she had the chance to talk more in depth about some of the exhibits. There are many exhibits throughout the show, ranging from graphic design, to sculptures, paintings, drawings and even weavings. Some exhibits, like Kelsey Gossett Dennis’ “Cracked” and “Tick Tock (in the kitchen)” used eggs to represent woman’s biology, cycle, and fertility. Another exhibit, “Not the Last Supper” by Michaela Valli Groeblacher, shows a table with different chairs and dishes to help show the uniqueness of woman, while having name plates describing roles that many

women fill. One exhibit, “But We Still Do Laundry,” by Debbie Wagner, uses an antique dish towel, dryer lint and free motion stitching to create a picture of two women on wash day. There are many more exhibits displayed throughout the art show, each a different type, with a unique woman that created it. When walking through the art show, remember that art is meant to be interpreted in your own way, there is no set meaning.



This costume was created by Assistant Professor Jen Pollard to celebrate 100 years of suffrage. See it, and many other pieces, in the art show now through April 18.

## BARBERSHOP, NEW CAMPUS STORE HOURS COME TO THE POUND

By Donalvon Shaw

The area of the Hoffman Student Union known as “The Pound” is located under the cafeteria. It helps students get acclimated to the campus culture and serves to be a sort of “campus living room” to the students at McPherson College. Gabrielle Williams, the new director of student life, oversees the events that take place in The Pound, such as club meetings and back to school parties.

Williams gave some insight into some upcoming activities for students such as movie nights, open mic nights, group fitness classes, a biggest loser competition and diversity week. Students are encouraged to come out and spend time with their friends and meet new people while watching movies during movie night, and to show off their vocals, poetry skills, jokes and whatever else people may bring to the table during open mic night. Students can also

check out the wellness center and tap into their fit side with group fitness classes, and also get a little competitive with the upcoming biggest loser competition.

Diversity week gives all students the chance to embrace in the abundance of different cultures of the student body here at McPherson College. Along with these new activities comes new additions to The Pound such as the new campus store hours and the new on-campus

barbershop. The campus store is where you can go to pick up any packages or mail you may have received, as well as where you can go to get some of the best McPherson College gear around. The Campus store is now open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday. Along with their new hours, the campus store is planning on another update of bringing laundry and hygiene items to campus so students can get access to

their necessities faster and easier than having to go to the store. In addition to making McPherson a “home away from home” for the students, there has also been the addition of the on-campus barbershop that is run by Aaron C. Bland. Bland came to McPherson with his girlfriend, Gabrielle Williams, and started the barbershop on campus after his 11 years of experience prior to his move to McPherson. Bland has big plans for the barbershop including

opening a beauty shop to open up his clientele to more of the women on campus. In addition to opening the beauty shop, he also plans on starting a barber school to help the next generation of barbers perfect their craft. Bland loves socializing with the students of McPherson College and helping out in any way.





## NEW FACULTY

### DR. KARRIE RATHBONE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY

By Tomi Simmons

A new addition to the science department



on campus is a familiar face to many: Dr. Karrie Rathbone returned to teach at McPherson College after leaving in 2005. During her leave of absence, she taught at Tabor College to be closer to her home and children in Hillsboro, Kan. “It was so nice. My kids used to be able to walk to my

office when they were in elementary school,” she said.

Dr. Rathbone has been interested in biology and nature ever since her upbringing. Having grown up on a farm in southeast Kansas, she was exposed to many animals and sustainable ways of living. “I remember my dad brought me turtle eggs once,” she said, “except when they

hatched, they were actually snake eggs. Well that was quite a surprise.”

The main themes Dr. Rathbone tries to instill in students when teaching her classes are sustainability, ethical and if it is economical.

Outside of science, Dr. Rathbone enjoys photography. “I first did it to document my kids. Soon after, I just wanted to get bet-

ter at it. I also enjoy taking photos of nature and my gardening.” Rathbone said. She has taken online classes to better her photography and takes photos for many of the sports at the high school in Hillsboro, Kan.

Right now, Dr. Rathbone teaches human anatomy, principles of biology, and nutrition. “Being able to have support within the

department has been nice,” she said. Dr. Rathbone hopes to move forward by helping advise students with their senior projects and continue helping the department.

