

# Highland Herald

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## Ampitheater to receive \$600,000 renovation

### Ampitheater fundraiser kickoffs on May 6

By JULIAN L. RAMON  
Opinion Editor

Plans are being made for a few major improvements to the amphitheater.

The cost estimates for the work that will be done are about \$600,000, however, the Board of Trustees decided that \$200,000 of the cost will be covered by reserved funds.

Another third of the cost is being accounted for through the tax increment fund (TIF), which covers all projects on the Brazos River. The Waco foundation also awarded \$50,000 to the MCC foundation which will leave about \$150,000 of expenses. The MCC foundation plans to raise the rest of the money through fund raisers.

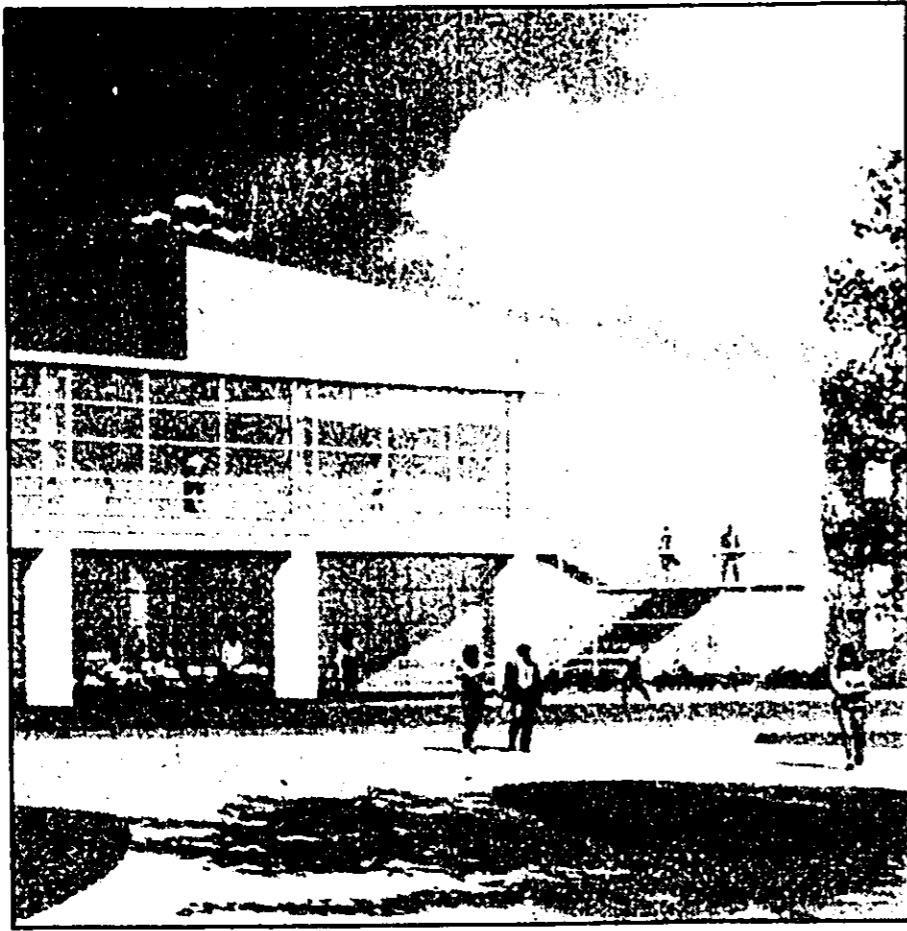
The fundraisers for the amphitheater project will kick off May 6. The MCC Foundation will invite community leaders and a number of other people to inform them on what is being done to create a new look for the amphitheater.

The funds will be raised in different ways, like allowing individuals to purchase brick pavers, and have their name carved in them, or by the purchase of seats, or simply through direct mail.

One of the improvements being made will be the seating capacity, which currently seats about 250-300 people. The college hopes to almost double the number, to about 500 or so.

Another improvement taking place will be to change the seating itself. The seats, which are now limestone rock benches, will be converted to a stadium-style seating.

Restrooms and concession stands will also be added for the convenience of the spectators. The foundation also hopes to add a fabric type covering over the theater for weather purposes.



## Learning Technology Center

THE PROJECTED APPEARANCE of Learning Technology Center offers a unique look to the campus. The \$8.8 million project will result in this 18 to 24-hour facility, with multimedia classrooms, an eating venue, store, and study areas.

## Possible June election for \$18 million

# Bond election heads Future

By JACQUELINE HARVEY  
Campus News Editor

The MCC Board of Trustees will meet at 7 o'clock tonight in the Board Room of the Administration/Classroom building to possibly call a bond election for June 22 that would allocate around \$18 million towards the new Learning Technology Center and other campus projects.

The bond will fund what Dr. Michealis considers "...necessary to help prepare MCC for the educational challenges of the 21st century."

The top priority of the bond would be to finance the new Learning Technology Center. The center, which is proposed to be built in with the renovated library, is expected to cost the college \$8.8 million and will be an 18 to 24-hour facility with multimedia classrooms, a food court, retail store, private study areas, a courtyard and 120 computers.

The exact price tag on the combined projects covered by the bond would be \$17,950,000. This is after the Board, at their March 30 meeting, decided against the 141-car, \$1.2 million parking garage in the original proposal.

President Michealis stated several reasons why the garage was terminated from the original plan.

The first reason being the cost, stating that the terrain at the proposed site would make the parking garage more expensive to build.

The second being access to the building would be very difficult for people with disabilities.

And third, the secluded nature of the parking lot led the members to believe that security at night would be another issue.

The board, however realizing the need for parking, did decide to allocate a sum of the money for additional parking for the structure.

Instead of the garage, the members felt the money would be more productively spent to replace the

walkway lighting throughout the campus, with the first priority being the lighting for the new center.

The current lighting on campus was installed in 1968, and according to personnel at the physical plant, is shorting out on a weekly basis. The new lights will only cost 770,000 dollars, instead of the \$1.2 million, and would feature higher poles and brighter lights that would cover a larger area.

Other projects slated for funding are improvements to the Community Services Center. Money would go towards renovating the remainder of the Child Development Center and constructing a driveway and canopy for child care drop-off.

Plans to remodel the 'A' portion of the building will update the area where 'Options' is housed and provide a permanent home for the physical therapy program. It is also planned to refurbish the open area of the CSC for various use.

The board also wants the \$5.5 million of the funding to go toward such infrastructure improvements

as repairing and replacing the 30-year-old underground piping and electrical equipment.

And \$2.5 million will go toward improvements to the Liberal Arts, Applied Science, Science, and Health and Physical Education buildings.

If the election is set for June, voting would begin at three locations as early as June 5. These locations would be in the Student Services building, the Elections office located downtown, and at the Trinity Lutheran Church on Bosque Blvd.

Other business will include consideration of the 1999-2001 MCC General Catalog, contracts for election services and non-tenured faculty, and extension of the college's depository contract.

Also on the agenda are a proposal for an upgrade of the fiber optic cable system, a report on administrative and support staff evaluations, and the appointment of a cseling specialist for the Upward Bound Program.

## Behind the Highland Herald: the students and the teacher

HERALD STAFF

For some of us in the journalism department, this is the last issue we will have the pleasure of conceiving amidst computer crashes, smoke breaks, and paper cuts.

But, for those of you who know Tom Buckner, our journalism instructor, this is his last issue as well, since the announcement of his retirement.

"Next to the entrance of the journalism department a sign reads 'The Highland Herald.' I had seen the tanning 8" x 11" sign before it ever occurred to me that I would one day write for it, let alone be an editor of it. But, hurrying through the doorway, hesitance gripped me. 'I can drop it later,' I thought, turning the corner of cabinets to a group of individuals sitting around a table who seemed to be aware of something I was not.

"I don't remember what was said, but I took a seat, eyeing the head of the table, where sat the man whom I was to fear for months to come.

"Occasionally, he still scares me, as any truly great teacher should, enough to make me do my work and turn it in on time—or at least want to turn it in on time.

"These walls will be hollow without our presence, without yours. But they will fill, just as I have been under your instruction, Dr. Buckner, from the lessons of work, writing, leadership, and friendship that have passed between these walls."—Jennifer Wokaty

"Dr. Buckner has been a big influence on my journalism studies. Without him I may not even be in journalism. He has given me great advice, which I will use the rest of my life. I hope he enjoys retirement, he deserves it. The Highland Herald will never be the same without him to guide it."—Kevin Brock

"Dr. Buckner has had a huge

influence on my education. I never would have given news writing a second look if it weren't for him. It's sad to see him go, but after all he's accomplished, he deserves some time off. I wish he and his family all the blessings in the world."—Julian L. Ramon

"Dr. Buckner is a master in his field. It was truly a pleasure being able to work under his guidance for the short time that I have been at this college. His sheer presence in the newsroom made for a more pleasant atmosphere and his story telling can brighten anyone's day. So thanks Dr. Buckner for everything you've done for me and, more importantly, this college."—Brian Shelton

"I began instruction under Dr. Tom Buckner about a year and a half ago. Since then, I feel that Dr. Buckner has given me vision to do something with the talent that I supposedly have.

