

Highland Herald



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McLennan Community College, Waco, TX

November 1, 2001

Shoplifting hits MCC bookstore

Jonmichael Swetnam
Staff Writer

The MCC Police department is investigating an bookstore theft involving an MCC student who is accused of stealing books, then selling them back.

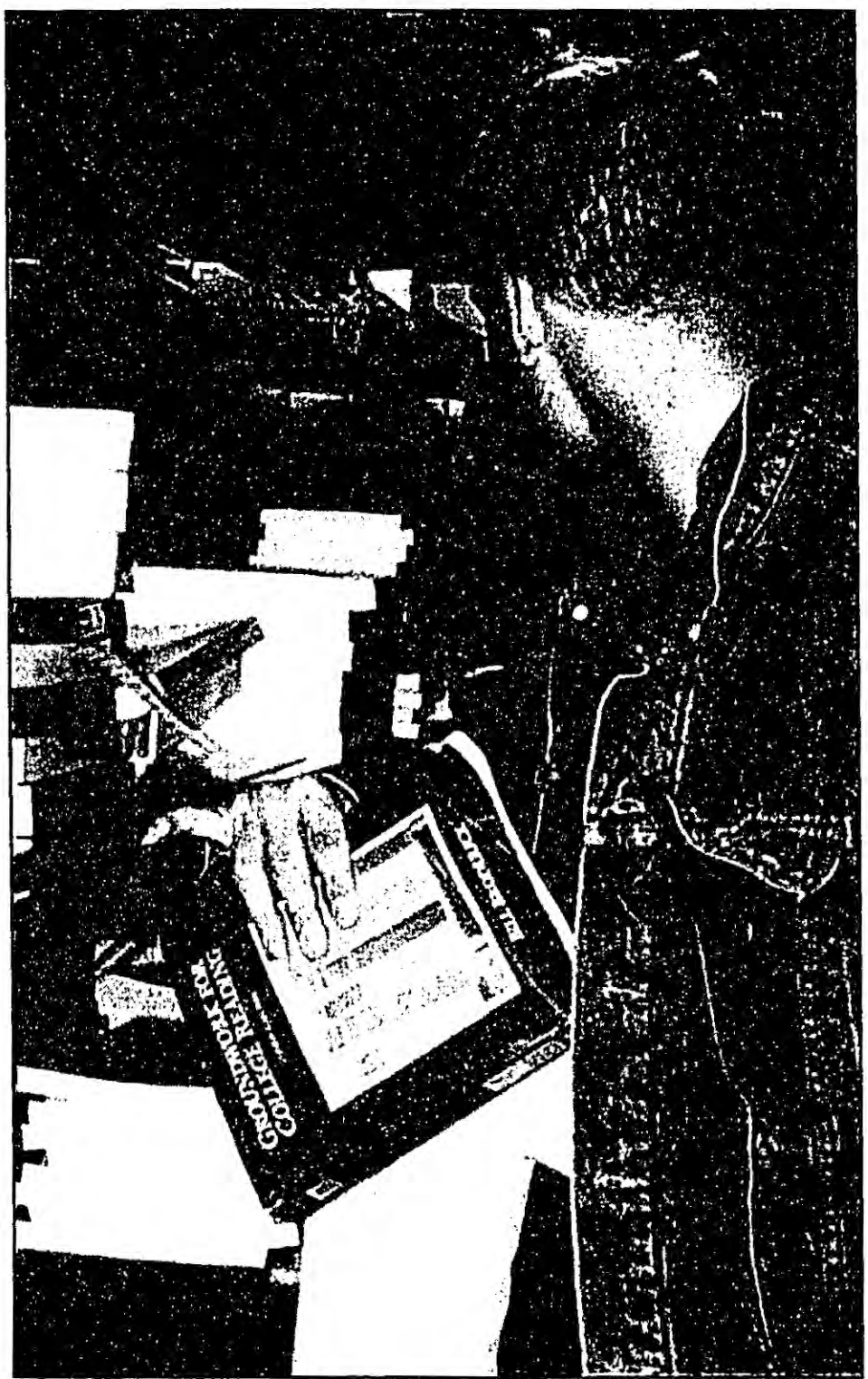
MCC police chief Larry Radke the investigation is ongoing, and no arrests have been charged.

"I think what happened in this instance is that the person in question took a book and put it in a backpack or a coat and walked out. Then he turned around and asked someone else to go resell it for him. In this particular incident, the person has probably done this two or three times," Larry Radke, Chief of MCC Police Department, said. Radke went on to say that such occurrences are not unique to MCC.

In such cases, Radke said, the police department handles the punishment through the criminal court system. When the investigation warrants, charges are filed with the District Attorney's office, Radke said.

In addition to the criminal investigation, offenders are referred to Student Services, which initiates administrative punishment, he said. The department will then review the situation and decide on a punishment. The punishment varies, depending on the offense, he said, and may include written or verbal warnings, probation or suspension.

Even if the charges are not filed, administrative action of some kind



Student dramatization of shoplifting that allegedly occurred at the MCC bookstore.

is always taken, Radke said. The accused student has been referred to Student Services, and the decision is still pending.

Radke said he does not have any exact figures regarding the cost or number of books that were allegedly stolen.

"I think that each semester there is a different kind of specific loss. This semester it just happened to be books. When you're talking about books, you're talking about \$50 to \$75 apiece, and that adds up," Radke said.

Radke said he could not discuss specific changes to the bookstore's security, but said countermeasures have been taken to make thefts more difficult, Radke said. Since the bookstore is a separately owned and operated organization from MCC, the school does not make these policies, he said.

"There are multitudes of people down there, and it can be hard to keep track of everyone at times," Radke said.

He said security possibilities might include limiting the number

of students allowed in the bookstore at one time.

"Access will probably be limited somewhat. Maybe not all the time; just during peak hours or times like that. They could let in a certain number of students, say 50, for example, and then close the doors until that number thins out," Radke added.

"I think that this incident brought to our attention that corrective measures need to be taken. Hopefully it will not be as much of a problem from now on," Radke said.

Critics rave over 'Hunt'

Harlan E. Short, Jr.
Entertainment Editor

The MCC drama department took their production of Peter Shaffer's "The Royal Hunt of the Sun" to the Kennedy Center/American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF), on the evening of Oct. 17.

The KC/ACTF Texas #1 Festival was held at the Texas A&M University-Commerce Performing Arts Center on Oct. 17-20. Other participants of the festival were: Grayson County College with "Comedy of Errors"; Tarrant County College-Southeast with "Domestic Issues"; Texas A&M-Commerce with "Leyendas de mis Abuelos"; Texas Christian University with "La Llorona"; Midwestern State University with "Wit"; UT-Tyler with "Comic Potential".

Students were not only given the opportunity to watch several other productions, they attended workshops throughout the festival that centered on theatre skills. Among these were workshops covering improvisation, Dialects, and rehearsing. There were also several luncheons, a pizza party and dance social.

At 3:45 p.m. the cast and crew of "The Royal Hunt of the Sun" were given the stage to get all the lights, sets, and props in order for the show. This time was also used to get all costumes and make-up to the actors. At 8 p.m. the lights came up on "The Royal Hunt" and were given a standing ovation. Directly after the show the cast and



Andrew Love, left and Tim Riley, right perform in "The Royal Hunt of the Sun."

MCC drama department's performance of Tennessee Williams "Camino Real" will premiere Nov. 28 and run through Dec. 1.

Scholarship contest opens



Melanie McCalmont's "The Stone Circle" was the winning submission chosen from over thirty entries for the new student literary magazine.

New literary magazine entrants can compete for \$150 tuition grants in six writing and art categories

Jana M. Vaculik
Editor in Chief

Six \$150 scholarships will be awarded to first place winners selected in six categories for the new student literary magazine, The Stone Circle.

Sections include poetry, short fiction, essay, computer art, paintings, drawings in any media, and graphic art. Deadline for submissions is Nov. 8 and the publication date is the 28.

"The Stone Circle" was the winning submission for McLennan Community College's new student literary magazine. Melanie McCalmont's submission was chosen from among 30 entries.

McCalmont's inspiration came from a combination of the circles around the campus and the theatre production "The Royal Hunt for the Sun."

"I always walk past the new LTC building on my way to class and have

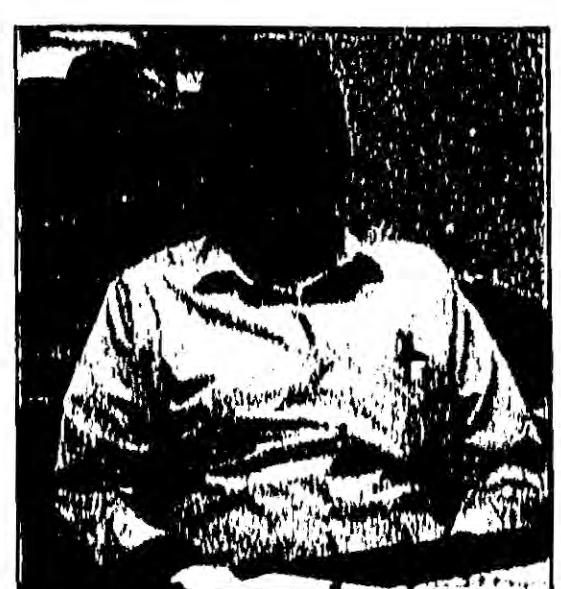
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War on terrorism hits close to home

International students and staff speak out

Sung W. Huang
Staff Writer

America is making war on terrorism. The anthrax mail problem is not only America's, but the world's



Hathi Rush, originally from India explains about threats on America.

concern. Most people elsewhere in the world are worrying about terrorism because they feel direct or indirectly threatened, and all of this severely affects political and economic endeavors of all countries.

The Highland Herald was able to contact three people from neighboring countries: Elvira Kamidova, an Uzbekistani student, Rush Hathi, a computer science professor from India, and Pavel Mizilin, a student from Russia.

Though the news is full of reports and updates on the number of fatalities and new cases and such, those interviewed said they feel safe.

"I'm not anxious; although I've heard a lot of bad stories from many friends in NY. They are really scared of this, but I'm not," Kamidova said.

