



Sweethearts!

Say it here!

Tell that special someone "I Love You" in the next issue of the *Highland Herald*.
Deadline Feb. 11

(See ad page 5)



MCC instructor Dennis Strete's second book was released for international distribution in January. See story page 5.

NEWS BRIEFS

Entries in MCC's Annual Student Art Exhibition are due before noon today Feb. 4. All MCC students are eligible to compete for \$200 in awards. Further information and entry forms are available in the Visual Arts building (CSC-F), rooms 119, 112, 109 or 108.

College serves as host to fine arts conference

The college served as host to the Texas Educational Theatre Association Conference last week at the Convention Center. In addition to a number of programs, including the MCC production of "Odyssey," the convention featured a display of the AIDS quilt. The MCC music faculty provided jazz music in the center's lounge each evening and at the Art Center Friday.

Music department schedule of events

The music departments of the college have a busy schedule in coming weeks. Some of the activities include:

- James Popejoy, director of bands and percussion studies, performed a faculty recital on campus Jan. 27, assisted by three other faculty members.

- Faculty Jazz Ensemble to perform on the Hill College Performing Arts Concert Series Thursday in Hillsboro.

- Music department to host UIL Solo and Ensemble Music Festival on campus Saturday. More than 600 entries from 32 schools are expected to attend.

- Five MCC music students have been selected for the Texas Junior College All-State Bands. Four were selected for the Concert Band and one for the Jazz Ensemble. They will rehearse and perform at the Texas Music Educators Association Conference in San Antonio Feb. 12-15.

- Waco Community Band concert at Baylor University Jones Hall on Feb. 23 at 3 p.m. Guest conductor on the program will be Dr. Mallory Thompson, director of Bands at Northwestern University.

- The music department will host a Solo and Ensemble Music Festival for area middle school instrumental students on March 1. MCC music faculty will serve as adjudicators for the event.

Bottom-Line Farming course begins Friday

A course, Bottom-Line Farming, will begin Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and will continue through Saturday in the Community Services Center open area. This course, which focuses on the business side of farming, meets requirements for Rural Economic Community Development loans and grants. It will be taught by Danny Kleinfelder of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Call 299-8507 for details.

Valentine's Day a la France

Julia Hamilton will lead "A French Valentine's Day" workshop which will be held Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Art Center. Part of The Art Center's Spring Sunday Family Workshops, the series features hands-on classes focusing on topics inspired by international themes. Cost is \$1 per person and class size is limited to 25. Call 752-4371 for more information.

Program retrains older individuals

The JTPA Older Worker Program graduated 29 students in a ceremony held Jan. 16 in the Community Services Center. The program offers four- to eight weeks of training and is geared to retraining older individuals to empower them to overcome the obstacle of general reluctance among employers to hire older individuals. With a certificate in hand they can show they have received training to better qualify them in the marketplace.

USAF Band gives concert at Ferrell Center

The United States Air Force Band of the Rockies from Colorado Springs, Colo., will present a concert at the Baylor University Ferrell Center on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. As is customary for U.S. military performances, the concert is free, but you need a ticket to attend. James Popejoy, director of bands and percussion studies, has been issued a large block of tickets from one of the sponsors, the *Waco Tribune-Herald*, to distribute among music students. He said he has plenty of tickets available, so if anyone on campus would like some tickets, please contact him.

CPR clinic set for Tuesday

Hillcrest is offering a CPR course to health care providers and others who are responsible for performing CPR in the workplace. The course is on Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the fifth floor of the medical center's Julian H. Pace Administration and Educational Building. The cost is \$30 for C.R.E.S.T. Card members and \$35 for non-members. To register or for more information call (817) 756-8681.

Ballet comes to Waco Hippodrome

The St. Petersburg Ballet will perform on February 18 at 8 p.m. at the Waco Hippodrome Theatre. They will perform modern and classical works from masterpieces like *Swan Lake* and *Giselle*. Tickets are \$22, \$16, and \$10. They are available at the Waco Hippodrome Theatre Box Office which is located at 724 Austin Ave at Eighth Street. The Box Office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., or you can charge by phone at 752-0797 or (800) 701-ARTS (2787).

Free job training

By JANICE N. TURNER
Beginning in February, MCC will help open up employment opportunities to 400 people interested in the field of telemarketing by providing classes on telemarketing free of charge for the duration of a state grant. Students must provide their own supplies.

On Jan. 10 the college received a \$458,982 grant from the Texas Workforce Commission to pay for a telemarketing course. Senator David Sibley, who visited the campus to announce the grant, said opportunities like this help strengthen the state economy by training Texans to perform the tasks that the multimedia workforce requires.

The grant money is part of \$20 million appropriated by the 1995 legislature for the purpose of helping develop worker's skills for new jobs.

Central Texas College also received a grant for \$318,290 to train 280 people in telemarketing.

The course will be taught at the new Waco Downtown Higher Education Center, located at 209 N. Eighth Street. Classes will begin in mid-February and will meet for three weeks, Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays will be used as a makeup day. During the grant period the class will be free, but students will need to provide their own supplies.

Local businesses that employ telemarketers aided MCC in developing the curriculum, which consists of training in key-boarding, telephone etiquette, sales techniques, computer skills, and workforce readiness. These skills will be reinforced through realistic simulation and role playing.

Businesses such as Stevens Publishing Co., Spenco Medical Corp., West TeleServices Corp., and PMSI Inc. contributed to the curriculum because they found that the people who applied for telemarketing positions didn't have all the skills they were looking for. In addition to helping create a curriculum, these businesses hope to hire some of the people who complete the class.

Possible employment opportunities for those who finish include outbound telemarketers who contact potential customers for businesses, and telephone records retrieval for PMSI. They can expect to earn \$5 an hour at first and \$7 and \$10 an hour after an initial learning period.

Those interested in taking advantage of this opportunity should contact continuing education at 299-8706.



DANNY DANIELS Ornamental Iron Works employees finish installation of burglar bars on the Downtown Higher Education Center.

Ice storm rips through campus

By ROBERT STONE

Just as the new semester was beginning, a major ice storm gripped the atmosphere of Texas creating some serious problems for Central Texans and the cedar tree population at MCC.

According to KWTX-TV Meteorologist Rusty Garret, the cause of the storm was the mixture of a cold, arctic air mass from Canada and warm gulf moisture. The result of the combination was freezing precipitation in the form of snow, sleet and ice.

Meteorologist John Bashum with KXXV-TV said the problem with this type of storm is it can sneak up on an area. He said ice storms are hard to predict because they can develop in a matter of hours.

(See back page)



BOB PARK and Don Aldridge clean up damage on campus after ice storm took down branches at the beginning of January.

Student government VP steps into vacancy, prepares for busy spring

By MARLA ELKINS

In the fall, Michael Elkins stepped down as president of Student Government.

Vice President Christianna Rhoads is serving as president pro tempore. Rhoads, a sophomore in the nursing program, is a Tartan Scholar and member of Baptist Student Ministries.

This semester, the group is busy preparing for the regional meeting of community college student governments, which will be held later this month, and the state convention, which will be held April 10-13.

The state convention will be held in Austin on the Capitol

floor. In preparation for the trip to Austin, the Student Government will be hosting contests to find convention entries. All students are welcome to submit essays, songs or multi media projects to compete for prizes. Winning entries will be taken to the state convention to compete with schools from across the state. Those interested in submitting entries should contact Evelyn Rhodes at 299-8482.

The Student Government constitution is currently being amended. These amendments will affect requirements for running for an office and joining the group and will apply to the up-

coming election. At this time openings in the organization exist for secretary/treasurer, vice president and representatives. Representatives are not elected unless more than 50 people apply.

Anyone interested in becoming a Student Government representative or running for an office should call Wesley Walker at 299-8491 or stop by the student activities office. It is located in Room 300 on the third floor of the Student Center.

In Student Government a common goal is to increase membership and student participation in activities.

Downtown Center postures for future

By JOE GINGERICH

The first round of course offerings at the Downtown Higher Education Center drew a mixed response from prospective students.

In the first registration period, Jan. 21-24, two out of seven MCC courses, Keyboarding and Internet, had sufficient sign-up to make. But all the course offerings from Baylor and Texas State Technical College were cancelled due to insufficient registration to meet enrollment minimums.

Paul Quinn college joined the center by moving its existing Degree Completion Program in Organizational Management to the center, meeting Monday through Thursdays, 6 to 10 p.m. The Bachelor of Science degree program is open to college students with at least 60 credit hours and 25 years or older.

"We noticed a big increase in enrollment since we moved to the center," said Maudine Johnson, coordinator of the Waco site of Paul Quinn College. "Our phones have been ringing off the hook. We have just under 50 students enrolled presently and will start up another module Feb. 12." The next module open for enrollment will begin in March.

It is not unusual for an uncertain response in the start-up phase of such a joint effort,

said Jay Box, dean of instruction of MCC.

"We remain dedicated to expanding on our credited areas," Box said of MCC's involvement. "We really believe the center will continue to grow."

MCC tentatively plans to include summer offerings for classes on Windows 95, word processing and spreadsheets. MCC's summer courses at the center tentatively begin May 27.

TSTC plans on coming back with course offerings after more careful study of the demand for such course offerings and more extensive preparation.

"We certainly want to be involved with the center," said Richard Moore, dean of instruction of TSTC. "We will need to do more preparation for the next offerings. We're hoping to work with companies in the downtown area."

Baylor will be reviewing future offerings at the center. In a recent memo Paulette Edwards, assistant to the provost at Baylor said, "The four credit courses being offered by Baylor as well as the center itself appeared to generate a lot of interest, as our office was flooded with telephone calls after the ribbon-cutting and local media announcements." (See back page)

Stroke claims the life of popular college employee

By HELENMARIE DELEON

Butch Pruett, the general office secretary for career development, died at 4 p.m. on Dec. 9.

Funeral services were held at Shiloh Baptist Church in Crawford. Rev. Jim Dickson officiated. Former MCC board member Eric Hooker read a prayer. Pallbearers were Mark Alexander, E.W. Burdette, Bruce Dollens, Tom Pardaen, Jim Patton and Tom Reed.

On the Friday before at 11 p.m. he suffered a stroke and was admitted to the Hillcrest emergency room. Then Saturday at 7:30 he suffered another stroke.

Back in 1989 he was involved in a car accident. While in the hospital he suffered a heart attack. The heart attack caused a blood clot that led to his leg being amputated.

About her husband, Phyllis Pruett who works in the personnel department said, "He had a

good attitude and he loved people. He liked to be helpful and was considerate."