"Being taught by him, I have learned an abundance about the journalism field, including the competition it holds.

"Dr. Buckner is a man of experience and adventure. I don't think I could make it through the day without hearing one of his anecdotes.

"He is kind hearted and he strives to pass his knowledge on to his students."—Jamie Jones

"I relocated to MCC a year ago simply to take Dr. Buckner's classes. I left two scholarships and all my friends behind and I have never regretted it. I do regret that he is leaving, but remember what an incredible opportunity it was for me to study under someone with his experience, love of teaching, and insightful understanding of journalism. I am grateful to have been able to take his classes and I will miss them but I know I'll miss Dr. Buckner and his crazy stories even more."—Jacqueline Harvey

"Buckner has been influential and an inspiration for me in reaching my goals in journalism. This is

my first year at this college and my second semester. I have been fortunate to have Buckner as a teacher before he will have retired. This semester I am in his News Gathering I class and in his first Mass Communications class taught on the Internet. Might I say he is doing a superb job. Thank you for your wisdom, knowledge, and your "just do it" attitude. You're appreciated."—Amy Jo Wilson

"I heard that MCC had a journalism department, and not really knowing what I wanted to pursue as far as my education was concerned, I mainly out of curiosity called Dr. Buckner one afternoon about joining his classes. His kindness was evident during our brief conversation on the phone, but at the time I had no idea what a truly great man I was about to encounter.

"As an instructor Dr. Buckner teaches from the heart. His many life and work experiences paint vivid pictures of all he has seen and done

throughout his years in the journalism field, and in life itself. He teaches with a passion for journalism that makes his students want to capture the same excitement and love for writing and reporting.

"Dr. Buckner is one of the most brilliant people I have met in my life, as an instructor, a father, grandfather, husband, friend, and Christian. He walks strong in every area of his life and for this alone he has my admiration.

"His influence in my life has and always will be a good and strong one, not only as a journalist, but as a person. I now have goals and dreams, believe it or not I am an editor. I have more self-confidence, and this is owed in part to Dr. Buckner's influence and kindness.

"No one deserves retirement as much as he, especially after tolerating me this last year and a half. Thanks Dr. Buckner!"—Elizabeth E. Meyer

## Amy Pearson wins Coca Cola Spring Break Give Away

ARAMARK PRESS RELEASE

Quietly Amy Pearson announces to her two fellow teammates, "I've got 'DO,'" in her normal laid back mannerism. Her MCC Highlander girl's basketball teammates thought she was teasing when she was referring to the sticker she had just lightly pulled off of her big 32 oz. Coca Cola cup in the MCC Cafe.

"No you don't," said her friend Laura knowing that it was the missing piece in the Coca Cola Spring Break Give away, "Let me see."

It was true. Amy Pearson, the student assistant coach for the women's basketball and sophomore Kinesiology student at MCC, had the only missing piece in spelling "Orlando."

She had just won a trip for two to Orlando, Fla. including airfare, a three-day-two-night stay at the Delta Orlando Resort, passes to Water Mania and an Orlando Magic card giving her discounts on local retail outlets.

Amy was shocked. She had been getting at least one 32 oz. drink per day in the MCC Cafe since the promotion started on Feb. 15. Her first cupped "LAN." She accumulated lots of "OR" tickets and "LAN" tickets during the next 10 days.

Then on Feb. 25 it happened. When she peeled back the label she knew automatically that she had the winning ticket. "This is the big-

gest contest I have ever won." "No one believed me at first," Amy recalled describing the first first few minutes after realizing that she had won. "My friends thought I was joking."

Amy showed her ticket to cashier Kelly Ferguson to see what she needed to do. "Oh, you've got the 'DO' ticket—You're the winner!" Kelly remembers calling out in excitement.

"I see Amy on a daily basis, she is such a sweet person, and when she came up to me I think I was more excited than she was. I don't think she realized it was a big deal."

Amy had been coming to the MCC Cafe almost two times a day since the school year started with her fellow teammates because she is on an athletic scholarship.

This was the first promotion that athletes could participate in at the MCC Cafe, according to Anita Peden, food services director for MCC's ARAMARK campus services account.

"I am really glad that someone with athletics won the grand prize. This was the first time that the gaming regulations for the featured product didn't exclude the athletes. I am really happy that Amy won."

Amy was unable to take her trip to Florida over spring break due to her participation in the regional basketball playoffs. She has tentatively decided to take it in July pending on confirmation.

She really hasn't decided on who she will be taking with her since the trip is for two...the whole basketball team wants to go, Kelly the cashier wants to go, even her mom wants to go...but he is sure the ticket won't go to waste.



## Dance Co. places seventh in NCAC

By AMY JO WILSON  
Staff Reporter

The Dance Company left March 31 and returned April 6 from Daytona Beach, Fla., where they placed seventh in the nation in the National Collegiate Association Championships.

The team placed in Division II Dance, with Barton County coming in second, making Barton the only two-year college to place above McLennan.

"To be in the top 10 is quite an accomplishment," said Director Andy Hinton.

against four-year colleges and the dancers said the competition was impressive.

The preliminary competition was held on April 2, where they placed sixth out of 16 teams. Then, finals took place the next day, where the MCC dance company got to perform on the Ocean Front Band Shell on the beach because they were in the top 10.

Hinton said that her dancers performed an almost flawless routine, which was to a Janet Jackson theme mix. She also said they have no comments or complaints about the judging.

"I am proud of them as people, not just dancers. They are an excel-

lent representation of this college and overall, the ability of the team is growing," said Hinton.

The dancers, along with their director Hinton, said they not only went to nationals to compete, but to learn.

They said they came back with new ideas, new tricks and new dance elements to try for next year. Some dancers said they also came back with beach-bags, t-shirts and sunburns from "beach day" and that they had a "blast." Before they came back home they also visited Universal Studios.

The top winners are expected to be televised on CBS Sports, April 17 at 1 p.m. est. The finalists are ex-

pected to appear on USA Sports May 30 at 9 a.m.

"I am enjoying the chance to relax a moment before tryouts on April 23-24," said Hinton.

Sandy Hinton wishes to remind students that it is not too late, there are three days until tryouts. Letters of recommendation are required as well as dance elements.

Those who are interested in becoming a part of the Dance Company may see her for applications and more information or reach her at 200-8851.

Another team tryout will be held on June 12, immediately following will be officer tryouts.

## Psi Beta Honor Society inducts 32

By DIKITA NOBLES  
Staff Reporter

The induction ceremony for the Psi Beta Honor Society will be held on April 26 in the Lecture Hall at 1:30 p.m.

This year 32 new inductees have qualified for the Honor Society making this the largest number in the chapter's history. Those to be inducted are Dobra Aretta Adams, Robin Leigh Boyer, Michael Allen Boyott, and Diana Eden Brassard. Also Louis J. Braucci Jr., Donna S. Brown, Kristi D. Burkott, and Rita Burrows.

Also Audra Jann Caudill, Christina Jan Cormier, June C. Duran, and Aimee Lee Eastwood. Also Lori N. Fowler, Patricia Suzanne Goston, Jack R. Gossott, and Jannette Suzanne Hamons.

Also Kimberly Renee Hancock, Michelle Denise Harkrider, Robert Scott Hollenback, and Holly Gail Hurst. Also Kathryn Anne Johnston, Lynne G. Lowe, Debra Lynn Mattucci, and Wendy E. Murphy.

Also Lori Ann Robertson, Rosalind Jane Saylor, Mlaty Kay Sloan, and Melissa Louise Tenl. Finally Melanie Kay Wiedorfen, Susan Michelle VonDiel, Karon J. Walker, and Karen E. Wheeler.

Psi Beta is one of the honor societies on campus that is aimed at students taking Psychology courses or those in the related fields of study. Psi Beta is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies and is in affiliation with the American Psychological Association and American Psychological Society. Dr. Jim Hill is the faculty advisor for the campus chapter.



# College fighting 'Millineum Bug'

By CHRISTOPHER FLUITT  
Staff Reporter

The year 2000 will be a huge celebration. Many will be seeing the old year out and the new millennium in. As the clock strikes midnight many voices will astatically ring out "HAPPY NEW YEAR," and applause and cheer.

Then the celebration may end abruptly as lights flicker off, telephones stop working, and all electrical power stops flowing. Many who had excitement pumping through their veins moments earlier are now left with a feeling of confusion. "Who turned out the lights?", someone questions.

With the joy of a new millennium comes the threat of a catastrophe. This threat is known to many as the 'Millennium bug' or the 'Y2K problem.'

MCC is glad to say they have been working on the Y2K bug for more than a year and have become 95 percent Y2K compliant. Karen Conine, the Y2K coordinator, hopes that by summer end the college will be 100 percent compliant.

The Y2K bug is a problem in computer programming. When computers were first made, they were programmed to remember the date. To

record the year, one would need four digits. But to save memory and cost, computers were programmed to see two digit years. For example, 1999 is 99 and 2000 is 00. It sees all dates as 19xx, only the last two digits change.

