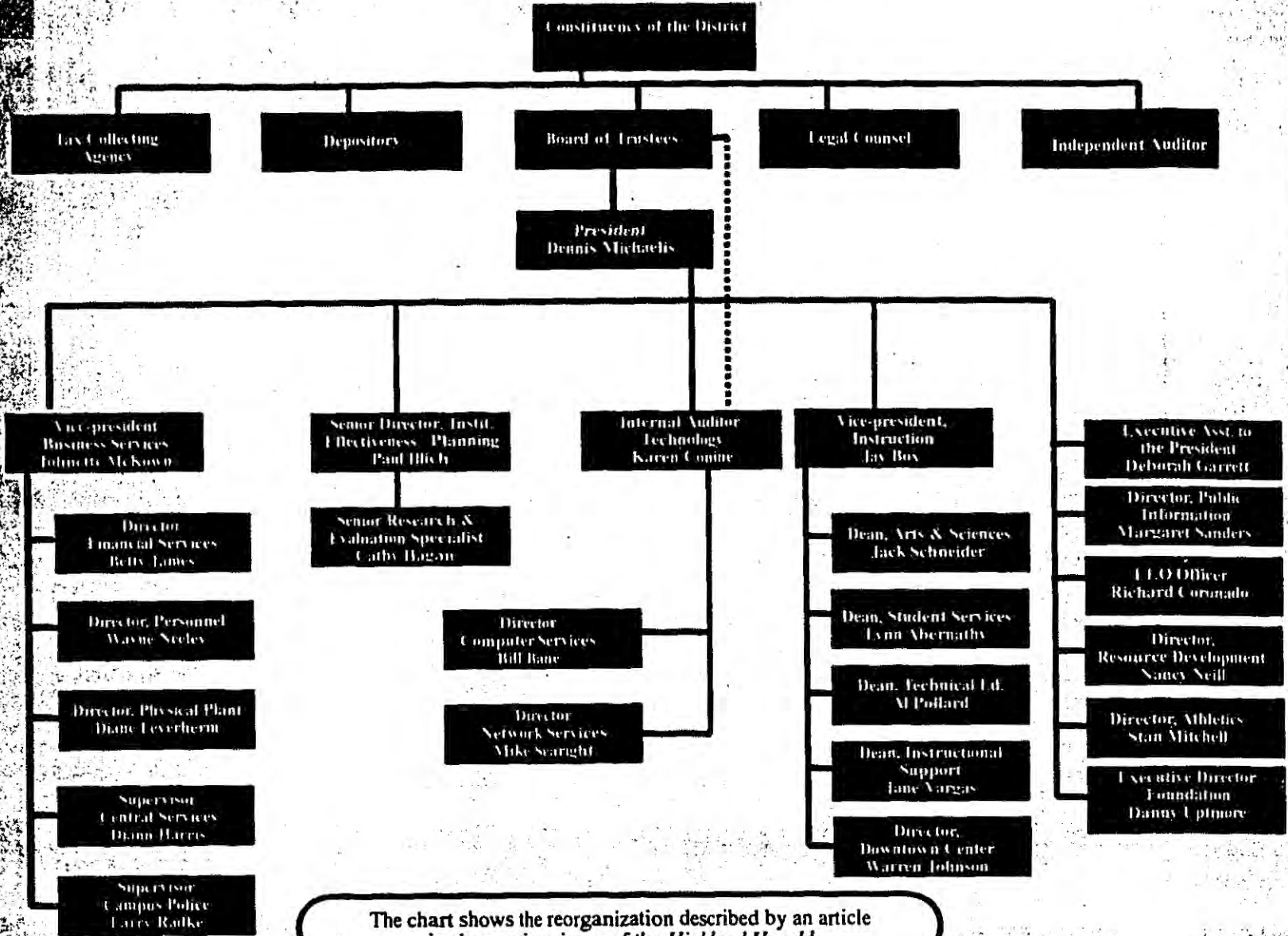


McLennan Community College Organizational Chart



The chart shows the reorganization described by an article in the previous issue of the Highland Herald

Student Government dines with Board of Trustees

By GARY LASSETER
Members of the Student Government had dinner with the Board of Trustees and then attended the regular meeting of the board Oct. 21.

After lasagna and conversation in the dining area of the Student Center, SG representatives and board members moved upstairs to the Highlander Room for an eventful meeting. Student Activities Specialist Amberdawn Moore introduced SG President Lisa Morrow, who made a brief speech.

"This year's Student Government will be different from any before," said Morrow. "We have been greatly enthused by the presence of Amberdawn Moore. Our goals are to learn from the past and grasp the possibilities of the future."

The board then turned to other items. It considered and approved the financial report for September, the quarterly investment report, the revision to the investment of college funds policy, and the appointment of EMS instructor Steven Mormino and PC specialist Lisa Hill.

The board also approved a low bid of \$33,000 for construction of new bleachers in the Highlands. The new bleachers will provide seating for spectators in wheelchairs.

MCC Chief of Police Larry Radke introduced Donald Dawkins and recommended him as peace officer. Photos were taken and there was a round of applause as President Michaelis shook hands with Dawkins. The board then passed a resolution to commission Dawkins.

"We estimate that about 10,000 people were in attendance over the two days of the fest. Many of them were children. They painted and squished and floated boats in the fountain."

In other business, the Tip-Off luncheon of Nov. 6 was discussed, and Deborah Garrett spoke briefly about the success of the Open Door Arts Fest.

"We estimate that about 10,000 people were in attendance over the two days of the fest. Many of them were children," said Garrett. "They painted and squished and floated boats in the fountain."

The date of the next meeting was set for Nov. 25.

"This year's Student Government will be different from any before. We have been greatly enthused by the presence of Amberdawn Moore. Our goals are to learn from the past and grasp the possibilities of the future."

MCC Health Information Technology Program up for accreditation

By MICHAEL DURMON
Chances are from the moment you took your first breath in this world, a medical record was made documenting your medical existence.

And most likely, a medical record will be made at your life's end. Today, with the boom in the need for medical information, a wide array of employers are calling for qualified medical records keepers — now known as accredited medical records technicians.

MCC looks to fill that need of Central Texas, at the request of the medical community. Evaluation next week
MCC started its Health Information Technology Program last fall, and the program will be evaluated for accreditation Nov. 3-4.

Until then, the program's first projected graduating class of 11 continue to broaden their skills and knowledge by working in a

variety of settings. Employers needing the services and skills of record technicians include hospitals, doctors' offices, clinics, mental health services, long term care services, attorneys, insurance companies, etc. The list continues to grow as the number of employers needing medical information swells.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects by 2005, an additional 47,000 record technicians will be needed. More than just being a file clerk

"The Health Information Technology Program teaches more than just being a file clerk, employed to one task," said, Rosemary Warlick, a student in the program.

"Students learn the whole big picture. We learn everything from patient information laws to statistics, to properly reading doctors', nurses' and patients' charts. We even learn some pharmacology."

"I wasn't sure what the program was about when I got in it," Warlick said, "but I know I can get a job because there is a need for people in the health information field."

Students enrolled in the program receive experience by "directed practice" at area medical facilities.

Directed Practice
"Directed practice is unpaid clinical work that each student in the program is required to do during the semester," said, Judy Keys, director of the program. "It is invaluable because the students learn from people already working in the field."

"When I started my clinicals, it really opened my eyes up to some things," Warlick said. "I used to wonder why it took so long to get your prescription filled, or so long for the doctor to call you back when your child was sick. I now understand how the messages, files and charts

are recorded, retrieved and delivered to the doctor."

"I'm a lot more understanding waiting for the doctor to call back now."

Salaries vary
"Salaries for record technicians broadly vary," Keys said, "because of the many types of employers that record technicians can work for."

"Education and accreditation also play a role in technicians salary. Once our program is accredited, students will be able to take the national accreditation examination for certification as an accredited record technician. Students then may also work toward a bachelors degree and examination certifying them as registered records administrators."

"For someone who wants to

"Laws and accreditation are always changing."

learn the profession, it is an ongoing process," Keys said. "Laws and accreditation are always changing."

"Why do we keep records?" Keys continued. "Patient quality care is why we have to do that."

State Senator Sibley speaks to Texas government class

By JASON HOSKINS
State Senator David Sibley spoke to one of the college's Texas government classes earlier this month.

The senator spent some of his time away from the state capital to discuss what goes on in the Senate with Scott Segrest's government class.

"I don't know how the first Tuesday after the second Monday could not be the second Tuesday, but that's just the way it works."

Sibley explained to the class what type of things go on in the Texas Senate and what a typical day is like for him during the time that the Senate is in session.

He told the class about how the Senate meets for 140 days every other year and how the session starts the first Tuesday

after the second Monday of January.

"I don't know how the first Tuesday after the second Monday could not be the second Tuesday, but that's just the way it works," Sibley said.

He explained how the Senate is currently in the interim period and it won't meet again until January of 1999.

The typical day in the state Senate is rather long for Sen. Sibley. He usually starts his day around 6 a. m. Depending on how late in the legislative session he schedules meetings with various people before 8 a. m.

Sessions on the floor vary in length depending on what day of the session they are currently in. Early in the 140 day session the meetings may only last 30 minutes.

However, if it is late in the 140 days, the session may go around the clock due to the fact that many bills could die if they are not taken care of before midnight on the 140th day.

Another time consuming part of Sen. Sibley's day is serving on committees. The average senator is on at least four committees. For example Sibley is the chairman of the Deregulation Committee.

Sibley is one of 31 state senators who represent the people of Texas in the state Senate. He wants to know how the citizens in his district feel about the coming issues that the Senate will discuss. His district includes 16 counties including two-thirds of McLennan County including all of Waco.

Sen. Sibley's office makes a point to read letters that voice the opinion of concerned citizens in his district on the issues of the senate.

People who would like to write the senator to voice their opinions should send a handwritten letter to him at 1105 Wooded Acres suite 675, Waco, TX. 76710.

Inside:

- Soonale wins national championship page 5
- Cajolery session Wednesday page 2
- Ghostly warning page 3
- Casa de Cafe page 4
- Cuttin' Loose page 7
- Basketball schedules page 6
- Open Door photos page 8

DJ, door prizes and costume contest Halloween dance party at Student Center Friday night

By JENNIFER WOKATY
If you're looking for a scream of a time on Halloween night, go MCC's Halloween Dance and Costume Party.

Sponsored by Student Government and the Students in Free Enterprise, the event will be fun for the whole family. Games, such as bobbing for apples and that crazy "fishing" game, will be set up for the kids to play.

The dance will have a DJ playing music. Door prizes and prizes for the best costume will be given, so put on your goriest, zaniest, wildest costume when you go.

The party will last from 9:30 p. m. - 1 a. m. in the MCC Student Center cafeteria on Oct. 31. Students receive free admission with student ID. Guests are \$2, and children under 12 are \$1.



BOO! The Student Center can be a pretty scary place sometimes. Haunt it yourself from 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Oct. 31. Don't forget your student ID for free admission.

NEWS BRIEFS

Lots to do here Friday

Plan to participate in one or all of the many events Friday. From 9 a.m.-noon there will be a **Community Services Fair** in the Student Center cafeteria. Representatives from various organizations will be present to provide information about volunteer opportunities and community services available.

Also, during the fair, from 10 a.m.-noon will be the annual **Pumpkin Carving Contest**. Twelve pumpkins will be available. Each team must supply their own carving utensils and supplies. Teams will be assigned one pumpkin and have the full two hours to complete their carvings. (Feel free to come and go as your schedule permits.) At noon, the pumpkins will be judged and prizes will be awarded. Sign your team up early. Call 299-8465 to reserve a pumpkin.

Lastly, at 9:30 p.m. the Student Government Association and SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) will be sponsoring a **Halloween dance and costume party**. This will also be held in the Student Center cafeteria. MCC students and faculty will be admitted free of charge with their MCC ID. Guests are \$2; children 12 and under are only \$1. There will be games, music and prizes for best costume. The dance will end at 1 a.m. Security will be provided.