"He enjoyed reading things that were uplifting. One of his favorite readings basically states 90 percent of what happens to a person is determined by his attitude."

"There were so many people at the church for the funeral. It was standing room only. The MCC staff and administration have been very supportive. Many donations were made to the MCC Foundation and the Boy Scouts in his name," Phyllis said.

She went on to explain because he was such a great support to the local Boy Scout organization. "They are building a handicap accessible campsite at Camp Tahoya in Temple in memory of his name."

Pruett believed that businesses should follow the law with handicap accessible parking and see to it that those rules (See back page)



BUTCH PRUETT, enjoys the moment on a Honda three-wheeler. Pruett, the general office secretary for career development, died Dec. 9. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis, daughter, Michelle, 19, and son, Robert, 16.

Two-year colleges do more with less

By JOE GINGERICH
"Texas colleges, in 1986 you were able to educate 307,306 of our people when we helped you pay 60 percent of the bill. Well, we've been thinking about 1997, and we feel you should be able to do it this year if we only pay about 41 percent. That's right, 41 percent. And while you're at it, could you add to your list these 99,563 students waiting over here?"

These words may have been spoken by an imaginary person, but they express the trend facing Texas community colleges in 1997.

According to Don Hudson, director of research and policy analysis at the Texas Association of Community Colleges, fall enrollment in 1986 was 306,307. By the fall of 1996 it had climbed to 406,869.

In fact, by 1996, community college enrollment had become the single largest sector in higher education in Texas for the first time, having risen to comprise 44 percent of the total.

In that same period, the percentage of their total college income which came from direct funding by the state legislature fell from 60 percent to around 41 percent.

To make up the shortfall, tuition increased from 13 percent in 1984 to 18 percent in 1995, local funds from 13 to 18 percent, and federal funds from five to 14 percent. Other miscellaneous revenue stayed the same, at 9 percent.

To establish policy for finance, the Coordinating Board (CB) recommends a rather complex formula for funding based

on the contact hours with students. Although the head count for MCC enrollment has declined from its peak in 1993, total contact hours have increased slightly.

The Legislative Budget Board's (LBB) appropriations bill for this year has increased funding one-third of one percent over the last appropriations bill. The bill funds only 79 percent of the CBs recommendations, and that after the CB had already discounted the formula 27 percent.

As a result, the bill on its way to the 75th Legislature is funding only 57.7 percent of the original formula.

Leaders from 50 Texas community colleges, including MCC President Dennis Michaelis, went to the State Finance committee hearing in Austin to answer lawmakers' questions and appeal for more complete funding of the CBs recommendation to the 75th Legislature.

"In general, this legislature regards community colleges to be a very strong asset to the communities and is supportive of them," Michaelis said.

The Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC), which represents the needs of Texas community colleges, has identified four major areas of concern in 1997. They are, 1) equitable funding, 2) preservation of state-funded benefits for faculty and staff, 3) full acceptance of block transfers of A.A. and A.S. degrees to four-year institutions, and 4) creation of a High Priority Development Fund for technology develop-

"State funding has been dropping and local property taxes and tuition have had to rise to meet the need."

ment.

Talk is circulating around the capital to cut or eliminate state funds for employee benefits and place that responsibility back on the local colleges. This comes at a time when the tuitions and fees are already high enough to be of concern.

"State funding has been dropping and local property taxes and tuition have had to rise to meet the need. We have to leave tuition where it is. We need to remain accessible to students," Michaelis said.

According to figures published by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the average cost of attending a community college in Texas is tuition, \$864; books and supplies, \$584; room and board, \$3,778; transportation, \$1,120; and personal, \$1,242; for a total of \$7,587.

Tuition at MCC for a full time student per year comes in at \$750, 13 percent below the state average, the range being a high of \$2,700 at Weatherford College to a low of \$355 at North Central Texas College.



A MARINE arranges toys for "Toys for Tots" this past Christmas. The volunteers organize the toys according to age groups and boys or girls.

Community service success story

Toys for Tots

By CAROLINE BLAHOVA

Remember the Tickle Me Elmo dolls of recent Christmas past? The toy that frantic parents fought over in mall aisles across the country?

Among the thousands of toys collected here for the recent "Toys for Tots" there was only one Tickle Me Elmo.

U.S. Marines took that lone doll to a local hospital where they gave it to a little girl with a serious illness.

One heart-warming story multiplied by hundreds through a six-county program that had MCC as its hub.

"Toys for Tots again was very successful," said Susan Copeland, Program Director for Retired Senior Volunteer Program, who coordinated the Toys for Tots program.

"We had a really good time and we were impressed with the way we were able to work with the community. People are sending top officials from San Antonio to learn how to duplicate our work with the community," Copeland said.

MCC gave 10,000 toys this year, not counting the toys given to a dozen community agencies, such as Mental Health Mental Retardation and Head Start.

"We raised about \$20,000 with which we bought the toys," Copeland said.

Over a three-day period, parents, sometimes accompanied by their children, were scheduled to come exactly on time and choose the toys.

Toys were divided by age groups and parents could pick up three toys their children wanted.

"About 200 volunteers helped to sort out the toys and carry them to the cars and trucks," Copeland said.

She also commended the Marines for their good work. The Marines collected toys all over town in 55 gallon barrels and brought them to the college.

"It was lots of fun and lots of

work, but it was also the most successful operation in 49 years. Everything went so smoothly and correctly," Copeland said.

Volunteers also prepared video for children to entertain and a lot of pizza for the parents and volunteers.

The most common toys given were Barbie dolls, footballs and basketballs.

Only one Tickle Me Elmo was given. The special doll was taken to the hospital by the Marines to a girl with a serious disease.

It took Marines two months to distribute all the toys to the six Heart of Texas counties, Copeland said.

"We try to help poor people, single parents and single parent students, but they have to prove their identity to get the toys," she said. A Social Security number for each child was needed in the computerized system of distribution.

In behalf of the MCC Toys for Tots Program, Copeland said she wanted to give a special thanks to the faculty and staff members and to volunteers from RSVP.

RSVP's workers already have started preparing the Toys for Tots donation for the next year. Another big program RSVP is working on is Meals on Wheels, which provides food for homebound people.

"We had a really good time and we were impressed with the way we were able to work with the community."

Spring Enrollment

By JANICE N. TURNER
Enrollment for the spring is up due to the ease of registration.

Herman Tucker, director of enrollment, gave an estimate of 5,620 students enrolled for the current semester. That number is 3.8 percent higher than the spring 1996 total, which was 5,415.

An official enrollment report will be given to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on Feb. 17.

Registration is made easier for students by the improvements of the registration office.

"We evaluate our registration process each semester and try to implement changes that will make registration better for our students," Tucker said.

Some of the ways they have accomplished this is by having telephone registration and express registration, which is the most popular among students. About 60 percent of students are enrolled during express registration.

Preparations are already being made for enrolling students for the first summer semester. The tentative schedule has telephone registration March 24 through April 18. Express registration will be held from March 31 through April 18 and traditional registration will be held May 22.

"We evaluate our registration process each semester and try to implement changes that will make registration better for our students."

Stolen books returned to owner

By JOE GINGERICH
\$80 worth of books stolen Jan. 24 from a student were returned to him after careful questioning by the MCC Bookstore staff.

According to bookstore employees, a female came into the store about 12:40 p.m. to resell some books.

She was able to resell only about \$20 worth of the books due to the store's policy.

About 1:15 p.m., a male student came in claiming his books had been stolen, and he asked if

they had been sold back to the bookstore.

After identifying the books by describing in detail where he had written in them and what color ink he had used, the bookstore gave the books back to him.

He reportedly had left his books in the hall when going into band. When he returned to the hall, his books were gone.

No names were known. The incident was not reported to campus police, said Police Chief Larry Radke.

Student activities service

Lost and Found

By ANITRA COTTON
MCC is providing a safe and accessible place for lost items on campus.

During the semester it is likely a student may misplace a book, umbrella or a wallet. They may think they will never see the lost item again.

However, the Lost and Found in the Student Activities Center provides security and an easy way to retrieve those lost items.

Student Activities is located on the third floor of the Student Center. The Lost and Found contains lost books, notebooks, jackets and umbrellas, for example.

Those who have lost an item or want to turn in a misplaced item should follow these steps:

• First, contact the secretary of the building where the item was lost.

• Second, contact Wesley Walker, the student activities specialist at 299-8491, or call the secretary of students activities, Patti Weir, at 299-8431. Students may call during any of the office hours.

*If an item has not been located, students will be allowed to leave their name and phone number in case it has been turned in.

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Coca-Cola donation will shine gym floor

By JOE GINGERICH
The Highlands gym floor may shine again if all works as planned.

In its Jan. 27 meeting, the board approved a four-year extension of the Coca-Cola vending contract on campus. This would extend the length of the contract beyond the present five years, bringing it to a total of 10.

In return for the extension, Coca-Cola has agreed to make a one-time cash donation of \$12,600 to the college towards the cost of refinishing the gym floor.

With those funds, and an additional \$1,450, the school will be able to refinish the peeling hardwood floors in the Highlands. Contractors estimate the present floor will have a useful

life of 10 years if refinished properly. One contracting company being considered is booked up for two years, but has a window open this summer in which it can do the work.

In other business the trustees approved a motion combining the positions of adult education specialist and adult education coordinator into one new position called program director of adult basic education.

Shirley Crockett will fill the position. The reorganization will allow approximately \$35,000 per year of the adult basic education grant to be put back into instruction in that program. In addition, the trustees approved the spending of \$16,527 to purchase a new vehicle for the president.

The board also acknowledged

a faculty member who had recently been published.

Dennis Strete, biology instructor, has had two books published in the last 2 years, both of which were nationally distributed (see related story). His first book, "A Color Atlas of Histology," was published by Harper Collins College Publishers in 1995.

The most recent book, "Pictorial Laboratory Guide for Anatomy and Physiology," was published by Addison Wesley Educational Publishers and will receive international distribution. Strete expressed his appreciation to the college for allowing him to publish the books while teaching at the college.

The board set the next meeting for Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.

Around campus

New instructors and staff

(Editor's note — The following have joined the college for the new semester and were introduced at the faculty/staff meeting last month. Each was interviewed by a new reporter on the staff of the Highland Herald.)

Looking at the new admissions specialist at MCC, some students may come to recognize Monte Francis not only as a new face on the campus but also as the pastor at Pleasant Olive Baptist Church. Hired as a part-time worker, he said he hopes to continue working for MCC in the future and to graduate from Baylor and Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary leaves no doubt that education and understanding people are things he finds important. Advising people comes naturally to this Waco local because he can relate to so many people. He said he looked forward to seeing students he helped eventually graduate, and having the joy of knowing he was a part of it.