### DR. NORMAN HOPE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BUSINESS

By Jonah Shabry

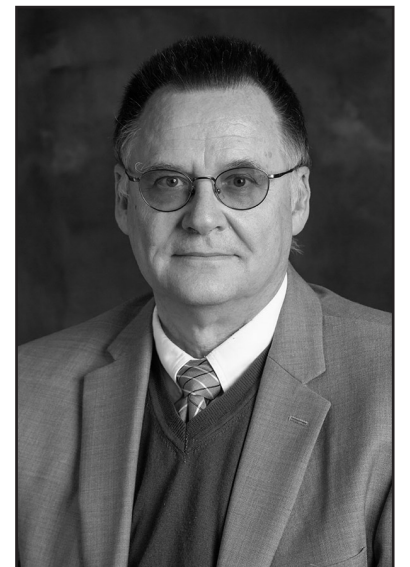
Dr. Norman Hope, who grew up in northwest Indiana, is an Associate Professor of Business at McPherson College and while many of us might think he is new

to McPherson College, he is not. He taught from 1982-1991 before switching professions. After leaving McPherson College he took a job at Tabor College where he was in a more administrative position. However, Dr. Hope wanted

to get back into the classroom and so after 28 years of working at Tabor he came back to McPherson, the place where he originally started his teaching career. Dr. Hope’s personal education career started at Manchester University

(a sister school to McPherson College in northern Indiana) where he got his B.S. After, he went to Emporia State University for his M.B.A and finally Kansas State University where he received his Ph.D.

So let’s give Norman hope a warm welcome back to McPherson College!



## CONGRATULATIONS TO PJESKY, WILLIAMS, SUTTER

Dean Ben Coffey announced on Tuesday, March 3 three promotions and changes within the Student Affairs Department. Jamie Pjesky has been promoted to Assistant Dean of Campus and will remain in her position with SAB. Gabrielle Williams has been promoted to Director of Student Life (and will remain as a Metzler Hall Manager). Danielle Sutter has been promoted to Director of Residence Life & Housing and will remain advising SGA.



# SPORTS



## BULLDOG BASEBALL ACHIEVING GOALS IN THE 2020 SEASON

By Tyler Dunn

The McPherson College baseball team has been raising eyes since the start of the season when the Bulldogs swept Missouri Valley putting up 63 runs in the course of two days. This season has seen head coach Bryan Moses' 100th win with the program, along with Senior Kyle Lux surpassing the previous home run record of 12 with lots of season left still to further his total. Impressively, the achievement of the Bulldogs doesn't stop there. The

team has an average batting average of .363, part of the top three in the NAIA, as well as averaging 10.88 runs scored per game. While the team achievements alone are turning heads, some players have also caught the attention of the KCAC and NAIA as a whole. Junior Trevor Johnson has earned KCAC player of the week, and Junior Jonah Shabry earned his way on the NAIA list of Doubles Leaders. Part of the team's success has been the new additions to the team, who have come in and began

doing things that need to be done. Coach Moses has turned the program around, bringing in talent from across the nation that have dramatically improved the team's presence on the field. Players on that list include Juniors such as Jonah Shabry who was mentioned above, Charlie Munns, Isaiah Vazquez, Hunter Hughes, Marcus McDaniel, Grant Asadoor, Tyler Carrasco, Malik Bond and Noah Nelson. Each one has backed up and contributed to the success of the program from the start of the sea-



Coach Bryan Moses holds a brick up for a series sweep, a tradition like no other. Photo by Tyler Dunn.

son. Each of these players has adapted to and excelled in the culture that Seniors Garret Connor, Jakob Shields, Jarrod

Manick and Brett Carter have come to expect. That culture is one that knows the value of spending five plus hours shovel-

ing snow off the field, putting in time and energy in the weight room and being there for each other no matter what. This is best exemplified by the jersey of the late Dustin Ferguson hanging up in the dugout for the Bulldogs during every game. Various members of the team show up with number 25 on their wrist tape, cleats, hats, etc. The Bulldogs have gotten the attention of the conference and the NAIA as a whole. If they keep playing like this, they're sure to keep their attention.

## MCPHERSON COLLEGE CHEER ENDS RECORD-BREAKING SEASON

By Alyssa Lambert

McPherson Cheer Squad is 35th in the Nation. The team worked hard and put intense hours of work in learning new routines and stunts. Ashlee Annis, their coach for two full seasons now has seen this team step up their game. Coach Annis said: "Coming from not being ranked in the top 50 last year, to actually seeing our name on the list this year, was a really big deal. I think it shows the progress of where our program was at and where it's going." Coach Annis said with being on a finalized list,

there comes pressure on the team. People are looking at them to see what else they have in store and what they proceed to accomplish through the upcoming years. McPherson College's Cheer Squad is setting a foundation of winning and breaking records. The team has been spending their time and effort upping their game to succeed in cheer. They have been going to the weight room more often and putting forth ideas to enhance their techniques in the routines. Coach Annis said, "I think why this year has been such a

success is because these girls mentally said we're going to do this for us and went out and hit a clean routine on the mats."