"I feel very safe when opening my mail," Hathi said.

"I'm not too concerned," Hathi added.

"I'm pretty sure the security system is doing everything to prevent such a thing. I don't think it's such a big deal," Mizilin said.

Some students said they felt the war would be a very drawn out affair.

"I definitely think it's a long-term war. The reason is that you are not fighting with a specific army and you are fighting people who hide. There is not a specific target as far as an army is concerned," Hathi said. "You can never tell how long the war will last," Mizilin said. The Soviet-Afghan War lasted almost ten years he added.

"I am not sure if we can eliminate terrorism. If you kill a father, his son will rise up against you. We need to try to find out solution orally not by hurting people. I, on the other hand, look at this fanatic Taliban. How can you talk to



Digital Images by Jorge Trujillo Pavel Mizilin from Russia talks about his views on the war in Afghanistan.

Taliban? Frankly, I can't say whom I agree with. I would like to take something in the middle," Kamidova said.

Recently many world leaders have come forward saying that the solution to the current situation lies in diplomacy. However, some students said they doubt the possibility of a peaceful solution.

"I don't think people can reach any solution with the Taliban. They don't accept any other kind of political system than their radical government.

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Op Ed

Kill them all

Let's make sure everybody gets fair and equal bombing

Kasia Redden
Staff Writer

So we are bombing Afghanistan, the Taliban, and the terrorist organizations that they protect? Wow... I am sure that now, they know we mean business, so we will never have to worry about terrorism again. We can go right back to living in a bubble, and block out that annoying thing called "Real Life."

Kasia, are you being sarcastic? HEAVENS, NO! I love living under the delusion that Osama Bin Laden and his group of thugs are the only terrorist group in the world, or at least the only one that we have to worry about. So let's just bomb the heck out of them! WAR!

So I guess that means that we don't have to worry about the thousand or so groups in the world that would love to take a chunk out of America. They don't count. Yeah, right.

The question here is, are we bombing to make a point, or are we bombing to wipe out the Al Qaeda? If we are bombing to make a point, I am thinking that it is probably not working. If we are bombing to wipe out the scumbags, then we need to just go ahead and take out the rest of the terrorists in the world too. That means bombing the daylights out of every country in the world large enough to hold the possibility of a terrorist attack, including us.

Ireland! Yes! Let's nuke them! They are a serious terrorist threat. They deal with terrorism in their own country every day! Why shouldn't we? That would help the war on terrorism. Then, we could take out Iraq, just because we don't like Sadaam. He's a jerk, and we know that he was planning something, so we nuked him before he could carry it out. Victory number two for the United States in the worldwide war on terrorism. Oh, don't get excited yet!

There is still one BIG barrier we have to cross. We have to bomb the United States of America!

Yep! Those guys have terrorists and potential terrorists coming out of their ears! Their own people want to terrorize them! We'd better wipe them off the face of the Earth right away. They pose the most threat to the destruction of the world. Oops! Forgot where I was for a second.

Let's face it; we are never going to get rid of terrorism. To do so, we would have to nuke every country, and kill everyone with an evil bone in his or her body. So, that leaves the Pope. I think we can safely say that we can't depend on him to recreate the human race.

The idea of wiping out terrorism is a lovely one.

I don't believe that we should ever stop fighting for it, but I also think that we should take it one step at a time.

Yes, we should take action against those who take action against us. We

should do our best to protect our country! But we should also realize that we can't stop it all at once.

Bombing everything until there is

Jonmichael Swetnam
Staff Writer

Focusing on the Taliban exclu-

very well thought out', or maybe 'not a wise thing to do at all'.

I think it is foolish to plunge our nation into a war with several well-

entrenched and largely faceless organizations that are largely unaffected by the conventional methods we are employing.

I think it is the pinnacle of folly to commit our nation to a bombing campaign in what is possibly the most volatile region on the planet (but that designation tends to change with the week), especially since such a conflict will likely get us dragged into a long series of such wars

as more and more nations fall under the spyglass of the U.N. I think it is ridiculous to charge our armies into a foreign nation and start hunting a criminal no matter how reprehensible the little

scumsucker is.

I think it is stupid, and wasteful. I think it bodes ill for the long term outcome of the war, especially when you take into account that we are basically pursuing the same policy we pursued in the war on drugs. And what is the strategy we employ in the war on drugs? Same strategy we employed in Vietnam.

And no, I'm not saying we're going to get stomped. I'm just pointing out that we are not using a strategy that has a good track record.

I also think it is very hypocritical for us to go on a quest for vengeance and call it justice (no, they aren't always the same thing). But that's another shouting match altogether.

The best we can expect of this, I think, is the following scenario:

We will go in, and we will bomb the Taliban into submission. We will probably get Osama Bin Laden, after he croaks from old age or gets offed by one of his lieutenants who wants to curry favor with us. We will probably go in and build the nation back up, and proceed to install a loyal puppet government that we can manipulate with relative impunity. We'll have a parade, and a memorial, and then we'll end up doing it all again in about five years. Same movie, different cinema.

Therefore, I say we forget about this nonsense and quit while we're ahead.

Okay. We killed some of the brown people (if that sounds racist, let me ask you: if this group had been based in Northern Ireland, do you really think we'd be bombing Belfast?), we got our licks in. Brawl's over. Point's made.

You can't screw with us, so don't try anymore. Now let's stop it here and go home before we get seriously hurt.



Cartoon by Nick Hoff

no one left to terrorize may solve the problem, but it isn't really a very sensible option.

For crying out loud, let's do something sensible, for once.

sively makes sense to me largely because I think this whole war on terrorism is a bad idea.

Let's put that in caps for proper emphasis: BAD IDEA. As in 'not

as more and more nations fall under the spyglass of the U.N.

I think it is ridiculous to charge our armies into a foreign nation and start hunting a criminal no matter how reprehensible the little

"Lit mag"

Continued from Page 1

enjoyed watching the new fountain being built. With the LTC on my right, I saw a new banner put up for the theatre production at the PAC, which showed an Inca circular stone emblem. Then all the stone circles at MCC came together form the banner, the three fountains, the LTC architecture, the sidewalks among the buildings, the artwork in the Art Center lawn," said McCalmont.

McCalmont is a Tartan Scholar, certified tutor, Vice President of Scholarship with Phi Theta Kappa, a member of Sigma Kappa Delta and is on the Bookstore Committee with Student Government Association.

"I am an adjunct instructor with Continuing Education and Workforce Development. I teach computer and writing classes part-time. I'm grateful for the opportunity to teach for MCC," said McCalmont.

"The Scots and Celts used circular stone walls to make gathering places for themselves and their animals. The name "Stone Circle" then reflects MCC's Scottish/Celtic name-sake and gives students a permanent place to gather their artistic pursuits. I think the arts turn existence into life," said McCalmont.

The winning entry was chosen from among other names submitted: Obra Maestra, Spanish for Work of Art, Spiritus Mundi, World Spirit from Yents, The Ppper, Sort bread, Huggs, Cosmic Kolache and the Duleimer.

"I love it! It is simple, elegant and Celtic," said McKeown. "Stone circles are found all over England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. They were places of social, religious and scientific importance."

Jim McKeown, English instructor, got the idea for this publication and will be organizing the first issue.

"I envision this as a student publication and I am thrilled that one of our best students here at MCC had the winning entry, said McKeown. "Melanie is currently enrolled in my World Literature class and she is an outstanding student."

The publication date is scheduled for November 28 in time for the 2001 Casa de Café. The Casa de Café is a forum where students display their artwork and read poetry selections. It is also a fundraiser for Storybook Christmas, which buys books for children during the holiday season.

"The literary magazine will be published once a year but if we get enough student involvement and interest we would like a fall and spring issue beginning Fall 2001," McKeown said.

Any enrolled student is welcome to submit poetry, short stories, essays, reviews and art in any media. Send your submissions by email to jim@mcc.cc.tx.us or deliver hard copy to FOB 113. A cover page should include title, author's name, and address and phone number. First page should contain title only. Art submissions including computer-generated graphics should be sent to highland.jc@mcstuckens.mcc.cc.tx.us

or brought to the MCC Art department CSC building F.

"I'm going to submit some photographs, and possibly a poem or essay.

But I think music lyrics are the best poetry. I encourage the music students to send lyrics to the magazine," said McCalmont.

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Editorial

Two legged vulture variety wrecks havoc on parking lots

Jana M. Vaculik
Editor in Chief

You see them on campus all the time, specifically in the parking lots. Their faces are twisted with frustration and determination. Are they MCC students? Not exactly. They are our very own parking lot vultures.

This special species is more common now than the domesticated squirrel we have around our campus.

Oh, so you haven't noticed them? Well, they are not to be confused with your turkey vulture or buzzard that go for the scrapes on the side of the road. These vultures are the two-legged student variety, looking for a parking space.

They go round and round all over the main parking lots looking for the next possible victim, excuse me parking spot, or a person pulling out. I have seen these vultures in their cars, trucks, vans, SUV's trying to get a spot on campus after 9 a.m.

Ha Ha! Try your luck even to find a decent spot after 8 a.m. Yet these vultures keep driving around wasting time and gas trying to find a spot. I do not understand why they can't just get here early or park at the CSC and ride the shuttle or walk.

On to the problem at hand, the parking lot vultures. If these vultures find another student setting foot on the asphalt and possibly getting to their cars and leaving a vacant spot, the vultures know it like a hunting dog after a racoon.

Several of them follow behind an unsuspecting victim coming out of the Liberal Arts building and slowly drive their cars behind the person. They wait until the victim puts all their stuff in the car and backs out of the spot. Now comes the complicated part, if there are two or more of these vultures. Whoever gets their car in first, wins. Some people will flat out stalk you to your car. If they see anyone just putting their stuff in or getting something out of their cars they are on to you.

On the national front, there might be a very noticeable change in this year's Macy's Thanksgiving Parade. If I had not mentioned this in my



Cartoon by Nick Hoff

editorial most people might not notice. The organizers have asked Miss Universe Denise Quinoes to be in the parade instead of Miss America Katie Harman. Oh my word, bread will be cheaper in the morning because of the tremendous change. Miss America has been jilted by Miss Universe. Can you imagine the cat fight between these two beauty queens. I can imagine it now, something from a Saturday Night Live skit.