Investing teleconference today

"The Art of Investing — Tips from America's Experts," a national teleconference sponsored by TIAA-CREF in association with the Institute of Certified Financial Planners, the College and University Personnel Association, and the National Association of College and University Business Officers, will be today from 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m. in CSC 232. Everybody is invited to attend.

Cajolery session Wednesday

The next Cajolery for the faculty and staff is Wednesday. The guest speakers at the lunch are from the new Instructional Support Division. The speakers will discuss the services that they already have available and their future plans. The lunch will be held in the Highlander room from noon until 12:45 the program starts at 12:45.

'Expanding Horizons' held here Saturday

The American Association of University Women sponsored a math and science conference Saturday. The conference, "Expanding Your Horizons," was for middle school girls from area schools and was held in the CSC building.

Nursing assistant exam class begins Monday

A 100-hour course to prepare students for the state nursing assistant examination begins Nov. 3. The Nurse Aide Registry and Training Course continues through Nov. 21, with classes meeting from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday at MCC's Community Services Center. This course is required for nursing assistants who wish to be placed on the State registry and find employment in nursing homes, hospitals and other long-term facilities. High school graduation is not required. Tuition is \$264, plus the cost of textbook. For more information, call Joyce Sims at 299-8784.

Group health insurance seminar Nov. 13

The college's Workforce Education Department is sponsoring a seminar on the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Nov. 13 in the MCC Community Services Center. The seminar should be of interest to any company with at least two participants in a group health plan. The program will include an overview of the 1996 law's provisions, updates on interim rules and regulations and suggestions for compliance. Philip E. McCleery, an attorney with Sheehy, Lovelace and Mayfield, will be the presenter for the seminar. The cost is \$25. To register or to ask questions, call MCC's Workforce Development Department at 299-8658.

Hours extended to serve students

The **Bookstore** has extended hours of operation beginning Monday. Normal hours will be Mondays-Thursdays 7:45 a.m.-6 p.m. and Fridays 7:45 a.m.-5 p.m.

The **Business Office** has also extended its hours to better serve students. The new hours are Mondays-Thursdays 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

More teachers needed for 'Job Shadowing'

"Job Shadowing" day with the college's Adopt-A-School partner, G. L. Wiley Middle School, will be Nov. 5. This is an activity where we pair a student from Wiley to follow a MCC faculty/staff member for that day. The purpose of this activity is to allow the student to get familiar with the work environment and to personally meet with some of their Adopt-A-School partners. Thus far 14 have signed up with project leader Joe Fortson to pair up with students. "We would like to have twice as many people (or a minimum of 30) to participate," he said.

Spring class schedules due

The 1998 spring class schedules should now be available on campus. They were to have arrived from the printer Monday and are in the process of being distributed. Check in the Student Services Building to obtain one.

Watts, Black win writing awards

Two members of the English faculty received awards for their creative writing at our recent Two Year College English Association conference in Austin. Lori Watts received the second place award for her poetry and Jennifer Black received the second place award in fiction for "And Then On Thursday."

Crepes for sale, 'realla' needed

Students enrolled in French classes will be selling crepes in the cafeteria on Friday. Lemon crepes will sell for 50 cents and chocolate ones for 75 cents. You can get 10 of either for a 50 cent discount (10 lemon = \$4.50, 10 choc = \$7) Discount does not apply to mix and match unless you get 10 of the same.

French instructor Linda Reichenbach also is seeking *realla* to assist in teaching. "I could use old dolls and Barbie dolls with all sorts of clothes, fake foods, children's dinette sets (plates, knives, tables sets, glasses, etc.) toys and games and so on. Basically, anything fun you wouldn't mind donating," she says. Drop them off in the Faculty Offices Building (120) or with the secretaries in the FOB.

'Virtual College' teleconference Nov. 5

"The Virtual College of Texas" teleconference has been rescheduled for Nov. 5, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in CSC 111. This will be a live, interactive forum to discuss "a draft proposal to implement the virtual college of Texas." Issues on the agenda are (1) what is the mission of VCT? (2) what are the benefits? (3) what agreements will member colleges make? (4) what instructional technologies will VCT use? and (5) what is the schedule for implementation and the costs?

Students gain helpful info at Transfer Fair

By RHIANNON BAILEY
MCC hosted a Transfer Fair on Oct. 20, for all students interested in continuing their education after MCC.

Many colleges and universities from all over Texas, like Baylor University, Paul Quinn College and Texas A&M University, were on campus.

Students who attended the fair got information about how to transfer and what is needed to transfer, depending on the college or university they would like to attend.

Register for spring early, two new classes on the list

By Danita Breedlove
As soon as you think you're through with all the procedures for Fall registration, it's already time for early Spring registration!

Kim Henderson, senior administrator/secretary to the registrar, says that early registration and telephone registration "begins Oct. 27 and runs through Dec. 25."

Henderson says that express registration will be on Nov. 3 and regular registration for the Spring will begin Jan. 14, 15 and 17 in the Student Center.

If students have problems getting their materials in on time, Henderson said that late registration will be held on Jan. 20 and 21.

Students "need to make sure we have their TASP scores, because without that they can't go through early registration,"

This year Texas Tech University and the University of Texas at Austin will offer correspondence courses. These courses allow students to work at their own pace and when they are ready, take an exam to complete the course.

Many students attended this event for further knowledge. "Baylor was helpful in letting me know that after I graduate from MCC, I can go to Baylor and take classes at MCC that will transfer for me to graduate from Baylor," said Michael Durmon.

Henderson said, "Transfer students will need to bring an unofficial copy of their transcript from their previous college" in order to register early.

MCC will also be offering a new history course as well as a fairly new creative writing course this Spring.

History 2380 will be an exciting class taught by instructor Gilbert Montemayor. The course is entitled "Mexican-Americans in the Southwest."

The creative writing course will be taught by instructor Jennifer Black.

Black said that students will be working with short stories, poetry, class critics as well as specific individual ideas.

For information on these courses, contact Montemayor at 299-8934 and Black at 299-8918.



Representatives from many colleges attended the Transfer Fair held in the Student Center. MCC students were given the opportunity to get information and inquire about the colleges they were interested in.

visit our website:
www.mcc.cc.tx.us/news/news

Nominate teachers for Excellence Awards

The Professional Development Committee at MCC is requesting nominations for the 1997-98 Teaching Excellence Awards (Master Teacher). Recognition is awarded through the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD).

MCC will elect three outstanding faculty for these awards. (The awards will recognize one outstanding faculty member from Arts and Sciences and one from Technical Educa-

tion; the third instructor may represent adjunct or full time faculty from either Arts and Sciences or Technical Education). Anyone may nominate a faculty member for this award.

ALL nominations must be received by Nov. 21, 3 p.m. in CSC building room 100, the office of Linda Draper, ITS Department. Nominations received after the cut-off time/date will not be considered.

ALL nominations must be signed and they must contain

two reasons (or justifications) for the nomination or they will not be considered.

Only nominations made on the official form, or photocopy of the form, will be considered. Forms are available from Draper.

To nominate more than one faculty member, use a separate form for each person nominated. If returning nomination by mail, address to: MCC/ITS Department 1400 College Drive, Waco, TX. 76708, Attn.: Linda Draper.

MCC students attend convention in Tyler

By BETTY ZUSPANN
MCC journalism students traveled to Tyler for the Texas Community College Journalism Association Convention Oct. 10th.

Journalism students participated in multiple workshops focusing on writing skills, internships, job hunting, how to break into radio, how to start a magazine, and how to interview and write stories about those who are physically impaired.

"Conventions are one of the best ways for students to learn how professional teams work in the field," remarked Gary Lasseter, editor-in-chief of the Highland Herald.

One of the highlights of the day was during lunch when fea-

tured speaker, Nobel prize-winning author Joe Murray of Lufkin, explained how you can stay right in your own back yard and still have a great job as a journalist.

Murray told a few stories about his travels around the world as a syndicated columnist and told how it felt when he was almost detained by the Iraqi officials when he and others were trying to get out of Baghdad on the last flight out before the Persian Gulf War.

Another highlight of the convention was during the banquet when the Highland Herald received a second place award for general excellence. The staff also took second place in headline writing.

Individuals from last year's staff winning awards were Chris Latham, first in editorial cartoons, and Helenmarie DeLeon, honorable mention in feature photography.

"Traveling together and going through the experience of the convention creates a bond between students and they begin to work as a team," said Tom Buckner, MCC journalism instructor.

During a break in the afternoon the students took a tour of the zoo where a baby rhino was born the week before and the zoo keepers had just put the newborn out for everyone to see.

"Students who do not attend the convention really miss out," said Lasseter.



CONVENTION BUSINESS — Journalism adviser Tom Buckner counts money while opinion page editor Betty Zuspenn voices her opinion to the skies. Amber George (seated) makes a wry note to herself.

NEWS BRIEFS

Computer classes scheduled

For students who have limited time and need training in computer software, MCC is offering new Saturday and evening computer classes.

Classes include the Introduction to Microcomputers which meets on Saturday Nov. 1-Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to noon at a cost of \$64. For \$39, the evening class for Beginning Internet meets on Mon. and Wed. nights from 6-8:30 p.m. Also, one day classes called "One-Day Wonders" are being offered. The classes meet on Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. for \$49 per course. Classes include Beginning Excel '97 on Oct. 31, Beginning Microsoft Word '97 on Nov. 14, and Intermediate Excel '97 on Nov. 21.

For more information about these classes, call 299-8547.

Tarleton Texas Tour Nov. 8

Tarleton University is planning two Texan Tours this year. The first will be Nov. 8 and the one in the other will be March 7. The fee is \$10 to participate which will pay for their meal and a ticket to the football game. If you need further information, please contact Dara Moore in Tarleton's school relations office at 254-968-9845.

Adopt-a-School tutors needed

Math and Reading tutors are need to work with students at G. L. Wiley in the Adopt-a-School program. Tutors can work as little as one hour a week. For more information call Joe Fortson at 299-8289.

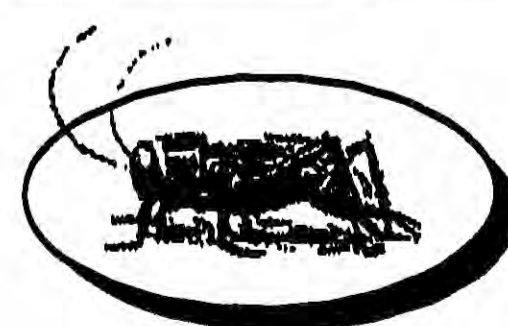
Minimester schedule released

Christmas minimester courses that have been scheduled include GOVT 2306.30, Texas Government, and RELI 1311.30, Hist/Lit/Christianity. Minimester dates are Dec. 19, 22, 23 — Dec. 26, 29, 30 — and Jan. 05, 06, 07, 08, 09. Classes will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Health info tech students check opportunities

Second year health information technology students have been assigned a project to research career opportunities for health information management professionals and use that information to promote the profession. The assignment is to coincide with national Health Information Management Week, Nov. 3-7.

As a part of the assignment, the students are responsible for developing a plan for project completion and utilizing the team concept, divide responsibility for the task involved.



\$4.95 Lunch

Hamburger, Fries, and Drink

Chicken Sandwich, Fries, and Drink

Pizza and Salad Specials

Daily Pasta Specials

(Free Pool w/ Lunch Purchase)

11-2 Mon-Fri

Monday Night Football Specials

211 Main St. River Square Center, 754-HOPS

EDITORIAL

Challenging times

A student's college days can be one of the most challenging times in his or her life. But isn't it refreshing to have an excellent instructor to help push you along the way?

At MCC, many faculty members make it an obligation to their students to be an inspiration and motivate their students to become a success in and out of college. One fine example of such a motivator is health and physical education instructor and MCC Dance Company director, Sandy Hinton.

At any given day you choose to enter the classroom of Hinton you just may feel a certain spark of energy or a warm ray of excitement that she gives to her students. Often times she greets her students with a sincere smile and a bit of light conversation to remind them that they are special and are worthy of the precious opportunity of an education. She takes time out to get to know her students on an individual basis. Hinton knows most of her students on a first name basis.