Lisandra Gold is new to the MCC Interpreter Training Program. Gold received her bachelor's degree from the Universidad de Puerto Rico and moved to Washington D.C. in

1985, where she studied at Galludet University. After receiving her master's degree she moved to Texas. "I love the MCC campus," said Gold. "It is really beautiful. My office has a window and I like that. Everyone is really friendly. My students so far are great. A lot of students that are here really want to be here, they really want to learn. My classes are small, so I am able to give a lot of individual attention."

David Hurtado, the new admission specialist, is a familiar face to many this semester. Students may recognize him from his days at the Boy/Girls Club where he worked before coming to MCC. Hurtado was a student at MCC before going on to Baylor to earn his B.S. in Education. Hurtado says he enjoys the opportunity to help people further their education, and he also says it is rewarding to see the youths from the club develop into successful college students. Hurtado would like students to know that they count on him, and that his door is always open if they should ever need anything.

Jaye Mourer, a 1990 graduate of Texas A&M University,

climbed aboard the educational staff of MCC this semester as an instructor in the Medical Laboratory Technology Program. She teaches phlebotomy and medical terminology. She also has the task of coordinating the clinical studies of the students enrolled in the MLT program with the area hospitals. Mourer grew up in the East Texas town of Warren, but now resides in West with her husband and 2-year-old son. She says, besides her teaching and family duties, her interest include raising Angus cattle and horseback riding on their ranch.

Lisa Palton is a new academic specialist at MCC with the Upward Bound Program which helps students enter college. She believes her position is challenging because she works with students who may not get the opportunity without extra help and resources. Palton is a naturalized U.S. citizen, born in the West Indies. She received her master's degree at Baylor University in 1996. Palton said, "My goals are to travel to study other cultures, be accepted to law school and eventually return to my country to share my knowledge."

American Junior Colleges Who's Who '96-'97

By MICHAEL DURMON
Six MCC students have been selected to Who's Who among American Junior Colleges for 1996-97.

Who's Who is an annual honors program honoring our nations leading college students. Students selected to Who's Who are recognized for their outstanding qualities which distinguish them from others on campus.

MCC students selected to Who's Who among American Junior Colleges are

• Kenneth P. (Rick) Green, a Tartan Scholar and member of Phi Theta Kappa.

• Patrick K. Kyle, a member of the MCC Theater Department and a Tartan Scholar.

• Christianna C. Rhoads, president of Student Government, a member of Interclub Council, Nursing Student Association, Phi Theta Kappa, and a Tartan Scholar.

• Cristina B. Truman, a Tartan Scholar.

tion Local Planning Committee, National Dean's List and a Tartan Scholar.

Though the nominating process varies around the country, at MCC nominations may be submitted by all members of the faculty, administration and the student body. Nominations are submitted to the vice president of student services office in the Administration/Classroom Building, room 410.

Eligibility criteria include that nominees must have completed 30 hours of course work with a minimum of 16 hours at MCC with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50.

Students must also be outstanding in either participation and leadership in extra-curricular activities; citizenship and service to the college and community; or demonstrate potential for future achievement.

Anyone interested in nominating a student or wanting more information about the Who's Who honor program may contact the Office of Student Services at 299-8640.

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Editorials

Our 'superheroes'

Looking for a superhero, or a brave knight in shining armor to come to your rescue? You won't find a man in tights and a cape on this campus, but if it's security you're seeking why not call on those men dressed in those snazzy blue uniforms.

They are the men who protect our hallways while we're learning in classrooms, who patrol our unattended campus grounds, and who shield us from danger that may lurk behind dark shadows.

Campus police are available around the clock 24 hours a day for all seven days of the week. Talk about coverage, Superman couldn't do it any better.

So if you ever need help from our campus police, just look for the nearest emergency phones and dial 8911. They won't arrive at the speed of lightning, but just in the nick of time.

And if ever you're asked where are some American heroes, just tell them to look for the men in uniform on those Highland hills.

We'll miss Butch

It is not always unusual service that sets one apart as special. Sometimes it is the day-to-day mundane service with a good attitude that commands attention.

This type of person goes through life doing ordinary things the best that he can. His focus is on building good relationships with others and choosing the good thing.

Sometimes that can mean choosing to smile. Other times it might mean doing something special for someone less fortunate at Christmas. Or perhaps taking the time to talk to a child.

The daily choices we make in our relationships can have far-reaching consequences. Sometimes a good attitude is all that is needed to put a chain reaction into motion affecting countless people.

Everyone spoken to about Butch Pruett told how he had such a positive effect on so many just because of his positive approach to life.

One man can make a difference if he chooses to. Butch Pruett did. He is missed.

We should read more

McLennan County residents in particular, and Americans in general, should read more. The sad fact is that in 1980, 40.1 percent of McLennan County adults could not have read sentences as simple as this one.

Illiteracy is becoming a national disgrace—not to mention a frightening epidemic—as well. Each year in America, 1-1.5 million adults join the list of the legally illiterate. Imagine the workers who prepare our food, who take care of our children, who fix our cars and who build the buildings in which we operate each day not being able to read a newspaper. The implications of such a scenario are deep and far-reaching.

By reading more, we can each further our own education. A better-educated work force means less tax dollars spent on aid to the jobless and underemployed.

Reading is painless, enjoyable and costs nothing. Reading takes us many places, introduces us to many people, increases our knowledge and offers different points of view about what's going on in the world.

With all that reading has to offer, we should stop making excuses to explain why we don't read. Rather, we should make it a habit to pick up a book instead of watching "The Late Show."

We can save money and maybe lives by reading more. And we can have fun while we're at it.

Editor's Corner

To be loved, learn how to love others

By JOE GINGERICH

Blame. It's got to be somebody else's fault. That grade I was given couldn't have been my fault. It's that instructor. You should have seen him, he is a bumbling idiot.

And my kids? Well, children just aren't the same these days. God knows I've tried to get them to behave. My spouse is the trouble.

And that brings up another point. My spouse....

These kinds of words continue on ad infinitum. They roll so easily off the lips of us all. Just change the players and the settings a bit, but when something goes wrong, the finger-pointing begins.

The problem with blaming someone else for the problem is that in doing so I put the solution just beyond my own reach. The problems I own, I can do something about.

Owning problems is not easy. But it is necessary.

If the spouse is unfaithful, perhaps it was all that time I sat in front of the TV, or the desk, or hunting.

Perhaps my priorities are screaming so loudly that my children can't hear what I'm saying to them. The "I love you" is being shouted down by my actions which say "I've got things to do which are much more important to me than you."

Love. That's a big word. Love will

move a person. Love will move a nation. George Washington pushed himself in the face of death because of his love for his country and what he believed was right. It helped birth a nation.

Try to pay a man or woman to die for you. It won't work. But for love they will stand with you come hell or high water.

If I want people to love me, I had better learn how to love them. If I want my spouse to put me first, I had better show her by my actions that she is more important than any other human being. If I want my children to obey, I had better show them what it means to obey authority in my life even when it may take me out of my comfort zone.

All this blaming and finger-pointing is rooted in a lack of love. The more self-centered and self-seeking I am, the less people around me are willing to sacrifice for me.

What we need is more men and women who know what love is. We need more people who make vows based on love and are willing to die to keep those vows. We need men and women who take the blame for their actions and make a difference. We need love which flows from within.

What is it which fires our love? What moves us in the core of our being?

We had better find out. Our future depends on it.

Stone's Momentary Commentary

'Angel Among Us' brightened lives

By ROBERT STONE

Just before the holidays, MCC experienced the loss of one of its own, Butch Pruett.

No matter if it were students, faculty, or staff, Butch brightened the lives of us all. He overcame obstacles which I am sure I probably could not have overcome. The man was truly a gift to the MCC community.

I would like to take a few moments to describe the Butch I, Robert Stone, knew.

I first met Butch when I was an OPTIONS student here during the 1993 spring semester. My mom was also attending classes on the main campus. When I was finished with my morning shift, I would walk over to the Student Center to wait for her to finish her classes for the day.

When I had the money, I would go into the gameroom and shoot some pool. Every time I saw Butch he had a smile on his face and greeted everybody with a "Good Morning," "Hello," or any other kind word which would lift someone's spirits.

One day my mother lost her purse and was distraught because she had just got paid and her paycheck was in her purse. When Butch received the news, he immediately stopped what he was doing and started searching for my mother's purse.

Just when my mother was ready to give up and break down and cry, Butch appeared in the doorway of the Student Center with my mother's purse in his hand. My mother offered him a reward, but Butch refused.

Before I knew his name, he knew mine. When he would see me walking around campus, he would call out my name and all I could say was, "Hey, how's it going." Eventually, I learned his name, and I don't think I will ever forget it.

The country music group "Alabama" has a song out called "Angels Among Us." It is this song which reminds of Butch, and all he did for everyone on campus. The next time this song comes on the radio, remember Butch was truly an angel in disguise.

And Butch, if you are looking down from Heaven and you get word of this article, I dedicate this "Stone's Momentary Commentary" to you. I would also like to tell you, even though you refused a reward the day you found my mother's purse, the reward you have now you won't turn down.

Thank you Butch, for all the kind words and for all the blessings you bestowed upon MCC students and faculty. Most of all, thank you for your time on earth.

Restaurant Review

Avel's okay for a lunch near campus

WHAT: Avel's Bosqueville Country Cafe.

WHERE: 6320 N. 19th Street (about one mile from campus going toward the airport), phone 752-1300.

HOURS: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

BY PATRICK M. WALKER

We found Avel's Bosqueville Country Cafe, as a lunch spot near campus, to be acceptable in terms of both value and service.

We visited the establishment twice, once at lunch time on a Sunday and once at 3 p.m. on a Monday. The restaurant was neither packed nor empty either time; both times the restaurant was steadily busy.

On our first visit, both members of our party ordered burgers with side orders and drinks.

The meal was prepared in between five and six minutes, which could be important to stunted amount of time for lunch.

The burgers were served half-wrapped in paper on top of the side dishes. The writer chose a jalapeno cheeseburger with an order of tater tots; the companion opted for a regular cheeseburger and an order of onion rings.

We found the burgers to be good for their price (\$2.59 for the regular and 10 cents more for the jalapeno), but nothing special.

The burgers were average in size and served with the usual lettuce, tomato, pickles and mustard. They were not greasy.