Miss America: @\$#!%! I want my spot next to the turkey!

Miss Universe: Girl, do not mess with me! I am from Puerto Rico!

Miss America: Oh yeah?! Back in Oregon I belonged to a gang that threw apples at people! So there! (Miss America and Miss Universe

proceed to pull their hair and fall to the ground along with the tiaras.)

What is it with beauty queens? Just have them both ride separate floats. It should not matter that Quinoes opened a new Macy's in San Juan, Puerto Rico and Harman failed to inform the Macy's parade organizers until a month before the parade. Miss America and Miss Universe won their titles by putting on an evening gown and swimsuit. Maybe we could let the two put on sequined boxing gloves and get them into the ring. I bet more people would watch that than the Macy's parade. I know I would.

Since we are nearing Halloween, I'd like to tell everyone about a new theme park. German and Romanian investors are building a proposed \$35

million theme park called 'Dracula Land' in Sighisoara, Romania. Sighisoara, a United Nations World Heritage listing, is 180 miles from Bucharest and the birthplace of Count Dracula.

Everyone knows what Transylvania is known for, right? The legend is that in Romania there was a prince called Vlad the Impaler, from whom Bram Stoker received his inspiration for the book Dracula. According to legend, Vlad had some serious issues in the membrane.

He had nothing better to do than to torture people by putting a wooden stake in their bodies and watch them slowly die on his dining room table. I wonder what his family did for some real fun. As I said before, his family

What if we don't catch Bin Laden?

Jonmichael Swetnam
Copy Editor

Okay.
Fine.

This has gone far enough. I was kind of sick of drowning in nonstop coverage of the Twin Towers getting slammed into by jet-liners from 27 different angles every two seconds. I was really getting tired of listening to everyone scream about the anthrax that infests every envelope circulating in the United States.

I figure you must be as well. I'm pretty sure everyone is getting sick of all of the news coverage discussing the number of bombs we drop on all of the defenseless Afghani villages. I did not want to add to the mess. I took a limited pride in my ability to keep my sardonic little trap shut for 24 days. But enough is enough.

What in the holy green name of sanity are we doing?!

Now, 25 days later, we have officially not reached a stalemate. Lines aren't moving at all, but it's not a stalemate. We're making progress. Really, we are!

Okay, wake up ladies and gents. Sorry to ruin the honeymoon, but I seriously doubt that we are going to catch this guy.

Anyone remember a character named Pancho Villa?

You might know him as a famous Mexican freedom fighter, bandit, and terrorist. He killed some American citizens and ducked back across the border. He robbed trains and Americans. He made hit-and-run raids on American soil. He thumbed his nose at our nation, and we responded. We had to do something about it, after all. He'd killed good American people. We had to make the world, or at least our little corner of it, safe from the evils of terrorism.

We assembled a military expedition. We gathered up our people in uniform and hurled them into the wilds of Mexico, with orders to bring back this evil man, dead or alive. We wandered up and down the Mexican countryside, got into a couple of big fights, lost some people, and had to go home empty handed. We failed. Pancho Villa was still alive, and we had not a jot of anything to show for the losses and the effort of sending the army over to hunt him.

We couldn't even catch a guy who lives next door to us. How, then, are we going to catch someone who lives half the world away? And people get surprised when they hear Rumsfeld say we might not catch Bin Laden.

People get angry when people say we are stalemated.

There's a chance we're going to lose this war.

had some serious issues. That is not something that normal people do for fun such as going to the movies, miniature golf or going dancing. Now those things are normal but I guess back in 1431 you could not find a good dance hall. You could go to war or kill people in your basements.

I believe Vlad existed but maybe not the way legends have told it. Tourists can visit his castle and look at frescos on the wall of his father. Like father like son, right? The gothic castle is now home to a restaurant where people can eat traditional Romanian food and beer.

But to spend \$35 million dollars on a theme park totally devoted to

Dracula, half-man and bat. My word! I guess people in Transylvania want to be known for their association with bloodsuckers. Probably that is the only thing going for them right now. Sorry, it is the only thing going for them right now.

I think they should spend the money on something more useful, such as renovations to existing castles, then turning them into museums or to improve education, libraries, stuff like that, which has not occurred to people.

The Dracula Land is scheduled to open in 2003, so if you're ever in Romania, stop by and visit. I cannot wait.

Jack Handey's deep thoughts and fuzzy memories an inspiration to me

Kim Carter
Managing Editor

As I searched for meaning in my life-on the Internet, of course-I stumbled across Jack Handey.

You know, the witty, yet bizarre skit that frequented Saturday Night Live for a long time in the form of "Deep Thoughts" and "Fuzzy Memories."

Okay, so maybe it hasn't given me any insight into why I'm here or what I should eat for dinner next Thursday, but it has given me a good laugh and let me revel in the lunacy of another twisted psyche.

Take for instance, one of my favorite Jack Handey quotes: "Too bad you can't buy a voodoo globe so that you could make the earth spin real fast and freak everybody out."

What's not to like? It's got humor and original thinking, and to be honest, it makes me wish I had a voodoo globe. I'd spin it 'round and 'round and 'round and 'round... Oh, I'm going to be sick.

As you can see, I'm not easily amused. If I can't find a deep, hidden

meaning that helps me better myself as a human being, then it can't be credited as something that Kim Carter would enjoy.

Or not. That sounded good, though, right?

Which brings me to another of my favorite Handey tutelages: "One thing kids like is to be tricked."

For instance, I was going to take my little nephew to Disneyland, but instead I drove him to an old burned-out warehouse. "Oh, no," I said, "Disneyland burned down." He cried and cried, but I think that deep down, he thought it was a pretty good joke. I started to drive over to the real Disneyland, but it was getting pretty late.

Here, good 'ole Jack is teaching us the value of a good joke, or maybe he's just trying to help us to better understand the connection between today's youth and symbols of 1940's cartoon monopoly. It could go either way.

Jack doesn't leave us with stale

'Too bad you can't buy a voodoo globe so that you could make the earth spin real fast and freak everybody out.'

— Jack Handey

quotes that only apply to the time period at hand, either. Oh, no. Not the Jack Handey I know and love.

He sets forth pieces of information that can be gnawed over for ages to come. Jack is not un-like Nostradamus. Though he's not quite as creepy, old, and decomposed.

Let me illustrate with the following: "If you're in a war, instead of throwing a hand grenade at the enemy, throw one of those small pumpkins. Maybe it'll make everyone think how stupid war is, and while they are thinking, you can throw a real grenade at them."

How about it, President Bush? Give our troops the go-ahead to make Mr. Handey's vision a reality.

It certainly seems like it would work, and if it doesn't, well, at least we've found a good way to get rid of those stupid little pumpkins.

As if that weren't relevant enough for you, how about Jack's thoughts on the entire final exam process? Glad you asked: "Instead of studying for finals, what about just going to the Bahamas and catching some rays? Maybe you'll flunk, but you might

have flunked anyway; that's my point."

Exactly, Jack. Exactly. I'll leave you with one more quip of Jack's genius. This time, the Jackster touches on the subject of our favorite four-letter word. No. The other one: love.

It goes a little something like this: "Love can sweep you off your feet and carry you along in a way you've never known before. But the ride always ends, and you end up feeling lonely and bitter. Wait. It's not love I'm describing. I'm thinking of a monomil."

So you see, boys and girls, we have all learned from the wisdom of Jack Handey's "Deep Thoughts." Why, from these five snippets of his infinite wisdom, I've gathered enough lessons to last me a lifetime.

As I snap closed the latches on my suitcase and grab my round-trip tickets to the Bahamas, I wonder why I didn't take Mr. Handey's advice sooner.

Maybe you'll walk away a little smarter, or maybe you'll just walk away slowly, shaking your head in a very sad manner.

Highland Herald Staff

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Harlan E. Short, Jr.

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The Highland Herald welcomes letters from the students, faculty, and staff of McLennan Community College.

Please keep letters brief. All letters become property of the Highland Herald, and its staff reserves the right to edit letters for content, taste, grammar, and spelling.

Please e-mail letters and comments to: highland_herald@mccstudents.mcc.cc.tx.us or drop them off in room B42 of the Community Services Building. Phone number: 299-8524

Honey Queen educating public

Justin Loosier
Staff Writer

Colleen Henson, Texas Honey Queen and beekeeper, is working to educate the public about honeybees and raise awareness about the importance of honeybee pollination in the daily lives of Americans.

Henson serves as program chairwoman for the Heart O' Texas Beekeepers, spokeswoman for the Beekeeping & Honey Industry of Texas and writer for the Texas Beekeepers Magazine. She attends fairs, rodeos and conventions, and has met with Governor Rick Perry three times throughout her reign as Honey Queen for legislative work.

Henson, a McLennan sophomore from Bruceville-Eddy, Texas, is an active participant in the Texas Beekeeper Association's partnership with Texas A&M University to develop the Texas Honey Bee Research and Management Plan Initiative. The plan's goal is to ensure that goods provided by honeybee actions and activities are protected and enhanced for the benefit of the Texas agricultural enterprise and citizens from around the state.

Henson says that she likes to appear and talk with the public, and that she is very knowledgeable about honeybees. She says she goes anywhere she can to make the general public aware of her mission - to protect honeybees and ensure their survival for years to come.

According to a brochure provided by the Texas Beekeeping Industry, Texas produces ninety commercial crops such as melons, cucumbers, squash, apples, citrus cultivars, berries, legume seed and hybrid vegetables that require pollination.

Henson has made 51 appearances in publications such as newspapers and magazines, and has attended thirty-two events, such as the National Convention

in San Diego, CA, and honey booths at the State Fair and the Ollie Mae Moen Discovery Center

of Waco to make the public more knowledgeable about honeybee pollination. She obtained much of her knowledge from her parents who were both beekeepers.

Henson said that pollination from honeybees is critical to everyone

because it "contributes to everything from food to fiber."