As a physical education instructor, Hinton constantly pushes her students to strive for personal goals and achievements. She is always saying "good job" or "way to go" and a gives an encouraging little wink . . . or two.

Although Hinton is cheerful and uplifting with her students, she also has a firm and demanding side. Just like other instructors, she has rules she expects students to follow. Discipline is one of the things she tries to instill most into her students. She stands firm about students putting their all into their work and doing whatever it takes to do it honestly and successfully.

Along with discipline, Hinton stresses dedication and a good attitude to the members of the MCC Dance Company. For more than 20 years as director, she has cultivated a dance team that has gained much respect and praise. Thanks to Hinton and her brilliance in the field of performance, she has led the Dance Company to several national dance competitions.

Take time to thank Hinton for the energy and time she has put into her work at the college. Take one of her courses or arrange to meet her, and her zest for life will certainly influence you. She truly loves her job, loves her students, and has made a difference because of it. She makes a fine example of an instructor and deserves to be applauded.

The adviser's corner

The effort to improve news from the villages

The adviser has been in the newspaper business for more than 40 years. He wants to take up a corner of this page in the next few issues to reminisce about those years.)

By TOM BUCKNER

Country correspondents were a mainstay of community weekly newspapers. You have probably read their columns featuring such news as:

"Dorothy Schwarzoze was a guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hagelanz last weekend."

Mrs. Heideman of Uhlend, Mrs. Barber of Fentress, Mrs. Fleming of Staples, Mrs. Johnson of Kyle, Mrs. Holmes of Martindale, and Parks Johnson of Wimberley sent in the news to our newspaper each week.

Parks Johnson was probably the most overqualified country correspondent in America. The originator, producer and leading voice of the nationally-popular radio show "Vox Pop," Parks had retired to his ranch and became the watchdog of Wimberley. Because of his excellent reporting, we paid him more than the others — \$7.50 a week.

Parks covered more than brief personal notes. He did character sketches, wrote great anecdotes, and waded in when two or more sides faced off in controversy in his hill country village. Once, when our dry county was facing a local option election, he published all the names of Wimberleyites who signed the petition to bring in demon rum. That caused some red faces in church on Sunday morning.

But most of the other correspondents didn't have Parks' nose for news. If the village store burned or a two-headed chicken was hatched, these items (if reported at all) might be found in the last paragraph. This young editor, fresh out of the Air Force, decided to improve things.

About this time Iowa State University organized a short course for community reporters. I ordered the booklets along with lesson plans, and invited the correspondents to a series of Thursday afternoon sessions to learn the basics of journalism. The women were delighted

(Parks declined), and almost all of them attended the first class, had their cookies and tea, visited, and then settled in for the lesson. They listened, some even took notes, and then left with some homework.

"Teaching is great," I thought, basking in expectations of crisp, inverted-pyramid prose from these good women.

And when their columns arrived for the next paper — no change could be discerned. It was still the same visits and shopping excursions, paragraph after paragraph.

But at least Mrs. Fleming did her homework. I discovered this when I read the *Luling Newsboy*. Mrs. Fleming did a carbon copy of her column and sent it to nearby Luling each week, so our paper and their paper had identical columns.

But the Fentress news seemed almost twice as long in the *Luling* paper. I read to see what they had that we didn't. About halfway down in her column it said:

"1. What is a lead?
"It is the first paragraph of a story, one sentence long, that contains the necessary W's and the H."

"2. What are the five W's and the H?" ... etc.

Highland Herald Staff

Gary Lasseter - Editor-in-Chief
Michael Durmon - Senior Associate Editor
Anitra Cotton - Campus News
Betsy Zuspenn - Opinion Page
Caroline Blahova - Features
Danika Dredolove - Entertainment

The Highland Herald is a publication of journalism classes at McLennan Community College, 1400 College Drive, Waco, Texas 76708, which is published every other week September through May with the exception of holidays and spring breaks. Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the college's administration or faculty.



Personal opinion

A young man's moment in time

By RODDY GERMAN

Somewhere in everyone's life, there lies a story of total embarrassment. Needless to say, I too fall within that category. It happened to me!

I won't tell you the year it took place, but sometimes when I start reminiscing about my younger years, I'm finding out that I can't recall as well as I used to.

I had just turned eighteen and like most eighteen-year-olds, I didn't have the vaguest idea where my life was going. There was one thing in my life I was absolutely sure of, and that was, I wanted to date this one girl so bad I could taste it. Her name was Kathy. She was 5'5", auburn hair, 105 lbs. and had the most gorgeous big brown eyes you ever did see.

I COULD START thinking about her and it was like eating a big fat juicy watermelon; my mouth would just start watering.

I don't remember how many times I had asked her out on a date in front of my mirror at home; but let me get close to her, and I became tongue-tied. My mouth would get so dry if a lizard lived there he would die of dehydration.

Then one day out of the wild blue yonder, the words just popped out of my mouth, "I sure would like to take you to the movies Saturday night!"

She turned around to see who was talking to her; as her eyes met mine, I thought I had died and gone to heaven. Those big brown eyes just baffled me, I mean they drove me up the wall! She smiled and said, "OK."

I hollered so loud, I think folks in the next county heard me. Then I became petrified; I thought to myself, "Do you know who you just asked to the movies, and you don't have ten cents to your name . . . what do you have for brains, grite?" All I could think of was, "Lord, please help me. I sure did goof up this time. I don't have enough money to take her to a church social, and they're free!"

I recall walking into my house that afternoon, and for a change, my dad was home early. As I walked up to him I said, "Hi dad, how's things going; it's good to have you home early for a change."

MY DAD LOOKED at me kind of strange and said, "Boy, did you fall and hit your head today, or maybe you've had a sun stroke; that's it, you've had a sun stroke. Tell me it was a sun stroke, cause if it ain't, I have a feeling this conversation is going to cost me money!"

I laughed for a second and said, "Oh dad, this is serious, no kidding around. You know Mr. Tabor's daughter, the one with those big brown eyes?" My dad looked at me, shook his head and said, "RJ, Mr Tabor don't have but one daughter". I said, "Yea, that's the one."

Dad uh, uh, can you loan me a dollar for Saturday night and . . . maybe the car". My dad's head popped up and he said, "RJ, I know you've done went and hit your head if you think I'm going to loan you my new car."

HE GOT UP from his chair; as he turned to walk away he faced my mom eyeball to eyeball. My mom said, "Ollie B, I think it's time you and I had a talk on the back porch . . . now!"

My mom was like E. F. Hutton, when she talked, you listened. I don't know what all my mom told my dad, but when he came back into the house, he told me right off I could use the car; as for as the money, we would work that out.

Then the big day came. I arose early that morning and did all the things my dad had told me to do. Then I started preparations for that night. I must have washed my dad's car at least five times.

My dad came out side and asked me if I was going to wash the paint off. My mom brought me some lye soap to wash the white wall tires with. That lye soap just cut right through that grease.

When I got through with the car I stood back for a good look. Everything looked great. I could feel a smile come upon my face; this is the night I thought; everything is going my way; nothing can go wrong; I thought, this night is going to be the night of perfection. Yea!

I took what was left of the lye soap and went to the stock tank and took me a good bath, I even washed my hair.

I looked at the clock and it was time to go

Before I left, my mom called me over to one side and told me to behave myself. She gave me a big hug and told me how nice I looked and that she was proud

of me. My mom told me that young girls like Kathy liked candy and flowers, so I needed to stop on my way over to her house and pick up some flowers.

I couldn't believe my eyes when my mom handed me five whole dollars. I don't think I had ever seen five dollars at one time in my life.

I ASK MY MOM, what am I going to do with all this money. She just looked at me and smiled and said, "presents cost money."

As I was about to drive away my mom said, "don't forget the candy, and the flowers. I waved at her as I drove off."

As I was driving toward town, I kept turning over in my mind the things my mom had said about stop and pick Kathy some flowers.

About two miles before I got into town I saw a bunch of flowers, so I stopped and picked Kathy a big hand-full. All the time I was picking the flowers I thought how smart my mom was to think of these them.

When I got into town I went by Mr. McCreedy's store and looked at all the candy he had. I didn't want to but just any old kind of candy; so I bought Kathy the best brand of jaw breakers Mr. McCreedy had in his store. Kathy is going to enjoy these I bet. Shuckens, it'll take thirty minutes to suck one of this jaw breakers down.

I left Mr. McCreedy's store and decided to make a fast run through town to show off my dad's new car. This was not just a car; in my heyday we only had about a dozen cars to choose from. My dad's car was a brand new 1958 Chevrolet Impala, 327 V-eight, metallic blue trimmed in silver, leather seats. This was not just a car; this was "the" car.

I looked at my watch and decided it was high time I headed

In a funny way. . .

LET'S PARTY!

By GARY LASSETER
I awoke to see a shadowy shimmering figure standing at the foot of my bed.

"I am the ghost of Christmas past!" declared the figure, in eerie, hollow tones.

"You're a bit early," I said. "It's not even Halloween yet."

The figure seemed to lean forward and peer at me in the darkness.

"Have you ever talked with a ghost before?" asked the sepulchral baritone.

"No."

"Then shut up."

The spectre moved around the side of my bed, as if to look more closely at my expression.

"But I don't believe in ghosts," I said.

A ghostly cold thumb and forefinger gripped my nose and twisted, leaving me with no doubts about the reality of the apparition.

"Listen, bub. I didn't travel all the way here from eternity just to swap ghost stories. I am about to tell you the most important thing you will ever hear in your entire life. That is, if you will shut up long enough for me to get a word in edgewise."

I thought he was a little

harsh, but I got the point and shut up. The speech that he made to me is forever engraved in my memory.

"What did you do last Halloween? You stayed home. It was a weeknight, and you were tired. Halloween before? Same thing. Nobody on earth knows how to appreciate a holiday. You spend most of your life working. Christmas is the worst. Most people are either crying 'cause they didn't get what they wanted, or complaining about bills and commercialization. Look at me, I'm a ghost. I can't eat or drink anymore, and it's darn tough to be merry. Pretty soon you will be a ghost too, with nothing left but regrets."

"That's the message. All us ghosts drew lots to see who would come here to deliver it. I lost."

"But why choose me?" I whimpered.

"BECAUSE YOU WRITE FOR THE NEWSPAPER YOU IDIOT! Spread the word. I'm out of here."

The moral of the story for me can be summed up in one short sentence. Christmas, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Arbor Day or whatever —

LET'S PARTY!

Question: What is the English translation of the Latin phrase - sine qua non?