Everyone can understand that the year 2000 is one greater than the year 1999, but the computer only sees the numbers 99 and 00. The computer is programmed to know that the number 99 is greater than 00. In essence, the computer will never know the year 2000 arrived. Instead it will think it is the year 1900.

Many of the computers may still work, but they might not work correctly. Several problems can be caused by reading the wrong date. The computer will think it is Jan. 1, 1900. This means the computer will say a 20 year old is -80 years old. This problem could effect many government agencies such as social security because the computer will not have the correct date, therefore will not report that persons age correctly.

If you happen to be on the telephone Dec. 31, 1999 at 11:59 p.m. and talk until Jan. 1, 2000 at 12:02 a.m., you would usually be charged for three minutes. This is not the case, however, if your telephone company does not meet Y2K compli-

ancy. You would not be charged three minutes, but a 100 years and three minutes. That would be a phone bill of over five million dollars.

It is a complicated problem, yet it must be understood. MCC has put together a task force to handle and understand the millennium bug. The task force is made up of 12 members from across the campus in different areas of expertise.

One member is Jonny Kasner, supervisor of central utilities, who is in charge of the physical plant. His main concern in Y2K compliance is the embedded systems. Embedded systems are found in everything from elevators to air conditioning.

Embedded systems are basically computer chips found in a vast array of devices. Most of these systems have been built by manufacturers who were not programming them to be Y2K compliant. Embedded systems have to be removed and replaced in order to become a Y2K compliant machine.

Jonny Kasner reports that all machinery in the physical plant is Y2K compliant and that our supplier for electricity, TU electric, has released a statement saying that they too are Y2K compliant.

MCC has been working on this

millennium bug in a variety of ways. They have contingency plans in case water and electricity goes out. Some have visited monthly meetings on Y2K compliance both on the state wide and city wide level.

Last year, the college bought 300 new computers. Every computer bought was fixed for the Y2K computer glitch. A high percentage of computers on campus are Y2K compliant, and those that are not Y2K ready are set to be upgraded or replaced this summer.

Most Y2K problems are not difficult to correct, they involve simply installing new software. The phone systems at MCC are set to be Y2K compliant by mid June when they have new software installed.

It is not too hard to change the programs of computers from two digits to four digits. It is however very time consuming, and time is one thing we lose every day. Many have waited to late to become Y2K compliant and are feeling the pressures of it now.

This is why MCC says that they started about year and a half ago on this millennium disaster. Karen Conine says, "I think we are in good shape. No need to panic."

Many people around the world are panicking. Many are preparing for the new millennium by stocking

...and winning

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Student Awards

Outstanding students will be recognized at the annual awards assembly which is going to be held next Monday at 1:30 P.M. in the MCC Lecture Hall. Departments and organizations have selected students who have excelled in their field to receive these awards. Students nominated are requested to arrive 10-15 minutes earlier to sign-in. If you have any questions call Amberdawn Moore at 299-8465.

The assembly will be held on Monday, April 26th at 1:30 pm in the MCC Lecture Hall. Students are requested to arrive 10-15 minutes earlier to sign-in. If you have any questions or require further information, please call me at x8465. Thanks for your assistance!

It is your responsibility to inform your organization's nominee for outstanding student leader about the awards assembly.

### Board meets tonight

The MCC School Board of Trustees will hold a meeting today, Tuesday, April 20, at 7 P.M. in the Board Room of the Administration classroom building to set the June 22 bond election. The bond will fund a new technology center to be added onto the library.

### Counselors Workshop Thursday

Counselors from colleges and also from elementary, junior high and high schools will gather in the Community Services Center Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. for the Texas Counselors Network Workshop. The program will be presented by the Heart of Texas Tech Prep Consortium headquartered at MCC. For additional information on this program call Lorita Manning at 8796 or Gwen Streeter at 8715.

### MCC walks for charity

Join the MCC group at the March of Dimes "Walk America". This walk will benefit the March of Dimes and their continued efforts to fight birth defects. The walk is scheduled for Saturday, May 8th at Indian Spring Park at 9:00 A.M. If you are interested in walking with the MCC group please contact Rita Davis at 299-8756, Beverly Roberts at 299-8555, Terry Mozee at 299-8458 or Rick Butler at 299-8873. For the last few years several of the faculty, staff and administrators here at MCC have participated in the annual March of Dimes Walk America. As you know this organization has fought the battle of "birth defects." The Walk America annual walk date is scheduled for Saturday, May 8, 1999 at Indian Springs Park at 9:00 AM. Admission Specialists will be recruiting potential students this month in an effort to increase enrollment in various programs. There are three remaining recruit activities for this month. Today, April 20, Tarleton State Representatives will be available to answer student questions. Tomorrow, April 21, Moody High School will visit the MCC campus. MCC Program Directors will provide information to potential students, and Robinson Middle School will be on campus April 27 & 29 to visit with Department Heads. For more information please contact Admission Specialist David Hurtado at 299-8620.

### Register now

Registration will continue through April for summer and fall classes. Students must pick up an advising form from the Office of Student Admissions before they register. For further info on becoming an MCC student or class schedules call 254/299-8622 or you can go to MCC's website at www.mcc.cc.tx.us. Registration by telephone is also acceptable, call 254/299-8628, it may ask for a personal identification number.

## Fire dept. helps campus police contain gas leak

By JAMIE JONES  
Sr. Assoc. Ed.

An estimated 45 gallons of gas leaked from a Chevrolet Suburban that was parked on the 19th Street side of the Community Services Center (CSC) on April 12.

The gas tank was punctured by a bolt that was in the muffler. Over time, the bolt rubbed a hole in the tank. The campus police responded and attempted to dilute the gas with water.

Fire Academy Director Frank Patterson informed respondents that due to environmental protection, it is no good trying to dilute gas

with water.

The Waco Fire Department also responded to the scene.

The chemicals used to treat the gas spill were Micro Blaze, a micro-organism that actually eats the gas and neutralizes it so it can be effectively drained through city sewage, and an oil absorbent to try to clean up any remains.

"It makes it safe," Patterson said.

The chemicals, not posing as effective, just floated on top of the spill. Respondents then began trying to soak up the gas by placing sand over it.

Grady Massey, grounds crew member, assisted by using a front end loader, hauling sand to the scene.

## Service awards honor both faculty and staff members

By JAMIE JONES  
Sr. Assoc. Ed.

The Service Awards Banquet was held Friday in the open area of the Community Services Center (CSC).

The introduction was given by President Dennis Michaelis.

Serving as Masters of Ceremonies were Stan Mitchell and Nancy

Ray Mitchell.

Receiving awards for five years of service were Les Bessellieu, Linda Bostwick, Laveda Page-Brown, Katherine B. Calucci, Susan Copeland, Rose M. DeLeon and Linda M. Gassaway. Also J.P. Gloria, Andronic Gonzalez, Terrie Heemsbergen, Kathy Hunter, Tom Justice, Leslie Bogart Maggard and Matthew Miller.

As well Gilbert Montemayor, Pamela Morriss, Julie Turner Pickle, Glenna Pritchard, Miley Pulliam, Bob Sheehy Jr., Beth Ullman, Sandi Walter, Lori Watts and Bessie Williams. Receiving awards for ten years service were Joe Arrington, Linda Austin, Carla Lynn Cockrell, Linda McFerrin Cook, Linda Dulin, Joe Fortson, Paul Gonzales, Cornelia Gordon and Paul Hoffman.

Also Richard Leslie, Teresa Lopez, Maria McDaniel, Johnette McKown, Nancy Neil, Charles Nelson, Doris Schraeder, Dennis Strete and Derrick Turner.

Service awards for 15 years went out to William Arnold, Tom Buckner, Tracy Dobbs, Dianne Feyerherm, Willie Goodman, Ron Granberry, Diann Harris, Brian Konzelman and Stan Mitchell.

Also Terry Mozee, Jan Robertson, Rita Spinn, Connie Wedemeyer, Bobby Williams, J. Ronald Williams, Penny Zapata and Ray Zapata.

For 20 years service, Rebecca Griffin, Brenda Henry, Buddy Powell, Phyllis Pruett and Barbara Truax, received awards. Paul Concilio, Marilyn Kelly, Beverly Roberts and Doris Scott received awards for 25 years of service.

Receiving awards for 30 years service were Jess Collins, Paul Holder, Melvin Hood, Dale Hughes and John Nobis.

Members of the banquet committee are Louise Banks-Smith, Gail Blanpied, Vince Clark, Brenda Dobelbower, Linda Dulin, Diane Feyerherm, Becky Griffin and Cathy Hagan. Also Sydney Landis, Ramona Madewell, Nancy Neill, John Redrick, Mickey Reyes, Jerry Scheller, Marisa Sliva, Fay Gutierrez and Randy Schorman.

## Study Abroad

By Jacqueline Harvey  
Campus News Editor

Preliminary applications for 2000-2001 Rotary Club Ambassadorial Scholarships for Waco students or residents wishing to study abroad are due by May 15.