Jimmie Oakley, Treasurer for the Texas Beekeeper's Association, said that Henson is "extremely dedicated and knowledgeable," and that she works diligently, traveling five thousand miles each year talking



Photo provided by Colleen Henson

to beekeepers from across the United States.

Henson says that she enjoys what she does as Queen and that she believes working with the public makes her surer of herself, and that it gives her an advantage.

"It's a lot of work," Henson said.

"I've met a lot of people from all across Texas."

The opportunity for Henson to meet new faces did not end with the United States, however.

"This summer I was offered to go to Belgium to open a bee project to protect honeybees," Henson said. While in Belgium, Henson, accompanied by sponsor Jan Aerts, gave a speech on her plans for the project in Dutch and English languages. Following their visit to Belgium the two traveled through the countries of Germany, Holland and France.

For her achievements, Henson is eligible to receive a 1-year, \$2,000 scholarship from the Texas Beekeepers Association to the college of her choice.

"It's been a really great experience," Henson said.

Pay phones removed after company survey

Justin Loosier
Staff Writer

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. has disconnected 9 public payphones around the MCC campus, according to Diann Harris, Central Services Specialist for McLennan Community College.

The decision to eliminate the phones in various areas of the campus was the result of a survey conducted by Southwestern Bell associates, indicating that the cost of maintenance was not justified by income and usage.

Southwestern Bell monitors the income of all campus telephones on a regular basis. Harris told the Herald that occasionally Southwestern Bell disconnects a telephone if its income is below a certain level. For a phone to remain, its income must remain above the set level or Southwestern Bell will not support it.

Harris said she believes that part of the reason the phones are not being used is because so many students have cellular phones and are utilizing those instead of public phones.

Harris said she spoke with a Southwestern Bell representative during the week of Oct. 15-19, and requested that any phone that had been disconnected be removed to prevent the illusion that a disconnected phone was working when it was not. Signs have been put in place to prevent the public from being misled and to direct them to the nearest public telephone.

No complaints from students have been reported so far, according to Harris.

Students will still be permitted to

use the small, red call boxes around the campus that connect directly to campus police. Students should use these boxes in the case of emergency.



"We have nine outdoor emergency telephones that take you directly to campus police," Harris said. "We have, I believe, 35 indoor emergency phones that ring directly to campus police and we feel like if there's a real issue they can

contact campus police. They [campus police] are very good to help students when they have a problem and help to get them the information they need."

Harris added that there are still quite a few pay phones scattered throughout the buildings on campus, and that students should have no problem finding one, or finding someone who can direct them to one.

"We are going to try to continue to provide our students with the services they need, whether it's through our emergency phones for emergencies or pay phones. We're looking at the possibility of eventually setting up phones in areas that are outgoing calls only, limited use basis, or areas that are not centrally located," Harris said.

The college is now considering the possibility of placing an emergency call box at the newly opened Bosque River Stage. Pay phones already exist in this area, but Harris said that emergency boxes are also needed so that campus police can be reached faster in the event of an emergency.

Health fair sponsored by MCC

Alyson Moulton
Staff Writer

The MCC-sponsored open Health Fair provided health screenings to senior citizens and information to care givers and senior citizens. The multitude of booths checked eyesight, heart rates and pulmonary screening.

Located in Richland Mall on Friday, Oct. 26 the fair was open to the public, featuring 75 booths set up throughout the mall representing several hospitals, clinics and health organizations. MCC set up booths including RSVP, Nursing, Respiratory Therapy, and a couple of information booths.

The Delta Society operated a booth distributing information about the positive effects of pets in the lives of senior citizens. "Max", a dog trained to work in hospitals and nursing homes, was

an inviting addition to the public.

There were also booths like Providence's, which gave massages.

The MCC Nursing booth was based on stress management. Leila Clark, Program Director-Nursing, and Vocational ran it.

"I feel it was well attended and very positive," said Clark.

Many people talked with the



Digital Images By Angie Moya

participants of the Nursing booth. The Respiratory Care booth also received a lot of visitors with their pulmonary screening.

Douglas Gibson, program director-respiratory care, was in charge of setting up the booth for the fair held at MCC, which was sponsored by the Wellness Committee.

"The Richland Mall is a very good place for senior citizens to go", said Gibson.

This was the first year that the Health Fair was held at the Richland Mall so they were not sure how the turn out would be.

There were an estimated 4,000 to 5,000 people who participated and received information.

"It was an overwhelming success", said Susan Copeland Sr. RSVP Specialist-Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

"Hunt"

Cont. from Page 1

crew had to break down and clear out the set before they could leave.

"The Royal Hunt" was given the Critic's Choice Award, which was presented by Dr. Rory Scanlon of Brigham Young University.

There were also individual awards received by MCC at the festival.

The award for Excellence in Directing went to Jim Rambo, Excellence in Scenic Design went to Tim Poertner, Excellence in Costume Design went to Kathleen Cochran, and Excellence in Choreography went to Jerry MacLauchlan. "The Royal Hunt of the Sun" was also honored with Excellence in Program Design, Property Design, and Makeup Design.

The Irene Ryan Acting Award was given to Andrew Love, Joshua Graves, and Ben Hollandsworth. Receiving this award gives the recipient the chance to attend the regional competition where they will compete for a spot in the national festival at the Kennedy Center, in Washington D.C. There they would perform in an "Evening of Scenes" for an audience of leading directors, producers, and casting agents. Then two winners are selected to receive a \$2,500 scholarship to any institute they choose.

Another honor received was a nomination for the Critic's Institute received by Alexis Koleff. Competing for this award required the participants to attend the Critic's

Institute workshop each day of the festival. During these workshops they were given two plays to watch and critique. After the critiques had been written they were presented orally and discussed during the workshop. The advancing students go to the regional festival and compete again in the same way. Then one student from each region will be allowed to send one critique in to the national KC/ACTF office where it will be judged. The national winner will receive an all expense paid trip to the national playwrighting conference and get to work with the countries leading newspaper and magazine critics.

MCC was one of three schools, at the festival, to be nominated to go to the regional competition on the TCU campus. The other nominees were Texas A&M-Commerce and Midwestern State University.

In the first weekend of December a committee of judges from around the region will come together to decide which of the nominated schools should be allowed to compete in the regional festival. If MCC is selected the drama department will put on the play on the TCU campus during the region 6 festival Feb. 27-March 3. There it will be facing colleges and universities from Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. If advanced from the regional festival "The Royal Hunt of the Sun" will be performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. in competition with schools from around the country.

The KC/ACTF is a nation wide competition that was founded in 1969 by Roger L. Stevens, the Kennedy Center's founding chairman.

"Taliban"

Cont. from page 1

The democracy doesn't work for them. It can be tried but I don't think many goals can be reached by the political way. I agree with the eradication of terrorism. I was surprised and glad that the Russian government and former Soviet Republics are joining this campaign. The American government should stick to their plan until this is over," Mizilin said.

Afghanistan was the world's second largest producer of opium poppy in 1998. Ironically, even though the Taliban banned opium production in the 95 percent of Afghanistan it controls, the Northern Alliance merely continues in the heroin trade. Some people are questioning whether or not the United States should align itself with the NA.

"Basically, Afghanistan wants to conquer former Soviet countries to make them Muslim countries. Even though Uzbekistan is a Muslim country, it's likely to be in more of a European or Western standard of progress. The main reason for this country to conquer former Soviet countries is to control the flow of drugs. They bombed innocent people and produced drugs. Women are nothing in the country. So, America shouldn't cooperate with NA because

they commit crime," Kamidova said. The NA may turn out to be the same thing as what the Taliban is, Rush said. "I hope it's not, but after coming to power, it may turn out to be the same thing. However, there is the saying that 'my enemy's enemy is my friend'. So, sometimes, in order to achieve some goals, you have to cooperate or work with people you normally would not. This may be one of those cases. At this

point, America needs to cooperate with the NA, but we need an influence to prevent corruption after coming to power. We should be cautious about that," Rush said. Many students were willing to offer encouragement and suggestions to the people of America.

"I was really impressed by the American people and how they handled the tragedy. I respect the patriotic spirit in that, but I think harassing Muslims is bad. Americans shouldn't consider all Muslims their enemies. Islam is such an efficient religion. Just open their book. It's such an incredible religion," Kamidova said.

"Stand united and do everything you can to help out your neighbors and the people around you. I'm sure that the rest of the world stands beside America," Mizilin said.

PTK gives away parking space



Digital Images by Angie Moya

Angel Ragan (left) and Colleen Henson display PTK parking space.

Jana M. Vaeulnik
Editor in Chief

Colleen Henson is the lucky student who won her own parking spot in the first ever Phi Theta Kappa drawing.

"I am glad I won. This is probably the best five dollars I have ever spent," Henson said.

"I am very excited about our first parking spot drawing. Colleen really needed the parking spot," Phi Theta Kappa president Angel Ragan said. "I am glad we were able to help a student with a problem at the same time were able to raise money for our chapter."

Phi Chi chapter raised \$182 by selling pieces of candy with an opportunity to receive a parking place attached to go to their regional conference.

"I did have trouble finding a parking spot, I finally gave up looking in the mornings," Henson said.

"The construction of the library makes it a longer walk to the LA building so I had to leave my house earlier. This would not be so bad if I

didn't live out in Bruceville-Eddy," Henson said.

Members announced the fundraiser in their classes to get students interested in purchasing an opportunity.

"I only spent five dollars and in return I received five tickets from Melanie who was in my government class. I probably wouldn't have bought the tickets if she had not announced it to our class," Henson said.

The chapter plans to hold another drawing for the spring semester.

"We will be doing this again in the spring, only in the spring we will start selling the candy at the beginning of the semester and sell them for two weeks instead of one," Ragan said.

Henson will be able to park in her spot from 8 a.m. till 1:30 p.m. during the week.

"After winning the parking spot I have been able to sleep later in the mornings and use less energy walking to class. I will probably buy tickets next semester if the raffle is held again," Henson said.

Area haunts scare up fun for Halloween

Reviews by Nicholas Hoff

Oak Grove Baptist Cemetery

Location: Oak Grove Baptist Cemetery, located off of Worham Bend in China Spring.