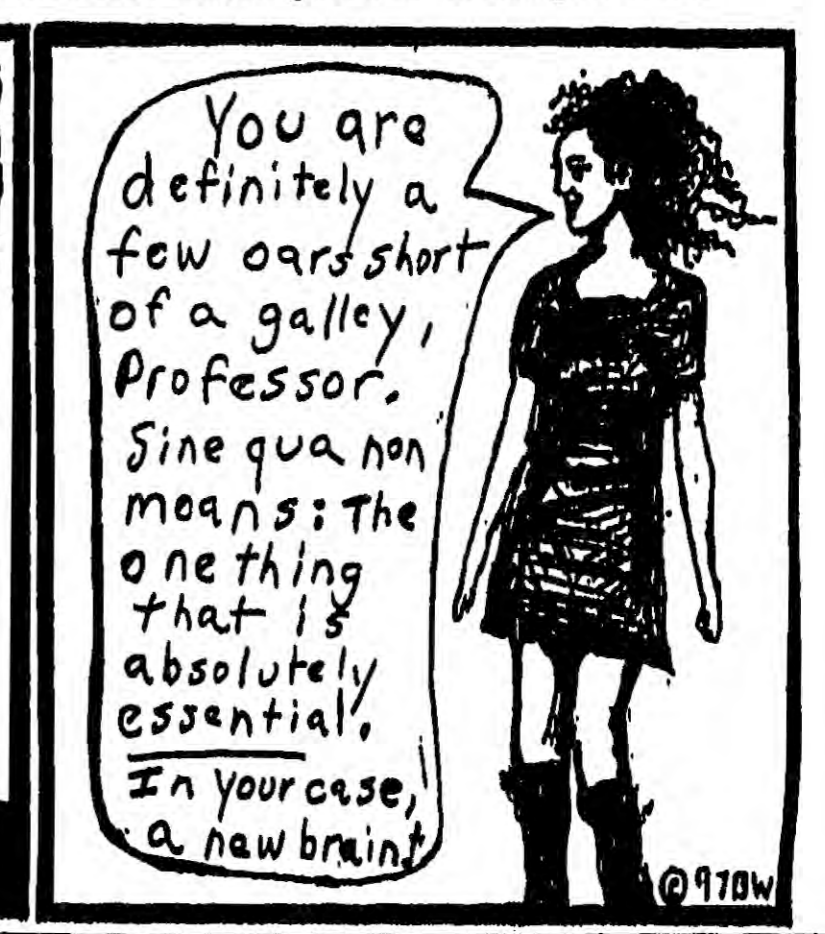
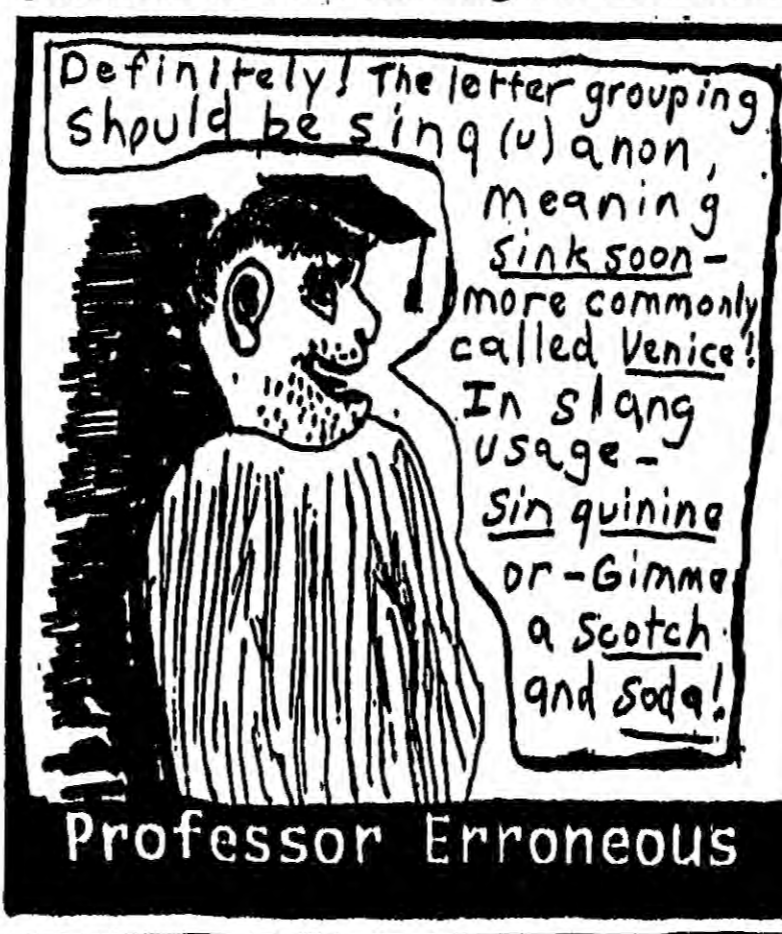




Photo by Michael Durmon

STARS OF THE FUTURE — These young men and women from Scotland were on campus recently as a part of their tour of America. Scott Henderson, "Rookie of the Year" on the European tour this year, is third

from the right standing. The Scottish connection has been important for the MCC golf program since three players from Scotland, two women and a man, are on the college's golf teams.

Scots: Young golfers, pro see what America is about

By MICHAEL DURMON
Under bright blue skies, a brigade of 12 teenage golfers and four adults, from the Highlands of north and northeast Scotland made a stopover visit at MCC on Oct. 17 during a scheduled biannual trip to Houston.

MCC golfer Claire Hunter, a native Scotsman, was one of the focus points in the group's visit to Waco.

The 12 teenage golfers are part of the Grampian Houston Junior Golf, a program in which Hunter once participated.

The group of golfers played golf at a number of golf courses on their trip to Texas.

"The 10 day trip lets Scottish children know what life in America is all about," said Bruce Davidson, head golf pro at Kings Links in Aberdeen, Scotland, and innovator of the program.

Davidson, once a three-time all-conference golfer for St. Thomas University in Houston, said that it is the dream of many

young Scottish golfers to come to the United States to play golf and attend a university.

"After some success and becoming head golf pro at Kings Links, five years ago I thought it would be great if I could give something back and do something good for the community," Davidson said.

The idea of the Grampian Houston Junior Golf Program was born.

After explaining the process of forming a committee, Davidson said the money raised for the program was raised by a Pro-Am (pro-amateur) golf event, and by an auction at the end of the event.

The trip from Aberdeen to Houston, was the third trip the program had sponsored.

"Two of the reasons behind the Aberdeen-Houston connection," Davidson said, are that "both Aberdeen and Houston are in the oil business and I have worked for Dick Harmon, the

head golf pro of River Oaks in Houston."

Dick Harmon is the brother of Butch Harmon, Tiger Woods' golf coach.

The program is designed to give young golfers in the north and northeast Scotland an opportunity to play golf in the United States and get an education.

The golfers get a chance to showcase their talent to American coaches on their trip, as they play at various sites around the state.

The 12 golfers that walked across the campus of MCC this month are the few lucky or talented enough to make it through the selection process.

"Forty to 50 golfers are nominated by their clubs," Davidson said. "Twenty make it to the interview process, and then 12 are picked. But, 20 golfers are worthy of the Houston trip."

Claire Hunter made the trip in 1995.

"The golfers with the lowest handicap scores are nominated by their golf clubs," Hunter said. The selection process "depends on how well they played in various tournaments."

"The trip is valuable because you meet different people and coaches," he said.

Though the pass through Waco gave the young Scottish golfers a chance to meet Hunter at her American College and possibly one day emulate her, it was a few American students that were left in awe.

They were in awe of Scott Henderson.

Henderson, one of four adults traveling with the group, is a rookie on the European Pro Golf Tour.

But, he just not any rookie. Henderson ranks 36 on the order of merit for all pros on the tour. Many who follow golf say he will be named "Rookie of the Year."

(Continued on next page)

Run: Huffing, puffing 'fun runners' to help provide Toys for Tots this Christmas

By BETTY ZUSPANN
MCC will host its Fifth Annual Toys for Tots 5K and 1 mile run/walk on Saturday Nov. 8.

"This year we are really running for the kids," said Susan Copeland, RSVP director.

If you cannot participate you can drop off a toy either at the RSVP office on campus, or the Toys for Tots eight foot train will be set up at the finish line.

"You can run, walk, be in a wheelchair, children of all ages, everyone is welcome," said Copeland. "It's critically important that we reach our goal of 400 participants."

This year the Fun Run has been combined with the Toys for Tots to cut costs.

Many of the toys go to children of students of MCC such as single working moms with chil-

dren, others with catastrophic situations.

One hundred families need to be adopted by our campus.

"We are encouraging departments to help us with this endeavor instead of exchanging gifts," said Copeland. "There's nothing greater than waking up Christmas morning and knowing you did something for a child or family at Christmas that you

don't even know, you'll never be the same again."

All participants in the run receive a free t-shirt. For more information about the run call 254-299-8103.

"You can run, walk, be in a wheelchair"

A young man's moment in time

(Continued from page 3)
of the car to get in, I spoke to God and I said, "God, please don't let anything else happen to night, let me get through this night without making a fool of myself. God this is the best looking girl in town; please God help me!"

After our little talk I could feel all that pride coming back. I just knew this was going to be a perfect night. Here I was with the best looking girl in town. Yes! As I was about to open my door, I want you to know, God didn't answer my pray. My foot hung in a protruding root and I fell flat on my face. I mean I hit the ground with a thud.

THE NEXT THING I knew Kathy was standing over me and asking if I was okay. I stood up and brushed myself off as good as I could. Then I said, "Everything is okay, except my stupid pride is shattered all to pieces". Kathy laughed and said, "Let's go to the movies."

After we arrived at the movies, we found a seat that was just right for Kathy. It was to close for me, but I wasn't going to tell her that.

While we were watching the movie, she even let me hold her hand.

I asked if she would like some

popcorn. She said, "That sounds great!"

I WENT TO WHERE they sold popcorn and told the girl behind the counter that I wanted a big bag of popcorn with extra butter. Just as I was about to reseat myself next to Kathy, my foot slipped and I threw popcorn all over Kathy and her brand new dress. Buttered popcorn on top of that. She didn't say a word; she just looked at me.

After the movie, Kathy was laughing about the popcorn. The evening was going great except for a few mishaps now and then. I thought, "Lord, nothing else can go wrong . . . can it?"

About that time we stepped up to my dad's car on the driver's side. In my younger years, if you were sweet on a girl and she was sweet on you, she would ride setting next to you while you were driving. This was a way of telling everyone you were dating and happy with each other.

I REACHED into my pocket to get the car keys; there were no keys; "Lord, tell me I didn't look the keys up in the car."

I bent over and looked inside the car and there they were, just a dangly. I turned to Kathy and said, "I'm sorry, I looked the keys up in the car, and I don't

know what to do about it." All I could think of, is, my daddy's going to kill me when I get home. If he don't, Mr. Tabor will if I don't get Kathy home by ten.

ANYWAY I LOOK at it, I'm dead. "Lord, help me, I'm only eighteen Lord, I'm to young to die. Please help me get those keys." Well the Lord must have heard me, because about that time Mr. Ferguson walked up and ask if I needed a hand.

I told him sure did, that I had locked the keys up in the car and if I don't Kathy home by ten, Mr. Tabor is going to kill me; I just know he is.

Mr. Ferguson laughed and said for us not to worry, we had plenty of time, it's only eight thirty. He told me to see if I could find a clothes hanger, if I could, insert it through the window. He went on to say, "Once you have the clothes hanger inserted, you can hook the hanger around the look, then you can pull the look up; that will unlock the door; then, you and Kathy can be on your way."

I THOUGHT to my self, "That's simple, I can do that." I walked over to the movie house and asked if I could have a clothes hanger. Somebody smarted off and said, "RJ's locked his keys in

the car."

I got the hanger and went back to the car. After several tries, I finally gave up and told Kathy it was no need in trying any longer; I'll have to break the car window out. I looked around and found a rock.

(Continued on page 7)



BUY 1 ADULT LUNCH BUFFET GET 1 FREE!