We found the side orders to be slightly above average, both in quantity and in quality. The tater tots, which cost 75 cents, were fried to a golden brown and thor-

oughly drained of oil. They were crispy without being burned.

My companion said the onion rings were cooked the right amount and also grease-free, but added that the batter could use a little improvement.

The total tab for the lunch was a little over \$9.

The menu selection chosen for the second visit was the chicken strip basket.

It was served with a generous helping of fries, a thick piece of Texas toast and a fresh, crisp garden salad.

The chicken strips were fried crisp and served with country gravy. The meat was lean and white.

The garden salad consisted of fresh lettuce, shredded carrots and purple cabbage topped with fresh Ranch dressing. Its overall taste and appearance was a welcome change from the wilted lettuce and watered down dressing found in many restaurants. However, the choice of dressing was never given, and the Ranch was already on the salad when it arrived.

The Texas toast was lightly buttered and was a perfect companion to the gravy; the french fries were well-prepared and not greasy.

The overall tab for this meal, including tea, was just over \$6.

The food and atmosphere were pleasant enough, with a Southwestern theme dominating the decorations. Country music drew softly in the background. The service was friendly.

Avel's also offers a lunch buffet each day and a special each evening. Catering is available.

And even the tea, made from Waco water, garnered no complaints!

Highland Herald

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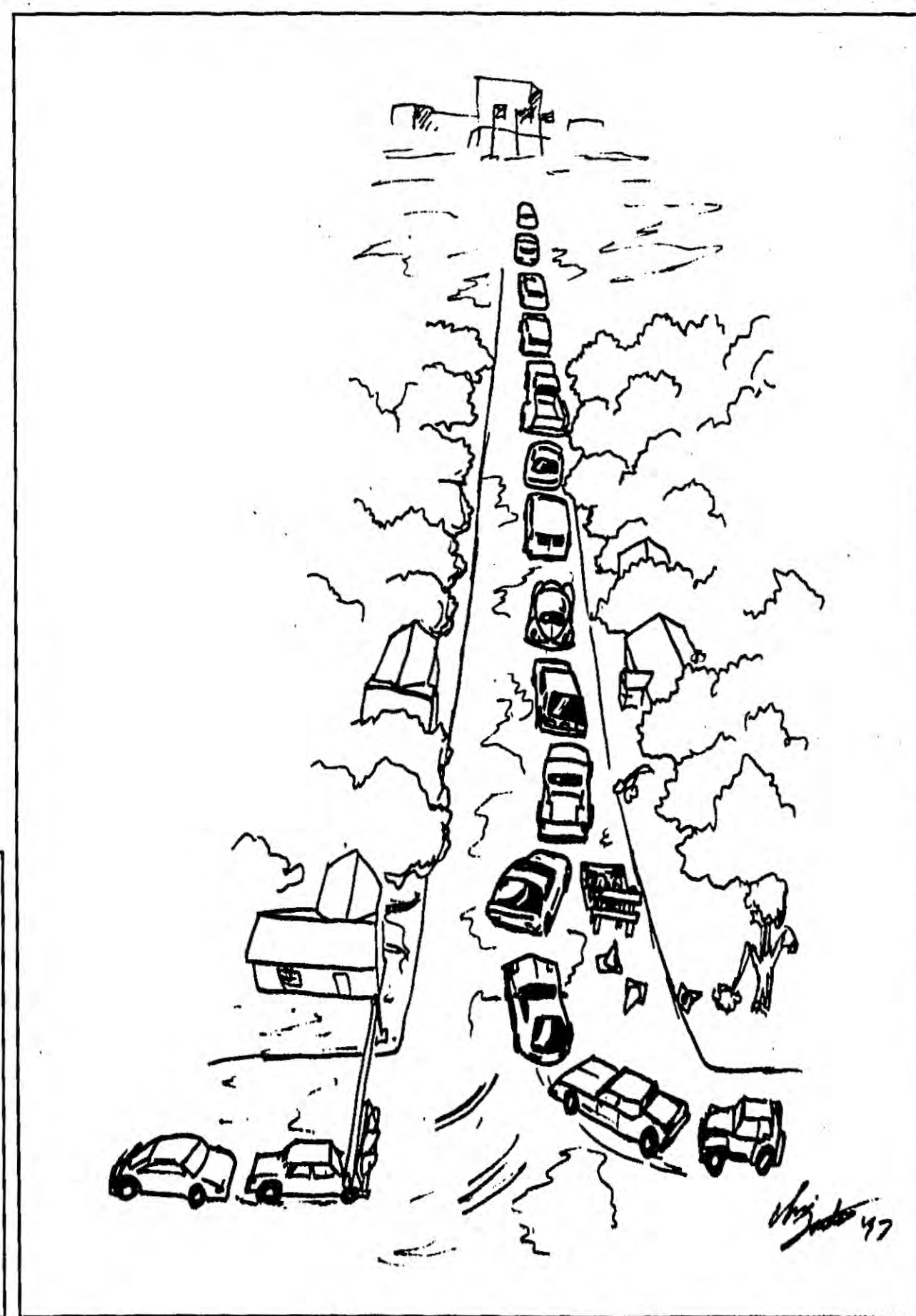
The Highland Herald is a publication of the journalism department at McLennan Community College, 1400 College Drive, Waco, Texas. Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the college, its faculty or its administration.



Attention students, faculty and staff:

What's on your mind? The staff of the Highland Herald encourages you to write a letter to the editor. We accept letters from everyone at MCC. The letters must be signed and include a phone number where you can be reached for verification. Please limit your letters to 250 words or less. Letters subject to condensation.

Send letters to Highland Herald, 1400 College Dr., Waco, Texas, 76708, or bring them by Room C-16 in the Community Services Center.



Campus Calendar

Feb. 5	MCC Basketball Vs Cisco		
	Women	6 p.m.	Highlands
	Men	8 p.m.	Highlands
Feb. 7	Bottom-Lino Farming	8 a.m.	CSC Open Area
Feb. 8	MCC Basketball Vs Collin County		
	Women	6 p.m.	Highlands
	Men	8 p.m.	Highlands
Feb. 15	MCC Basketball Vs Weatherford		
	Women	6 p.m.	Highlands
	Men	8 p.m.	Highlands

Highlanders in full swing

By BROWN SMITH

The bats were smoking in Abilene as the Highlanders scored 32 runs and collected 35 hits in a double-header sweep Sunday against McMurry J.V. to improve their record to 2-2. The team will travel to Galveston this weekend for a tournament where they are scheduled to play four games.

VS McMurry JV

John Robertson gave up only two hits in the first four innings to pick up the victory and Daren Bartula worked three innings of no-hit relief as he struck out six in the Highlanders 13-1 win.

Roger Robinson led the hitting attack with a double, homerun and six runs batted in. Steve Solis and John McDonald went 3 for 4 as Adam Love and Brad Turner each collected two hits.

Solis drove home McDonald for the game's first run in the top of the third and Love followed with a single which scored Chris Abbott and Solis. Robinson then doubled home Love and Hayden Holacek to break open a 5-0 lead.

McMurry answered back with one run in the bottom of the third, but the Highlanders blew the game wide open in the fourth inning as Love and McDonald each drove home a run and Robinson connected for his first homerun of the season, a grand slam over the left field wall.

In the second game, Nick Sunderman allowed no hits and struck out four batters in three innings to notch the victory. John David Janek, Paul Darnell, Jason Briggs and Robert Peschel combined to limit McMurry to four runs on two hits.

Turner was a perfect 4 for 4 at the plate with five RBI's and Kevin Bruce went 3 for 4 with a double, homerun and four RBI's to pace the offense. Love also went 3 for 4 as Kelley Pettit, Jason Reasoner and Robinson each collected two hits.

Robinson started the game by crushing the first pitch off the right-centerfield wall for a lead-off triple and scored on a grounder by Solis. Love then tripled deep to center and scored on a single to left by Turner to open up a 2-0 lead.

The Highlanders scored two more runs in the third when Bruce launched a two-run homer to extend the lead to 4-0. Then the flood gates opened as the offense scored seven runs in the fourth inning and six more in the fifth. The team finished with 21 hits as they pounded McMurry, 19-4.

VS Blinn

On Saturday the Highlanders dropped two straight against Blinn in the season opener. Mark Outlaw and Mark Martinez were the starters and each pick up a loss on the day.

In the first game Anthony Hensley doubled and scored on a single by Steve Solis, who later scored on an errant pick-off attempt by Blinn's pitcher to give the Highlanders a 2-1 lead. But in the top of the fourth Blinn's bats got hot and they scored five runs. Blinn added three more runs in the seventh as they won, 9-2.

In the second game Hensley led-off with the team's first homerun of the season. Blinn answered in the second inning with three runs to take the lead. Then in the third Brad Turner singled home Hensley to cut the lead to 3-2. But that was all the Highlanders could do as Blinn added two more runs in the seventh and held on to win, 5-2.

Fastbreaking into first

Highlanders take control of conference lead

By MICHAEL DURMON

The Highlanders dumped Grayson County 92-82 Saturday to take over sole possession of first place in conference. Both teams came into the game tied with a 6-1 record in conference. The Highlanders move to 11-10 overall for the season.

Scott Gradney led the Highlanders with 22 points and nine rebounds. In addition, five Highlanders scored in double figures. Included in the scoring party was

Bronsha Miles with 16, Erik Halgunseth with 14 and Brandon Manning with 12.

"One of the key points that made a difference in the outcome was that we were very patient working and passing the ball," Coach Steve Shields said.

After opening up a 14 point lead at the end of the first half, the Highlanders saw its lead evaporate to two late in the game.

But, Gradney made two shots down the stretch in an 11-5 run

to put the Vikings away for good.

The Highlanders also aided their own cause by hitting 19-23 shots at the free throw line.

Jason Jones led the Vikings by hitting five three-pointers and scoring 19 points.