Accessible? Yes, but try not to cause too much commotion, people are resting.

Backstory: Inside of the cemetery, it was rumored that once parked under the trees and shut down your vehicle will not start again until pushed from under the hanging branch.

Investigation: The cemetery itself isn't too unforgiving or intimidating. However, the trees do look pretty sturdy. I must have carefully navigated my truck for hours until I was able to borrow a motorcycle in order not to roll over any graves. The motorcycle, a Yamaha, started many

times without fail.

Conclusion: If somebody was hung, and left a ghost, they must have gotten over it by now and figured out that stalling people's vehicles wasn't exactly making people shiver. If anything, he probably gave a nice thrill for a few of the locals, who can barely spell their name.

Rating (out of five): 1 (for those creepy trees)



Patrick Cemetery

Location: Patrick Cemetery, Patrick, outside of China Spring.

Accessible? Unfortunately...

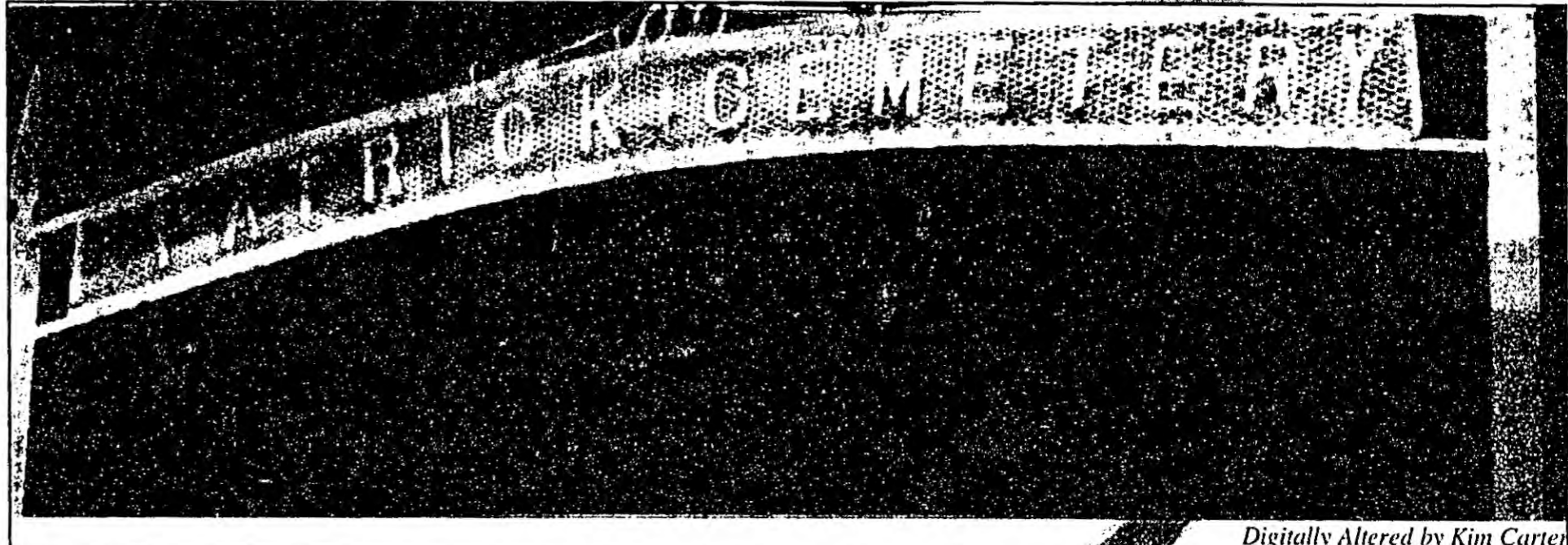
Backstory: This happens to be one of the oldest and most infamous spots in all of Texas. The cemetery is filled with old civil war graves, some defaced and some worn away by time. Everybody knows not to be in the cemetery after dark.

Investigation: I stayed for a little while. A test of the activity is a sound check. Pull your vehicle inside your

music up full blast with the doors closed. Then open your doors. The music will be turned down without touching the dial. You can continue this indefinitely. There are various other stories too numerous to mention, but all very ready to be experienced on a cold October night under a full moon.

Conclusion: This cemetery is haunted.

Rating (out of five): 5



Digitally Altered by Kim Carter

The Clark Residence

Location: The Clark Residence

Accessible? No, due to renovations and a request of privacy.

Backstory: The house, which was erected around the Civil War era, is rumored to be haunted by an old nursemaid. There are three parts to the story of the house. One night, the mother of a small family consisting of a wife, husband, infantile son, and grandmother, went to check on her son. She passed by his room, peeked in, and saw an old lady covering him up with a blanket and rocking his cradle. The mother, thinking it was the grandmother, went downstairs. Upon getting downstairs, she found the grandmother walking in the door. The mother ran back and found the ghost had vanished.

Another night, years on down the

road, an uncle of the child was sleeping downstairs. He woke to hear a crash, like a sack of potatoes being thrown to the floor... And then dragged. The biggest problem... He was alone in the house.

There used to be a few red barns behind the house. In one of the barns, there was a secret room, accessible by crawling under the wall. On the roof of the secret compartment was a pentagram, and various implements of worship were located around the room, caked in dust, untouched. The barn housing the secret room later

burned down to the ground.

Investigation: I had slept in the house many times, being related to the Clarks. Never had I seen anything, but I heard plenty of noises. I never saw the barn. To this day, my aunt swears she saw what she saw when she passed by her son's room that night.

Conclusion: The house is haunted, but apparently the phantom only reveals itself to infants and on rare occasions, where it may be trying to tell a story.

Rating (out of five): 3



Digitally Altered by Kim Carter

Denim and Diamonds

Location: Denim and Diamonds, located in Temple, off of Interstate 35, next to Gym X.

Accessible? Yes, for a cover charge.

Backstory: Patrons and regular barflies regularly report a middle-aged man, wearing torn up blue jeans, an untidy red shirt, and baseball cap, stumbling drunkenly to the exit. Upon inspection, employees will find themselves led on a wild goose chase. The drunk seen on his normal wasted stagger is affectionately known as Charlie, the club ghost.

Inside of Denim and Diamonds is a storeroom that is a couple halfways below the rest of the club. The door to said storeroom is only about two feet high from the regular level and leads to a dark area where chairs and

tables are stored for later use. Allegedly, Charlie, as a living person, came to the bar and drank himself into a blinding stupor, found his way to the sunken room, and fell in. He died in the same very room. Although reports of a man dying inside Denim and Diamonds are hard to come by, many members of the management, two of which are currently employed by Graham's Central Station located on Beagles, verify the story.

Their recollections of encounters with Charlie are similar, and go somewhat like this:

One night, as a manager, we'll call Zoel, was walking past an area where a door by four boards of wood were located, found that as he walked by, the boards were being thrown from the top and almost hit him. On another

night, another manager was walking to the front to lock the doors and shut off the lights. As soon as he finished, he made his way to the back to leave. As he passed by the stairs, a stool was thrown down the stairs and landed at his feet.

Charlie isn't exactly hostile, but seems to remain the way he was when he died, a raging alcoholic.

Investigation: I was able to walk through the bar, but felt nothing and saw nothing. However, when I was in the subroom... Which was dark... And cold... I felt the urge to leave very quickly.

Conclusion: Although Charlie didn't show, his presence was felt... And smelled, and he smelled bad.

Rating (out of five): 2



Digitally Altered by Kim Carter

Digital Images of Patrick Cemetery and Cameron Park by Lindsay Van Dyke



Gatesville Railroad Tracks

Location: The Railroad Tracks of Gatesville... In Gatesville.

Accessible? Yes.

Backstory: One fine school day, a bus driver drove his bus down the road on his usual path to drop children off with a young, nervous day of learning. As he began to roll over a pair of railroad tracks, the bus uncontrollably down the tracks. The train ran through the bus like tin foil

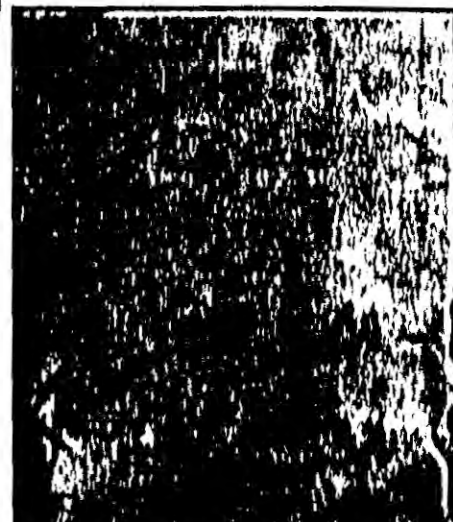
and all passengers, the children and the driver, were strewn about the wreckage.

Investigation: The tracks are hard to find. So hard to find I'm not sure I can find them. In order to know you found the tracks, you spread baby powder over the back of your vehicle, put the vehicle over the tracks, put it in neutral, and wait as your vehicle moves forward, off of the tracks. When you get to the back, you're

supposed to see handprints. Many small pairs, one large pair. I'm not sure what could have been many handprints, but unfortunately, they seem to have just been blown in there by the wind.

Conclusion: I'm pretty sure that there are children still floating stilled vehicles off of the tracks, trying to rescue possible victims. My vehicle did roll forward.

Rating (out of five): 3



Committee collects nominations for award

Jana M. Vaculik
Editor in Chief

The Professional Development committee at McLennan Community College is collecting nominations for the 2002 Teaching Excellence Award.

"It is an award that represents teaching excellence. The colleges are encouraged to select faculty who they consider to represent teaching excellence in the classrooms," Randy Schormann, Associate Dean Instructional Innovation said.

The National Institute for Staff and Organization Development (NISOD) supports the pursuits of excellence in teaching and leadership in more than 600 colleges across the United States and Canada and around the globe. NISOD is the outreach organization of the Community College Leadership Program, in the Department of Education Administration, College of Education, at the University of Texas at Austin.

"The award is a medallion that MCC encourages the winner to wear at graduation or at any other time,"



Schormann said.