The scholarships include round-trip transportation to the country of study, (which may be a country that has a Rotary Club), tuition and fees, reasonable living expenses and one month of intensive language training as assigned by The Rotary Foundation Trustees. The recipients are expected to be outstanding ambassadors of goodwill to the people of the host country and must meet certain qualifications. These are available in the preliminary form.

Those interested may contact the Rotary Club of Waco or any area Rotary Club for an application. The Rotary Club of Waco can be contacted at P.O. Box 5618, Waco 76708.

## Classified Ads

**LIGHT DELIVERY DRIVER WANTED.** Reliable Transportation a must. 799-5685.

**PACKAGE HANDLER** wanted. Flexible hours a.m. and p.m. Loading and unloading trailers. \$6.50-\$7 starting pay, also internships starting at \$15,000. After 30 days tuition assistance. RPS Inc., (FDX Company) 6805 B Imperial Dr., 776-2414.

**PROJECT TEAM** on business side of a medical office - full and part-time positions available. Strong communication skills essential. Computer skills a plus. \$8 an hour. Call 755-4460. No telemarketing!

**Buck-a-book.com** To buy and sell used textbooks! Party with the savings.

**FOR SALE** - '92 Chrysler LeBaron Convertible, 6 cyl., A/C, tape, new top, A/T, P/W, \$4,000, 756-4929.

**SMILING VOICES - SMILING WALLETS.** Will train enthusiastic person. 799-5685.

## Spring Final Exam Schedule

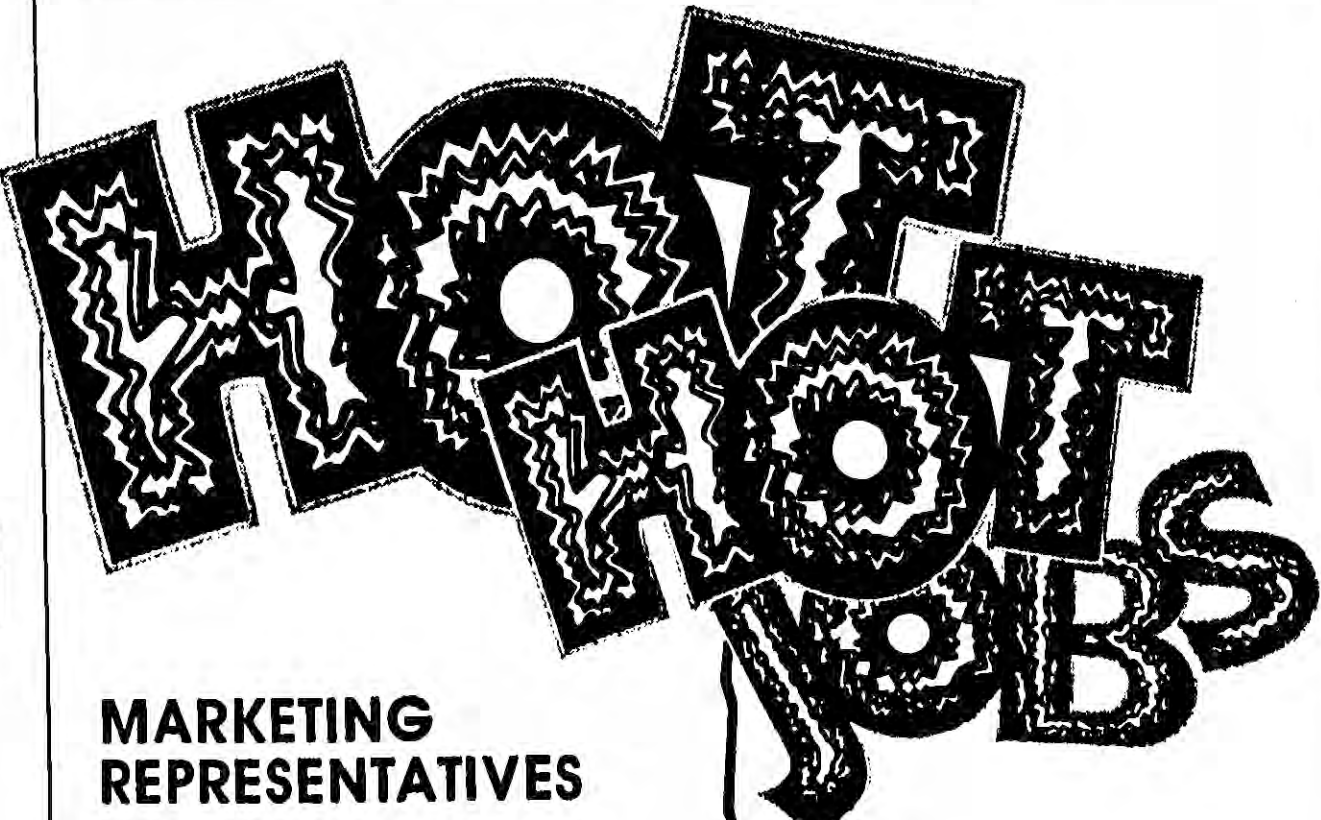
Day Schedule		
Classes	Exam Day	Exam Time
<i>Mon.-Wed.-Fri. Classes</i>		
6:55-7:50 a.m.	Mon., May 10	*6:55-7:50 a.m.
	Wed., May 12	
*(precludes uninterrupted exam time of 120 min.)		
8:00-8:55 a.m.	Mon., May 10	8:00-10:00 a.m.
9:10-10:05 a.m.	Wed., May 12	8:00-10:00 a.m.
10:20-11:15 a.m.	Wed., May 12	10:20-12:20 p.m.
11:30-1:25pm	Mon., May 10	11:30-1:30 p.m.
12:40-2:00 p.m.	Wed., May 12	1:30-3:30 p.m.
2:15-3:35 p.m.	Mon., May 10	2:15-4:15 p.m.
3:50-5:10 p.m.	Wed., May 12	3:50-5:50 p.m.
<i>Tues.-Thur. Classes</i>		
8:00-9:20 a.m.	Thur., May 13	8:00-10:00 a.m.
9:35-10:55 a.m.	Tues., May 11	9:35-11:35 a.m.
11:10-12:30 p.m.	Thur., May 13	11:10-1:10 p.m.
12:45-2:05 p.m.	Tues., May 11	12:45-2:45 p.m.
2:20-3:40 p.m.	Thur., May 13	2:20-4:20 p.m.
3:55-5:15 p.m.	Tues., May 11	3:55-5:55 p.m.

Evening Schedule		
Classes	Exam Day	Exam Time
6:00-7:20 p.m.	MW Mon., May 10	6:00-8:00 p.m.
7:35-8:55 p.m.	MW Wed., May 12	7:35-9:35 p.m.
6:00-7:20 p.m.	TTh Tues., May 11	6:00-8:00 p.m.
7:35-8:55 p.m.	TTh Thur., May 13	7:35-9:35 p.m.
6:00-9:00 p.m.	M Mon., May 10	6:00-8:00 p.m.
6:00-9:00 p.m.	T Tues., May 11	6:00-8:00 p.m.
6:00-9:00 p.m.	W Wed., May 12	6:00-8:00 p.m.
6:00-9:00 p.m.	Th Thur., May 13	6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Saturday Classes** Exams for Saturday classes will be given at regular class time on May 8.

**Off-campus classes (Day or Evening)** Exams will be arranged by your instructor, but not given before May 8.

**Or other exceptions** Classes meeting between 5 and 5:55 p.m. will hold final exams at regular class time on May 10-13 at the discretion of the instructor.



# HOT JOBS

## MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES

### \$9.00\*-\$14.00


per hour or more with incentives

plus up to \$400 quarterly attendance bonus

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**Letter to the Editor**

**Teens of today aren't teens of yesterday**

This letter is in response to the April 6 editorial titled "Teens on Trial," in which a great number of counter arguments can surely be made in support of capital punishment.

The death penalty is the harshest of sentences that the judicial system in the United States can hand down, and despite passionate protests by well meaning detractors, polls show the majority of Americans favor it as an available option for criminals judged by society to be such a malicious threat to the lives of others.

The author of the "Teens on Trial" piece suggested that age alone should be substantial criteria for deferring capital punishment. With that argument, if a young man or woman's birthday were to fall the day before instead of the day after they take the life of another and destroy the lives of the victim's loved ones, should the murderer be allowed to escape what would be justice for another person who is weeks or months older?

Justice should not be based on who the criminal is but what crime

they commit. After using age as a criteria for executing murderers, why not next use race, height, and weight? The Supreme Court can hear arguments that because murderers are under average height that they should be held to a lower expectation of what is deemed civil behavior.