4019 N. 19th Street
753-3333
NOW HIRING DELIVERY DRIVERS

HIGHLANDER BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 1997-1998

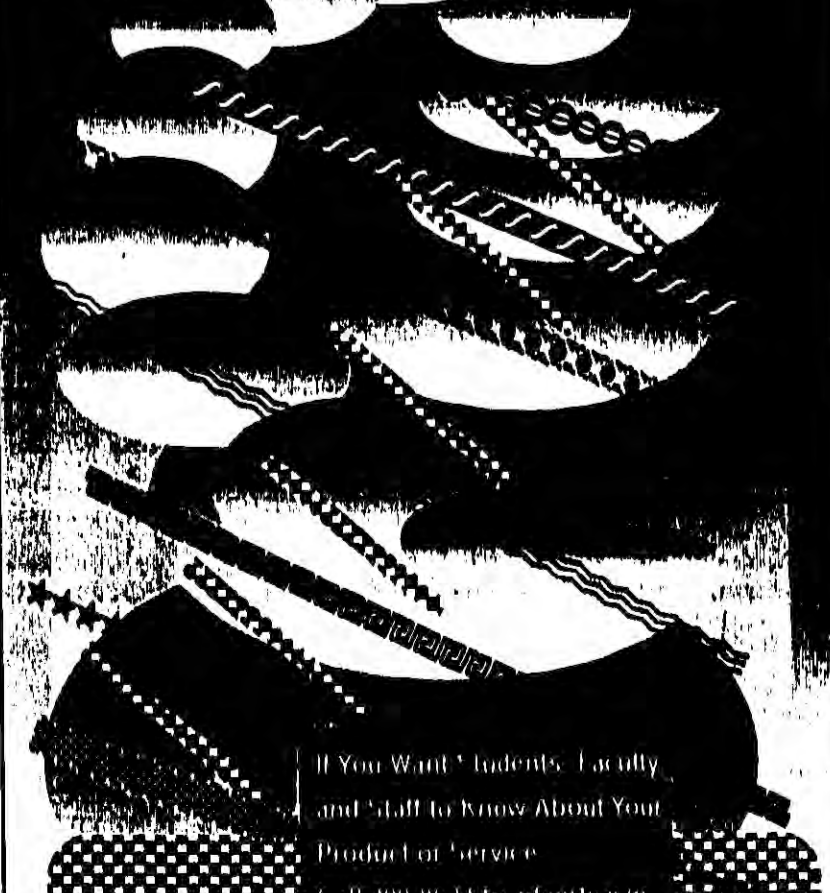
DATE:	OPPONENT	TIME	SITE
Nov. 1- Sat.	Panola	8 p.m.	Carthage
Nov. 5- Wed.	Eastfield	7 p.m.	Mesquite
Subway Tip-off Classic			
Nov. 7- Fri.	Blinn	8 p.m.	The Highlands
8- Sat.	San Jacinto	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Nov. 11- Tue.	Tyler	7:30 p.m.	Tyler
Adidas Classic			
Nov. 14- Fri.	Navarro	8 p.m.	The Highlands
15- Sat.	Odessa	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Nov. 21- Fri.	South Plains	TBA	Levelland
22- Sat.	South Plains	TBA	Levelland
Nov. 25- Tue.	Navarro	7 p.m.	Corsicana
Nov. 26- Wed.	Eastfield	7 p.m.	The Highlands
Dec. 3- Wed.	*Hill	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Temple Classic			
Dec. 5- Fri.		TBA	Temple
6- Sat.			
Jan. 5- Mon.	Richland	3 p.m.	Dallas
Jan. 10- Sat.	*Collin	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Jan. 14- Wed.	*Temple	7:30 p.m.	Temple
Jan 17- Sat.	*Weatherford	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Jan. 21- Wed.	*Ranger	7:30 p.m.	Ranger
Jan. 24- Sat.	*SWCC	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Jan. 26- Mon.	*Cisco	8 p.m.	Cisco
Jan 31- Sat.	*Grayson	6 p.m.	Sherman
Feb. 2- Mon.	*Hill	7:30 p.m.	Hillboro
Feb. 4- Wed.	*Cisco (Coca-Cola Night)	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Feb. 7- Sat.	*Collin	8 p.m.	Plano
Feb. 11- Wed.	*Temple	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Feb. 14- Sat.	*Weatherford	8 p.m.	Weatherford
Feb. 18- Wed.	*Ranger	8 p.m.	The Highlands
Feb. 21- Sat.	*SWCC	8 p.m.	Terrell
Feb. 26- Thu.	*Grayson	8 p.m.	The Highlands

* Denotes NJCAA Conference Games

HIGHLASSIE BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 1997-1998

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	PLACE
November 7-8	Subway Classic San Jacinto, Blinn Weatherford	TBA	The Highlands
13	Midland	6 pm	The Highlands
14-15	Temple Classic	TBA	Temple
21-22	South Plains Classic	TBA	Levelland
December 3	Hill	6 pm	The Highlands
6	San Jacinto	1 pm	Pasadena
January 5-7	State Tournament	TBA	TBA
10	Collin	6 pm	The Highlands
14	Temple	5:30 pm	Temple
17	Weatherford	6 pm	The Highlands
21	Ranger	6 pm	Ranger
24	Southwest Christian	6 pm	The Highlands
26	Cisco	6 pm	Cisco
31	Grayson	4 pm	Sherman
February 2	Hill	5:30 pm	Hillboro
4	Cisco	6 pm	The Highlands
7	Collin	6 pm	Plano
11	Temple	6 pm	The Highlands
14	Weatherford	6 pm	Weatherford
18	Ranger	6 pm	The Highlands
21	Southwest Christian	6 pm	Terrell
26	Grayson	6 pm	The Highlands
March 3-5	Region V Tournament	TBA	Midland

ADVERTISE!



If You Want Students, Faculty and Staff to Know About Your Product or Service Call 299-8544 to advertise in the Highland Herald

Sports briefs

Dance team clinic Saturday.



Dancers in grades K-12 can learn from members of the college's award-winning dance team during a day-long clinic set for Saturday, Nov. 1, in the Highlands. The clinic will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude with a 2:30 performance for parents. Junior dancers will learn basics and an entire dance. The Advanced Clinic for high school dancers teaches a Hip-Hop/Jazz routine. The \$30 registration fee includes a shirt and an invitation to perform at the MCC basketball game on Nov. 8. To register or for more information, call Sandy Hinton at 299-8851.

Marathon baseball scheduled

On Sat. Nov. 8, the Highlander baseball team will hold their annual Marathon baseball game. It is expected to be 30 innings of baseball fun.

Each player is asked to raise \$100 by donations or pledges for each inning played.

The team's goal is to raise \$3,000 to buy batting practice jerseys with players' names on them. The players plan to design their own jerseys.

In the past, the team has raised money to buy a tarp, pants and jerseys, and even a radar gun.

Coach Miller and his assistant expect to raise between \$1,000 and \$2,000 themselves.

The 31 ball players are looking forward to participating in the Marathon baseball game. The game is scheduled to start at 10 a.m., and there will be food and drinks.

Persons wishing to make pledges or donations should contact coach Miller at 299-8847, or any member of the baseball team.

MCC calls for collegiate bowlers

Five area colleges have been invited to compete in the fall semester Collegiate Bowling Tournament to be held in Temple at Action World Bowling Center, Nov. 16.

The colleges invited include teams from Baylor, Central Texas College, MCC and host Temple College.

The team winning the tournament will take home a traveling trophy for the school they represent.

MCC's baseball team won the "coveted" trophy in the last tournament.

All MCC students with an eight game average, either from bowling class or a local league are eligible to bowl.

Teams will consist of five bowlers. The teams can be all men, all women, or mixed.

All bowlers will bowl three games.

The cost is \$6 per bowler, which includes the three tournament games and shoe rental.

The format of the tournament is a handicap tournament, with handicapp being based at 100 percent from a 200 average. Individual handicaps will be totaled to make a team handicap. A three game series total will include handicap.

Deadline for entries is Wed, Nov. 12.

For more information, students should contact Rick Butler at 299-8873

"Super Bowl" Champion

Soonalole cashes in at Rolex Championships to claim national titles

By MICHAEL DURMON
In her ninth match of the tournament, MCC's Tagifano Soonalole crushed Auburn of Montgomery's, Cecilia Hincapie, champion of the NAIA division, 6-0, 6-2, in singles play Sunday morning to claim the title of Rolex "Super Bowl" national champion of small colleges.

The Rolex Small College Tennis Championships were held in Memphis, Oct. 23-26.

Soonalole also teamed with Sylvia Lokollo to win the national Jr. College doubles title, trouncing Collin Community College's Petra Schemm and Marta Krzywicki 7-5, 6-2, but fell to a familiar opponent in the "Super Bowl" doubles final.

Soonalole and Lokollo lost to Auburn of Montgomery's Hincapie and Ximena Rodriguez, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

In the singles final, Soonalole said she was able to rout her opponent because she could read her game so well.

"She liked to play from the baseline, using a lot of top-spin shots," Soonalole said. "So, I came to the net to cut her shots off. If I would have played her game of long rallies, I would have run out of gas."

"Another reason that helped me win, was, I really was serving well." "I served a number of aces," Soonalole said.

However, in Sunday's afternoon doubles "Super Bowl" final, Soonalole's tenth match of the tournament, things didn't work out like the MCC's doubles team had hoped.

Soonalole and Lokollo jumped out to a 6-3 win in set one, then their concentration lapsed, Soonalole said, explaining their drop of the next two sets of the doubles final.

"I wish we would have played better," she said. We had all the chances in the world to win. Un-

fortunately things didn't go that way."

"We missed too many easy shots at the net."

Coach Berryman reverberated the players disappointment.

"I wish the players would have won," Berryman said. "It would have been nice to have given Sylvia a chance to play some world class players in Dallas."

"It's too bad they had to have a bad game," he said.

"I think the pressure might have got to them"

The double loss was the first loss for Soonalole on American soil.

She is yet to be defeated in singles competition.

Soonalole was the top player in her homeland of Western Samoa prior to coming to MCC.

Winners of the "Super Bowl" of small colleges qualified to play against the top NCCAA Division I Rolex regional winners Feb. 4.

"It was an exhausting trip," Soonalole said. "By the third set of the doubles final, my legs ached, and my arm was sore," she said, holding her right forearm.

"I felt like a wounded soldier"

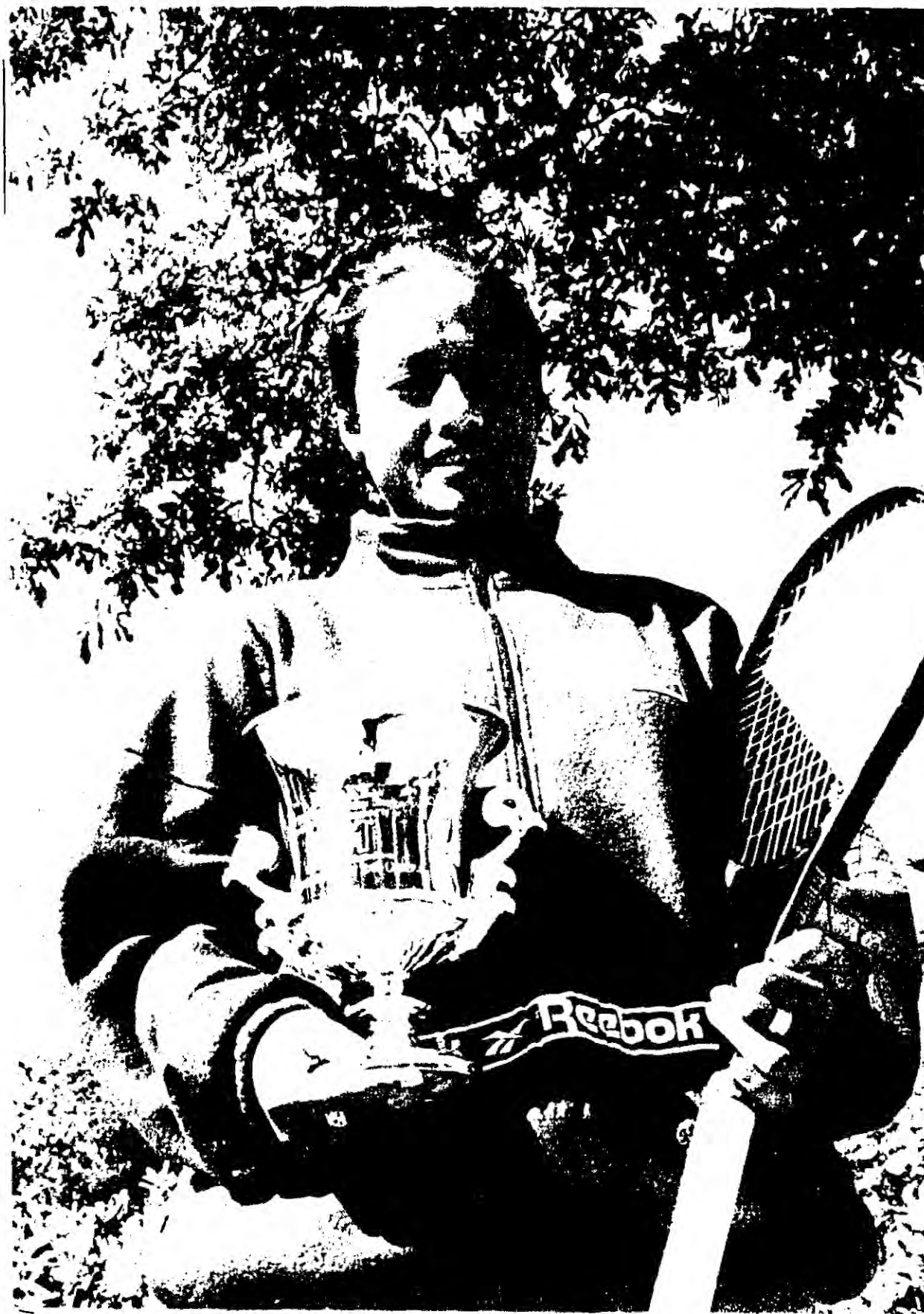
"We could have won, but that's tennis. Sometimes your on top of your game, other times you can't find it."