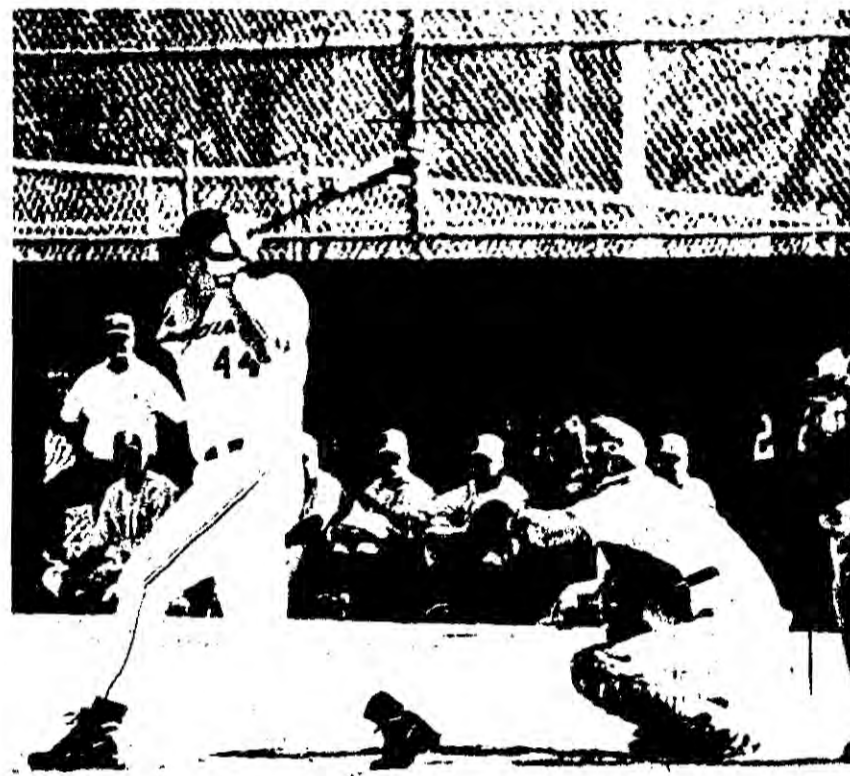
The Highlanders will continue their homestand as they battle Hill tonight at 8 p.m., followed by Cisco Wednesday and Collin County Saturday. Both games start at 8 p.m.

Men's Basketball Schedule

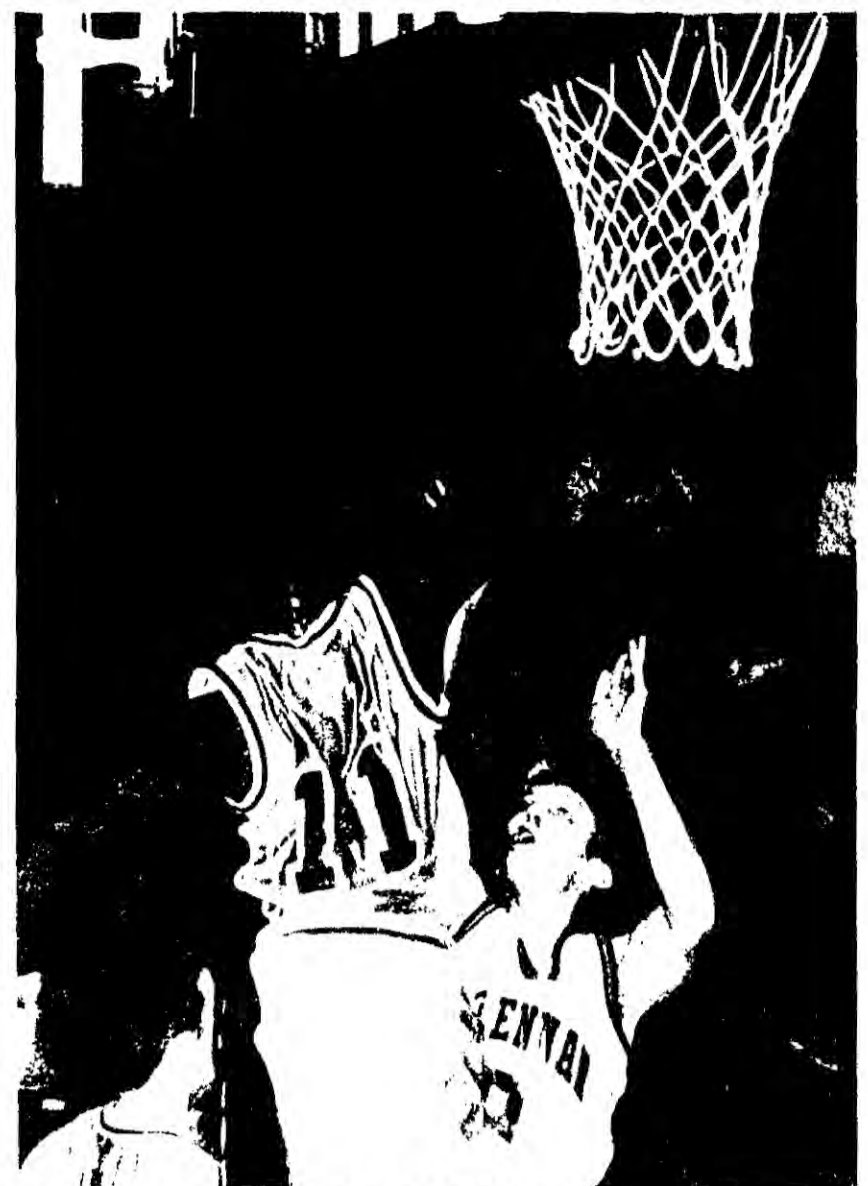
Feb. 3	Hill	8 p.m.
Feb. 5	Cisco	8 p.m.
Feb. 8	Collin	8 p.m.
Feb. 12	Temple	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	Weatherford	4 p.m.
Feb. 19	Ranger	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	S'west Christian	8 p.m.
Feb. 27	Grayson	8 p.m.

Women's Basketball Schedule

Feb. 3	Hill	6 p.m.
Feb. 5	Cisco	6 p.m.
Feb. 8	Collin	6 p.m.
Feb. 12	Temple	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	Weatherford	2 p.m.
Feb. 19	Ranger	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	S'west Christian	6 p.m.
Feb. 27	Grayson	6 p.m.



JOHN McDONALD went 3 for 4 against McMurry last Sunday.



ERIK HALGUNSETH scores two of his 14 points in a win over Grayson.

Highlassies light up scoreboards

By ROBERT WILLIAMS

The Women's Basketball team is lighting up their opponents' scoreboards, averaging 92.7 points a game and leading the conference in scoring.

Having a team that is scoring 92.7 points per game has let the Highlassies share the wealth this season. Lisa Waschman is averaging 16.9 points per game and 6 assists.

Randi McKinney is averaging 14.1 points per game and 5.9 assists and Ivy Ashberry is averaging 10.2 points per game and 7.3 rebounds. Barbara Simmons is getting 9.8 points per game and 5 assists while Tenay Garrett is pulling down 8.3 rebounds.

On Jan. 22, the Highlassies hit the road and travelled to

Ranger College and defeated them by a score of 104-64.

On Jan. 25, the 'Lassies played host to Southwest Christian. At the final buzzer, the Highlassies walked into the locker room with a 109-75 victory.

Last Saturday, the 'Lassies hosted Grayson County College, the top defensive team in conference. Scores were not available as paper went to press. The Lady Coyotes were holding teams to 47 p oints per game and are 5-1 in conference action.

This record put the Lady Coy-

otes in a tie with Weatherford College and Cisco Junior College for first place. The Highlassies, prior to Saturday's game, were 5-2 in conference and fourth place due to the three way tie for first.

The Highlassies, prior to Saturday's game, had a record of 12-5 overall for the season. The Highlassies only two losses in conference are to Collin Community College and Weatherford.

Coach Wendell Hudson said the team goal for this year is to win their conference and return to the state tournament.

Dancing their way to Daytona, again

By ANITRA COTTON

The MCC Dance Co. is once again headed toward the National Cheerleader's Association dance competition in Daytona Beach, Florida, April 2-6.

On Dec. 16 of last year, a video was sent in to NCA officials made by the Dance Co.. On the video was a one and a half minute production of funk, jazz and pom routines of the Dance Co.'s performances. Dance officials judged video entries based on projection, appeal, continuity movements and difficulty. MCC ranked in the top 25 entries picked by the NCA.

Since 1993, the Dance Co. has competed every year in the national competition. Last year the dancers traveled to Daytona Beach, Florida and placed thirteenth in the nation for Division I schools.

Like last year, the Dance Co. will compete against junior and community colleges like Navarro and San Antonio College as well four-year universities such as Stephen F. Austin University. The team from Stephen F. Austin, won the national title last year and the team included former MCC student and Dance Co. captain, Heather Hinton.

Director Sandy Hinton's expectations in preparation for this year's performance is for the team members to "develop strength and endurance by working diligently on elements."

Elements for a national competition include switch leaps, multiple toe touches and multiple turns.

"I want to improve on difficulty to improve on placement," Hinton says.

In the past the Dance Co. performed to catchy themes such as the pop/rock theme "Michael Jackson" and last year's patriotic theme "America." The theme and choreography for this year's routine has not been decided but is being concocted by Dallas Maverick's dancer Leslie Shaw, who was hired by the team.

MCC is taking care of all of the expenses of the Dance Co.'s trip to Daytona. During the trip, the team will go on several entertainment excursions. The Dance Co. will get to travel to the Epcot Center in Orlando, take shopping trips and go to an after-nationals dance party.

All fourteen members of the dance team will be traveling to the nationally televised competition this spring. This includes two new members. Susan Adkins of Connally High School joined. She was a former cheerleader. Celeste Williams, a former dancer from Midway High School also joined.

These two were chosen to the team based on their knowledge of a routine and level of competency of basic elements that include high kicks, splits, pirouettes turns and jets.

Golfers ready to tee off

By PATRICK M. WALKER

The nationally-ranked men's golf team will begin its spring schedule at the end of February as a contender for the national title.

When the current NJCAA Division I coaches' poll was released in November, the Highlanders found themselves at No. 5 with 55 points, 20 behind No. 1 Central Alabama.

If the Highlanders are to move up in the poll, they can look no further than their own region for some of the toughest competition. Of the top fifteen teams, five are in Region 5 along with MCC, including Midland, New Mexico, Weatherford and Odessa.

Coach Stan Mitchell called this schedule "pretty serious."

While the caliber of competition may not exactly favor the Highlanders, one member of the team said he is confident it has the necessary ingredients for a national title.

"I think we're right on schedule," said sophomore Louis Mexia. "I think we have good enough chemistry to win the national championship. When one person has a bad day (on the course), others seem to pick it up."

Mexia also said he felt Midland, ranked ahead of the Highlanders at No. 2, would provide the toughest competition, and that defending national

champions Central Alabama would be tough to beat because "they have all their players returning."

Mexia should know a little about what he's saying. He is featured, along with sophomore Mark Wilson, in an episode of "Inside MCC," which airs on the City College Channel.

Although the Highlanders' spring schedule has not been finalized, the team is set to begin play at the end of February in a tournament hosted by Tyler. Following that are matches in Galveston and Midland in March.

