

Highland Herald



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McLennan Community College, Waco, TX

September 20, 2001

Smoking restriction proposed

Jodi Dobbs White
Staff Writer

Student government is sending a proposal severely restricting smoking on the MCC campus to the Board of Trustees.

Brad Turner and Jerrod Hogue, student government members, presented this proposal at their regular meeting on Sept. 10, which would extend the current policy by forbidding smoking in any building, athletic facility, or vehicle owned by MCC. Smoking would be permitted outside, 10 feet away from any entrance.

This policy would apply to all employees, students, independent contractors, and visitors.

Dale Price, student government President, said that the smoking issue was brought to the student government on behalf of the students who were concerned with the effects of second hand smoke on their health.

"As the President of this student body, my job is to represent them and their needs to the absolute best of my ability. This issue was extremely difficult to deal with. We, as a general organization on campus, could not make this decision ourselves and needed student input," Price said after the meeting.

Price said that the student government collected this input through their email system, meetings, and a student petition started by the nursing program and other students which included over 200 signatures.

Some students said the policy would be unfair.

"I pay my money, too. Inside is already a non-smoking area and we all (smokers) respect that," said Lisa Nelson.

"Designated smoking areas around buildings would be more fair than a foot restriction around buildings due to weather. This would mean that some non-smokers would have to walk through some smoking areas, but it would also mean some inconvenience for smokers. It would be kind of a give and take on both sides," English instructor Kimberly



Roppolo said.

Chief Larry Radke told a representative of the *Highland Herald* that this policy will be enforced if it passes.

"The MCC Police Department enforces and abides by all established rules and policies. This policy is not that much different than our current Tobacco Products Policy. I see no problems arising from minor changes in the policy," Radke said.

However, according to student government representatives, it would pretty much be up to students to enforce this proposal.

"If you find someone smoking in an inappropriate place, you can remind them that there is a procedure

involved and if they are continually evasive, you will let the police know," said Hogue at the meeting, and said that he spoke to the police department, and that the campus police would not be able to make people put out their cigarettes due to lack of manpower.

"On the issue of how we should enforce this, my main concern is the continued improvement of student government and our class studies. Enforcement must come from the help of others. We will firmly stand beside McLennan's rules; however, we were told that police enforcement will not be an option," Price said.

Radke said that he was never contacted by student government on

this issue. When asked why student government had not discussed the proposal with Radke, Price refused to comment.

Student government has not determined punishment for violators of this proposal.

"There are no real grounds for us to say what the punishment is," said Hogue. "That will happen at higher levels."

The Board of Trustees will ultimately decide how to enforce the policy.

At the meeting, Price said that he was uncertain about how this policy would affect enrollment, but wrote in a later e-mail, "I feel that the issue of how this will affect enrollment in the

future will not become one. Students chose to come to McLennan for educational purposes along with the conveniences that come with this. So far, with the current smoking policy, we have never had an issue arise," Price said.

"If they're coming here for the classes, then they can smoke in their car and in other areas. If there are any major issues that come up with it, I don't see any riots inspired by not being able to smoke in front of a certain doorway," Hogue said.

The policy now goes to the Board of Trustees, and it will be up to them to make the final decision, Price said.

PTK hosts diversity seminar

Justin Loosier
Staff Writer

McLennan Community College's Phi Theta Kappa honor society will host the nationwide satellite seminar "The Marginalized Community: Bridging the Great Divide" at 6:30 pm. Sept. 25 in the Lecture Hall.

This seminar is open to all McLennan students and will cover topics such as customs, traditions and celebrations, and will discuss the importance of different ethnic groups learning to live together as one.

The program will begin by presenting students with viewpoints on various issues that affect them daily, such as multiculturalism, diversity, and divided communities. It will suggest effective ways to deal with these issues and help bring people from various backgrounds together.

It is hoped that students will learn ways to become powerful leaders in their communities with information on how to improve communities, respect one another and other cultures, and appreciate others from different backgrounds or ethnic groups.

Speaking at this event will be Dr. Evelyn Hu-DeHart, Chairman of the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and Director of the Center for Studies of Ethnicity and Race in America, Dr. Carlos E. Cortez, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of California, Riverside, and Dr. Gemma Beckley, Chairman of the Social Work Department at Rust College in Jolly Springs, Mississippi.

Fresh faces fill 2001 SGA ranks

Justin Loosier
Staff Writer

New faces were added to the Student Government Association on Sept. 13 as leaders were chosen to represent and serve the students of McLennan Community College.

The first polls opened at 9 am on Sept. 12 in the Student Center, and officially closed at 5 pm the next day.

"Students who serve in the Student Government do so because they want to represent the students," Alesha Vardeman, director of Student Activities, said. "Students in SGA address various concerns, talk to friends and other people in their classes about those concerns, and then come back and vote on them."

Student Government President Dale Price said that SGA is made up of a "very diverse group this year."

The official tally was complete by 6 pm on Thursday, Sept. 13. Freshman representatives elected were Yolanda Ricon, Dustin Remmert, Courtney Whitere, Nicole Hoxworth, and Kris Kahler.

Yolanda Ricon was involved in many student organizations and activities in high school, including the Spanish Club, choir, opera, and the drama team, as well as her high school student government committee. She said she loves to devote time to community events and believes that as a freshman representative, she will be contributing a worthwhile cause to the community.

Dustin Remmert, a theatre major participated in his high school swim team, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Future Career Leaders of America chapters, and was active in the drama club. He says that his accomplishments combined with his friendly personality and go-getter attitude will help him become a real leader as a freshman representative. Remmert will be appearing in the MCC theatre department's production of "The Royal Hunt of the Sun" this fall.

Kris Kahler, an education/communication major, plans to attend Baylor University next year. He says he wants to be as dedicated as possible in order to complete his job successfully. Kahler says that he is very outgoing and that commitment has never been one of his problems.

Nicole Hoxworth says that she distinguished herself as a leader in high school through organizations such as the Student Council, Key Club, theatre, the National Honor Society, cheerleading, and the President's Council. Hoxworth says she is confident that she has learned the skills she will need to serve as an effective representative of the freshman class.

Elected sophomore representatives include Raheem Mitchell, Ariel Lumbard, Jennifer Parsons, Tonya Tate, and Amanda Wallace.

Raheem Mitchell, a 1999 Connally High School graduate majoring in secondary education, plans to make this his last semester at MCC. Mitchell says that he has a large amount of

experience in the Student Government, and that he will take his position as a sophomore representative very seriously.

Jennifer Parsons served as a freshman representative last year and went to the State Convention in April. She says that she knows how things are done in SGA and would like to help

make the Student Government better than it has ever been in years.

Ariel Lumbard says that she cares about the school and the students who make everything possible. She has experience as Vice President of Leadership for MCC's Phi Theta Kappa chapter. Lumbard says she understands that student voices need

to be heard and believes that she is capable of working with others to get opinions out for discussion.

Amanda Wallace is involved in the Baptist Student Ministry and Phi Theta Kappa. She volunteers for the Art Center of Waco and says that she knows a diverse group of students and enjoys being involved in student

activities.

Tonya Tate is confident that she has excellent past experience in leadership, presidency, and fundraising. She says her goal this year is to help everyone become a team player in student activities. Tate says that she is very goal oriented and ambitious.

Brad Turner was elected as Parliamentarian, while Tranelle Gibson received the vote for Public Relations.