Asked how she thought she might do against the NCAA Division I players, Feb. 4, in Dallas, Soonalole humbly responded.

"Their the elite."

"I'll give it my best shot."

... "my legs ached, and my arm was sore"... "I felt like a wounded soldier."



FRESHMAN TAGIFANO SOONALOLE returned from Memphis Sunday with national tennis titles in both singles and doubles. She teamed with

sophomore Sylvia Lokollo to win the national Jr. College doubles title and claimed the national singles title for small colleges at the Rolex "Super Bowl" Championships.

Freshman to step up to fill roles of sophomore thin 'Lassie basketball team

By MICHAEL DURMON

Despite four players not returning for their sophomore year, the Highladies remain optimistic about their upcoming basketball season.

The Highladies open the season Nov. 7-8 at home in the Subway Classic.

Guards, Kimberly Branch, from Brock, Lindsey Cathey, from Cedar Hill, and Barbara Simmons from Valley Mills, did not return this semester for personal reasons.

Also not returning is forward, Holly Youngblood, from Waco.

However, minus the four non-returns, players on this years squad said they feel, this years team may be better than the one from last year.

"We know how to play together" were sentiments echoed by team members.

Assistant coach, Shawn Trochim, also, expressed the same optimism.

"This is the most talent we've had in awhile," Trochim said.

"We don't just have one dominant player on the team. We have a chance to be a good team, because the players work to-

gether so well."

She said that the four players not returning should not hurt the play of this year's team.

However, if there are any standout players expected this early in the season, it would be the three returning sophomores, Trochim said.

The returning sophomores include guard, Amy Pearson; center Clarneva Lonix, and All-Conference player, center, Tenay Garrett.

Though expectations are high for the 1997-98 team, holes will need to be filled.

One hole to be filled, is one left by the graduation of All-Conference guard, Lisa Wachsmann.

A floor leader for the Highladies last season, Wachsmann finished second in scoring in the North Texas Jun-

ior College Athletic Conference, at 14.7 points per game. She also finished the season averaging 5.1 assists per game.

"Who will take Lisa's place remains to be seen," Trochim said. "It's just a matter of which one of the kids will step up."

In a tough conference, she said that the perennial top finishers, MCC, Grayson, and Weatherford could be considered the favorites to win the conference.

Unless injury misfortunes happen before Nov. 7, date of the Subway Classic, the Highladies will begin the season injury free.

The Subway Classic includes teams, San Jacinto, Blinn, Weatherford and MCC

As of press time, scheduled times and opponent pairings have not been announced.

Tip-off: Hobbled Highlanders to square off against Panola in season opener

By BRIAN HALL

Basketball season is in high gear as the Highlanders 1997 season begins on Friday in Carthage to battle the Panola Ponies.

In the coming weeks the Highlanders will have to travel to Panola, and Eastfield before returning for their first home games Nov. 7-8 as host to the Subway Tip-Off Classic.

Not yet having the chance to scout the upcoming teams in regular games, the coaching staff went to the Tarleton Jamboree last Friday. The Jamboree is a tournament made up of 16 junior college teams from around the state, one of which is Panola, the Highlanders first opponent.

Head Coach Steve Shields said the biggest concern against Panola would be the inside game. Panola is a team of great size, as evident of their center Roy Candley, 7-2 and 400 pounds,

from Louisiana. With the lack of size on the Highlanders they plan to front the post and rely on the help side defense against the bigger players.

"With Panola being the first game of the year, we are going to be more worried about what we are doing, instead of what they're doing," Shields said.

In the four team Subway Classic on Nov. 7-8, the Highlanders will take the court against Blinn and San Jacinto. San Jacinto comes into the year widely known as one of the better teams in the nation.

San Jacinto returns everybody from last year's team which lost in the final game of last years national tournament.

Coach Shields said the leader of the team point guard Roy De La Cruz runs the team well on the court and that William Clay is an excellent three point shooter. They also have "Gee" Gervin,

the son of former NBA superstar and Hall of Famer George Gervin.

The Highlanders have been hit hard by injuries in the last couple weeks. Robert Brown, one of the key returners, had arthroscopic surgery to repair loose cartilage in his right knee. He will be out three to four weeks, possibly returning in time to participate in the classic.

Jayson Mitchell, a transfer from Colorado State, also has been hobbling. Suffering from a case of turf toe, it is unknown when he will be ready to play. The coaching staff was really counting on him to be a key in the early going as he can drift between the small forward and power forward positions.

Turf toe is caused by a player jamming his toe in some way. The injury is a hyper-extension, or sprain, of the big toe. It is

called turf toe because on artificial turf the foot tends to grab more, thus hyper-extending it.

Once again the floor leader will be point guard Brandon Manning. Recently named one of the top 40 junior college players in the country, Manning brings the veteran leadership to the team that it will need in the early going as the team comes together.

On the horizon for the Highlanders are the Tyler Apaches and then the Adidas Classic which is held here at the college featuring Navarro, Odessa, and Angelina.

The Highlanders have been hit hard by injuries in the last couple weeks.

Scottish golfers visit campus

(Continued from page 4)

Henderson spoke briefly to students of MCC's sports management class and answered some questions.

"Do you have any sponsorships or contracts with any golf equipment manufacturers?" one student asked.

"How would being named Rookie of the Year affect the amount of sponsorships and money you could make off contracts?" came another question.

"It would be huge to be named Rookie of the Year," Henderson said with a smile as the question-answer session ended.

Afterwards, the dozen teen Scottish golfers and their adult entourage, all dressed neatly in their white shirts and navy blue

slacks, made their way off campus and on to the golf course at Lake Waco Country Club.

The Scottish golfers, accompanied by golfers from MCC and Navarro College, then all teed off for a round of golf.

"Sports pull people together," Davidson said, to the students in the Highland Room, earlier in the day.

"I like to think," Davidson said, "that Gramplan Houston Junior Golf Program played a small part in getting Claire a scholarship to McLennan."

At the golf course, camera shutters clicked from a few of Henderson's new American followers, as he whipped a powerful and long drive as he teed off on the driving range.

INSTANT CASH - just add you!



\$15 Cash for Your First Donation at AMERICAN BIOLOGICS INC.

- Quick, Safe, Easy
- Study while you donate
- Donating Plasma Saves Lives

Call 754-8356

Hours: Mon., Wed. & Fri. - 9 to 4 for New donors - regular hrs 9-5
Tues. & Thurs. - new donors 9-5 regular hrs. 9 to 6
Sat. - new donors 9-2 regular hrs. 9 to 3

American Biologics Inc.
711 Washington Waco Texas 76701

YES YOU CAN!

You can become a member of



Students and faculty of MCC can have access to outstanding financial services by joining Educators Credit Union. All it takes is a \$25 deposit to your savings account.

Savings, auto loans, educational loans and quick teller (24 hour audio response) are just a few of the services available.

Call or stop by an ECU office today!

Home office 4900 Sanger Ave. (254) 776-7900	TSTC Campus 100 Bolling Dr. (254) 799-8948	Hewitt office 505 Hewitt Dr. (254) 666-7711
---	--	---

The MCC student fights back

By RODDY GERMAN

This is a series of articles being run on abuse in the family. First we depict the life of Shirley Ford's childhood. Second, How she lived through the abuse as a mother and a wife. Third, What MCC has done to get those who have suffered abuse back into the mainstream of life.

Trying to talk and fighting back the tears at the same time was quite a chore for Shirley Ford as she sits on a bench under the Student Center.

It was five o'clock in the evening as Ford and I sit talking about her past life. Needless to say it was a gruesome story, and the weather fit the event. A chill filled the air, not only from the rain, but from the words that came from her lips as she drew a picture of her life.

The rain came down steadily as though it was trying to keep rhythm with the tear drops that fell from Ford's eyes, as she pondered some past events of her life. I asked her if she was sure she wanted to tell this story.

"You do realize what you tell me will be going into print. Some of the people that you see everyday maybe reading what you have to say."

With a face filled with sadness, she looked at me and said, "I know, but the story has to be told. Maybe, just maybe, it might help someone, if they know that abuse is no game."

At a point in time, Ford was one of over 100,000 women in the United States who are brutally beaten "daily." The percentage figures were extracted from The National Family Abuse Center Journal, and these figures only represent the cases that were reported.

Last year alone, more women were treated in emergency rooms at hospitals across our nation for broken arms, legs, concussions and facial laceration than from car wrecks.

These treatments were initiated by husbands, ex-husbands and boyfriends, men who professed to love them. Only to have the man in their lives reiterate the statement:

"I'm sorry, I didn't mean to do it, it want happen again"—only to find the harsh brutality gets progressively worse.

Thirty percent of the women killed in the United States are killed by their boyfriends or husbands. Seventy percent of the men who

abuse their female partners also abuse their children. Violence occurs at least once in 66 percent of all marriages in the United States within the family context.

With her eyes full of tears, Ford said, "This is my story."

"I recently was and am a victim of an abusive relationship. The scars that have been embedded into my mind will remain a lifetime. Over a period of time and the help of people like MCC's Marylea Henderson, these memories will fade into the past. They will become blemishes of a life that should never have been."

Ford said she was not given a choice as to who gave her birth. Born into a dysfunctional family, she has had to learn how to cope with what life has to offer.

"At the age of two, I came down with polio which left me virtually paralyzed. I could not walk until I was 13 without the assistance of leg braces and crutches. Then the day came when I was able to remove the braces. I can still remember how great it felt to be able to walk."

Unfortunately, today I speed around campus in a wheelchair due to the polio I suffered as a child," she said. Alone with five other siblings, three boys, two girls, Ford said she was next to the youngest of her parents six children. She was only four when her parents decided to abandon them; leaving them to fend for themselves.

"Fortunately, we were discovered by a local church that took us in until they could find us shelter with a local home for children in Fairfield," she said.

Ford went on to say her youngest brother was adopted at the age of nine to a wonderful family. She can still recall missing him immensely. Some nights she would lie awake crying and calling out his name. Only to be punished by one of the house mothers for disturbing the other kids.

"When my oldest sister Charlotte turned 18, she was informed she would have to make other arrangements. I remember shedding a lot of tears after she left. It was as though I had been abandoned all over again," she said.

"I am told I went into a deep depression after Charlotte left. She was the rock I leaned on."

Ford said she was sent to a foster home when was 16. There she was supposed to receive the proper nurturing and guidance a young woman needed. Instead, she said she received the worst abuse a girl could receive.

Two years after she left the foster home, the man of the house was charged with sexually abusing his own daughter.

"I look back on my life in the home and find I have a lot of mixed feelings. A part of my memories I will treasure for life, yet some, I would just as soon forget. The only nurturing I can remember receiving while I was at the home was from my peers," Ford said.

On numerous occasions, Ford said she can remember asking for help and her request was denied. Even though she was suffering from polio, it just didn't seem to matter. The women were too hard and cold.

"One of the house mothers was my major nightmare. Once I recall, the home had to send my braces off to be repaired. Several of us kids were on our way to the tabernacle, it was very difficult for me to walk. The house mother kept telling me to walk faster. I could not respond to her command, so she started pushing me. Several times I fell to the ground. Each time I fell my brother would pick me up. All of a sudden all the kids gathered around me so she could not push me anymore. The home dismissed her a short time later," Ford said.

I drove to the children's home in Fairfield where I visited the Rev. D. M. Stroud. Numerous times during the conversation he apologized for what could have happened to Ford as a child.