Any current or former student, present or retired faculty member, any professional staff or any other MCC employee may nominate faculty who, in their opinion, exemplify teaching excellence, according to the nomination form.

Anyone can nominate any faculty member; it must be done on the nomination form. Forms are available at the information desk in the Student

Services building and the circulation desk at the library," Schormann said.

A short statement answering each of the following questions is required on the nomination form: What makes the person a 'special teacher' to you? What does this teacher do to 'reach' you as a student? Why do you consider this teacher to be an 'excellent' teacher? How do you see this teacher display 'teaching energy' in her/his class?.

Nominees are selected from each of the Arts and Sciences faculty, Workforce Education faculty and one other from either division including adjunct faculty, Schormann said.

The list of nominees will be given to the Professional Development Committee, who represents all departments on campus that will then make the final selection for the award. The MCC Professional Development Committee sponsors the award.

The award has been presented for the past 10 years at MCC and last year's nominees were Orlando Bama, government instructor, Galen Johnson, religion adjunct instructor, and Rita Spinn instructor in Nursing, ADN.

This year's winners will be announced in January, and will attend the annual conference in Austin.

"We would like to have more student involvement. We receive 10-12 nominations, from which these three will be selected," Schormann said.

All nominations are due in the office of the Dean of Student Services by November 16.

Singing is hard work

Kasia Redden
Staff Writer

MCC Chorale had their Fall concert on Monday night, Oct 22. Their repertoire included everything from spirituals to a piece with words by Edgar Allan Poe. Chorale director Dr. Donald Balmos had the choir arranged with the voice parts (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, and bass) intermingled. They performed their music with accompniment from a piano and, on one piece, called "Set Me As A Seal," a French Horn.

When they had neared the end of the program, Dr. Balmos spoke to the audience. The chorale's music, he explained, is usually chosen before the school year even begins. However, due to the recent events in our nation, he felt it appropriate to add two pieces to the program. "Who Are the Brave" and "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" became the chorale's tribute to the spirit of the country. Both drew much applause from the audience.

After the Chorale had completed their portion of the performance, the stage was cleared, and performing group Spotlight took the stage. Spotlight is a smaller, more theatre-

oriented group. They perform more contemporary music, usually scenes from popular musicals and plays.

Wednesday, Oct 31, the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Chorale will be visiting. The two choirs will perform parts of their concert programs for one another, in order to gain more experience and receive constructive criticism when performing in front of another group of professionals.

For the remainder of the semester, the MCC Chorale will be preparing for their December concert, as well as performing at local high schools along with Spotlight. They will perform songs from both their Fall and Christmas repertoire and give an overview of the Music program at MCC. This is to help local high school students have a better idea of what to expect from the college music program, and also to encourage everyone who wants to sing in the choir to do so.

Please, check in the music department or the newspaper for the date of the Christmas concert. The Chorale and Spotlight performers work hard, and would like to see the support of the MCC student population.

Ensembles play at PAC

Treva L. Bowdoin
Staff Writer

The MCC Wind Symphony and MCC Jazz Ensemble performed in a joint concert on Monday, Oct. 15 in the Wilbur H. Ball Performing Arts Center.

The MCC Wind Symphony was conducted by Brian Harris. It featured a variety of music styles, including "Flourish for Winds", an early 1900's British piece, "Thus Do You Fare, My Jesus", a chorale church hymn, "Overture to the Marriage of Figaro" by Mozart, and "Americans We", a proud march.

Percussionists Scott Aleman, Erin Plemons, Noah Robertson, and Bradley Turner performed a special feature titled "Stinkin' Garbage". This loud feature was played on tin garbage cans, and the players displayed their skills with some quick, fancy hand movements, often playing on one another's garbage cans. The crowd really enjoyed this performance.

The final performance also wowed the crowd. It was titled "Voodoo," a contemporary, unusual piece that featured band members playing instruments in nontraditional ways, such as taking them apart, and chanting, shouts, singing, screaming, and clapping. The piece was played in the dark, and some players used flashlights for a visual effect. At times the piece seemed unorganized, but the effect of the screaming, animal noises, and strange chanting throughout the piece on the crowd was a good one. Some members of the crowd even started yelling along with the band.

Future plans for the Wind Symphony include a holiday concert on

Dec. 3 which will also feature the MCC chorale and brass ensemble, and a tour to some regional high schools at the end of November. In February the symphony plans to hold a joint concert with the Waco Community Band.

Conductor Brian Harris said the band is looking for more players.

"We're a very small but talented and committed group, but we would like to add some more players," Harris said.

Players of all instruments are needed, especially clarinets. The group meets Mon., Wed., and Fri. from 12:40 to 2:20. Anyone interested in joining can contact Brian Harris at 299-8220.

The Jazz ensemble featured such hits as "Another Star" by Stevie Wonder and "Witchcraft" by Cy Coleman, with student Felton Bernard on vocals.

Laura Collins joined in on vocals for "Friends" by Bobby McFerrin, and sang a special tune written by MCC music staff member Beth Ullman, who played the keyboard for her song, entitled "Tender".

A few extra band members came in to form the larger jazz band and played an upbeat instrumental piece called "Red Rocket" by Howard Rowe.

Collins did the vocals for the romantic "Moonlight in Vermont" by Suessdorf/Blackburn, featuring sax and trumpet solos, which the crowd really enjoyed.

The final piece of the evening was entitled "Fourth Quarter" by Les Sabina. "I chose this piece because that's what everyone will see when they get home. It's in honor of the Cowboy and Redskins matchup," Harris told the crowd.

Honor society stays busy A semester of projects ahead

Treva L. Bowdoin
Staff Writer

Sigma Kappa Delta is a national English honor society for two-year schools that is involved in a number of projects and fundraisers at MCC.

The MCC chapter was founded by Language Arts and English instructors Linda Cook, Jim McKeown, and Carol Lowe.

"We're just getting off the ground right now. We've had mostly business meetings so far," said Lowe.

Students must have a minimum of 12 hours, have made at least a B in an English class, and be in the top 1/3 of their class at MCC to be a member of the society.

The first major project the group will be doing is Casa de Café on November 28. Students and faculty members can submit entries of art, poetry, prose, and songs to be read or displayed for a two-dollar fee.

"It's a really nice event and celebration of art in different venues," stated Cook.

All proceeds from the event will go to Storybook Christmas, and the MCC Foundation has provided six \$150 scholarships to winners at the Casa de Café.

Winners' works will also be

displayed in MCC's new literary magazine "Stone Circle."

The magazine was started by the SKD in conjunction with the journalism department, and will display the literary works of MCC students, such as prose, poetry, artwork, and short stories. Any students interested in entering works can contact Jim McKeown for details.

The SKD recently held a contest to name the new publication, and Melanie McCalmont's title was the winner out of 39 entries.

The fraternity plans to participate in the Walk for Diabetes and the annual pumpkin carving contest. Cook says the group also plans on helping to clean up the Wetlands, and to walk and clean the Wellness Hike Trails on October 26.

The induction of new SKD members will be held on November 14 in the LH building starting at 2:15 p.m. New members will be introduced and presented with certificates, and an Information and business meeting will follow.

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Dueling divas:

The 'Real Sopranos' show off their vocal abilities.

Harlan E. Short Jr.
Entertainment Editor

The 'real sopranos' put on a show for an audience at the MCC Performing Arts Center on Oct. 18.

The 'Dueling Divas' was a collection of classical and operatic duets directed and performed by Lisa Uhl and Karen Albrecht.

The idea behind the show and its title is that, by definition, divas are considered shallow women who think of themselves as being better than everyone else.

Divas are generally sopranos. Since both Lisa Uhl and Karen Albrecht are sopranos this show was the perfect chance to show divas' also created a stage show with simple costumes and movement for the operatic selections.

Both are faculty members at MCC.

Karen Albrecht teaches voice and diction and brings with her performing experience in opera, music theater, and concert in both the United States and Europe. She holds degrees from The University of North Texas which includes a Ph.D. in music education and vocal pedagogy.

Along with teaching Dr. Albrecht directs the music theater vocal production "SPOTLIGHT" and is the music director for the drama departments annual musical.

Lisa Uhl teaches voice and diction and is the director of the opera workshop here at MCC. She holds a degree in vocal performance from Mount Union College and the University of Arizona. She often performs on both concert and theatrical stages throughout the Central Texas area.



UPCOMING EVENTS

11/1/01
MCC Student Recital
MCC Ball Performing Arts Center/
6:00 PM

11/6/01
MCC Faculty Recital
MCC Ball Performing Arts Center/
7:00 PM

11/7/01
MCC Faculty Recital
MCC Ball Performing Arts Center/
7:00 PM
Broadway On The Brazos Series
2001-2002
"Buddy-The Buddy Holly Story"
Hippodrome Theatre/8:00 PM

11/11/01
Waco Youth Wind Ensemble
MCC Ball Performing Arts Center/
5:00 PM

11/13/01
MCC Faculty Recital
MCC Ball Performing Arts Center/
7:00 PM

11/15/01
MCC Student Recital
MCC Ball Performing Arts Center/
6:00 PM

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Highlassies playing top teams

Division I competition brings out best in MCC



Digital image by Angie Moya

Natalie Kinsey tees up at Lake Waco Country Club during practice in preparation for the final fall tourney Nov. 12 and 13 at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

Competition tends to bring out the best in some people and the MCC Highlassies are no exception to the rule, finishing in the top five in every tournament so far this fall after competing against only Division I schools besides Mary Hardin Baylor.

Hardin Simmons

The Highlassies started the fall season right with an impressive five stroke victory in the Hardin Simmons Classic on Sept. 10 in Abilene.

The Highlassies shot a two day total of 635, shooting a 320 on Monday and 315 on Tuesday to beat out Oklahoma City University, who shot a two day total of 640 and finished second in the HSU Classic.

Leading the Highlassies to the team victory were Heather MacRae (77,77) and Stephanie Smith (75,79) who both tied for second shooting a two day total of 154.

"I thought this was a total team effort," Coach Stan Mitchell said. "Our whole team hit big shots when we needed them."