Teenagers today have access to information, mobility, and financial spending power that far exceeds that of teens even ten years ago. Each generation has more and more opportunities to make adult decisions at an earlier and earlier age. Many of today's teens are parents, not sheltered innocents who are having a hard time finding a date for the prom. Teens of today are finding baby-sitters and trying to get time off from work to go to the prom. As teens are entering the adult world at an earlier age, the crimes they are committing are keeping pace. The "Teens on Trial" editorial makes reference to the case of Kipland Kinkel. Kinkel did not just throw rocks through a neighbor's window or sneak a cigarette behind the gym, he shot twenty-four of his

fellows students and took the lives of several of them. No matter what the flaw was in his decision making process that prompted this act, the members of society who have never killed a dozen classmates over a C+ on a high school history test deserve protection from anyone who would. Kinkel deserves a place in society no better than Ted Bundy or Andrei Chikatilo. The most savage of animals will kill for food or territory, but only the most deviant of people will kill simply because it's easy. Society can never be a safe place if its members would pepper a prayer group with bullets. The age of the finger on the trigger is irrelevant.

The teens of today are not the teens of yesterday. Unfortunately, innocence is often lost at earlier and earlier ages in this digital microsoft era we have created. Law and justice have always been built around the punishment fitting the crime. If we allow the date on one's birth certificate, instead of the criminal act, determine justice, then we are only encouraging the worst of tomorrow's youth.

S. Madison Green, A.A.  
MCC alumnus

**"What would you like to see in a new student I.D.?"**

**Delonna Hutchinson,** nursing major "Maybe make it more like a credit card."

**Christi Harmon,** radiology major "Make it more like a credit card with a photo."

**Tiffany Donehoo,** Kinesiology major, "Photo, maybe make it group with bullets. The age of the finger on the trigger is irrelevant."

**James Freeman,** Criminal Justice major, "Something firmer. Those cardboard things are crappy."

**Ronald Brown,** major undecided, "Plastic"  
**Heather Bowers,** Radiology major, "To be able to use it to buy food."

**Kevin Susil,** Political Science major, "Maybe laminate it, with a picture."

**Taylor Nowell,** Commercial Music major, "I don't even keep up with that paper thing.. It should be laminated and have a picture."

**Jamie Jones,** Journalism major "The fact that you do not have to pay for it if you lose it."

**This is a student survey that was compiled by Jacqueline Harvey, journalism major.**

There will be further discussion of this topic at the Town Hall meeting held by the Student Government Association (SGA) on Thursday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 P.M. in the cafeteria. Dr. Lynn Abernathy, Dean of Student Services will lead the discussion on improving student identification cards and expanding how students can use them on campus and around the community.

**Activity period...in college?**

By **Jacqueline Harvey**  
Campus News Editor

How many of you have been in this situation before. There is a group project due, but no one can meet at the same time due to classes or work? Or you are a member of a club, but there's never a meeting time that all members can attend?

There is no need to answer. We've all attempted to juggle our obligations and find some magical hole in our schedules in which we can do our group activities. There rarely is that hole.

We have lives. Not only do we all have classes to attend and homework to do, but most of us have jobs or families and other responsibilities that keep us from meetings, being tutored, or other campus activities.

There is a simple solution: A good old fashioned activity period. Hmmm. Activity period. That term I'm sure conjures up some memories from high school. A half hour or so when you make paper airplanes, write love letters, hastily finish the homework you should have done the night before.

What I mean by activity period is a time when there are no scheduled classes. In this time, student organizations have an opportunity to meet, there can be instructor, student conferences, tutorials, and special events such as the speakers and workshops.

Activity period would be an obligation free time. As editor of my high school newspaper, I knew that I could call a staff meeting for that period and that everyone could attend. As math dunces, I had extra time to meet and discuss my difficulties with my teacher. And, just as a student, we all can benefit with a little extra study time.

So, it sounds like a good idea to promote campus unity. But it's not just an amenity but a necessity out the campus to run well.

For example, the Student Government Association is a very integral part of our college. They represent us as students and the decisions made by the governing body affect everyone on this campus. The organizations job is an important one, and being a democracy, for all groups of students to be represented, all members must be present.

But in the two semesters I've been covering Student Government more than once I've heard, "She couldn't be here. She had a test," or "He has to be in lab right now to work on a project," or "I was in class." And when the members are unable to show for whatever reason, the organization doesn't have a sufficient amount of members to do the campus' business. This means, there are not enough members to do YOUR business.

So the administrators give the students a hefty responsibility, but yet deny them an important resource to do their job well. And the sad part

is, the resource appears to be easily accessible.

Then just last week the college was honored by a visit from Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks. Scheduling the event during a time when it's known it will not interfere with classes would certainly have raised attendance.

PASS Workshops, video showings, and other campus activities can be held at this time not to mention clubs and students with group assignments.

So, I propose that we as a college instate an activity period. This proposal is not only to the student reading this on the way to class, but something for instructors and administrators to chew on also, especially at the time of the year when we assess our needs and evaluate our goals for the next school year.

One hour Monday, Wednesday, and Friday just following the 11:30 classes. I'm sure the administrators, instructors and students alike will find that this is the most convenient time, being around lunch. Or it could replace the ever popular eight o'clock classes that everyone misses due to oversleeping. But remember, the time is not so much as important as the concept. In order for the campus to grow and form it's leaders for the next millenium, the students must be granted time in which to perform their duties and collaborate with other students.

This time would not be wasted.

**Editorial**

Through an extremely busy remodeling season, members of the building maintenance crew kept up the day-to-day general maintenance work.

The crew has finished remodeling concession areas in the Highlands and also painted the locker room areas.

The baseball field house was also remodeled, adding offices for the coaches.

Another project the crew worked on was the remodeling of the Conference Center. The center is now the McLennan House and will be used to accommodate visiting professors and faculty applicants.

The center was remodelled from front to back.

On the second floor of the Student Center, the crew built offices.

In order to move testing, the crew has started remodeling the third floor of the Student Center as well.

"They are doing an exceptionally good job, putting out quality work with only four crew members," said Sid Ross, assistant director of the Physical Plant.

The crew consist of Tommy Alexander, Stanley Norman, Jerry Scheller and Ly Tran. Central Utility, the campus

power plant, works in conjunction with building maintenance to support all remodeling efforts.

The Central Utility crew does any electric work needed to remodel.

The crew has also kept up daily work such as campus lighting.

The crew consist of five members. They are Charles Arriola, Steven Brown, Pete Gloria, Jerry Niles, Billy Tomlinson and Supervisor Johnny Kasner.

"It saves the college a tremendous amount of money by having such talented workers," Ross said.

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

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## The Birth-Order Debate

(Editor's Note: This essay was chosen as the best among more than 100 essays written by students in the Psychology 2314 classes taught by Dr. Jim Hail. This article has been edited from the Modern Language Association format to conform with newspaper style.)

By KAREN E. WHEELER

Creativity can be defined as the ability to originate something new and appropriate by transcending common thought constraints. For an idea to be considered creative it must surpass traditional thought. Its depth and value, though initially imperceptible, becomes clear over time. It is common for the value of a magnificent work of art to be unrecognized until long after its creator is deceased. Many inventions are widely criticized until the passing of time makes known the significance of their use.

Philosophers and behavioral researchers have attempted to define creativity over the years and each has his own idea of what it means. Generally, there is a consensus that some of the controversy surrounding the question of creativity could be dispelled if agreement could be reached on whether it is a personality trait, a cognitive ability or a teachable problem-solving skill.

Some researchers have significantly reduced this overwhelming and broad topic to study the significance of birth-order position in relation to creativity. It is clear that specific strengths and weaknesses are inherent in each ordinal position and that a strong relationship between birth-order and creative ability exists.

IT IS NO GREAT surprise that last-borns typically conform less to authority and are more oriented toward social relationships. Unexpectedly large proportions of later-born individuals excel in music and the arts. Because these are highly competitive fields, success is determined in large part to high levels of creativity.

William D. Bliss, Department of Psychology, Montana State University, conducted a study wherein a sample of 39 writers and 25 poets were selected from a large group of American writers. "There was a significant tendency for novelists and short-story writers to be members of the younger half of their families..." Dr. Bliss found, for example, that creative writers tend to come from the ranks of the later-borns. He wrote, "[t]he advantage of the later-born over the first-born in creative pursuits would seem to derive from his greater ability to work independently and tolerate isolation-surely qualities required of an artistically creative person."

Russell Eisenman performed a study he refers to as the "Creative Design Test" in an attempt to differentiate artistically creative subjects from their less creative peers.

THE STUDY FOCUSED on the relationship between birth-order and creativity in the area of visual arts. Eisenman was assisted by an art professor who was well acquainted with the 20 art students who served as subjects for this study. The students were provided with paper in three different colors, scissors and glue and were allowed to construct up to five designs within thirty minutes. The test was scored by evaluating, in part, the use of all three colors, overlapping of paper, three-dimensionality and number of shapes used.

Eisenman found later-born art students to be 25 percent more creative overall. Four of the 8 first-borns were artistically creative whereas 8 of the 12 later-born subjects were found to be so.

HE ATTRIBUTED these results to the explanation that later-borns are generally expected to be more "original and artistically creative than first-borns," a philosophy associated with Dr. Alfred Adler, the father of birth-order effects on personality.