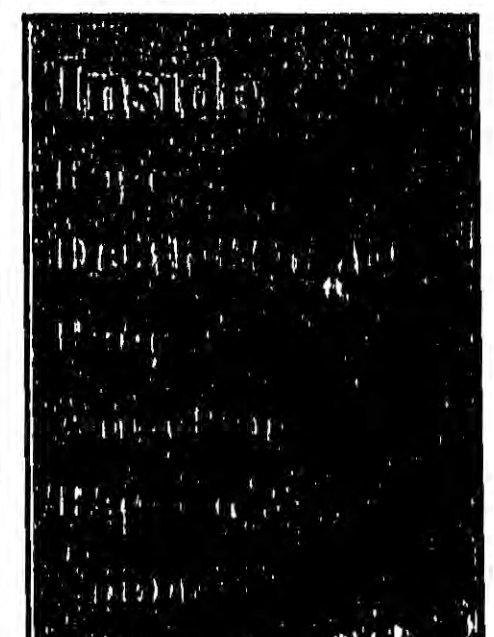
Nathan Nance was named Vice President.

Nance is a McGregor High School graduate. He graduated in the top half of his class in high school and plans to transfer to the University of Texas at Austin. He is involved with SGA and has been working in the office several hours a week. Nance says that he wants to make the Student Government a larger part of student life on and off campus.



Digital Images by Angie Moya

The newly elected sophomore and freshman representatives of the Student Government Association are, front row, from left, Ariel Lumbard, Nicole Hoxworth, Yolanda Ricon, Jennifer Parsons, back row, Tonya Tate, Dustin Remmert, Kris Kahler and Raheem Mitchell.




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Editorial

Capital punishment:

The sentence is too light

Kasia Redden
Staff Writer

Capital punishment remains one of this country's most controversial issues, fueling never-ending debates on morality and justice. If you were to ask 100 different people, chances are that you would get 100 different views on the death penalty and how it should (or shouldn't) be carried out. I disagree with the death penalty on what I would call "moral grounds," although they are not the typical moral issues that you might think of.

I do not disagree with the death penalty for religious reasons, but I do consider the Bible when explaining my beliefs. The Bible, like it or not, does support the philosophy of "an eye for an eye," and I believe that we should abide by that standard. If I steal something from someone, I expect someone to steal from me. If I physically attack someone for no reason, then I expect to be beaten up in return. If I inflict suffering on another person, or take that person's life, then I expect to receive similar treatment. If I know that my death is going to be painless, then where is the justice in that?

Were these people merciful to their victims? Did all of their victims die painlessly, without fear of what was going to happen to them? Did they all get the opportunity to say a final farewell to friends and loved ones, or to apologize to the people whom they had wronged? I strongly doubt it!

Yes, I disagree with the death penalty for moral reasons. Not, as you might think, because the death penalty is immoral, but because euthanasia is so widely considered to be "good and merciful." I have a problem with putting a murderer to death in the same manner that I would end the suffering of a beloved family pet. If we are truly in support of making criminals pay for their crimes, then do just that!

Let these people live out their lives and suffer any punishment that the human conscience might inflict. Before you start screaming about the cost of housing criminals, look at the environment they live in!

There are ways around the problem of money but there is still one unavoidable fact. At this point, in our nation, criminals are treated with more mercy and respect than the hard-working, law-abiding people that we depend on to keep the country going.

It is about time that we start treating the criminals like criminals. They

"If I inflict suffering on another person, or take that person's life, then I expect to receive similar treatment. If I know that my death is going to be painless, then where is the justice in that?"

made a choice to exclude themselves from society.

Yet, for some reason, we seem to spend more time preserving these peoples' rights than we spend preserving the quality of life for people

who fought for our country. Criminals, in many cases, receive better treatment than the elderly, veterans, and even children.

Where are our priorities? What exactly constitutes "cruel and unusual?"

Death Penalty

There's no morality here

JonMichael Swetnam
Staff writer

I don't have any big, morally justifiable reason to support the death penalty. I don't even have a minor, morally untenable reason to support the death penalty. In fact, I positively abhor the idea of the death penalty.

Many people I have spoken to seem to think that the death penalty is the right thing to do. They seem to think they are keeping a little bit of the darkness in the world away from

the rest of us. Maybe they are. I don't know about that. What I do know is that it doesn't seem like we want to do the right thing when we execute someone. It seems like we want to get even. We look like a mob of hurt, scared, angry people when we go to watch the guillotine fall. In the limited experience I have gained in twenty years of life, I have found that hurt, angry, scared people are not the best people to entrust justice to.

We kill because we are just as vile as the criminals we hate. More restrained perhaps, but just as vile. Why else do I hear people say that the best form of punishment would be mental, emotional, and/or physical torture inflicted on the scofflaw? Why else would we want to inflict the same brutality on the prisoners that was so callously inflicted on their victims?

Face it: we are, somewhere very deep in our souls evil, ruthless, predatory monsters. We are not the avenging spirit of right and good making the world safe from the evils of crime. At least, not for the most part. I think we are human beings, killing another human being. Not too different from the murderer. I abhor the death penalty, because on some level, it is hypocrisy.

I have no moral reason for supporting the death penalty.

I do, however, have a moderately effective logical one.

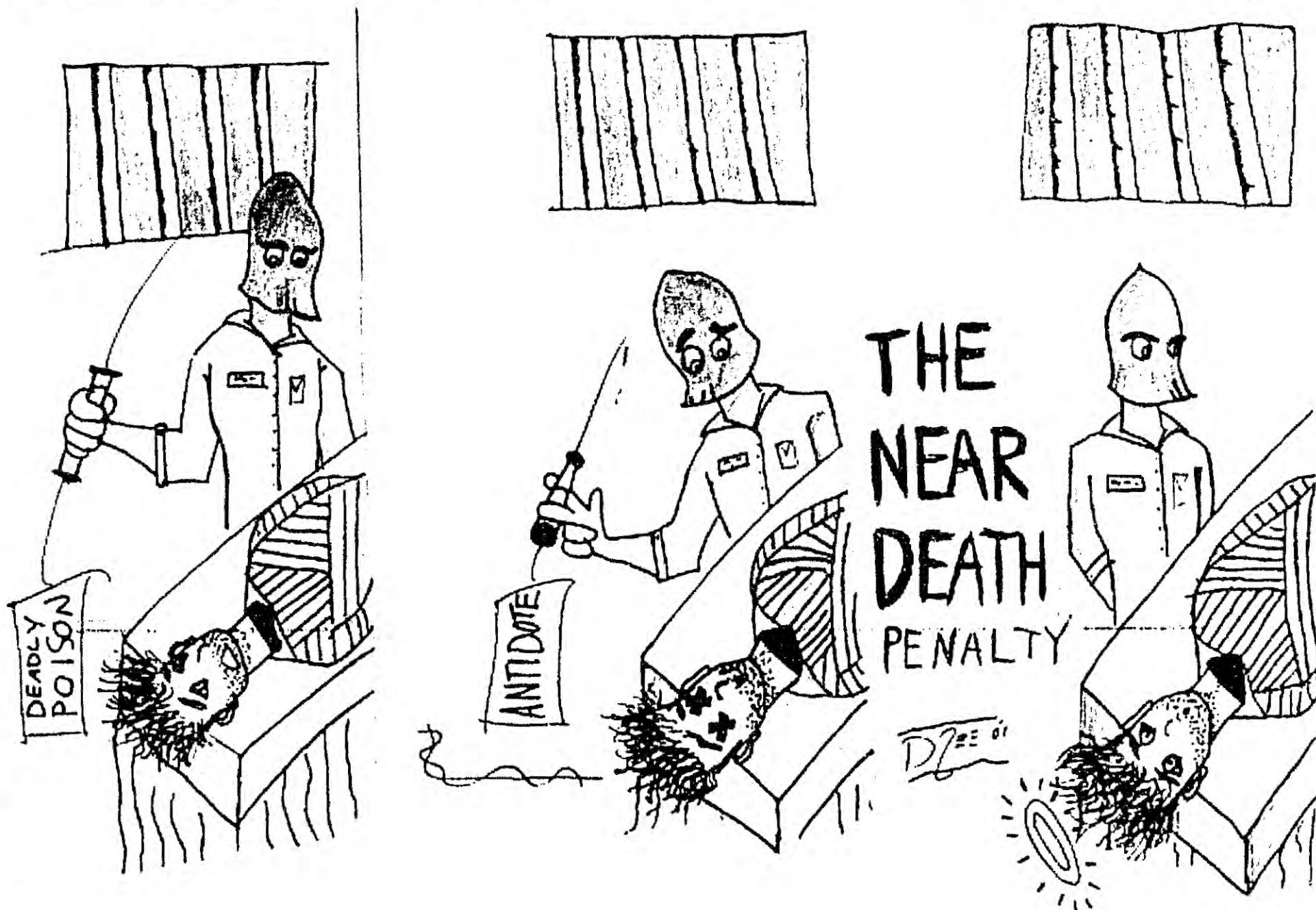
Dead. People. Don't. Commit. Crimes.