But today, closer regulation by the state and a firmer commitment to service has improved this part of the chain for neglected children. "A child who has lived in a family where abuse takes place, that child needs all the love and understanding that my staff and I can muster up," Stroud said.

I told Ford what Stroud had said about the new policies of the home that had in part shaped her childhood. "That's good, at least I know there are no children who will have to go through what I had to go through," she said.

Then she told about turning 18 and meeting the man who would become her husband. "I just thought I knew what abuse was," she said. (To be continued in the next issue of the Highland Herald.)



Photo by Justin Braswell
THESE BOOTS AIN'T MADE for walking. Roddy German's boot is the perfect decoration of students attending the Texas Community College Journalism Convention in Tyler recently (see story).

Tutor offers inspiration

By JUSTIN BRASWELL

Chicka-chic, thunk-click is the sound that welcomes students to the Academic Success Center reading lab as 15-20 fellow students huddled near computer screens pound out their assignments.

In an age where the word "TASP" sometimes strikes fear and loathing into those who have not met state mandated skill levels in reading, this scene often looks bleak. There is, however, hope and inspiration.

Toward the back of lab, past the huddled masses and clicking keyboards, is an oasis of warmth and friendliness in the form of a special reading tutor.

Marie King, a criminal jus-

tice major, works as a tutor and is easily the "sweetheart" of the reading lab.

"Everyone is my friend" Said the 24-year-old single mother from Axtell.

King, who has worked in the lab since the semester began, knows first-hand the frustration and humiliation many students feel who are in the remediation class.

"I've been there" King said. "I hadn't been to school in seven years and when I took my TASP test, I bombed it."

Marie has been through the same reading remediation class in which she now tutors.

"When I went through it there was a young man who tutored

me and helped me see it a different way. After that (the reading course) just clicked for me and I had it."

King said that she tutors the same way. "I help them say it in a different way. Just because you're in a remedial class doesn't mean you're stupid. I would say that 80 percent of those in this class know it and this class is the key that unlocks it," said King. "I like to see their expressions when they get it."

For those who are in a remedial class, King gives this advice, "Don't be embarrassed. After you complete this class you will be one step ahead, besides, it doesn't matter where you start as long as you get to the end."

Casa de Cafe features new talents

By BRAD WILLIAMS

For the past four years, a day has been set aside in which the second floor of the Library is creatively to resemble the aesthetic make up of a coffee house in order to host the now MCC tradition — Casa de Cafe.

Casa de Cafe allows the opportunity for the gathering of faculty and students to publicly perform artistic talents in a refined atmosphere.

Artistic exhibitions will include jazz music performed by Bill Howard and Beth Ullman, music instructors, and the readings of poetry by winners of a

contest sponsored by the project. Poetry winners will also be published in a dedicated special section of the Highland Herald in November.

John Chatmas will add style to the scenery by providing paintings and other selected works of art completed by students.

The aim of Casa de Cafe is to raise benefits to serve Storybook Christmas — a program that helps procure desired books for underprivileged children in the area. Organizers of the event are asking those who plan to be in attendance for a \$2 cover charge or the donation of a new

hardcover book to aid with this charitable cause.

Organizers hope to exceed the donation's of last year's \$480 and 91 new books contributed.

Guests of the event will be treated to coffee and other assortments of delectables while partaking in the stimulating environment provided by artists' presentations.

The event is scheduled for Nov. 19. Performances begin at 10:30 a.m. and conclude around 12:30 p.m. For more information on Casa de Cafe or Storybook Christmas, call Jane Vargas at 299-8663.

You are riding the wave into the Information Age.

Why not consider mass communications to prepare yourself.

McLennan Community Colleges offers the only complete two-year college journalism program in a large area ranging from Dallas to San Antonio and from Midland to the Houston area. This means that MCC offers virtually every course in journalism that has been designated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for transfer to Texas universities. A list and description of those courses, along with a degree plan, is found in the MCC catalog (pp. 92-94).

The journalism/mass communications department has been designated as fully certified by the national Community College Journalism Association. Certification was granted after a rigorous self study and a two-day inspection by a team of professionals. MCC is only one of three community colleges in Texas to have such certification. This certification should carry some weight as a student applies for admission to a university or applies for a job.

Students who have studied journalism at MCC have been extremely successful as they have moved into university programs to continue their majors. Their preparation at MCC has served them well in advanced mass communications courses at almost all the major universities in the state. Many have received quick promotions on the staffs of university newspapers and radio and television stations at such schools as Baylor, Texas A&M, UT Austin and UT Arlington, Texas Tech, North Texas, Southwest Texas State, Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin. Almost all of these schools have provided significant scholarships to our students, based in part on the reputation of the journalism department.

Then those students have gone into the field of journalism and are making their marks in the newspaper, television, magazine, newsletter and radio industries and in public relations and advertising.

Other graduates who have gone into other fields have said that the journalism courses they took as a freshman or sophomore at MCC have served them well in their professions.

You are invited to visit one of the student newspaper editors in the Community Services Center, C-16, or call them in the newsroom, 299-8524, to learn more about the program.

Journalism — a good way to learn how to gather information and communicate that information clearly and with interest.

INTERNET SPECIAL

Internet Special
Unlimited Access

- MCC STUDENT INTERNET SPECIAL - \$30.00 per semester (after rebate) with a 3.0 GPA
- General Public Grand Opening rate \$19.95/month

56K Modems

Custom-built Computers

TECHNOLOGIES

Located in The Shops at River Square Center, Franklin and 2nd Street.

We make technology EZ.

254-755-0222 ext. 334

Former student making good

Impressing country music lovers



CORBY LACROIX

By SHELLEY DEATS
As the weekend approaches and country music lovers begin to pour out of their homes and into popular clubs awaiting to be entertained, Corby La Croix and his band members are also making preparations.

The crowd is pumped, the lights are low and Corby La Croix and his band Cuttin' Loose step onto the floor to begin a night filled with one satisfying performance after another.

La Croix, who graduated from MCC's two year commercial music program last semester, had an immediate response in getting his band started.

The band consists of seven members La Croix who is the lead vocalist and rhythm guitar, Sammy Colunga lead guitar, Brian Douglas bass, Brian Kasik back up harmony and guitar, Mark Veselka harmony, Jeromy

Yager drums, and Dave Middlebrook sound man.

The band started when Douglas and Colunga approached La Croix after hearing his demo tape. La Croix had wanted to start his own band so they started rehearsing in January and the result was their band Cuttin' Loose.

All of the members are either MCC students of graduates with the exception of Jeromy Yager.

For La Croix and the band, luck has been on their side and success is something these guys know well. Being only 21 and so successful, West native was asked what has made the band come so far in such a short time.

"God's in control, but there is plenty of room for improvement, by all means," he said.

Cuttin' Loose has opened for some national touring acts including James Bonamy, Gary

Allen, Emilio, Trace Adkins, Rick Trevino, and Ricochet and they will continue to open for many others.

The group has been playing at various Central Texas night clubs such as Midnight Rodeo, The Melody Ranch, The Martini Factory and Cactus Canyon. An upcoming event to watch for is Nov. 7 at Cactus Canyon in Temple where the band will be opening for Diamond Rio.

This busy schedule and early success is no accident. Along with prayers for the band, the fact that all of its members have a good musical background has been important.

La Croix pointed out that MCC, being such a great school and having such a good music program, is a huge factor in the band's success.

Because MCC's commercial music program is considered a

technical program, the law requires that 85 percent of graduates have to be placed in the music industry. But the college does much better than this with the job placement rate now between 93 to 94 percent.

With such a high placement rate and the things that La Croix learned such as putting together a press packet, executing promotions and reaching club owners, he can see how MCC had a hand in giving this band a beginning boost.

Aside from the band, Corby La Croix also has an impressive list of credentials. He has recorded with the likes of Johnny and Dick Gimble, along with some past and present members of George Strait's Ace in the Hole band. He has also performed with Johnny Gimble and Texas Swing on several occasions.

Aside from this he is also a

songwriter. Of the three songs on his demo tape two are his own originals, "She Still Ain't Turned Me Down" which is upbeat and the other is a pretty ballad entitled, "Tell Me Where I Stand."

The other song on the demo tape was co-written by a notable Nashville songwriter/publisher Allen Shimpler it is called "Outskirts of Austin" and is becoming one of the bands signature songs.

Looking to a promising future, Cuttin' Loose is negotiating a contract with Ohio: All-Star Management, and the group is contacting record labels and agencies all over the world.

Cuttin' Loose has plenty of examples from to focus on in their climb toward success.

For instance, the popular group Sons of the Desert, who also completed MCC's commercial music program, now has a top 20 hit on the country charts.

CALENDAR

Oct. 31—Medication Aide Continuing Education Class. 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Community Services Center.
Community Services Fair. 9 a.m.-noon. MCC Cafeteria.

Pumpkin Carving Contest. 10 a.m.-noon, MCC Cafeteria.

Halloween Dance and Costume Contest. 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. MCC Cafeteria.

Nov. 1—Dance Clinic. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Highlands Gym.

Nov. 3—Express Registration for Spring Classes Begins. 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday. Continuing through Dec. 5. Call Student Admissions at 299-8622.

Nov. 4—Faculty Concert. 8 p.m., Ball Performing Arts Center.

Nov. 5—Fire Academy Cadets Practice Hazardous Materials Control, continuing through Nov. 10.

Nov. 6—Waco Community Band. 8 p.m., Ball Performing Arts Center.

Nov. 7-8—Subway Tip-Off Classic.

Nov. 8—"Toys for Tots" Fun Run. 7-11 a.m., Student Services Building.

Nov. 12—Clay Extravaganza, Works by MCC art teacher Trey South, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Continuing through Dec. 10 at Visual Arts Building Gallery, located in building F of the Community Services Center.

Landing a Great Job: The Competitive Edge. 10:15 a.m., HPE Lecture Hall. Part of MCC's PASS workshop series.

Nov. 13—Heart of Texas Business Breakfast Meeting. 7:30 a.m., Small Business Development Center, 401 Franklin.

Telemarketing/Teleservicing Job Fair. 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Community Services Center Open Area.

Seminar on Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. 9:30-11:30 a.m., Community Services Center.

Fire Academy Cadets Practice Fighting Live Fires at City of Waco training facility.

Nov. 14-Nov. 15—Highlanders Basketball Tournament. 6 and 8 p.m., Highlands Gym.



FREE FORM MODERN DANCE was explored on stage at the Open Door Arts Fest. Multiple Matt Misers stand in the foreground. Dance fans can enjoy such

Jerry MacLauchlin choreography as this in the coming production "Indians."

Faculty honors musical centennials

Public Information Office Release

Music faculty will perform works by Franz Schubert and Johannes Brahms during a concert set for 8 p.m. on Nov. 4 in the Ball Performing Arts Center.

Billed as a "Life and Death" concert, the program honors two musical centennials observed in 1997: the 200th anniversary of Schubert's birth and the 100th anniversary of Brahms' death.

Those participating will be Karen Albrecht, Donald Balmos,

Tommy Edds, Don and Doris Scott, Bill Haskett, David Hooten, Ruth Pitts, Lise Uhl and Gail Wade.

The concert is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Music Department at 299-8283.

Community band to play Thursday

The Waco Community Band will present its first concert of the season Thursday in the Ball Performing Arts Center.

The group is conducted by

Edwin Powell and will feature works by American composer James Barnes, English composers Kenneth Alford and Ralph Vaughan Williams and Russian

composer Dmitry Shostakovich. The concert begins promptly at 8 p.m. and is free and open to the public. The program will last approximately 45 minutes.

A young man's moment in time

(Continued from page 4)
The whole time I was hitting the window, I could feel my dad plucking my head off, just like he would a chicken.

I finally broke the window. We jumped into the car to race home and I looked at my watch; we still had enough time to get a cherry coke before going home. I asked Kathy if she wanted to go to the Bear Drive-Inn for a cherry coke and she said, "That sound great."

Let me tell you that's all I needed to hear. I dropped that 327 Chevy into drive and away we went. We hadn't gone fifty yards and Kathy burst out with laughter. I looked at her and asked what was so funny. She then proceeded to put her

hand where the passenger window was supposed to be. The window on the passenger side of the car had been down all the time. I still to this day enjoy thinking about that night—a night I will never forget.