Later-born individuals are more free to be original and innovative than their first-born counterparts. A later-born female for instance, is more likely to become an actress. Later children "have their life roles less clearly structured by parents and are freer to indulge in fantasy and pretense." Jane Fonda and Joan Crawford were later-born children.

TO GIVE FAIR BILLING to first-borns, mathematical creativity is dominated by eldest sons. Dr. Adler and other researchers found that mathematical gifts are not unique to first-borns but that it must be the discipline itself which is crucial. He noted that discipline provides a "domain in which mental power and creativity can be wielded in a manner congenial to the special qualities of men who, for a time at least, were the only sons in their families."

In Dr. Bliss' study of creative writers, his data were compared with the birth order position of scientists. A far greater proportion of only children and first-borns were found to be in this field.

OTHER STUDIES INDICATE there is a strong tendency for eldest-borns to enter the fields of engineering, physics, architecture and chemistry, occupations requiring a high level of abstract thought. First-borns are more reflective than later-borns and are significantly more likely to examine a greater number of opinions and to delay decisions.

Developing as many solutions as possible to a given problem is strongly tied to divergent thinking and, in fact, researchers have routinely used this ability as well as the propensity to practice abstract thought as components to measure individual creativity. Certainly there are exceptions to the findings of birth-order studies that have been conducted over the years. Yet, the research is obviously suggestive of a strong connection between ordinal position and creativity. Later-born individuals demonstrate a tendency to be dramatic, free-thinking, non-conforming and people-oriented.

IT MAY WELL BE that by the time a third or fourth child is born, parents have loosened their grip on certain ideals and are more likely to embrace some deviation from the hard and fast rules they set for their first-born. The tendency of parents to relax rules and regulations with subsequent children may indeed pave the way for later or last-borns to be drawn to such creative pursuits as the arts and music. Their counterparts, the first-borns of the family, however, are eager to please authority figures, such as parents, teachers, and employers.

FIRST-BORNS often view the rigid rules and expectations set out by their parents as life-long disciplinary tools with which to achieve success. Indeed, first-borns may have an innate need to achieve. This need could be a kind of inherent obligation to set an example for subsequent children in the family.

First-borns are inclined to seek careers in the sciences, fields which require a great deal of abstract thought and mental discipline, and studies show that within these fields eldest-borns excel. Ordinal position is a fascinating study and though there exists a great deal of controversy, the research is clearly suggestive of a strong correlation between birth-order and creativity.

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## Adventure Bound...

# Instructor has travelled abroad

By JARROD KEININGHAM  
Staff Reporter

Dr. Michael White, history instructor, has encountered and experienced many things during his lifetime.

He's traveled to foreign and exotic locales, partook in adventure, and shared his love for history with students from the Czech Republic, Mexico, Africa, as well as our college.



The majority of classes he teaches here at the college are U.S. History, World Civilizations, and History of Texas.

His love for this subject dates back to his childhood in Dallas when he was inspired by the book, *Horatio Hornblower*, by C.S. Forster.

After graduating high school in Dallas, he began attending Baylor University in 1953 with a major in history.

Receiving his bachelor's, he went on to receive his master's in 1962 and later a Ph.D. in 1969.

During this time, he joined

the Peace Corps where he served for two years in Africa at a teacher training institute as an instructor.

While in Africa, he experienced adventures that many only dream of. Such adventures include hunting leopards and elephants in the bush.

When asked if he had killed anything, he replied, "No, they didn't let the Peace Corps carry guns."

Also, he crossed the Sahara by vehicle.

"It isn't as bad as people think. I did ride on a camel but I didn't much like that. I got seasick by it rocking back and forth," White said.

His accomplishments include mountain climbing as well.

"Yes, I even climbed a mountain which I think wasn't a smart idea. It was scary, considering I'm afraid of heights," White jokingly said.

Nonetheless, his African adventures would give any budding adventurer inspiration.

His travels brought him to Eastern Europe to places such as the Czech Republic where he helped set up the venture between Masaryk University and the college.

Also, he visited Russia in 1990 and assured me, "I had nothing to do with it's collapse."

His other travels took him all over Mexico and a Costa Rican trip last spring.

When asked if he spoke any languages, White said, "I know enough to get myself into trouble. I can ask

"Where is the toilet" in many languages. I can speak Spanish well enough since my wife is a Spanish teacher and I want to know if she says anything bad about me."

Commenting on travel, White said, "You can read and write about a place, but being there is an entirely different thing. You experience what it really is."

He said that most people had a positive view of Americans. Yet, most of their ideas came from movies which isn't really an adequate representation.

For example, his instruction at Masaryk University brought him questions from students like, "Are Americans sex crazed people?" and "Why are Americans hung up on racism?"

On the racism question, White said, "I told them that they were racist too. They replied 'no we're not.' I said 'what about the gypsies who are discriminated against.' They fell silent. After awhile, they said 'Well, they are bad' and began to give arguments why."

Despite his travels and experiences abroad, White is inextricably linked to the college.

He was at the college at it's very beginning when it was at the James Connally Air Force Base in 1966.

"We were expecting 400 students that year and 800 showed. We had 30 administrators and faculty compared to the 180-200

now."

The buildings were old barracks and were in bad shape and crumbling.

White recalled one student who fell through the floor and if a student sat in the back of the room, he could hear the lecture of the instructor in the next room.

Also, if the instructors plugged in the projectors all at one time, they blew the circuits.

Noise problems were present as well.

"They were testing B-52 engines at that time and if you ever heard a B-52 engine, there was no way you could speak over it. You just stopped talking," White said.

Although the beginning of the college was a shaky one, he continued to stay with the college since those early days.

When asked what he thinks of the college today, he said, "MCC offers more to more people with one to two-year programs at many different levels. I think we can make a bigger difference here than many traditional universities because not everyone wants the traditional four-year degree."

No one can disagree with the fact that White has made a big difference here at the college or in other locales. He has lived an interesting life that few can match.

## The art of politics...

# Political science leads way to education

By Jamie Jones  
Sr. Assoc. Ed.

In 1956, President Dwight Eisenhower came to Waco to receive an honorary doctorate from Baylor.

Local elementary schools choose two students, one male and one female, to attend the event and meet Eisenhower.

Government teacher Paul Holder was a chosen one.

Holder had listened to Eisenhower speak just a few years before this. His parents took him to an event in 1952.

Out of all the people Holder has met, Eisenhower impacted him the most. This impact had to do with Holder's age at the time, him being a small boy, and political socialization.

Each president that has served since Holder was born, he has met. However, there are two exceptions. Franklin Roosevelt was president when he was born, and he did not get a chance to meet John F. Kennedy either.

When Lyndon Johnson visited Waco, a student reporter from Waco High got the chance to interview him. He was not abreast on politics so he decided to get his friend, Paul Holder, to go along and feed him questions.

While in Houston, Holder became acquainted with Richard Nixon. Holder recalls, "the police were pushing people out of the way." Holder has also spent time with Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton (before he was president), Ronald Reagan and many others.

Speaking of Ronald Reagan, many people have said that Holder's father greatly resembles Reagan. When George Bush was running for a seat in the Senate, Holder worked for him.

Laughing, Holder says that if there is a politician that is not liked, get Dale Hughes, religion instructor to shake his hand. The joke is, every politician that has shaken the hand of Hughes has lost the election running in.

Holder was once eating in the

cafeteria that is in the basement of the Supreme Court and there, he met Thurgood Marshall, the first black man to ever be appointed to the Supreme Court.

While at the University of Houston, Holder got a chance to meet William Douglas, another Supreme Court Justice. Douglas spared a few moments of his time to converse with Holder on popular beliefs.

While attending an anti-rally in the 60s, Holder met revolutionary Angela Davis. He at-

tended the rally for experience reasons.

Holder has also met most of the Texas governors as well. On a different note, Holder also met Ann Margaret, actress, when she was in town for the opening of the State Fair.

Holder has been teaching at the college since 1969. He graduated from Baylor as a political science major and went to work in the field. However, Holder admits that he knew he always wanted to teach, political science was just something that interested him.

Holder deems that the major difference in generations of the past and this generation is the fact that this generation is not as involved as previous ones.

As having been a sponsor of the Student government Association (SGA), Holder has experienced a SGA that was at one time huge and always active. Holder refers to the pendulum effect to explain it. At one time, the SGA was so big it met in the Lecture Hall. It has considerably dwindled since. Eventhough, one day the pendulum will swing back to its original position.

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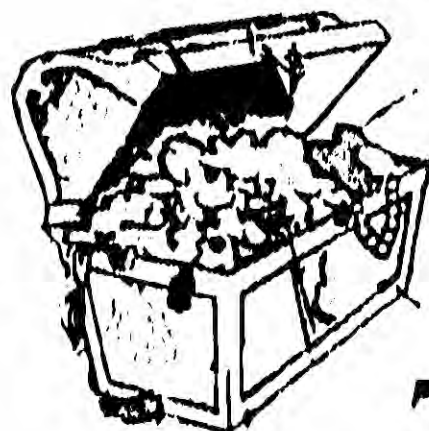
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# Fall distinguished honors, honors students

Many local residents were named to the Honors or Distinguished Honors List at McLennan Community College for the 1998 Fall semester. Students who achieve a 3.8 to 4.0 grade point average for the semester are named to the Distinguished Honors List. The Honors List is for students who achieve a 3.5 to 3.79 grade point average for the semester. Students must have completed at least 12 semester hours during the semester to be eligible for either list.