I do not know if we have the right to kill McVeigh. I don't know if we have the right to kill the people responsible for the attacks on the Pentagon and New York. I do not know if killing a mass murderer makes us better or worse or if it even makes any difference in us at all.

I do know this: if we catch them and kill them, they won't do it again.

Someone else might, but we can just catch and kill them too, I suppose.

Good for the undertaker, if nobody else.



America got a wake-up call

JonMichael Swetnam
Staff Writer

No need to talk about it. You all read the paper. You all watch TV. You all listen to the radio. You all talk to your neighbors.

You know what happened Tuesday, September 11. You know where you were and you know what you were doing when you heard. You know what it felt like to stare at the screen or at the car in front of you or maybe just stare at nothing in particular while you tried to sort out what was going on. I was looking out my window at the back yard, eating a bacon and egg sandwich and thinking that it was really going to be a beautiful day today.

Then, I did a very bad thing; I turned on the television.

It felt bizarre.

It felt like something I've never felt in twenty years of life in America. It felt like I had just found that magical connection with reality. It felt like I had just figured out that, yes, bad stuff really does happen in this gleaming land of milk, honey, life, love, liberty and the endless American party. Something happened when I turned on the television this morning.

I realized in the pit of my soul that there really are bad things in the world, and yes, they do indeed happen here. I realized that I was doing something I have never done before in my life.

I was worrying.

I mean, what in God's holy name is happening?

I just wake up and flip on the TV and there I am, looking at scenes

And we haven't answered

from downtown Sarajevo, Manhattan.

This is America! I'm not used to seeing frightened mobs of bleeding refugees piling onto buses trying to flee churning explosions and collapsing buildings while warplanes go flying through the sky. This wasn't America.

This was the Balkans.

This was Palestine.

This was somewhere else.

It wasn't my home.

We have lived very well in America. We sleep secure in our gleaming platinum palaces, nestled between our shining seas. We have been guarded from the horrors of marauding armies, malignant despots, rampaging separatist militias, endemic famine, and other evils beyond our walls. We have grown soft in America.

That's not necessarily a bad thing either. The only way we've managed to hold on to the idealism that makes this nation worth living in is the fact that we have not had to face what happens when our idealism runs into the wall of barbed wire and brick that is reality. That's what the television told me. It told me to look, because this is the world I live in.

I wish it weren't.

Things have changed. I am scared. I am hurt, I am frightened, and I am angry. I have realized that I can feel that way, safe in my bed that really doesn't feel all that safe anymore. And that's what they wanted. They wanted to destroy our

unity. They wanted to make the government collapse and dissolve and run panicking for the hills. They wanted to scare us so badly that we would never venture outside again. They wanted you to be angry, scared, hurt, screaming your lungs out that you didn't want this to happen, this wasn't supposed to happen, why did this have to happen? They wanted to hurt us, and they did. They've won. I give up. They've scared the hell out of me.

So, what do we do now? Do we ring every metropolis, military target, World Series Game, amusement park, shopping mall, airport, transportation hub, and kindergarten Easter egg hunt with missile launchers and antiaircraft batteries? Do we let this cow us? Do we huddle in our bunkers and fallout shelters and give up?

No. We shouldn't do that.

I hope we don't let these people win. I hope we don't let them frighten us so terribly that we're afraid to live. I think it would be a horrible thing, to ring ourselves with walls. One of the things I have always respected America for is the fact that my ancestors did not have to sail into the harbor past walls of fortified cannon. And, much as it chagrins me to say it, I don't want to kill anybody for it, either. I don't want us to go nuke Afghanistan until it glows; I don't want to reduce Iran to paving gravel. I don't want to round up everyone

who reads the Koran and hang them to strains of "The Star Spangled Banner". I never saw the point of becoming a monster just because everyone else was being monstrous to you.

So what do we do now?

I think we should just shrug our shoulders, shake our heads, shed our tears, and take an honest lesson from this. I think we should realize that this world is very, very far from perfect. I think we should realize that we have an awful lot to like about this nation, despite all three of its heinous faults, and appreciate it.

I think we need to calm down, regard this as the wake up call that it is, and act accordingly. Namely, quit worrying about finding more bread and a new circus, and do something that actually affects something beyond our own limited interests. This is not a threat. It is not an act of war. It is not even a tragedy. It is a wakeup call.

The frustrating thing is that this will NOT be seen as a wake up call. It will be a made-for-TV movie. It will be teary-eyed survivors on prime time touting the twelve-volume book that details their heroic story of survival. It will be a twenty-four hour moment of silence and flags flapping at half-mast in the breeze that stopped blowing at nine o'clock Tuesday morning. It will be floral tributes and shouts of outrage and people screaming that something needs to be done to somebody without understanding why it needs to be done or to whom. Nothing more.

I hope to Whoever-the-hell-runs-this-planet that I'm wrong.

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atop on America

Tragedy cancels events

Marie Rent
Entertainment Editor

Due to the tragedy of Sept 11, performances were cancelled across the nation, from Broadway to MCC. Half the scheduled performances for the Waterfront festival (Elephants Gerald, Brave Combo, Aztex) were cancelled.

Kim Patterson, MCC director of community relations and marketing, said, "The first night was a fairly easy call as we had planned the grand opening celebration and ribbon cutting only."

Many events were cancelled in Waco. People went to prayer vigils to support each other and our nation in this trying time. This led to further Waterfront cancellations.

"As the reality of the NY/DC tragedy began to sink in and various prayer vigils were planned, we realized that conflicting with these events would not be appropriate," said Patterson. "We made decisions on the concert cancellations based on wide input from administrators, trustees, faculty members, students, media representatives, and other community members who helped us gauge the mood of the country and whether it felt right to have a nonessential function like a concert at this time."

Not all performances were cancelled. It was decided that they would be acceptable several days after the incident.

"The country is being encouraged to strive for normalcy," said Patterson.

"The gospel concert on Sunday was also a natural fit."

To compensate for cancellations, refunds were offered and plans were made to accommodate the cancelled performers. "We plan to offer Elephants Gerald another opportunity to perform at the Bosque River Stage, most likely as a headliner on a weekend concert," said Patterson. "Brave Combo is also considering this opportunity."

Due to previous commitments, plans could not be made to reschedule Aztex.

Patterson looks back at the situation with understanding. "We've all been disappointed by the circumstances, but everyone has been very understanding."