The Highlanders finished first in their last fall tournament before the holidays.

A tennis tradition

By KELE SUTTON

If the saying, history repeats itself is true, women's tennis coach Carmack Berryman and the members of his team are destined to have a golden future.

With the spring season underway, the 1996-97 Highlassies are part of a program built on tradition and molded by the legacies of past All-Americans and national champions. For the women on this team, a national ranking is not just about achieving a goal, it is about keeping the tradition alive.

Last year the 'Lassies finished third at the National Junior College Tournament in Tucson, Arizona with a win over North Central Texas College. In seasons past, North Central has been the 'Lassies biggest rival. Broward Community College took top honors defeating Tyler Junior College.

"Beating North Central to win third was the highlight of our season. We played well when we needed to, and we didn't fold under the pressure," sophomore Brooke Munday said.

Returning members of the top ranked Highlassie team include Munday, Kelle Sutton, Gabriela Ramirez, and Melissa Morris. Morris, injured last fall, will use the season to recover. Newcomers Heidi Henderson, Sylvia Lokollo, Melissa Jones, and Jennifer Robison round out the line up for the Highlassies.

The team began the season with a sixth place national ranking and hopes to continue its success.

Waco Wizards: going beyond the puck

By ROBERT STONE

Probably, the most common complaint heard from Wacoans is, "Waco is so boring. I have never have anywhere to go or do on Friday and Saturday nights."

To solve this problem, the Waco Chamber of Commerce and other groups helped attract the newly formed Western Professional Hockey League to the Waco area via the Waco Wizards.

I figured the games would have plenty of attendance from the get-go. In the back of my mind I was thinking since we supported sports at a high school level so well, then the Wizards should have no trouble at all gathering support. Somehow I got the wrong impression somewhere down the line.

Come on, my fellow Wacoans and temporary Wacoans. What is up? According to Brian McLean, director of public relations for the Wizards, our team has the lowest attendance out of all six teams in the WPHL, averaging 3,147 people at home games.

Despite the low turnout, the Wizards have still managed to maintain a record of 12 wins, 4 losses, and 3 ties at home. Just

think what the what the Wizards could do with a big turnout. In any event, what excuse can be used for not going to the games?

An exciting game

Maybe hockey is just not exciting enough? For the couch potato, this just might be a legitimate excuse for not going to the game. As for myself, I find hockey awesome. I will go as far as to say the game of hockey is more exhilarating than the game of football, and I am an avid football fan.

The game of hockey is not just hockey. One could say it is the game of football on ice. Hockey combines the sports of soccer, cricket, and boxing except the shoes and the ball used in soccer are replaced with ice skates and a puck, the playing field is ice not grass, and the fighting is not controlled.

The object of the game is to have scored more goals than the opponent by the end of three 20-minute quarters. This is done by moving the puck along the ice with a stick and knowing when to hit the puck past the goalie into his goal.

Along the way, the ride gets rough. One might get a stick in the face, a low-blow, a run-in

with the arena wall, or most often a fist or elbow to any part of the body from the opposing players. These checks as they are called, some legal and some illegal, draw the fist-swinging, lip-busting, and awesome fury hockey games have become famous for.

McLean said, "Hockey is the last sport I would bet on because it is so unpredictable." In fact, this unpredictable nature is what makes hockey games so exciting. A fight, a penalty, or a sudden goal can sway the outcome of a game.

Much like the basketball games played at the Highlands, most of the Wizard games come down to the wire.

High level of competition

Another excuse could be the level of competition or talent is not as high in the WPHL as it is in the National Hockey League.

From what I have seen, the level of competition is pretty intense. All six teams fluctuate back and forth in standings. Although the Wizards are now in fifth place, with 40 points, (as of Jan. 28), at one point in the season, they were in second place, just two or three points back of the first place New Mexico Scorpions.

ons.

In addition to the Scorpions, the Wizards' biggest rival is the Central Texas Stampede whose home arena is the Bell County Expo Center. In games against the local rival, the Wizards have come out ahead with a record of 5 wins, 2 losses, and 2 ties.

A talented bunch

As far as a talent standpoint, the Wizards have a wide range of talent. For instance, goalie Billy Pye is the WPHL's top-ranked goalie with a 88.9% save percentage.

In the Jan. 28 game against the Amarillo Rattlers, Pye blocked 40 out of 43 shots on his goal, bringing his save total to 792 saves out of 904 attempted shots. In games which Pye has played, the team has a record of 18 wins, 12 losses, and 2 ties.

Defenseman Jamie Hearn is tied for third for most points scored in the league and leads the Wizards with 36 points. Hearn's record: 9 goals and 27 assists. Hearn, along with Tom O'Rourke and Tim Green, are what McLean calls "The Ironmen." To earn this title, a player has to play one shift in every game.

Another player who is showing some real promise is Sean Brady. In the game against the Rattlers on Jan. 28, Brady broke two franchise records. The first record he broke was most points scored in a game by a single player with 4 assists and one goal which accumulates to 5 points. The other record he broke was for the most assists in a game by a single player with 4 assists.

Costs for tickets

Yet, another excuse could be it costs too much to go to a game. Here again, I get to disspell another excuse. The cost of the tickets are \$6 a piece for standing room only seating, \$8 a piece for glass seating, \$10 a piece for general seating, and \$12 a piece for club seating. Students who show their i.d. cards will get \$2 off of the price of general seating tickets.

A parking fee is also required. V.I.P. parking is \$3 per car and general parking is \$2 a car.

Since the excuses have been done away with, get out of the house and get behind the Waco Wizards. Otherwise, do not complain when they are gone and Waco really has nothing to do on weekends.

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Crime

Campus security has taken away its bite by maintaining low crime rate

BY SONJA C. JOHNSON

Low criminal activities at this college shows the campus police are making safety more than just a matter of words — they're making it effective.

Security's coverage of 24 hours a day, seven days a week, stands out in the 1995 publication of crime statistics. Compared to two other Texas junior colleges — Laredo Community College in deep South Texas and Grayson County Junior College in North Texas — MCC has the least amount of illegal actions.

MCC and Grayson County Junior College had no violent crimes committed in 1995, but Laredo Community College reported one violent crime act for that year.

Few property crimes

In property crime totals, MCC had the lowest with only 20 crimes reported for 1995. Grayson County Junior College followed with 25 and Laredo Community College more than doubled the other two colleges with 54 property crimes that had occurred during 1995. Crime statistics for 1996 have not yet been compiled for publication.

So what's keeping crime at MCC at a favorable all time low? Chief of Police Larry Radke says it's having high visibility that works for us.

The campus police have a awareness of what's happening on campus at all times with the alternating patrols implemented on a daily basis. Three different types of area patrolling is provided by the campus police — vehicle patrol, bicycle patrol and foot patrol.

Covering the campus

Different areas of campus are patrolled regularly by car, and officers patrol on foot at area walkways and buildings. Bicycle patrolling usually isn't activated regularly until the spring, and only if weather permits.

Nine police officers make up MCC's campus security, so with shifts through the 24 hours they have a big job covering the cam-

pus. Radke said areas are patrolled where trained officers feel there is a need.

On alert at night

Students enrolled in evening classes have a heightened level of security.

To meet those safety needs after dark, two patrolling officers are always scheduled on duty to make sure that students can leave their classes without encountering unsuspecting danger.

Night officers provide escort services to students vehicles and buildings if asked and availability is present.

For sports events, especially MCC's basketball games, maximum security is a must. These public events tend to draw large crowds which increases the possibility for the unexpected to happen.

When the men's and women's basketball teams have home games, security is tightened. Two night officers patrol the campus as always, but two other officers also provide security inside the Highlands.

If a situation occurred that was out of the control or capabilities of our campus police, the Waco Police Department is in alliance with our officers to help in any way necessary.

Homicide

The early 1990s did bring the most serious of crimes to the campus — a homicide. While the incident took place on campus, it did not involve anyone connected to the college nor was it a college event.

Following a high school play-off game held in the Highlands, a young man died from a gunshot wound in the parking lot. At the time of the incident, investigating officers from the Waco Police Department said they could not determine if the death came from an intentional or a random shot. No suspects were charged.

"It was one of those things that just happened," Radke said.

Security not faulted

After the incident, MCC's security was not questioned for its effectiveness because no MCC

student, faculty, or staff was involved or hurt directly in the shooting. Those involved were visitors who brought danger with them.

No other crime of such serious nature has happened in recent years. Radke says there have been no burglaries, aggravated assaults, or rapes reported.

Purse snatcher gets zip

The only robbery reported in recent years involved a woman being robbed for her purse about two years ago. The crime happened after dark as a woman was leaving class. Someone came up from behind to snatch the purse out of her hands. Luckily for the woman, her keys were out so she could enter her vehicle free from harm's way. It was a lost cause for the robber because her real purse containing valuables was locked in the trunk of her car as she drove away in.

Auto theft most prevalent

Radke says the average crime here is auto theft. On average, one car is stolen per semester. However, the fall semester of 1996 beat the average when two automobiles were reported stolen. The vehicles remained in drivable condition, but the decorative wheel covers had been removed by the criminal.

Highly qualified

Our campus police force includes six commission licensed officers and three non-commissioned officers.

Commissioned licensed officers have been thorough police academy training. They receive their licensing from the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement Officers Standards/Education. Article 2.12 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure also recognizes them as peace officers.

Non-commissioned officers, or security guards, are not licensed and are not required to have as much training. They generally work when there is less activity and people on campus.

Officers receive training every two years provided by the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement Officers Standards

and Education, also known by the acronym TCLEOSE. Chief Radke received training in courses through TCLEOSE at Temple about two weeks ago. Some of the types of course work offered were sessions in cultural diversity, domestic violence, and child abuse. These courses give officers skills and an understanding on how to deal with these problems in today's world.

Updated equipment

New accessories added within the police department and on campus are helping to make officers jobs a little easier and the campus even safer.

An upgrade in security's radio system keeps communication to officers open at all times. Police now have walkie talkies with a phone dispatch. If a call is placed to the police department, but no one is there, the call can be received on an officer's walkie talkie. This system is also effective between maintenance, groundkeepers, and central utilities personnel whose work spans the campus and who can report any suspicious activities.

Easy to call

Another innovation to security is the new emergency phone boxes. These emergency phones dial directly to an officer's walkie talkie if students, faculty, or staff need assistance in any way. The phones were installed toward the end of the fall semester. Some phones are still in need of being wired. However, different phones in various locations on campus are activated for use.