**Distinguished Honors List**  
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K. Graham, Joseph M. Hattier, Gretchen S. Jarosek, Anson C. McCarty, Roza Tulyaganova, Tracey Lee Webb, Chad E. Wooten and Christen Lynn Yarber, 76712  
Area students named to the Distinguished Honors List and their hometowns include:

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Crispin, Candice L. Garrett, James M. Huggins, Tiffany L. Richter, Sarah M. Salinas, Almota H. Seals, Brennan L. Shaw and Michael P. Simpson, 76708 Blanca Z. Alejandro, Jennifer D. Bartula, Patrick S. Beale, Brian D. Biezanski, Casey N. Boehm, Timoxena N. Burns, Jacquelynn C. Calvert, Bart D. Cochran, Youssef K. Daniel, Shirley M. Elmore, Dalia George, David A. Harris, William C. Harris, Holli L. Hopkins, Lynnae G. Lowe, Brandon E. Marrquin, Brandon R. McWilliams, Timothy Farr Meadows, Bethany L. Mize, Mike A. Pirro, Nathaniel J. Pringle, Kevin A. Riess, Oscar A. Salinas, William E. Tamayo, Taeloria S. Taylor, Anjelita Teakell and Kyle J. Tidwell, 76710 Heather L. Brink, Michele M. Cervantes, Sheila P. DeGrate, Louis Robert Gutierrez, Kimberly D. Hamilton, Aaron D. Henderson, Traci J. Mitchell, Melody L. Quick, Rachel L. Rodriguez and Christian B. Townsend, 76711 (MCC FALL '98 HONORS LIST continued) Karen C. Bond, Leslie E. Dannhaus, Ludwig M. Dyson, Joleigh M. Flores, Rickie F. Fore, Casey R. George, Miles L. Hagar, John C. Keen, Kaci S. Kocian, Fabio R. Longo, David K. Lunt, Sharon L. Roberts, Shannon M. Wiggins and Lindsey M. Wilburn, 76712

Area students named to the Honors List and their hometown include:  
Dana C. Boesen, Austin Renee A. Graves and Marie E. King, Axtell Justin C. Braswell and Misti M. Peary, Bruceville Rebekah L. Martin, Bullard Rita M. Burrows, Giselle R. Hewitt, Christi Ann Kretzmeier, Catherine M. Praise, Lucy B. Scarborough and Julie M. Willis, China Spring Lindsey L. Natale, Conroe Tami D. Sanderlin, Covington Susan K. Caywood, Crawford

Caroline Blahova, Denton Carol D. Plant and Amber Deanne Rogers, Eddy Joseph P. Bailey, Dale W. Dennis, Dena M. Dennis, Belinda G. Harcerow and Mark R. McKown, Elm Mott Judith M. Waller, Evant Tak-Seng Cheong, Flushing, NY Marie A. Berger, Heather M. Blanton, Joseph W. Churchill, Kyle M. Davis, Michelle D. Harkrider, Michael A. Jacobs, Tracie L. Junior, Remy Lavadin, Melissa A. Smith, Keny E. Tipton, Cody R. Turner, Geoffrey A. Voss and Daffney Kendra Watson, Hewitt Jessica Dawn Choate and Jason R. Graham, Hillsboro Mike M. Yang, Houston Moriah B. Johnson, Hutchins Abram G. Gomez, Itasca Mandi L. Wideman, Laguna Park Patricia L. Cross, Brian T. Erzen, Julie A. Evans, Laura B. Fry, Lori A. Robertson, Stacy A. Sirkel and Melanie K. Wiederien, Lorena Ramiro Valdez, Lott Brad C. Meece, Marlin Crystal Renee Bajer, Jennifer E. Reasing and James E. Stead, Mart Dori C. Helm, Loriann Loden and Cheri A. Yandell, McGregor Jessica A. Boyette, Meridian Jeremy S. McDaniel, Moody Shannon L. Johnston, Mt. Calm James D. Watson, Pendolpe Wendy L. Guenat and Alison D. Urbanteke, Riesel Allison D. Turner, Robinson Nancy G. Rowell, Ross Jason A. Gremminger, Rowlett Alice A. Rother, Shiner Kelly A. Baugh, Temple Leah M. Hall, Troy Jonathan D. Dulus and Timothy F. Morgan, Valley Mills Anita J. Dvorak, Rebekah M. Franke, Adam J. Grier, Terrie A. Griffith, Heather R. Manning, Kelli R. Matus and Kerinne M. Schroeder, West Cara Beth Callaway, Shawn L. Juhnho, Brandon M. Hadley and Wendi G. McGowan, Whitney.

# Photos are sentimental

By VERONICA CABARRUBIA  
Feature Editor

The sun is beating with a fiery intensity. The light it gives off compliments the features of a person's face. Another photo opportunity.

Our lives are filled with pictures whether they are professional or amateur.

Attending art galleries that display fine art photography can be an unnerving event for those who do not have a clue about interpreting photographs. The same is true for commercial photography and snapshots.

However, Barbara London and John Upton, authors of Photography Sixth Edition, have given a most beneficial way to do this. It can be found on page 336 along with some terminology.

There are eight main questions that are to be asked when observing a picture, but each one may not need to be asked every time.

1. **What type of photograph is it?** Is it a vacation picture? Or is it advertisement? Captions and titles may give helpful information.

2. **What can be guessed about the photographer's intention (what he or she is trying to say)?**

3. **What emphasis has the photographer created and**

how has this been done? For instance, is the frame (edges of the photograph) showing width side to side or showing height or depth from near to far?

4. **Do the technical matters help or hinder the image?** Is the central element (the focus of the photo) not clear because of other things?

5. **Are graphic elements such as tone, line or perspective important?** What part of the picture are the eyes drawn to first? Do the eyes go back to the same spot every time? Do the foreground (front) objects seem larger than the background objects?

6. **What else does the photograph reveal?** Spend more time looking at the photo. Study it to discover an underlined meaning or message.

7. **What emotional or physical impact does the picture have?** Does it induce fear, anger or maybe sympathy? When seeing a photo, does it cause a tear to be shed or a smile to appear?

8. **How does the photograph relate to other ones by the same photographer?** Are they from the same time period or of the same subject?

The list of questions are found in Photography Sixth Edition by London and Upton which can be bought on campus.

Remember be concise when speaking or writing about photographs. Keeping it focused allows for creative enjoyment.

# Highland Games entertain

By CHELSEA JACKSON  
Staff Reporter

The Highland Games entertained the entire campus with events, music, and food on this past Friday.

Students, faculty, and staff all participated in the fun-packed day, which included many unorthodox athletic competitions.

For those who were hungry, they had the opportunity to replenish their appetites by entering the banana split contest in the cafeteria, which was sponsored by Phi-Theta Kappa.

Visitors who wanted to display their talent of flexibility could enter the Twister competition in the courtyard sponsored by the Student Government.

Those students considering the armed forces had the opportunity to

make their way through an obstacle course sponsored by the Physical Therapy Club.

The Student Paralegal Association sponsored an egg toss for those people who did not get enough eggs at Easter.

A bat spin relay was provided by Student Activities, which demonstrated other unique uses for baseball equipment.

The International Student Organization sponsored a casting contest where you test your abilities to use a fishing rod to cast toward a swimming pool.

Visitors who preferred "normal" events took advantage of the tug-of-war, sponsored by Student Activities, as well as a basketball tournament sponsored by the Baptist Student Ministry.

Among the multiple "athletic" events, many bands provided listening entertainment for passers-by. To sum it up, fun was had by all.



Photo by Clint Meyer

# New college grads wanted for upward career move.

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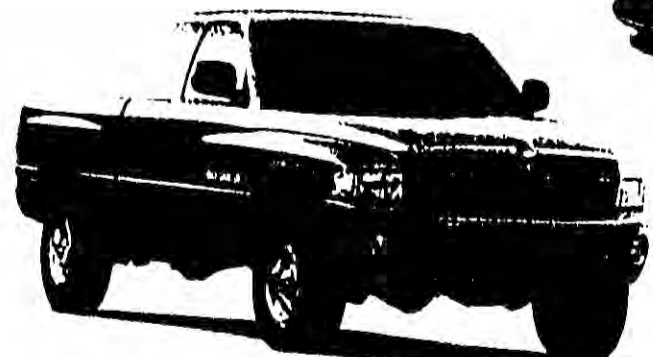
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OF EXPENSE

McLennan Community College  
Waco, Texas

PAGE

5

April 20, 1999



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# Moving on up: Two Highlander basketball stars sign with Div. I schools

By BRIAN SHELTON  
Co-Sports Editor

A week after signing a national letter of intent to play basketball for Baylor, Meechy Sims was not celebrating or waiting idly for the upcoming season to begin, he was practicing.