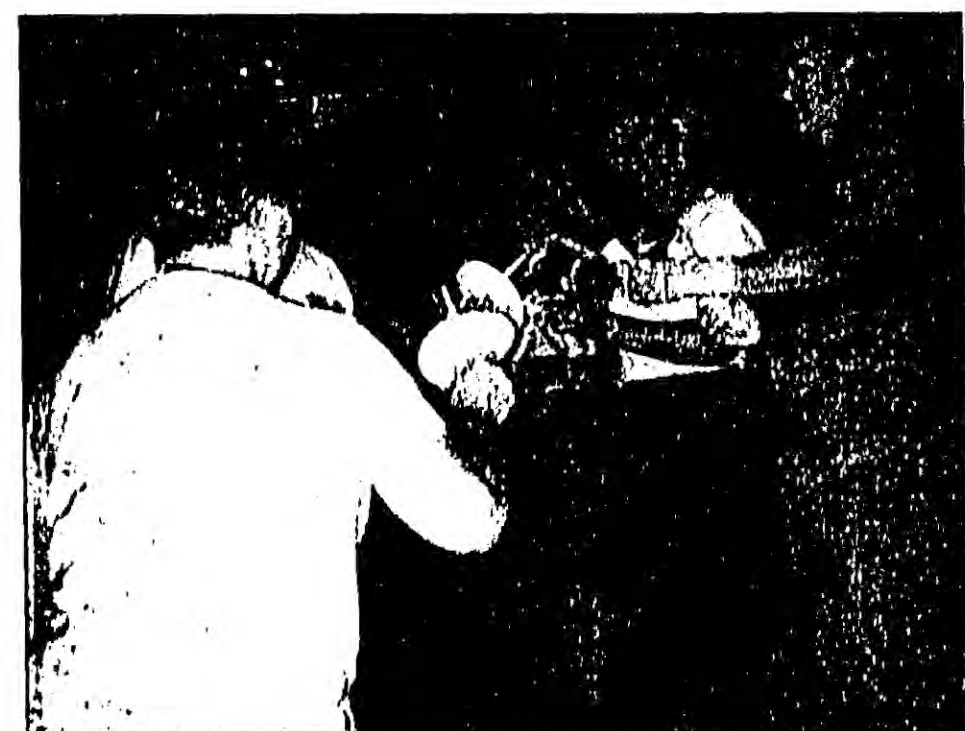
Digital image by Lindsay Van Dyke

Baylor's student population filled Floyd Casey Stadium in a show of support for the victims of the September 11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.



Digital images by Jorge Trujillo

MCC faculty, staff and students participate in a moment of prayer during the vigil that took place last week.



This is still my America

Lacy Witt
Staff Writer

I remember exactly where I was when it happened.

I was on my way to my eight o'clock class, fashionably late as always. On September 11, being twenty minutes late seemed fashionable enough, so I went with it. I was just arriving in the parking lot at about 8:17 a.m. CST, when I heard a broadcast over the radio that a plane had hit the World Trade Center and that smoke was billowing out one of the towers.

I, like the rest of the nation, was shocked, but the one thing that kept going through my mind was this: If I were going to work at the World Trade Center this morning, that extra twenty minutes of beautifying myself would have saved my life. (There are times when it really pays to be late. I've told my mother this for years, but it was not until then that she believed me.)

At this point, the fragility of life itself set in with me and I realized just how quickly things change from moment to moment.

I realized that all of the components that make-up the American dream were no longer safe, and that we, too, could be stripped of all of the things that we had held so sacred. So there we stood, naked as citizens, watching all of the things that we had worked so hard for collapse before our very eyes, and we could do nothing about it.

This was a feeling of helplessness that is truly un-American.

Never in my entire life have I felt so many emotions at one time, so much fear, and so much vulnerability. In all of my twenty years as an American, I have never felt vulnerability as far as the security of our nation was concerned.

We have always been the strong ones, the dominant force among all of the powers of the world, and now we were being held captive by the irrational actions of hatred.

Now, as we gather, amazed, watching the repercussions of this terrible event unfold, many thoughts enter our minds.

As a journalist, I wish that I could be there. I am that inquisitive type of person that always has to see things for themselves, to learn things the hard way. I want to see the faces of those people, to breathe the particles of waste in the air, because to me, that is the only way that this surreal event will materialize.

Many people feel just the opposite; they think of nothing but running far away from all of this, as far away as humanly possible.

But no matter how terrified you feel, you can't run away forever. You can't just live in an existence of detachment either, because no one, but no one, is detached from this event. You have to do something about

it. Everything that is American inside me, all of the red, white and blue coursing through my veins pleads with me to retaliate. My heart pumps with a fury that every American can understand at this point.

I am angry. Angry with the hate and militia groups that fuel these kinds of flames. Angry at ANYONE who would ever even think that they could do this to MY country. We are the home of the brave. We were one of the main reasons that the world wars turned out the ways that they did. How can any group of people have the audacity to crush MY world trade center, MY pentagon, and kill thousands and thousands of MY people?

For that is what they are: Americans. They are OUR buildings, OUR people. They are our brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers. This is OUR nation, and those are OUR buildings that are now in a state of wreckage, and WE, as a country, as a commanding force in the world, must take action.

The question all over the world is how?

How do we take action against whoever did this?

What would make them as unhappy as we are at this point?

The answer, America, is simple. We do nothing.

That's right, we go on about our everyday lives without fear, for whoever did this wanted us to fear them.

Go to your jobs, schools, communities with an attitude of confidence, for whoever did this will pay in some way, we can be sure of that. Will we go to war? Probably not. If it were an entire country that did this to us it would be simple, just go to war and wipe them out.

The United States is powerful enough to do that. But it's not that simple. When your enemies are not entire countries, but select groups, it makes it much more difficult to avenge their actions. If we were to kill only the people who did this, it would do no good because other violent groups would form to take their place.

Evil is one of those eternal forces

that you cannot destroy, no matter how many people you put to death.

A utopian society will never be achieved, despite our valiant efforts to do so.

Therefore, we should not make martyrs of the people who committed this monstrosity.

We should, though, make examples of them. (There's that red American blood talking again!) We should show them, and others like them, that you cannot do this to the United States and get away with it.

We must do this in a civilized manner. We have to show the world that America is a place that can suffer a tragedy, mourn the loss, but still maintain their composure. The people who caused this horrendous act to occur should be hunted down and killed.

Human nature tells us to go over to their country and just rid the world of the vermin that they are. Send their families screaming in terror. Set fire to their cities, blow up their temples, and disintegrate their entire portion of the world with no remnants of their nations ever existing. Hunt out all immigrants of that origin that can speak their language and cut out their tongues, if they can write it then cut off their thumbs.

We have the power to do this, but we will not.

Why?

Because that's what they want us to do.

Instead we should bring these vermin to a place that they hate, namely the United States, and stand them before a judge just like any other criminal.

We are a nation based on fairness and democracy, and although what happened to us on September 11, 2001 was not fair, we must be the stronger force and give them fair, democratic, just punishment. Send them through the system that they harbor such hatred for. How better to punish those who loathe America than by forcing them to spend the rest of their days here?

Don't execute them; just make them live the rest of their lives in their own, personal, solitary, American hell. Spare their bodies...kill their spirit.

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TRAINING

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

COW focuses on women's issues

Jodi Dobbs White
Staff Writer

MCC instructor Joyce Spivey and student Emily Brook Wachsmann have founded the Collegiate Organization of Wymyn, a new campus organization to focus on women's issues, including date rape, eating disorders, self-image, scholarships for women, careers, education, breast cancer, and AIDS awareness.

The founders said they plan to explore these issues through guest speakers, reading clubs, and special events.