Preventing crime

In the effort to keep the campus safe, Radke encourages everyone to keep their guard up against crime. He says the main problems occur when individuals don't play a part in their own security. Radke says three things will help:

- Do not leave personal belongings unguarded, even for a matter of seconds.
- Walk with others if walking at night or in an unfamiliar area.
- And most important — be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Anatomy, physiology teacher publishes second textbook

By GARY LASSETER

Anatomy and Physiology instructor Dennis Strete's second textbook was published and released this year. "The Pictorial Laboratory Guide for Anatomy and Physiology," copyright 1997, Addison-Wesley Educational Publishers Inc., is specifically designed for use by students enrolled in allied health, biology, medical, dental, veterinary medicine, anatomy, or anatomy and physiology programs.

Strete received a bachelor's degree in biology at Lucknow University in India, his master's in agronomy/biology at Tuskegee University in Alabama, and pursued his doctorate in developmental biology at State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Strete completed his doctorate in biology/zoology at the University of Southern Mississippi. He also did research at Yale.

Strete taught in Mississippi at Tougaloo College and at the University Medical Center in Jackson and at Paul Quinn College in Waco before coming to MCC.

He also works as Consultant to the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the Waco Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Strete has an extensive personal library which he uses to research his textbooks. He does his own dissecting and takes his own photographs.

"Photography is my hobby, and I have also taken it to the professional level in my field" says Strete.

"I took almost every photo in the text myself. I used to



Photo by Lizz Ward

DISSECTING A BRAIN for research which will be documented in his third textbook, a full color atlas of human anatomy, is Dennis Strete.

participate in autopsies at the VA until they moved the pathology lab to Temple. Now I take some pictures at a Medical School, and some of them here in my office."

"A Color Atlas of Histology," copyright 1995, HarperCollins College Publishers, was Strete's first published textbook, currently in use at several medical and graduate schools including the University of Houston.

Histology is the study of tissues. Strete photographed the tissues using a special microscope. Over 400 original photomicrographs are included.

Both textbooks are available at the MCC bookstore. Strete has published research

papers. He has written grant proposals and been awarded grants totalling hundreds of thousands of dollars.

He also served on grant proposal review panels for the National Science Foundation, the Energy Department and the Department of Education. He presented a report at the XVI International Congress of Pathology in Vienna, Austria.

Strete is currently working on a third textbook, this one a full color atlas of human anatomy, which he hopes will be published next year.

"It takes about a year and a half for me to put one together," he said.

Baptist Student Ministry reaches out to students with free lunch and study course at South Padre

By CAROLINE BLAHOVA

MCC students from the Baptist Student Ministry are participating in missions to help others.

Baptist Student Ministry is a national collegiate movement of the Southern Baptist Convention composed of students from all walks of life and religious backgrounds.

According to Baptist Student Ministry literature, the organization is a fellowship of Christian students who want to grow in Christ and to help others in his name.

It also can be the place to make friends, share common concerns and have a good time.

Every student ministry group is different. Some do Bible study, another may try to raise money for the world hunger and another group may do summer missions. Choices are unlimited.

"The main purpose of this organization is for students who love God to get together, no matter what religion they are," said Dave Dover, director of the Baptist Student Ministry, which belongs to MCC.

"We study the Bible, we are real close friends and we are doing lots of neat things." Students will many positions and carry out a variety of tasks in the organization.

"We get together every week for Bible study and to do everything together," said Holly Fincher, one of the Council members in BSM.

"BSM has now about 25-30 members, who are participating in all events," Dover said.

They also meet on Wednesdays to provide free meals for students who want to come and join them at the Bible studying and share new ideas. Students buy the meals from their own pockets and prepare it for the visitors.

"Everybody is welcome to eat and stay with us," Dover said.

"Last year we gave about 30 lunches and we are planning to give about 20 free lunches this semester," said Bambi Little, another of the active members.

BSM also provides a mission trip called "Beach Reach" to South Padre Island.

Beach Reach is a week when Christian college students, like thousands of others from around Texas, head for the Texas Coast for spring break. BSM offers free rides and breakfast, sunscreen stations and beach evangelism to any student on the island. The cost per student for the BSM trip is \$200, but fund-raisers are held to lower the cost.

Dover said that 10 Baptist Student Ministries would be participating in the South Padre project.

"It is my fifth trip to the island, but for most students from BSM it will be the first one," he said.

"We go there to learn about love of Jesus Christ, to help with preparing the meals and with the aid things. Sometimes retired people help us," Dover said. "We stay at the hotel, church or camp the whole week and we do what is called working missionary."

Students interested in this

trip should call Bambi Little at 754-0989.

Another activity going on is the 1997 Spring Men's Leadership Conference in Arlington Feb. 21-22. Some of the guests will be Dean Gage, president of Men's Ministry, and Larry Tardy, worship leader at Lake Arlington Baptist Church. Seminars will include such topics as decision-making, stress management, and many others. For more information call 754-0989.

The other activities what BSM provides every week are:

Free Lunch & Bible Study on Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Center, second floor. Campus Prayer on Wednesdays, 7 a.m., Student Center, second floor. Challenge Breakfast on Fridays, 7:15 a.m. at the Baptist Student Ministry Building at 19th and Powell.

"Last year we gave about 30 lunches and we are planning to give about 20 free lunches this semester."

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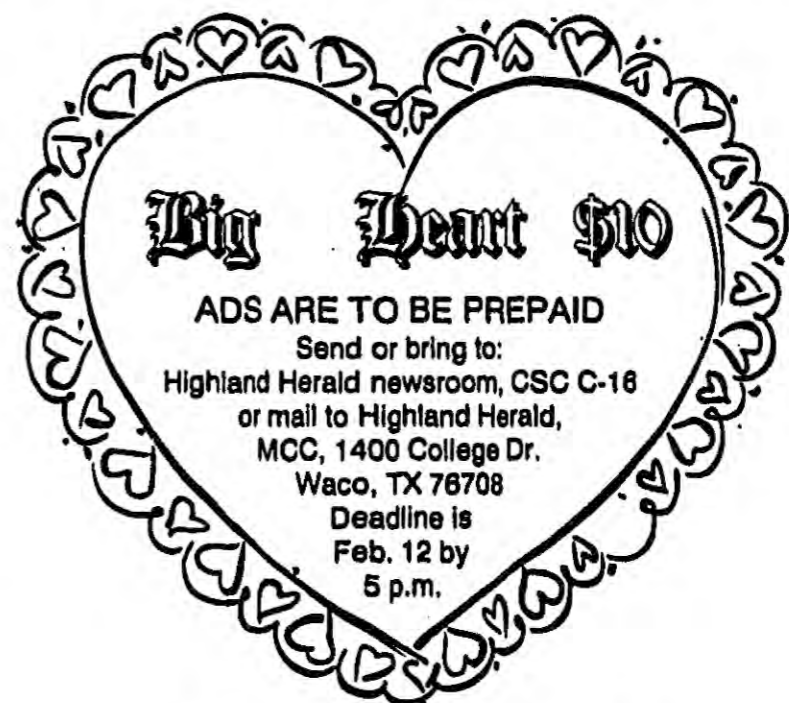
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Student Art Show Feb. 12

By WILL PARTIN

Students at MCC will add to the age old question of what art is on Feb. 12 when the annual student art exhibition will begin in the art gallery of the Community Services Center's Building F.

Work which will be submitted for judging in the 1997 Student Art Exhibition can be any media, available to sell, and ready to hang or install.

An artist may submit up to three entries. However, all entries must have been completed within the past two years, and entries which appeared in other MCC art competitions are not eligible.

Entry forms for the competition can be picked up in rooms 119, 112, 109, or 108 in Building F of the CSC. Entries can be taken to room 139, 108, or 134. Deadline for entry is noon today. At the discretion of the juror, the winner could receive \$200.

John Chatmas, director of the show, said students who enter and get their work displayed will benefit from the show because it will "demonstrate to employers that these students can be effective creatively in the field of art." He also said that putting work on

public display helps the artist psychologically. Displaying is "fundamental in completing the creative process," Chatmas added.

This year's juror of the competition will be Dottie Allen, art program coordinator at Hill College. Allen, who is also a teacher and an artist, has been featured in such publications as The Dallas Morning News, D Magazine, and the Dallas Arts Review. She has also judged other competitions such as the University of North Texas Student Union Competition and several prison art shows.

According to the Juror's Statement which appears on the entry form for the competition, Allen is "looking for work with an experimental outlook that shows a grasp of technical skills and a path of clear communication ... sophistication of the message is of more concern to me. The resonance of a clarity of vision is paramount."

The works of art which Allen selected in her judging will be on display Feb. 12 to March 5 in the Building F gallery. The exhibit will be open to the public and will be free of charge to those interested in attending the show. Hours for the exhibit will be 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

(Robert Stone contributed to this story).

'Cabaret' cast named; musical opens Feb. 25

By GARY LASSETER

Nazi Germany may seem like an unusual setting for a musical comedy, but according to director/choreographer Jerry McClauchlin, the upcoming MCC production of "Cabaret" will be unusual in more ways than one.

"The story begins in 1929, when the Nazis were just beginning their rise to power," McClauchlin said. "Berlin was like the 'party capital of the world.' Anything you wanted you could buy. There were night clubs everywhere."

Runs through March 1

"Cabaret" opens Feb. 25 and runs through March 1 with performances every evening at 7:30 and with a matinee Sunday afternoon. "We're using the original Broadway script, which is very different from the movie, and I think, better. I saw the original on Broadway in 1966," McClauchlin said. "Berlin at the time of the story reminds me of

New York in the '70s. After World War I, I think the German people felt defeated emotionally and spiritually.

Party frenzy mode

"They were in this kind of 'party frenzy mode' which was leading up to WWII. The Kit Kat Klub in the show is a cross section of Berlin night-life. The emcee (Matt Miser) is a catalyst. He is almost like a devil pulling strings on the people in the club, influencing their behavior.

"Comedy and fun"

"There is a lot of comedy and fun, and underneath it all is this deep-seeded message. In the opening scenes the Nazis are few, and they grow in numbers and power in successive scenes.

"But it is chiefly a love story," continued McClauchlin, "telling the tale of two

couples and their struggle to find happiness."

Leading characters

Sally Bowles (Megan Hamaker) and Clifford Bradshaw (James Bergauer) are the young couple who meet at the cabaret and fall in love. "Young people sometimes think they are invincible. I did when I was that age," McClauchlin said.

Fraulein Schneider (Nikki Johnson) and Herr Schultz (John Moffat) are the older of the two couples. Their love affair is threatened by Nazi persecution of Jewish peoples.