With girls being injured, Coach Ashlee said: "I think there's the actual injury and then once you recover there's the mental part of it. You think, am I going to get hurt again? The result of having your injury heal is how much you grow within that injury. They overcome a lot and still get back onto those mats better than ever." As the season came to an end, McPherson College Cheer Squad set new records. At regionals they re-

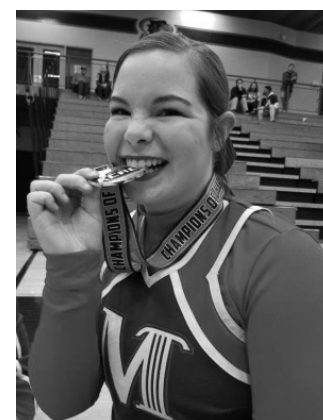
ceived a 72.96, their highest score of the season. Last

year the team at regionals received a 64.3, which was

their first year competing.



The competition team for national qualifiers stops for a final practice before competition at the University of Oklahoma. Photo by Coach Ashlee Annis.



Senior Carley Tomlin bites her KCAC Champion of Character medal after the KCAC Championship competition. Photo from Carley Tomlin.





## MC HIRES NEW ESPORTS COACH

By Tomi Simmons

New on campus is the ESports coach, JD Williams. Originally from Kansas City; Williams graduated from Central Christian College. He worked at Central Christian for two years before coming to McPherson

College. Upon graduating he worked under MC's Sports Information Director (SID), Jeremy Nelson at Central Christian. In that second year, Williams worked as the SID at Central Christian. Presently, Williams is the head coach for ESports on campus and assists with

sports information work at a variety of athletic events. ESports is in season right now, and is currently competing with the game "Overwatch" on desktop computers. There is yet to be streaming, however Williams is working on a solution so those interested may watch. Currently there is a plan to have a "League of Legends" team, as there are three members right now who wish to compete. There must be five members to officially participate in the collegiate sports league. The competitions are organized by a third party, TES-PA, and the team plays at the Village Geek on Main Street in McPherson, Kan. The team has traveled to

Park University. However, for now, they are going to play at their home facility. "We're trying to build up the program first. Getting more support first will be helpful to having the ability to travel," Williams said. He originally was interested in "League of Legends" and through that game he began to see the competition side of gaming. "I have been around sports all of my life," he said, "Originally, I was thinking about being a basketball coach or something. ESports gave me a balance of gaming and coaching." ESports competes Sundays at 7 p.m. weekly at the Village Geek in downtown McPherson.



Esports members competing. Photo by JD Williams.

## MC SOFTBALL OFF TO A GREAT START

By Jonah Shabry

McPherson College Softball is off to a great start this season; in their first 12 games they are 9-3. Led by head coach Tony Segovia and assisted by Kim Romero and Tony Saldivar, the Bulldogs are hoping to improve upon their co-champion finish last season. Hitting .327 as a team, the Bulldog offense is being led by Maile Deutsch (Junior, Palmer, Texas) who is hitting .553, followed

closely by Brandy Tregrove (Junior, Wheat Ridge, Colo.) with a .500 batting average and Kylecia Taylor (Junior, Junction City, Kan.) hitting .432. On the mound, the Bulldogs have relied on two arms pretty heavily, Raegan Kleppe (Freshman, McKinney, Texas) who has thrown 31.1 innings already this year just 12 games into the season. She is currently holding steady with a 4.91 earned run average. The second arm that has been getting



Bulldogs high five on the field. Photo by Micah Gilbert.

a lot of innings belongs to Katy Wilson (Junior, Princeton, Texas) who has thrown 23.1 innings and given up 21 earned runs for an ERA of 6.30. At this point last year, the Bulldogs were just 5-7. With a much better start this year, they are hoping their hard work over

the fall will pay off. With conference getting ready to start, the Bulldogs are looking to continue their newfound success. Softball's next home game will be against Tabor College on March 14. The double header will start at 12:15 p.m.

# SPORTS

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Senior Kyle Lux takes the field. Photo by Tyler Dunn.

By Taylor Cunningham

Kyle Lux is a senior right fielder on the baseball team at McPherson College. Lux is a health and physical education major and is in his second year at MC. Personal goals he listed included finishing the season with no errors on defense, getting first team KCAC and breaking the single season home run record, which Lux completed March 3 at Sterling College. He hopes that the team can win the KCAC conference tournament, regionals and go to the World Series. "My favorite part of being at McPherson College has been the friendships I've made. I'd just like to thank the coaches here at Mac for giving me a chance to play here, my teammates for supporting me and pushing me to do better and my close friends for all of the great memories we've had together," Lux said.



Senior Ali Smith in play. Photo by Micah Gilbert.