"The barrier to break down gender discrimination is inclusion of both genders," Wachsmann said and added at C.O.W.'s first meeting on Sept. 12 that the group encourages students of both genders to attend their meetings every other Tuesday at 6 pm in LA 204.

The group's intentional spelling of

women as "wymyn" is intended to leave out "wo" which in Hebrew means to bring sorrow and shame upon, Wachsmann said at the meeting.

MCC will be holding activities such as a poetry reading, a silent auction for paintings, a photo sale, henna painting, a style show, and booths by many organizations including the Advocacy Center, Hillcrest, the Coleman Foundation, Rebecca Fisher (discrimination lawyer and member of NAACP), and others in the Student Center from 9am to 1pm on Sept. 19 in honor of Love Your Body Day, a day nationally observed to focus on how media affects women's self-images, said Wachsmann.

Wachsmann also said that they will need women for the style show that will involve picking a favorite outfit and modeling it while someone reads an index card detailing the reasons why that outfit was chosen.

To find out more information about the group, upcoming activities, or contributing art for the auction or participation in the style show, Wachsmann said to contact C.O.W. at 753-2759.

Duncan advises on public speaking

Sung W. Hwang
Staff Writer

Instructor Ann Duncan, Public Speaking instructor, in the department of Speech Communication, spoke to the *Highland Herald* about her speech class. She said Public speaking is important to every profession and it is an ability requiring a lot of time and effort to master.

H: What's the purpose of the class Public Speaking?

D: The purpose of this class is to develop skills in order to deliver articulate and worthwhile messages to an audience and to do so, in an eloquent and articulate manner. Practically, in every profession I can think of, the people who are most successful in that profession give speeches. They have to talk to others whether within the organizational company or representing the company to the general public. But, basically, what I tell my students is that there are people who earn salaries and people who earn wages. The difference between salary and wage earners is that the salary people usually are giving the orders to the wage earners. If you are the person telling others what to do, you make more money. An interesting research that's in one of our textbooks points out a study conducted at Stanford University some years ago. The most successful people distinguished themselves from others. When asked "Do you like public speaking?", they would answer "Yes.



Digital image by Jorge Trujillo

Ann Duncan gives students information about public speaking courses.

I enjoy public speaking." So, there's very direct co-relation between the ability to speak and liking to speak and your success in a career.

H: Which students need to take this class?

D: I think all students need to take this class. I can't think of a single situation where you would never encounter public speaking. Any profession you can think of benefits from the ability to speak to the public. So, once students had been in public speaking class, they develop the confidence and skill. So they are able to participate in class discussions and ask questions well.

H: Could you summarize your course chronologically?

D: We begin with small personally oriented presentations and we do a

lot of getting to know ourselves, and then we do some diagnosis of our own level's skills. After that, we begin preparing reference documents that we can refer to all through this semester in terms of how to deal with speaking anxiety, listening behavior, our delivery skills and so forth. Then we move onto larger speeches requiring more research organization, content development, and time length. We also learn how to use media aids with a speech. Then we conclude the semester with a team proposal project. We choose topics focused on college itself, the community, or the world at large, and we deal with issues which are negative situations in our research. In other words, we do problem solving. So, we start out small but we end really big.

H: How do you grade your students?
D: I use a point accumulation system in my class. Each assignment contributes to the final goal. There are either required or optional assignments. Optional assignments are quite few, so students need to explore a greater amount of course curriculum if they want to have the top grades. They need another chance to prove their skill. Whatever grade level they want, I encourage students try to strive for the highest level. Low grades are achieved by the students determined not to do well in the class."

Duncan also pointed out that many students simply jot down what professors say during lecture. She suggested four steps to succeed in most classes:

1. Before your next class, read the content in syllabus to be familiar with the class.
2. Make visualized note (Tree, Boat, Star, etc.)
For example, trunk is a main idea (red color). A branch is a thesis statement of a paragraph (blue color). Leaves mean supporting examples (yellow color).
3. Save the information in your mind before leaving your class while your classmates rush to the doors.
4. Hang it in your room, and look at it as often as possible.
5. Your tests won't be burdensome with all the information.



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Songwriting Symposium open to all

Treva L. Bowdoin
Harlan E. Short Jr.
Staff Writers

A songwriting symposium, a free program available to all students and headed by Bill Howard, will be at 10:20-11:15 a.m. on Fridays in room 112 of the Performing Arts Center.

This program is open to music majors and non-majors alike and will include learning basic songwriting skills, performing in front of a live audience, and receiving peer feedback.

Howard, director of the commercial music department, said the program will be casual and informal, and is open to anyone, even if they have little or no experience.

"People are really intimidated by writing music because they feel they must 're-invent the wheel,' but that's not the way songwriters work."

Howard compares songwriting to a "musical gumbo" where musical influences merge together.

"It has basic ingredients, but ev-

eryone adds different things in a different order in a different way," he said.

Howard said the forum was designed to build confidence in people who attend.

"I just want people to be comfortable. This is not for polished projects or completed performances. This is for everybody," Howard said.

He said he plans to keep the class flexible with general topics for discussion, but will discuss whatever the

class feels needs to be covered. Lyrics, music, melodies, and any other elements of music may be covered.

"I really have no game plan or syllabus," Howard said.

Howard stressed that the class is meant to be fun and relaxed.

"Music is supposed to be fun!" he said.

For more information, contact Bill Howard at 299-8217, or wah@mcc.cc.tx.us.

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Sports

*"To cancel the games was not the right thing to do, it was the only thing to do."
-Kerry Collins, New York Giants' quarterback, on the cancellation of last week's NFL games.*

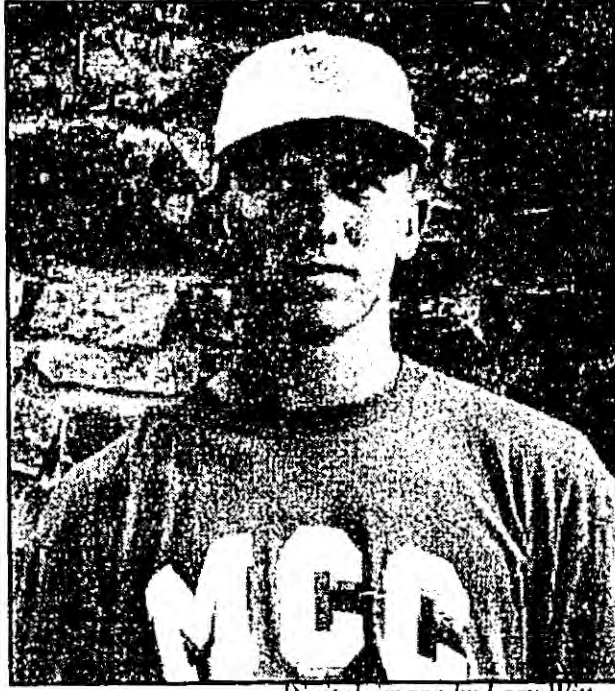
Featured athlete:

#27, Kyle Kilgo

Lacy Witt
Sports Editor

Position: 3rd Base
Classification: Sophomore
High School: Desert Vista High School; Phoenix, Arizona

On playing baseball in Arizona as opposed to Texas: "It's very nice, the weather is beautiful, real dry climate. It's not so humid there and you don't sweat as much because it's so dry."
On this year's team: "We've got a lot of good, talented freshmen coming in and I really like the sophomores who are coming back too. They're good leaders and good guys who you can look at and kind of learn from what they do. I hope that, as sophomores, we'll help lead the freshmen in the right path this year...and hopefully somewhere along the lines we'll make it to the playoffs."