Ernst (Will Brunson) is an attractive young Berliner apparently in the smuggling trade.

More important characters

Some important characters in the show are the Kit Kat Klub girls—Maria (Jane Ellen Borg), Lulu (Kristy Rowan), Rosie (Leslie Garner), Fritzie (Heather

Huggins), Trixie (Tiffany Ginn), Texas (Tiffany Hornback), and Franchie (Tina Steinbrenner).

Other characters include the Customs Officer (Jamie Rabold), Fraulein Kost (Brandi Dacus), Max the club owner (Mike Lamendola), the Maitre D' (Robb Holland), the Bartender (Jason Sanchez), the Dancing Waiters (Jamison Driskill, Patrick Kyle, Beetle Bailey, Ethan Chappell), Frau Wendel (Esther Montemayor), German sailors (Justin Seyb, Matt Stewart), Frau Kruger (Kim Dunn), Herr Erdman (Andy Reed), and Felix (John Swofford).

Karen Albrecht will be musical director. Zack Moore is production stage manager and Geo Haynes is assistant director.

"I have done this show seven times in the past and each one was different," said McClauchlin. "This time the action will be closer to the audience, more intimate."

In the words of the song, "Come to the cabaret!"

Noted poet, screenwriter Mainor highlights AAUW poetry contest

By BRITA HIGGINS

Award-winning poet and writer Rayfor Mainor shared poetry with the public in Waco Saturday, and several MCC teachers had a major role in the program.

Mainor was spoke at a meeting of the Waco Branch AAUW (American Association of University Women) including MCC members.

He is currently writing a screenplay for the motion picture "First," based on the true story of seven young black men who went to New York in 1903 and had "the tenacity" to go to a traditionally white Cornell University.

Mainor has authored three books of poetry, earning acknowledgments from former presidents Nixon, Ford and Carter and numerous awards such as the Vassie D. Wright Authors Award, the Melvin B. Tolson Memorial Award for Excellence in Creative Literature, and the international Who's Who Bronze Medal in Poetry, and

many others. The Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education heralds Mainor a "literary genius." He is also an actor and humanitarian.

Children are "our greatest commodity, our most valuable assets," says Mainor, therefore he is committed to focus on children's issues as well as families and education concerns.

One way Mainor has proven his commitment was by accepting the invitation to be one of two judges at this year's local AAUW High School Poetry Contest.

The AAUW sponsored the contest offered to Waco and surrounding area high schools. "Exploring Diverse Cultures" was the theme, encouraging students to recognize their heritage and culture. MCC's Arvis Coleman was also a judge and says the poems "were considered on content and poetic qualities."

Awards were presented at the AAUW meeting. First place went to Julian Ramon who received a

\$100 savings bond, second place to William Edward Ruby who won a \$50 savings bond. Honorable Mentions were earned by Monika Selma Bergstad and Kenneth Ford. All four were presented with certificates.

Mainor stayed for the ceremony and was available to answer questions.

The AAUW sponsors events designed to encourage higher education. Founded in 1881 (according to a brochure about the organization) it is the oldest national organization working for the advancement of women. No rule excludes men from joining. The only requirement to join is holding a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited institution. Student affiliate memberships are also offered for undergraduates working toward a degree.

For more information about the AAUW, contact Leota Howard at (817) 799-7987, Lisette Carpenter at (817) 750-3536, or Lorraine Stansel at (817) 750-3644 or (817) 848-4115.

Art Center plans varied showings

By MICHAEL SERGENT

The Art Center will be featuring various art exhibits to capture the interests of visitors this semester and through the summer.

The events planned will center around arts that will appeal to all visitors.

At this time, the Art Center is featuring the art of Texas native William B. Montgomery until March 9. Montgomery's surrealist art works seem to push the limits of the unusual and unique

with titles such as "Six Nervous Monkeys on a Dead Car."

After this showing, a string of other exhibits will follow. The "Art View '97" benefit, which runs from March 10-15 will allow viewers to bid on a collection of art works.

From March 20 through May 20 the Art Center will be displaying the "20th Century Photography Exhibit." This showing will display contemporary photography and visual effects used in photography.

May 22 through July 20 the Art Center will feature "Texas Artists in the Czech Republic." The exhibit is for Texas artists who have had their work displayed in the Czech Republic.

If you are interested in any or all these exhibits the Art Center is located at 1300 College Drive. Hours are from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and from 1-5 p.m. on Sundays. Admission is free and donations are accepted. For more information call 752-4371.

Downtown Center postures for future

(Continued from page 1)

Many people called expressing interest in business and education courses, as well as people desiring to return to finish a degree.

The colleges are reviewing the situation to assess what to do in the future. "One idea is that maybe our advertising efforts did not reach our projected target audience early enough for people to plan for class schedules and tuition payment," said Edwards.

Security is provided four nights a week from 5 p.m. to closing of the classes, said Larry

Radke, campus police chief of MCC. "When the classes are out, the officer walks out into the street with them," he said. "If someone requests, he will personally walk them out to their car."

In addition, the Waco city police maintain a substation in the building next door, with police cars often parked right outside the door of the Downtown Higher Education Center.

The center also houses the MCC adult basic education program directed by Shirley Crockett, as well as classes for English-as-a-second-language.

The remodeling of the center made a difference in the attitudes of the students in the ABE and ESL programs. Standing just outside an ABE class on the second floor, June Harris of the adult basic education program said, "The whole atmosphere has changed. The students are more excited."

Funeral services for MCC student Dan C. Gonzales held Monday

Dan C. Gonzales, 18, an MCC student, died Friday in a local hospital.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated Monday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, with the Rev. Lawrence Soler officiating. Burial was at the Oakwood Cemetery. Rosary was recited at 7 p.m. Sunday at Connally/Compton West Chapel, with the Rev. Anthony Ferrar officiating.

Gonzales was born June 8, 1978, in Waco. He was a 1996 graduate of Robinson High School. He was a member of

1995-96 Robinson Rocket football team and the 1995-96 Pride of the Blue Robinson band. He was a Student at MCC and employed by the Latin American Christian Center.

Survivors include his mother and father, Frank and Gloria Gonzales Jr. of Waco; two brothers, Frank T. Gonzales and Julian Gonzales, both of Waco; his maternal grandparents; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Espinosa of Waco; his paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gonzales Sr. of Waco; two nieces, Anyssa and

Alexis Gonzales, both of Waco; and a special friend of the family, Michelle Suarez of Waco.

Pallbearers were Chris Collins, Donnie Weaver, Patrick Morrow, Lance Wright, Anson Lewis and Daniel Tucker.

Honorary pallbearers were the Robinson High School football team, the 1995-96 Robinson High School band and the staff and children of Latin American Christian Center.

Much of the details of this notice were in the Waco Tribune Herald Feb. 2.

Hippodrome slates ballet, Harry Belafonte this month

The St. Petersburg Ballet will perform on Feb. 18 at 8 p.m. at the Waco Hippodrome Theatre. They will perform works from masterpieces like Swan Lake and Giselle. Tickets are \$22, \$16, and \$10.

Harry Belafonte is set to perform at the Waco Hippodrome

Theatre grand gala Feb. 14. Tickets are \$100, \$45, \$30, and \$22 and are available at the Waco Hippodrome Box Office at 724 Austin Ave.

Tickets are on sale Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., or charge by phone at 756-9797 or (800) 701-ARTS.

Ice storm rips across campus, leaves mangled trees

(Continue from page 1)

This freezing precipitation is what caught hold of the trees around campus and didn't let go until the limbs of the trees snapped from the weight.

The ice storm was also responsible for the damage which was done to a carport at a rent house on the edge of the campus.

According to Diane Feyerherm, director of the Physical Plant, the hardest hit grove

of trees were by the Highlands and along Mockingbird Lane. In all, Feyerherm estimated some 50-60 trees were a total loss and hundreds more received limb damage.

To combat the problem of downed trees and limbs, Feyerherm has all of her groundskeepers on the task, along with several crews from building maintenance. She estimated these crews will have put

in 1,200-1,500 man hours by the time the limbs and trees have all been cleaned up.

Groundskeepers put in considerable time on weekends just to clear sidewalks and pathways.

The main priority of the clean-up crews is to first clean up all the brush and then to come back and prune the trees which will need it. Feyerherm said she hopes this pruning will help bring back some of the younger

oak trees which received damage from the ice storm. Some of the trees which received damage or were lost were 50 to 60 years old, she estimated.

As far as the trees having a monetary or property value, real estate instructor Paddy Amyett said the value would be estimated on whether or not that tree was a "focal point" of the property. Amyett explained a focal point would be, for instance,

the oak tree located by the fountain at the Community Services Center.

According to weatherman Garrot, the threat of another ice storm is not in the forecast, but he said the possibility of another ice storm is possible until the end of the winter season which ends in early March. Garrot warned:

"Do not rule anything out with Texas weather."

Passing of Butch Pruett leaves void on campus

(Continued from page 1)

were enforced. He was very open with children about his condition. "When children would ask their mother what happened to his leg, he would explain, 'That leg got sick and the doctor had to take care of it,'" said Phyllis.

"He believed children could understand if you explained things to them." Pruett was also much involved with his church, Shiloh Baptist Church. This past Christmas he was the publicity chairman and also played the crippled beggar during rehearsal time.

Pruett had a good sense of humor. He went in one day to

talk to the preacher about a part in the play and told him that he wanted to play the part of the blind beggar. When the preacher offered him the part of the crippled beggar, Pruett accused him of "discriminating against him" for not letting him play the blind beggar.

John Nichols who worked in the office with Pruett said, "If my computer was messed up, Butch was the first person I went to to help me. He knew a lot about computers and was eager to help."

"I appreciated his attitude so much. The crutch didn't fool good, I know, but he never com-

plained."

"When he was working the counter, it would have been so easy for him to ask someone else to get something for him when he needed something, but he would just get up and do it himself."

Pam Nichols, the secretary who shared the secretarial job with Pruett said, "He was a nice guy. A funny person. He would make me laugh. I miss him. I miss talking to him."

"You don't realize — you take things for granted. It will be difficult to find a replacement."

"And I just think about things like he just got through buying

a new computer and now he won't get to use it," she said.

"That Friday he complained that his leg felt like Jello. He wasn't feeling good."

"He's the kind of guy that it seems like he would never die. He was still young."

Nichols' husband made glass etchings that Pruett had bought and collected a few. There were some ducks that he had made recently and Nichols know that they were just the kind of thing Pruett would have liked.


Pruett is survived by his wife, Phyllis, his daughter, Michelle, 19 and his son, Robert, 16.

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