All five Highlassies that participated in the tournament finished in the top 27 (four in the top 15) which shows just how deep this Highlassie team is.

"With everyone playing so well it's hard to decide who plays in what tournament," Mitchell said. "That's a good problem to have."

Rounding out the successful Highlassie team were Ashley Simmons, who finished tied for 12th (83,80), Kayla Duhr, who finished 14th (85,79) and Natalie Kinsey, who finished 27th (89,84).

Lady Cardinal Invitational

After winning their first tournament of the fall against all major colleges, the Highlassies' reward was another tournament filled with some of the best colleges in the south.

The Highlassies finished fifth

shooting a total score of 960 (322,313,325) behind the victorious Texas A&M of Corpus Christi Islanders (321,303,308) who shot a 54-hole total of 932 winning the tournament by 16 strokes over North Texas University, who shot a score of 948 (320,307, 321) in the tournament September 24 and 25 at the Beaumont Country Club.

The Highlassies had three players finish in the top 20 and all of their players finish in the top 50 in the tournament. Laura Walker, who tied for sixth shooting a total of 234 (77,77,80), Stephanie Smith, who finished tied for 15th shooting a 54-hole total of 240 (78,82,80), and Ashlie Simmons, who tied for 17th shooting a 241 (81,78,82) for the tournament.

"It's always nice to see our whole team to finish in the top 15," Mitchell said. "We only had three this time, but we're only going to get better as the season progresses."

Winning the Individual honors for

the tournament was North Texas's Randi Gauthier who shot a tournament total of 226 (79,72,75).

Finishing tied for 25th and 45th respectively were Heather MacRae, who shot 245 (86,76,83) and Jessica Thames, who shot 260 (90,85,85).

UALR Lady Trojan Classic

The Highlassies continued their brutal stretch against Division I programs finishing tied for third behind Arkansas State University shooting a tourney total of 922 (296,317,309), who won the tournament by five strokes over North Texas University at Stone Links Golf Course October 15 and 16.

The Highlassies kept their streak of having at least two players finish in the top 15. Finishing in the top 15 for the Highlassies were Ashlie Simmons, who tied for 13th (231-78,77,76) and Heather MacRae, who tied for 15th (232-75,78,79).

"Whenever we get three in the top 15 I'm pretty happy," Mitchell said.

Highlanders finish 3rd in MCC Invitational

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

In a normal tournament shooting a two day team total of 593 or 602 will be good enough to win. But unfortunately for the MCC Highlanders those scores weren't good enough to outshoot the red hot Tyler Junior College, who won the MCC Fall Invitational held October 22 and 23 at the Cottonwood Creek Golf Course.

Tyler managed to win the third tour-

namment of the fall by shooting a blistering total of 593 adding another tournament win to their UMHB and Bousier City wins earlier this year.

The Highlanders first team finished second shooting a two day total of 593 and under 300 both days and the second team also finished strong tied for fourth shooting a two day total of 602.

"I was pleased with the way our first group shot anytime you shot under 300 as a team your doing all right,

and we did it both days," Head Coach Rick Butler said. "If it weren't for the flu-bitten Justin Bederka having to play on the second team instead of the first team im pretty sure we would of won, but all in all im proud of our group."

MCC freshmen and Waco Robinson graduate Bederka (71,74 and tied for fifth), and The Woodlands graduate Jason Holm (71-73 tied for second) both finished in the top five and gave coach Butler something to look forward to in the future of MCC golf shooting very solid scores.

"I thought Bederka and Holm really came through for us in this tournament," Butler said. "This was the first tournament that Bederka has really been at full strength since being bothered by the flu bug along with numerous other Highlanders and Holm also proved to me that he can get the job done I'm real pleased with those two players."

The tournament showed the Highlanders on any given day can shoot

with the best of them.

"On almost any other day our team score would of won the tournament," Butler said. "But unfortunately for us today wasn't our day and Tyler just played lights out.

Tyler made a remarkable comeback after being tied for fifth after day one they rallied with a 4-over round of 292 and a 36-hole total of 593 to edge the host Highlanders in a scorecard playoff for first place.

Temple's Casey Carnes had a closing round of even-par 72 and two day total of 140 to win medalist honors by four shots

The other scores from the MCC No. 1 team were Phil Admick, 74-149; Clayton Kersh, 78-150; Riche Ramsay, 75-152; and Cannon Cahill, 76-156.

The No. 2 team led by Bederka, was followed by Brian Jennings, 73-149; Stephen Spence, 77-153; Clay Hale, 82-159; and Ryan Morris, 78-157.

MCC will play its final tournament of the fall Nov. 5-6 at the Canyons at Firewheel in North Garland.

BCS: shortened to BS

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

I have a possible name change for the college football BCS system. Just take the 'c' out of it and call it the BS system.

How else can you explain Oklahoma being ranked number two and still in position to play in the national championship game. This despite losing last week while the third-ranked and undefeated Miami Hurricanes are left out in the cold.

To quote WCW wrestler Hurricane Helms, "What's up wit dat?!"

I thought the BCS was supposed to finally end all of the confusion over just who the national champion really is. Instead it has made things worse, with undefeated teams being left out in the cold while teams with one loss remain right in the title picture. I'm all for playing the big boys. But I also believe that you should be careful how you make your own bed because you just might have to sleep in it. Losing, whether it be to a top ranked team or Baylor, shouldn't matter in the national polls.

Now I know a playoff system is a long way from happening, if ever. But here are a few possible scenarios to determine a true national champion:

Scenario #1

The nation's top four teams according to the AP Poll compete in a two week final four playoff (at a neutral site) to help determine a true national champion. Just think what it has done for college basketball. I mean, March Madness is truly the favorite time of year for many sports fans including myself.

Just think: this year, instead of having a controversial championship game, you can have a final four with Nebraska, Miami, Michigan, and Oklahoma which would kill in the ratings and the ticket office.

Scenario #2

If you feel like more than four teams should have a shot at the national title, then you could make an eight team playoff featuring the eight highest rated teams in the country. We'd rate them according to the margin of victory and strength of schedule. This would truly silence every school in the top eight that feels it is deserving of the national title. It also has the added bonus of silencing the critics once and for all.

Scenario #3

Have a ratings system that never gives us a true national champion and cheats undefeated teams such as Miami out of a chance at a national title two years in a row. Oops, that's already in place. It's the system that goes by strength of schedule and not winning football games and will never give us an undisputed national champion.

Highland Herald

Sports

What've they got?

Lacy Witt
Sports Editor

Why are the stands never full at MCC basketball games? The MCC men's and women's teams have been phenomenal at best and mediocre at worst for as long as I can remember, and I've lived in Waco all twenty years of my life.

Baylor, on the other hand, has never exactly been awesome. In the days of Brian Skinner they were good...even made it to the NCAA tournament in 1988, but they weren't exactly the epitome of greatness or anything. So why is it that they are more frequently talked about and have a larger fan base in Waco than we do?

Do you want to hear my theory? Some of you may not like it, but it's the truth. I'll feel so much better about myself, and even be able to sleep a little better at night after I get this off of my chest.

Until the people and big businesses of Waco stop kissing Baylor's hind parts, we're never going to get any recognition.

Oh, we may get a little. Every now and then the Waco-Tribune-Herald may run a big story on an MCC team if they do exceptionally well. And every once in a blue moon we may even get something reported on the radio. Then there is the very rare occasion that maybe, just maybe, they will do a television news story on us.

We could have the top recruited player in the nation on one of our teams, and I doubt that the major media markets of Waco would inform anyone about it.

But let one of the Baylor team members have a bowel movement and the entire Waco-Temple-Killeen area will know about it.

Why is this? Is it a financial thing? Is it because we're just a little community college that has no clout because we don't charge hundreds upon hundreds of dollars per semester hour? Shouldn't we be praised for giving our students a quality education at an affordable price? I think so. Shouldn't we get some kind of recognition in our hometown for having some of the best teams in junior college sports? Of course. But do we? No.

We dominate in basketball, baseball, softball, golf, and even won nationals in dance, but if you ask the average Wacoan about the MCC teams they tend to know very little.

The entire town is in an uproar right now because Baylor's football team has finally come close to reaching mediocrity. If you go into a restaurant in Waco on a Saturday you will see the entire staff of that restaurant wearing "gold" (actually more like road-stripe-yellow, but who am I to judge?) t-shirts that proudly don the Baylor logo and state on the back that the particular establishment "Backs the Bears."

They've won two games this season! Pardon me for saying this but whoopdy-friggin-doo!

I'm not anti-Baylor or anything; I just call 'em like I see 'em. If you don't like it, never read my column again, or better yet, write me a letter, we need the publicity...maybe it would make the news! I can see the headlines now:

"Highland Herald Sports Editor verbally runs down Baylor athletic department." (GASP!)

Do I care? Nah, I'm having too much fun with this one. It's just too easy.

You know what I would like to see this basketball season? A sea of orange t-shirts that display support for MCC athletics. We could distribute them to businesses and restaurants in Waco...that would be a sight to see. Ticket sales would more than likely go up, as would our fan base. It may not work, but it's worth a try. Baylor might feel a little left out, but I, along with other MCC students, am tired of being the underdog.

It's time for a revolution.

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Sports

"I go in with no preconceived ideas other than just to play hard, and whatever happens, happens,"
— Michael Jordan
on his return to the NBA

Highlassies hard at work

Lacy Witt
Sports Editor

After losing to Midland in the first round of the regional tournament in Lubbock last year, the MCC Women's Basketball Team is looking forward to a brighter season this year.

With only four returning sophomores, the Highlassies have worked very hard in the off-season to produce a quicker, more productive team for this season.

"I think we're more athletic, we have a deeper bench," sophomore post, Renita Crutchfield, said.

Due to the lack of upperclassmen, the Highlassies may have to rely on that bench more frequently this year than in the past. But that shouldn't put them at a disadvantage due to the nature of the freshmen on this team.

"The freshmen this year don't seem to have a problem with being able to just play. A lot of times freshmen will have problems with that because they'll just think too much and it will slow the tempo of the game down, these freshmen will just hop

right in there," sophomore post, Michelle Degrate, said.