Digital image by Lacy Witt

Role Model: "My biggest role model would have to be...he's an older guy now...but Ted Williams. He's one of the best hitters of all time and I kind of model my swing after his and try to do things like him."
His father's influence on his baseball career: "He coached with Coach Butler and helped the 1983 (MCC) team go to, and win, the college world series. That definitely affected my decision to come to MCC, that and Coach Wresenski, he had played for my dad and I knew that he knew what he was doing and he was a good

coach. I knew I'd come here and learn and get better, and that's what you want to do."

How he wants his opponents to perceive him: "I hope they perceive me as someone who can play the game a little bit. You never know how guys will come out, some guys come out with a little bit of fear for the other team and some guys really don't care what the other team

thinks, they just come out to play and beat you. So hopefully they'll come out here and go, "that guy's a pretty good baseball player."
How he believes his opponents perceive MCC as a team: "They don't think we're as dangerous as we are, which is a good thing sometimes. It's kind of an advantage though, a lot of times we don't have the biggest, strongest, fastest guys, but we do have some talented guys. When you look at us you're not just overwhelmed by us but by the way we practice and the way that Coach 'Ski has taught us,

we'll come out and surprise a lot of people."
Does MCC's rich baseball tradition put any added pressures on the team?: "No, Coach 'Ski puts enough pressure on us in practice that come game time, man, we're ready to go. It's a piece of cake!"
Plans for next year: "I'd like to go to a Division I college, but I just want to go somewhere where I can play and get better and improve myself. You know, just to keep climbing the ladder to wherever baseball leads me to."

Berryman's return expected for spring

Alyson Moulton
Sports Writer



Digital images by Aaron Smith

MCC Head Softball Coach Carmack Berryman, who was injured last fall, is on medical leave this fall due to surgery and is expected to be back this spring.

Last October, while Berryman was at softball practice, a car accident occurred at the intersection of College Drive and Lake Shore. The accident involved two cars, one of which ran into the MCC signpost. The other found it's resting place in the middle of the road. Berryman, being a first aid teacher and the first eyewitness to the accident, rushed to the scene to determine if the occupants of the vehicles were injured. Berryman checked the first car due to the fact that it was smoking. His first priority was to get the driver out. He then moved on to the second car and its screaming occupant, and noticed an oil leak. Berryman accidentally slipped on the oil spill, buckling his leg under and damaging his ankle. Doctors had to do a bone graft and also performed reconstructive surgery.

He was restricted to the use of crutches for four months, most of the fall 2000 semester.

"He was receiving treatment for his ankle but was not responding positively," MCC Athletic Director, Wendell Hudson, said.

The doctors found that his blood circulation was very poor and they were forced to operate.

Berryman was out of the hospital by the middle of this summer, although he did not return to the field yet. "Our main concern was for Coach Berryman to take care of himself," Hudson said.

For now, Berryman is recovering with the use of a wheel chair. "I feel great but I'm going stir crazy," Berryman said. "I'm getting a lot of reading in and becoming hooked on soap operas."

Hudson expects Berryman to return in the spring. With Berryman injured and his assistant coach, Angie Everett, eight months pregnant, Hudson is filling in as head softball coach until Berryman returns.

Berryman is anxious to get back on the field and even had the team over for dinner to speak with them. "I'm not worried, I know coach Hudson and Coach Everett will do a good job," Berryman said. "They're a great bunch of girls and will work hard."

Berryman goes back to the hospital for more X-rays this week and is very optimistic.

TAKE IT EASY:

Retired should mean retired

Lacy Witt
Sports Editor

If I were retired, I think that I would travel.

I would get in my Winnebago and just drive across the country in order to see all that I could see during the twilight of my life.

I don't know about you, but the last thing that I would ever think about in my retirement is returning to work. After 15 to 20-plus years of doing one thing, I think that there is a time to move on with your life.



Retirement is a time to reflect upon former years and to relax and be content with all of the accomplishments of your career.

Someone needs to share this insight with retired professional athletes.

With all of the fuss about the Michael Jordan comeback as of late, many people are saying that he should just let his legend live on instead of tarnishing it with a geriatric attempt to revive the Washington Wizards from their coma-like state in the NBA.

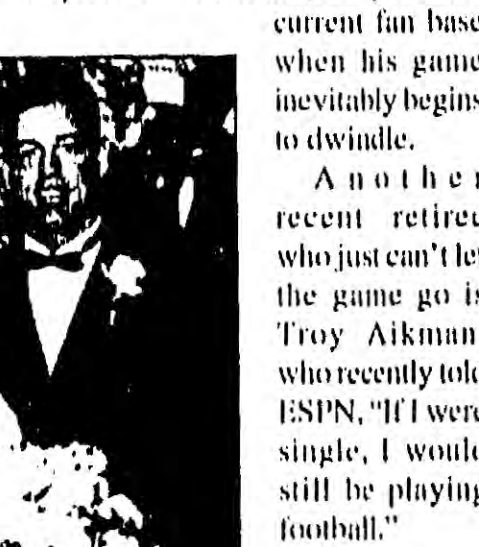
I am one of those people.

Jordan had the perfect ending to the perfect career in the 1998 NBA Finals, why mess with that? He came out of retirement once and was better than ever. But honestly, twice? Aren't we getting just a little over-confident? I mean, granted, he is

Michael Jordan, undeniably the best player to ever jog the courts of professional basketball. He had the natural ability to mesmerize a crowd with his skill and flair for the game.

That was a few years ago, Jordan is now in his early forties which, in the years of professional basketball, makes him a dinosaur. How are his fans going to react when he is outrun by the Allen Iversons and the

Kobe Bryants of basketball today? Of course there will still be a few of the die-hard fans left, but other than that he will more than likely lose a lot of respect from the majority of his current fan base when his game inevitably begins to dwindle.



Jordan kisses the floor, or just tries to find his contact with reality.

A n o t h e r recent retiree who just can't let the game go is Troy Aikman, who recently told ESPN, "If I were single, I would still be playing football."

Come on now Troy, don't blame Rhonda, blame your offensive line.

Let's modify this a bit: If your offensive line had blocked for you in the late 90's, you would still be playing football. Or maybe you could use this one:

"If I hadn't taken so long to get rid

of the ball late in my career, I would still be playing football."

I think that would be a little bit more accurate. Aikman has also gone so far as to say that he's not sure if he will be working for Fox-TV in two years, and has implied that he may try to come back at some point.

Now I'm not anti-Aikman at all, but I personally think that this is ridiculous. Yes, Troy Aikman led the cowboys to three Super Bowl titles and 90 wins in the 1990's, which is the most wins by any quarterback in a single decade, but those were the glory days, and as a Cowboy fan I've realized that those

glory days are long gone. Aikman has simply seen better, healthier days as an athlete. No man in his mid-thirties should be expected to go out and get pounded on day in and day out for a living. It's just not physically reasonable.

Troy, just face the facts and let old dogs lie.

Then there are the players that you just simply cannot force into retirement. The NBA has seemingly found an answer to this problem in the Orlando Magic. Patrick Ewing, Horace Grant, and a few other players who have seen more prosperous years, have gone to the Magic.

I should hope that we never see Michael Jordan there.

It seems that this has become a pre-retirement community for the NBA.

Oh, you can't get them to retire? Just send them to Orlando.

Maybe NBA officials just think that if they can get them to Florida then they can get them into the "retirement state-of-mind" and they'll just give up and stay there.

Maybe the NFL should follow their lead.



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Sports: gets second wind

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

Over the past weekend, we discovered that a weekend without sports is not necessarily a weekend without meaning.

After pulling through this weekend we as Americans found out that there is more to life than football. With all of the grief and sadness that swept over our country the last week we needed a break from sports.