By Taylor Cunningham

Ali Smith is a senior outfielder for the McPherson College softball team. She is majoring in psychology with an emphasis in child development and a minor in sociology. Smith has attended McPherson College for all four years. "Softball was the main thing that brought me to McPherson, and the people and opportunities has kept me around," Smith said. Her team goal for the 2019-2020 season is to prove the people who doubt them wrong, and her personal goal is to leave everything she has out on the field as this is her last chance to do so. "My favorite part of being at McPherson is the relationships I've formed, and the lifelong friends I've made. This place has allowed me to grow in more ways than I ever thought possible," Smith said, "I'm looking forward to fun and successful season!"

# VIEWPOINTS



## WHY VACCINES ARE ACTUALLY GOOD

By Raegan Kleppe

Vaccinations have been controversial for many years and for many different reasons. Anti-vaxxers are people who believe that vaccines cause harm and are not a needed thing for infants and children, but they are wrong. Anti-vaxxers believe that vaccines cause autism and that natural immunity is better than vaccines. Vaccines are a very beneficial part of society and they need to be given to all infants and children. There are two main reasons why vaccines are given, and they are for individual immunity and herd immunity.

The thought of vaccines causing autism, which it doesn't, is not a reason for not protecting your kid from deadly viruses. This is one of the anti-vaxxers main points in their arguments that they make about vaccines. There have been multiple scientific studies done that have debunked this rumor because they found that there is no possible link between vaccines and autism. They discovered that autism is developed in utero which is before a vaccination is ever even administered to a baby. I don't understand why someone would put their

child at risk for something like the measles when it's been proven autism is not caused by vaccines.

The other main point that anti-vaxxers try to make is they believe that natural immunity is better than vaccinations. The concept of natural immunity is that most instances, to build an immunity up without a vaccine you have to first get sick and get over the illness. This works in most cases with things like the flu or a common cold, but with diseases like measles or mumps, you have a very high chance of death. The CDC says that if you contract the measles you have a 1 in 500 chance of death. So why would you risk giving your child the measles that has a high chance of killing them instead of just giving them the MMR vaccine? To go along with the vaccines being bad for infants, the MMR vaccine only causes severe allergic reaction one out of one million cases. This just shows that it's smarter to take the route of giving vaccines because the benefits highly outweigh the costs.

One of the main reasons why all infants and children should have vaccines are for individual immunity. Individual immunity is very important because it provides long-term results

for fighting serious diseases and viruses. If a child does not have the correct vaccination, they could contract multiple diseases that are sometimes deadly. The most important diseases that have vaccines are the measles, chickenpox, pneumococcal disease and other illnesses. If a child does not have protection from these illnesses, they have a very high chance of death, which no parent should ever want for their kid. I think vaccinations are 100% worth the risks and the risks aren't even that bad. The side effects of a vaccine are very minor. Most often, the side effects are a low-grade fever, fussiness and soreness at the injection site. This is better than a child getting measles.

Another main reason a child should get vaccines is for herd immunity. Herd immunity is when a whole community has high vaccination rates which provide better protection for everyone in the community. Herd immunity is very important because an outbreak in a community is very bad for people who have not received vaccinations yet, like infants, or people who cannot receive vaccinations at all, like people with chronic illnesses. If vaccination rates drop herd immunity

does and that would cause a widespread outbreak that is not good. This happened in England in the late 1990s, when the MMR vaccination rates dropped. They dropped by 90 to 80% which caused the number of measles cases to rise. This is why it is very important to make sure all infants and children are vaccinated to help the community as a whole.

Vaccinations are a very beneficial part of society in which every parent should educate themselves and not just believe everything they read on the internet. Anti-vaxxers do not provide logical arguments against vaccines and many people listen to them online instead of listening to a doctor. Individual immunity and herd immunity are very important and can be created by vaccinations.

## ME TOO: A POEM

This poem, written by Tomi Simmons, is featured in the show in Friendship Hall for the 100th year of Women's Suffrage. It is also women's history month; this is part of what that means to her.

**Our body was supposed to be a temple  
Our body was not supposed to be taken so soon  
Especially taken by someone we loved  
Why did they take it?  
Was it our fault?  
Was it our clothes?  
Was it our hair?  
Did we invite them?  
Did no mean yes now?  
Our hearts are heavier than this earth  
Like magnets towards where we believe to be  
Blame is upon us  
Excuses for the thief  
And our mouths are tied shut  
We tied it ourselves  
And suddenly  
There is a crowd of closed mouths behind us  
Then with one whisper from the crowd saying  
me too  
There is a roar  
And it's not just a crowd  
It's an army now  
And our hearts begin to lighten  
Bodies remembering we are a temple**

**MACMEDIA  
HOPES YOU  
HAVE A GREAT  
SPRING BREAK!**