The MCC Women are also planning on playing a different type of game in 2001-2002.

"I think we're going to be on a different side of the basketball this year, like we're going to play a lot more fast paced this year, but it should take

nitely at a height disadvantage in their conference. This does not discourage them though, because they believe that their speed and full-court press will make up for any disadvantages that they may suffer. Defense will most likely be the core of their game.

"We can cause more havoc. We're not as tall, but we do things differently

The MCC women are setting their sights high this year with hopes to take the team farther than last year.

"I expect us, just like any other year, just to play hard and give a good effort, and if that's there then maybe we'll win some ball games," Rhodes said.

"We're looking for great things,

trying to finish in the top four in our conference and go down to the regional tournament and take it one game at a time. But we also set the higher goal of trying to win the conference and let things fall from there." Rhodes said.

The women will play their home opener on Friday, November 2, against Clarendon. The game will begin at 6:00pm at the Highlands Gym.

"We're going to just go out there and play hard. I mean, it's opening day, and anything can happen on opening day," Rhodes said.



Digital Image By Angie Moya

us as far, if not farther than last year," Degrate said.

The captains for this year's team are sophomores Charise Billingsley and Jenny Bowdoin. The freshman captain is Lindy Heller.

With only two players at the six foot mark, the Highlassies are defi-

nitely more quickness on the team this year and we're going to try to use that to our advantage. We're going to try to press people and we have to be in the best shape possible," MCC Women's Head Basketball Coach, Ricky Rhodes, said.

Highlanders lose coach, gain depth

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

Coming off a 18-12 (6-10 in conference) season last year, the MCC Highlander Basketball team is geared up to make a return to the postseason this year with a very different look to this year's team.

The Highlanders will have only five returners from last year's team and

a new Head Coach. Wendell Hudson will replace Head Coach Ray Farrell, who left MCC after only one year to go take an Assistant Coach job at Cleveland State.

"This is definitely just a one year deal," Hudson said. "I don't really feel that I can do both the coaching and Athletic Director jobs and give either one the attention it deserves."

The Highlanders considered giving new Assistant Coach Byron Smith the job but felt it wouldn't be fair to rush a new coach into a head coaching situation.

"We considered Byron," Hudson said. "But when the guy has only been here for two weeks it's not fair to just throw him into the fire like that."

The Highlanders definitely have a new look this year with a very solid freshmen class highlighted by Keith Simpson, a 6-6 swingman from San Antonio, who has been turning heads at practice with his athleticism.

"He has tremendous athletic ability and at times in practice he has proven to be a major force," Hudson said. "He can finish around the basket with authority and has the ability to energize this team with his athleticism."

Another new face to Highlander squad that has been turning heads

has been Angelina transfer Ed Johnson.

"He can block shots and really get up and down the court," Hudson said. "When he plays under control he can really help make an impact for us."

Another transfer that should make a positive impact for the Highlanders is Baylor Transfer 6-7 forward Michael Degrate

"Michael has shown signs at times

"...with this team if we play hard, and improve each game, I think we will be all right."

— MCC Athletic Director Wendell Hudson

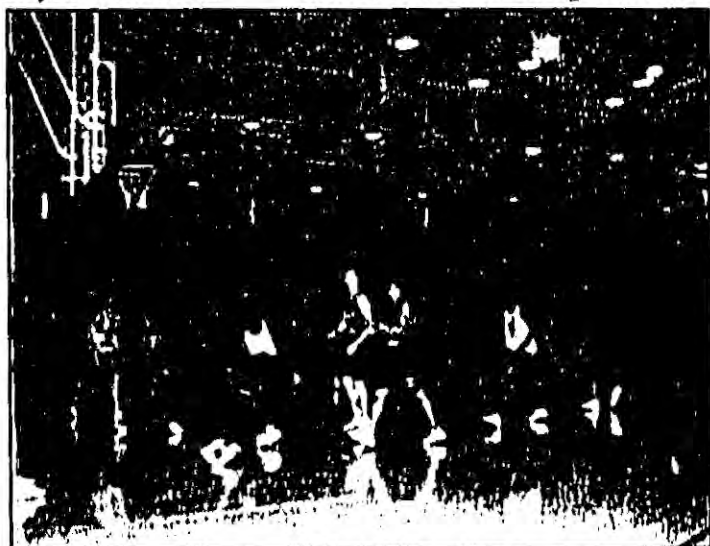
thus far in the fall," Hudson said. "He probably is our most improved player from last year."

Also returning for the Highlanders are Micah Mack and Mike Horton, who both figure to be in the playing lineup for the deep Highlanders.

"I expect Micah and Mike as well as the rest of our sophomores to be in our playing lineup this year," Hudson said. "They might not all be starting but our team is so deep they

club and everybody will probably get a chance to play."

With a tough conference the Highlanders should still compete for a play-off spot, but will try to above all accomplish their team goal of improving game to game and hopefully at



Digital Images by Angie Moya

of being the Division I talent that he is," Hudson said. "He is another player that we expect big things from."

Returning from last year's squad are Grant Davis, Bogdon Konutsuk, Mike Jones, Micah Mack, and Mike Horton. Davis and Konutsuk have been drawing rave reviews from Hudson.

"Grant is a very solid player in the middle for us," Hudson said. "Bogdon gives us an offensive threat inside and is tremendously gifted on offense, but unfortunately he is not all the way there on the defensive end yet."

The player who boasts what is perhaps the most improved game has been sophomore Mike Jones.

"Mike has really impressed me



fight it out for playing time," Hudson said. "If you get 20 minutes a game on this club you're going to be lucky because we have a tremendously deep



will get their chance to contribute to the ball club."

Incoming freshman Rod Smith, Forrest (L.B.) Bryant, Dominique Berkley, and Ray Wilson also figure to add help to the deepest Highlander team in recent memory.

"Really we have 14 people and 12, who are really going to the end of the season the rest will take care of itself."

"I don't like putting records into team goals, but I feel with this team if we play hard and improve each game, I think we will be allright," Hudson said.

The Highlanders have their home opener on Saturday, Nov. 3 against Blinn. The game will begin at 8:00pm at the Highlands Gym.

"This is definitely just a one year deal."

"I don't really feel that I can do both the coaching and Athletic Director jobs and give either one the attention it deserves."
— Wendell Hudson

NTJCAA

Conference

An overview of some of our competitors

Alyson Moulton
Sports Writer

In the next few issues we will be featuring some highlights on both men's and women's teams in our conference, the North Texas Junior College Athletic Association (NTJCAA). Here's what a few of the teams look like:

Women

Temple College

After making it to the Regional Tournament last year, they are striving to make that happen again this year. Kim Sebek, Head Coach of the Lady Leopards, says they are looking forward to this year's season, but with only three returning players from last year it will be a challenge. Returning to the team are; Kaci Fulton, a sophomore forward, Brandice Farmer, a sophomore shooting guard, and Jessica White, a sophomore that plays swing. One weakness for the Lady Leopards is the fact that the team is composed mostly of freshmen. It's a young team, but the team seems to be quicker in some senses and the girls are more energetic and enthusiastic this year. A couple of the freshmen that are turning heads early in the season are; Alisha Jones, who plays post, and Brooke Busby, shooting guard. When asked who she felt would give her the most competition she said that every team in the conference works hard and the Lady Leopards will have to work hard too. "We need to play basketball every game and take one game at a time", said Sebek. The Lady Leopards were 14-16 last year.

Cisco Junior College

Having three teams becoming Conference Champions and having his teams advanced to the Regional Tournament 15 times, Ronnie Hearn, I'm sure, hopes to continue his success. Ronnie Hearn is head coach of the Lady Wranglers. Kalla Petre and Amanda Lauder and two of the top returning Lady Wranglers. Jackie Ododa and Morene Atino are two of the freshmen turning heads early in the season. Hearn feels their strength lies in their defense and their increased quickness compared to the past. "I want the team to come together as a team and to get the most out of our ability", said Hearn. Hearn said he feels the Conference line up is strong from top to bottom.

Men

Weatherford College

For years one of the most feared teams in the NTJCAA (North Texas Junior College Athletic Association). This year is no different with a team loaded with size Weatherford, who finished 17-12 (10-6 in conference) figures to be right in the thick of thing for the conference race this season.

The Coyotes should be dominant up front with big men Emigijus Lukiosis 6-6 and Rost Vergun 6-8 dominating down low the Coyotes will be tough to match up with.

If their is a weakness to this team it may be depth as they only play about eight to nine players a game compared to most school, who play at least 10 players a game

Temple College

Winning has become a tradition at TC and this year should be no different as the Leopards only return two players return from last years 27-5 (14-2 in conference) team. After finishing second in conference a year ago Head Coach Kirby Johnson sees no reason why they shouldn't be in the thick of things once again this year.

"We don't have the stars we had a year ago but as far as depth we may be a deeper team this year," Johnson said. "All 13 of our guys are pretty equal which should make it hard to get minutes on our team."

The depth Johnson was talking about starts with returning 6-1 sophomore point guard Keith Connor (Plugerville) and 6-6 guard Chris Owen (San Antonio).

The Leopards are loaded inside to with the two 6-7 freshmen from the Houston area Edjuan Green 6-7 (Spring) and Jamil Ali (Wheatly).

The Leopards expect to once again make the playoffs and reach their team goal of 20 wins (which they have only fell short of once in the last 12 years). The Leopards are young but expect them to make the top four and the playoffs in 2001-2002.

Hill College

After making the playoffs last season expectations are high at Hill with two of their key players returning from last years playoff team that finished 18-12 (8-8 in conference) along with a group of talented freshmen the Rebels should once again be a force to be reckon with.

Returning from last years team are the breakout sensation 6-5 Zoljko Zupic, who averaged 13 points and 6 rebounds a game last season for the Rebels. Also returning from last years squad is 6-6 Jamez Tealer, who averaged nine points a game last season.

The freshmen that has really been turning head however is 6-7 225 pound freshman Chris Williams, who should be the top athlete on the floor this season for the Rebels.

The Rebels will look to win the games on the defensive end of the court setting a team goal of making the playoffs and holding their opponents to 65 points a game.