MCC dramatic crew preparing 'wild act'

By BRAD WILLIAMS

After a successful run of "Wilm Shkspr (abridged)", the talented cast and crew of MCC's drama department prepare again to enchant audiences with the passionate and wildly theatrical production of "Indians."

"Indians" follows the stage life of legendary frontier showman Buffalo Bill (portrayed by Zachary Moore), and the performing "savages" that accompanied him.

The play proceeds in non-linear sequences that slowly unravel the emotionally conflicted man within the myth and reveals the exploited human within the "savages."

The historical Native American Sitting Bull (played by Matt Miser) delivers intense melancholic soliloquies that offer detail on the abuses and lies the Native Americans suffered at the hands of the "white man."

"Buffalo Bill thought he was doing the Indians a service, when in reality he was doing them a disservice," says play director Jim Rambo about the social and emotional overtones of the play.

The stage will be brought to life by dance numbers directed by Jerry MacLauchlin, which will represent the ancient and sacred dances of Native Americans. One dance includes the infamous "Sun Dance," which involves the participant being gripped and hung by claw like hooks that tear into the flesh of the chest.

The play is consistent with elements of symbolism which Rambo, cast, and crew members will portray through lighting and set techniques.

Lighting and set design will play an expressive role in the play's interpretation. Different shades and casts of light will bring out the exclusion of the Native Americans and add to the carnival atmosphere of the dances.

The set is planned to unfold in front of the audiences eyes with various backgrounds flying in and out from scene to scene.

"Indians" was written by Arthur Kopit in the late 1960s to serve as a dark reflection of America's attitudes and military involvement in Vietnam. The play exposes the political agendas that lay beneath the surface of a fickle government.

The play is scheduled to run from Nov. 20-22 in the Ball Performing Arts Center. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for seniors and free for students presenting their I.D.

The cast members include—Zachary Moore, Matt Miser, Jamey Rabold, Geoffery Voss, David McConnell, Drew Vera, Tiffani Ginn, Leslie Garner, Renee Hoffman, Rachel Stevens, Chris Hood, Andy Reed, Rob Holland, Chris Kent, Craig Bischoff, Noah Neal, Keith Cravy, Ben Cole, Kim Dunn, Brent Hale, Brandi Dacus, and Krystal Elrod.

Final exam schedule

Classes	Exam Day	Exam Time
Mon.-Wed.-Fri. Classes 6:55-7:50 am	Wed., Dec. 10 Fri., Dec. 12	*6:55-7:50 am

(precludes uninterrupted exam time of 120 minutes)

8:00-8:55 am	Mon., Dec 15	8:00-10:00 am
9:10-10:05 am	Fri., Dec. 12	9:10-11:10 am
10:20-11:15 am	Wed., Dec. 10	10:20-12:20 pm
11:30-12:25 pm	Mon., Dec. 15	11:30-1:30 pm
12:40-2:00 pm	Fri., Dec. 12	12:40-2:40 pm
2:15-3:35 pm	Mon., Dec. 15	2:15-4:15 pm
3:50-5:10 pm	Wed., Dec. 10	3:50-5:50 pm

Tues.-Thur. Classes	Exam Day	Exam Time
8:00-9:20 am	Tues., Dec. 16	8:00-10:00 am
9:35-10:55 am	Thurs., Dec. 11	9:35-11:35 am
11:10-12:30 pm	Tues., Dec. 16	11:10-1:10 pm
12:45-2:05 pm	Thurs., Dec. 11	12:45-2:45 pm
2:20-3:40 pm	Tues., Dec. 16	2:20-4:20 pm
3:55-5:15 pm	Thurs., Dec. 11	3:55-5:55 pm

Evening Schedule

6:00-7:20 pm	MW	Mon., Dec. 15	6:00-8:00 pm
7:35-8:55 pm	Wed.	Wed., Dec. 10	7:35-9:35 pm
6:00-7:20 pm	TTH	Tues., Dec. 16	6:00-8:00 pm
7:35-8:55 pm	TTH	Thurs., Dec. 11	7:35-9:35 pm
6:00-9:00 pm	M	Mon., Dec. 15	6:00-8:00 pm
6:00-9:00 pm	T	Tues., Dec. 16	6:00-8:00 pm
6:00-9:00 pm	W	Wed., Dec. 10	6:00-8:00 pm
6:00-9:00 pm	TH	Thurs., Dec. 11	6:00-8:00 pm

Saturday Classes Exams for Saturday classes will be given at regular class time on Dec. 13, 1997.

Off-campus classes The exam schedule will be arranged by your instructor. However, exams will not be given before Dec. 10.

Or other exceptions Classes which meet beginning between 5 and 5:55 pm will hold final exams at regular class time on Dec. 10, 11, 15 or 16 at the discretion of the instructor.

MCC Opera to perform 'Amahl & Night Visitor'

By MICHAEL GARRETSON

The opera workshop will perform "Amahl and the Night Visitor" four times Dec. 4-7.

The ensemble will perform the first two shows at the college. The final two performances are open to the public.

The first public show is on Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m., and the second is a 2:30 p.m. matinee on Dec. 6.

"Amahl and the Night Visitor" is a fictional Christmas play about a crippled boy named Amahl and his mother who meet three wise men who are following a star in eastern sky.

The ensemble began work on the opera in August. Staging is complete and the performers are currently rehearsing their respective parts.

All cast members must help build the sets and costumes in

addition to memorizing the songs. Members also sell tickets.

The ensemble has 16 members, including Logan Pendela, a student at East La Vega Intermediate School, who will play the role of Amahl for two performances.

Lisa Uhl who has taught the opera workshop for 17 years is the stage director.

Uhl and music director Gail Wade, tech director Richard Lealle who oversees the building of the props and sets, and Kathleen Cochran, the costumer, are in charge of production.

the Loan Bank
AMERICAN BANK
Member FDIC
7 am until 7pm
Monday through Friday
9 am until 1pm Saturday
1801 North Interstate 35
799-4921
Loop 340 at Highway 84
776-8200

LARGE PEPPERONI PIZZA FROM
Pizza Inn.
751-1723
4315 Lakeshore Drive
CARRYOUT • FREE DELIVERY
Buy One Large Pepperoni Pizza for \$7.99 get second one for \$4.99

CARE YOUR NEIGHBORS!
CROSS OUT STRANGERS!
CREEPY CRITTERS...
PING PONG BALLS...
GOOBY GLOWING WORMS...
DANCING PUMPKINS...
VAMPIRE FANGS...
BILLY EGG TEETH...
MAKE-UP ON A STICK (WASH AWAY OR SMUDGE AWAY AT THE "DARKEST HOUR")
HEARTWORKS CO
PAPER BEAR
"GIFTS AND TOYS FOR ALL AGES"
MONDAY - SATURDAY 10-6,
112 NORTH VALLEY MILLS, WACO, TEXAS!!!

Door opens on future of art

MCC Arts Fest '97



Photo By Gary Laseater

AGRACEFUL sculpture. (above).

(center right photo by Michael Durmon) Randy Hatfield strolls and strums.

Up and coming young painter Lauren Moore at work (below).

Bubble Magic! (bottom left). Children of all ages had fun being creative Arts Fest weekend.

By CAROLINE BLAHOVA
"I never get enough of that wonderful stuff," sings T. Buckk, songwriter and musician from Dallas, accompanied by a mockingbird from the nearby tree.

"Arts Fest was a big success, about 10,000 people showed up," said Joe Kagle, director of the Art Center on MCC.

Artists, composers, singers and sculptors, all showed their "wonderful stuff" at the fest.

Noel Merriam, visual artist, created pictures with little children from fourth, fifth and sixth grade.

"These pictures should reflect something from Texas life and will be sent to the Czech Republic," Merriam said.

"We expect kids from the Czech Republic to send us some pictures in exchange," she said.

She added that they also exchange pictures with children in China.

"We created four big murals for kids in China and their schools," Merriam said.

In another tent, a visual artist, Charyl Dragoo, displayed her paintings.

"I have been in this business for 20 years," Dragoo said.

According to the artist's booklet, her paintings are mainly oil and acrylic and they represent western life. Paintings are in a private collection nationwide. Dragoo's most recent painting is an 8' by 40' western mural at the newly opened Diamond's Back's Restaurant.

When someone commented that her paintings are beautiful, Dragoo simply said, "I like to please the client."

Mike Smith is an Waco artist,

whose paintings were displayed in a booth nearby.

"I did this piece in about two weeks," he said, pointing on the colorful, big painting, which covered one wall of the booth.

"I used oil and acrylic for paint and wood and string for decoration, and it's all painted on plexiglass," Smith said with a smile.

"The pattern goes from logi-



cal to almost illogical pattern."

Children were, of course, the honored guests of the fest. Besides boat and bubble making, children rode on tricycles in the area in front of the Art Center. Tricycles wheels were covered with paint and children created images on a huge piece of brown paper at the Art Center grounds.

Danny Apodaca, the mask artist, created leather masks.

"I start with flat leather, I draw a image on it and cut it out. Than I let it soak, shape it in any form and wait for the material

to get hard," Apodaca said.

He added that after the mask is ready he adds gold leaves and acrylic paint.

"One mask takes about two weeks," Apodaca said.

Eugenie Kamrath Mygdal, the Waco artist, whose tent was near the Ball Performing Arts Center, specializes in bronze and ceramic sculpture. Mygdal was making 10"-12" horse statues

tomers and people with the same hobby can check out the website on <http://www.riogrande.com>.

The most famous and probably the favorite children's event at the festival was the Jell-O sculpture by Thedra Cullar-Ledford, the Oxford University graduate in arts.

The sculpture was a flat pool of red gelatin.

"The Jell-O cost us \$600," Ledford said.

She added that the supplies, the barrels of water and the metal pool, cost about \$2,000.

On the question what would be the use of the Jell-O after it's solid and ready, she said that she will let the children play in it.

"It's gonna be a big mess," she said, smiling.

Next morning, about noon, the pool was full of children, who played in it and seemed to enjoy it.

People watching Joe Kagle, the director of the Art Center might have thought that he was a big kid himself. On the question how does it feel to be in Jell-O, he said: "All is yucky, this is the most yucky stuff I've ever been into."

Not only visual arts, but also performing arts were presented on the fest.

Students at the Ball Performing Arts Center under the leadership of Jerry MacLauchlin, MCC choreographer and theater instructor, presented free form modern dance.

"Are you ready for private showing?" he asked us, when this reporter and one of the photographers seated ourselves near the stage.

Instructing the whole performance, in 18 minutes he and his students performed the free form of a dance for five people in the audience.

He said that he and his students are getting ready for the next performance in November, "Indians," (see related story).

MCC Country Band, Jazz bands and others gave the fest the right feeling of an creative atmosphere.

The MCC Country Band played songs from George Strait and from several lesser known Nashville artists, under the leadership of Richard Gimble, instructor of commercial music.

Several silversmiths also displayed their work at the festival.

Gary Arnold and his wife had a booth right next to Cheryl Dragoo's western paintings.

"I have been doing this for 23 years," Arnold said.

"I combine white, pink and yellow gold," he said, adding that everything is handmade.

Another silversmith making jewelry demonstration took place in the Fine Arts Building.

Joe Jimenez taught the children how to make simple bracelets and earrings from silver wire.

"I work with wax, gold and silver and sometimes platinum," Jimenez said.

He said that detailed work and imagination is the key.

"I use simple tools and the visor for a closer vision," Jimenez said.

For more information, cus-



Photo By Gary Laseater



Photo By Gary Laseater



Above and below photos By Michael Durmon



Life is short, Art is long.

ART CENTER director Joe Kagle bathes his weary feet in Jell-O. (Top right.)

LIFE IS SHORT, ART IS LONG. Motto on interactive painting. (Top left.)

ROMEO AND JULIET (above) play scenes from The Compleat Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged).

ROBERT MEEK spins the wheel to make a clay pot. (below)

Below photo By Michael Durmon



Above and below photos By Michael Durmon



Above and below photos By Michael Durmon