This tragedy stopped all the sports world dead in its tracks canceling every major sporting event imaginable in America.

Some might say cancelling all of our sporting event might give the terrorist's the message that they have won. But I beg to differ.

The Mariners will still clinch; Barry Bonds will still chase history; the NFL and College football season will still kick into high gear.

But we as Americans needed a break this weekend in this time of mourning. With the perspective gained just a few days ago, it's almost hard to remember what all the debate was about: To play or not to play. As New York Giants quarterback Kerry Collins put it, "Cancelling the games was not the right thing to do; it was the only thing to do".

Somehow, it felt like the place to congregate Sunday was not in your local NFL stadium, but in your local house of worship. What mattered was sitting side-by-side with fellow Americans, fellow mourners, helping each other take those first few collective steps past last week's tragedy.

All told, it was a weekend in America unlike any other. A weekend in which we finally remembered that games are just that. There was sadness mixed with thankfulness. Respite with painful reflection. And now that it's over, we're better off for the break, even though we're lessened by our losses.

After a week that took our breath away, we're starting to find our balance, shake off the blow, and get back into our games. They will be there waiting for us. Not exactly as we left them. But as close as anything can be these days.

The Good:

The Fresno State Bulldogs are donning their glass slippers to become the Cinderella story of the first month of the college football season.

But if you take a second to look at this talented bunch you'll know that they won't have to worry about the clock striking midnight on this group anytime soon.

"We're for real! We're for real!" chants were hollered by the Bulldogs after they defeated the Wisconsin Badgers 32-20 for the school's first victory ever over a Big 10 school.

The Bulldogs proved they were legit after scoring 16 points in the first two and half minutes of the second half to wipe out a 20-10 Badger halftime lead.

"Fresno State is a good football team," Wisconsin Head coach Barry Alvarez said. "I thought they showed a lot of character, they showed that they're a veteran team and a good football team coming on the road, falling behind and being able to come back and win"

The win proved to the world that the Bulldogs' previous victories over Colorado and Oregon State were no flukes and that they truly are for real.

The Bulldogs victory against Wisconsin at Camp Randall Stadium was the first non-conference loss for the Badgers at home since 1995 against Colorado.

The Bad:

Quincy Carter. Need I say more, after going 9-19 for 34 yards in the Cowboys season opening 10-6 loss to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Carter helped me out in compiling a list of people who are better than Quincy Carter. Quincy Jones, Clarence Carter, and Jimmy Carter.

I hate to say it but if the Cowboys would have kept Tony Banks they would probably pulled of the week one upset against the Buccaneers.

But there's still hope for Carter. Well maybe not it's going to be a long season for the 'Boys'.

The Ugly:

The award for ugly this week goes to the Minnesota Vikings for their lackluster performance against the Carolina Panthers in their season opening 24-13 loss. Randy Moss was held to just one catch for 28 yards, Dante Culpepper threw three interceptions and rookie Michael Bennet was held to just 37 yards on 11 carries in his NFL debut which amounted to a very ugly performance for the Vikings.

MCC Women start season right

Alyson Moulton
Sports Writer

For the MCC Women's Golf Team the 2001-2002 season started with a bang Sept. 7 with the Hardin-Simmons University Fall Classic. MCC won the season opener with a 5 stroke victory.

The Highladies were in top form when they beat the Preseason favorites to win the NCAA Division II and III National Championships. With only 7 players Coach Stan Mitchell said he is concerned. The girls did, however, do well with Heather McRae and Stephanie Smith tying for 2nd with a total of 154 and Kayla Duhr and Ashlie Simmons both finished individually in the top 10. Jessica Thunes and Natalie Kinsey both finished individually in the top 25. Laura Walker did not play in this tournament. She was the low qualifier in all of Great Britain and showed signs of doing the same at MCC, finishing fifth in that competition last week. There are 2 other young ladies on this years team, Paige Cook and Alisa ZalKowski.

The team is trying for a record breaking fifth in a row, NJCAA Academic Team of the year showing that the Highladies excel not only on the course but in the classroom. McLennan shot a total 635 during the two day tournament, edging out Oklahoma City Univ., who finished second with a two-day total of 640, followed by Southern Nazarene and UMIH.

Despite the tournament victory, the Highladies shouldn't move up in the ranking as the number one ranked Midland College was also successful in their weekend tournament.

Still, coach Mitchell remains pleased with his group.

"I think we came out and played well for two straight days," Mitchell said. "But there's still room for improvement which is encouraging because as the season progresses our competition will become stronger."

NFL comes to Waco

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

A new era of the NFL is beginning in Houston led by Houston Texans Head Coach Don Capers. Capers was the feature speaker at the Greater Waco Chamber of Commerce Football Kickoff Luncheon which took place Sep 6 in the Brazos Room at the Waco Convention Center. He is the first active coach to speak at the event.

"There are two things I have noticed and been impressed with about the people of Central Texas," Capers said "They are very cordial and friendly. And they take their football very seriously."

The Master of Ceremonies for the event was Baylor University sportscaster John Morris. Morris led the program which also featured Baylor Head Coach Kevin Steele, Houston Texans Head Coach Don Capers, KWTX-TV sports director Pete Kentworthy, and Texas Football publisher and legend-

ary sports writer Dave Campbell.

Campbell presented his own award to Waco High Football coach Johnny Tusa. The Dave Campbell Award is given every year to the coach who does the best work with his team under difficult circumstances in Central Texas. Last season, Waco High overcame the loss of three starters on offense, an all-sophomore backfield and a 2-5 start to pull off six straight wins and finish 8-6 and in the state quarterfinals. The playoff appearance was the Lions seventh straight truly making them one of the elite teams in the state of Texas.

"To say I'm shocked is an understatement," Tusa said. "I want to thank all of the people that have given me the opportunity to do what I do. And I do dearly love what I do most of the time."

The next speaker was Kenworthy, who provided a video package preview of all of the area schools from six-man to 5A.

Kenworthy then passed the mike to Kevin Steele, who expressed his optimism over this years' team, comparing them to the Wizard of Oz.

"You see the thing about the Wizard is no different than what were trying to do at Baylor University, Steele said. "Were not trying to give them anything they don't already have. These kids already have talent, they're already winners, and they're already class acts. What were trying to do is affirm that."

The Bears might not improve much in the win column in the brutal Big 12, but Steele is confident with his group "This is a classy group of guys," Steele said. "I don't know how many wins we'll have but I'm willing to take my chances with this bunch."

At the event, Steele was reunited with his mentor that he has known for 20 years, Capers, who was the Head Coach of the Carolina Panthers when Steele was an assistant on his staff.

"There have been two big influ-

ences on my coaching career," Steele said "One is my father, who was a high school football coach. And the other is Don Capers."

Finishing off the luncheon was Capers who provided insight into his teams outlook. Starting off as a franchise the one thing that Capers looks for is consistency.

"The type of players I'm looking for might run a 4.7," Capers said. "But as long as they run that every day I would much rather have them than someone who runs a 4.4 one day and then on another day runs a 4.8. Consistency is where it starts."

The luncheon drew a record turnout of over eight hundred coaches, players, media, and numerous local businesses.

"It's just amazing how big this gets every year," Morris said. "I'm just pleased to see the Central Texas community respond the way that they have."



Digital Image by Aaron Smith

Gathering at the Kickoff Luncheon are the voice of the Baylor Bears John Morris and Houston Texans Head Coach Don Capers.



Sports

New coach at work

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

If being around winners breeds success then the Highlanders just inherited success in new Assistant Men's Basketball coach Byron Smith.

Smith comes from a successful background, where he was a member of the old Southwest Conference power the Houston Cougars, (1989-1991) as well as having a stint at junior college power Tyler Junior College which produced NBA star Mookie Blylock.

But the impressive resume doesn't stop there. Smith, was also an assistant on fellow University of Houston alumnist Clyde Drexler's staff from 1998-2000, and learned a great deal under the tutelage of the certain future NBA Hall of Famer.

"Working with him was a good start to my career," Smith said. "It helped me kind of fit in with the core."

Smith sees an opportunity to coach at a junior college power as a tremendous chance to be a part of another winning program here

at MCC.

"I've heard so much about the academic reputation here at MCC as well as being a quality basketball institution," Smith said. "There is a lot of tradition and a lot of great players to come through here in the past and I'm just glad to be a part of it."

Another factor in Smith's decision to come to MCC was the Highlanders exciting second year Head coach, Ray Farrell.

"I think Ray is a young dynamic coach with a lot of enthusiasm and knowledge of the game," Smith said. "He cares about his players and is a tireless worker that want's to be successful.."

As for this years group of Highlanders Smith see the potential to be successful if they put out the effort to get the job done.

"I think we can have a solid season this year," Smith said. "If we go in day in and day out and work hard I don't see any reason why we can't be a solid competitive ball club."

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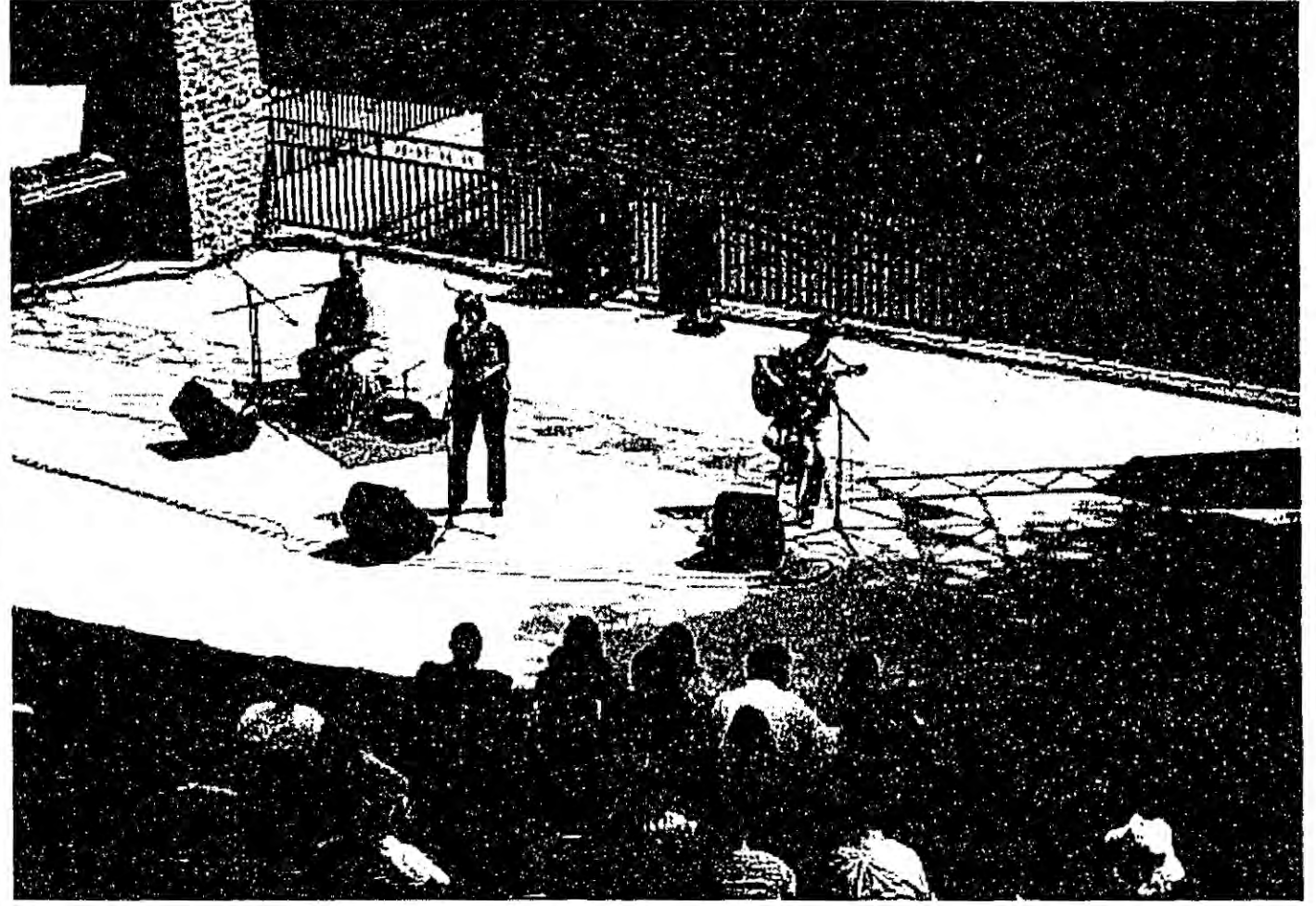


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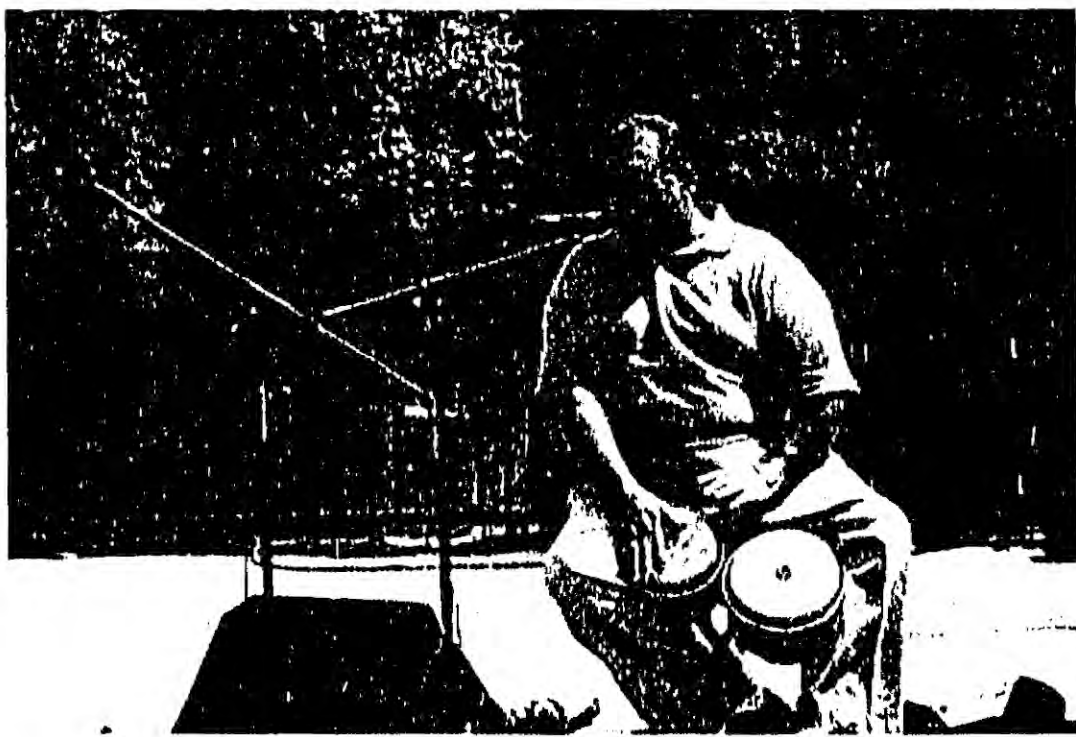
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