He went about his practice methodically, creating a gentlerhythm. A rhythm that was disturbed occasionally by a rare missed shot or an outspoken physical education student, all of whom clustered at the opposite end of the court.

"Hey Meechy," yelled one of the students covered in sweat. "You want to get into this dunk contest?"

Sims, however, sank a three-pointer with ease and gave the inquisitor a dismissive grin.

His resistance could have been due to the fact that he did not want to risk anything before his first season at Baylor or because he did not want to make anyone look bad.

Nonetheless, he returned to practice.

Making opponents look bad is something that Sims has done almost to perfection his last two seasons at MCC.

He ranks as one of the top three-point shooters in the nation, converting on 44.3 percent from behind the arc as a freshman and 32.8 percent this season after rebounding from a slow start.

Head basketball coach Steve Shields said Sims should fit well into Baylor's offense because of his strong shooting ability.

"Meechy is a guy that can step in and play right away at Baylor," Shields said. "They're looking for a guy who can shoot it and obviously with him shooting 44 percent from the three-point line as a freshman he's just that. I think he will do well there."

Sims, a two-time all conference and all region selection, said he plans on playing the same type of role at Baylor as he has the last two years at MCC where he averaged 20.8 points per game this season and 18.1 as a freshman.

"I'll be pretty much in the same role that I played here, shooting the ball and putting some numbers on the board," Sims said. "I think they expect me to come in and put up anywhere from 15 to 20 points a game, win a couple games and work hard."

Making the transition from junior college play to the Big XII conference may be a difficult one, but Shields said he believes Sims can be successful.

"Meechy is stepping into the Big XII where he's going to be facing bigger and stronger guards than what he's faced the last two years," Shields said. "It's going to be more difficult to get a shot off, but I think he can get a shot off against most anybody."

Also signing was Seneca Wall, who agreed to play for Sam Houston State on April 13. Wall was an all-conference pick this season, averaging 17 points, 6.3 rebounds, 4.6 assists and 7.5 steals per game for MCC.

"I think Seneca is a guy that they (Sam Houston State) pinpointed back in September," Shields said.

"They wanted to sign him and have never gone back and forth on do they want him or do they not want him. With that being the case I think he's going to be an immediate impact player."

Wall was also recruited by Drake, UT-San Antonio and South Alabama, but Shields said that Wall chose Sam Houston because he could step in and contribute.

"I think that was one of the big things with Seneca going there," Shields said.

"He knew he wanted to go somewhere where he could play right away."

Sam Houston State's recruiters have followed him all year and they know what he can do and what he can't do. I think that's important in choosing a school.

As MCC and the Highlanders watch as two of its best players move on, Shields said he believes both will continue to excel.

"I think both Meechy and Seneca will not only play where they're going," Shields said. "I think they'll be successful as well."



SENECCA WALL SIGNED with Sam Houston State April 13 and hopes to make an immediate impact.



MEECHY SIMS signed Baylor on April 9. Sims is one of the top three-point shooters in the nation.

## Highlanders hit their way out of slump, fall to No. 4

By BRIAN SHELTON  
Co-Sports Editor

After hitting a stretch in which the team lost three of four games, including two losses to conference rival Grayson, the Highlander baseball team has returned to its winning ways.

MCC has been victorious in three of its last four meetings since the team's slumber and are currently ranked fourth in the nation.

**Brookhaven blasted**

MCC dominated Brookhaven College in both games of a double header, April 17, outscoring it's opponent by a total of 26-2.

In the opening game, Jason Scobie (6-1) pitched a complete game shutout allowing only two-hits with five strikeouts in five innings of work, en route to a 10-0 victory.

The Highlanders put the game out of reach early with a six-run third inning, highlighted by consecutive doubles by Brandon Maricle and Patrick Beale and a two-run single by Bryan Kent.

In the second game, the Highlanders again benefited from solid pitching as Regan Lochridge (6-1) gave up five hits and kept Brookhaven scoreless until the fifth inning when he gave up two runs with a 16-0 lead to play with.

MCC had seven players with multi-hit games including Lance Williams (2-3), Kent (2-4), Jesse Gremminger (2-3), Tim Meadows (2-3), Ryan Reynolds (3-4), Beale (2-4) and Daron Bertillion (2-4).

**Chaps split with Highlanders**

The Highlanders traveled to Vernon April 14 to play double header with The Vernon Regional Chaps.

In the first game the team used

four home runs and a complete game from Grant Gregg to win 10-4. It was Gregg's eighth win of the season.

Austin Cranford, Jesse Gremminger, Bryan Kent and Lance Williams all smacked home runs in the victory.

In the nightcap, Vernon jumped out to an early 12-4 lead. MCC starter Lee Gwaltney was roughed up for seven runs in four innings.

The Highlanders (37-7, 17-5) rallied to knot the game at 12 heading into the bottom of the ninth inning.

With the winning run at second, one out and an 0-2 count, the Vernon runner attempted to steal third after a called third strike. The throw from Tim Meadows was errant which allowed the runner to score the winning run easily from third and take the 13-12 victory.

**Grayson takes two from MCC**

The two-time defending conference champion Grayson Vikings sent a message to the Highlanders, April 10 at MCC Field, winning both games of a doubleheader, 5-4 and 14-5.

The Highlanders (36-6, 16-4 in conference) have lost three of it's last four games and had only a one-game lead on the Vikings (33-10, 15-5) after the doubleheader.

MCC took a 4-3 lead after five innings in the opening game, but starting pitcher Jason Scobie (5-1) and reliever Lee Gwaltney allowed two runs on four hits in the sixth to give the Vikings a 5-4 win.

After giving up consecutive two-out singles in the sixth, Scobie was taken out of the game in favor of Gwaltney.

Chris Pelletier scored the tying run for the Vikings after Gwaltney and catcher Tim Meadows got mixed signals on the pitch, resulting in a passed ball. Then Craig Bowser, who stole second and advanced to third on the passed ball, scored on Justin Davis' infield single.

In the second game Grayson pummeled MCC pitching, lighting up the scoreboard for 14 runs on 15 hits off Regan Lochridge (5-1) and Chris Adams. Grayson led 4-0 after four innings and added four more runs in the fifth after John Lackey's solo

home run and a three-run shot off the bat of Chase Lambin.

The Highlanders bounced back in the sixth with a three-run triple by Lance Williams, followed by RBI singles by Williams and Bryan Kent in the seventh. However, the Vikings would go on to score five runs in the last two innings to put the game out of reach for the Highlanders.

**MCC's win streak halted**

The Highlander baseball team had it's six-game winning streak broken, April 7 in a non-conference matchup, as Cedar Valley scored seven runs in the final three innings to win the game 8-6.

MCC led 5-1 in the seventh inning with the help of starting pitcher Dennis Cervenka who gave up only one run on four hits.

But the lead was short-lived as Highlander relievers Zach Sommer, Kevin Outlaw and Lee Gwaltney struggled, giving up seven runs on seven hits in the last three innings.

Cedar Valley tied the game in the seventh on a two-run triple by Randy Weaver and took the lead in the ninth on a sacrifice fly by Adam Farek.

Outlaw (0-1) took the loss for the Highlanders while Lance Williams led the team in hitting with a 3-5 performance that included his sixth homer of the season.

After a shaky outing by the Highlander bullpen, the team left nothing to chance as starting pitcher Dustin Lansford tossed a complete game en route to a 7-4 win.

Lansford (5-0) allowed four runs in the first two innings before settling down to pitch five shutout innings to end the game.

Williams again supplied the Highlanders' (36-5 overall, 16-2 in conference) offensive output with a 3-4 performance, followed by Jesse Gremminger (2-3) and Tim Meadows (2-3).



DARON BERTILLION CONNECTS for a double in a recent game.

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**Mioah Lamb**  
Baylor transfer student, double major in Business and Russian

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## Tennis finishes strong in home finale

By KEVIN BROCK  
Co-Sports Editor

The MCC tennis team hosted its final home matches in the history of the program Sunday at the MCC tennis courts against North Central Texas.

North Central Texas, the second ranked team in the nation, and MCC played a best two-out-of-three regional championship.

The Highlassies came into the series down 1-0, and were in danger of losing the regional title with a loss.

MCC came out fighting however as sophomore Phyllis Wilunda came back from a one-set deficit to win

the No. 1 singles title 6-7, 6-1, 6-3, over Caroline Svenson.

She then teamed up with sophomore Ashley Jensen in doubles for a 6-3, 6-0 win over Laura Garza and Jeanette Robles to clinch a 5-3 win over third ranked North Central Texas.

MCC also had strong play from Kristen Davies, Denise Amagan and Kristin Graif, they all won in singles play.

The Highlassies evened the best of three Region V championship series at 1-1, with the decisive match scheduled for Friday in Gainesville.

The women's team didn't fair well however on April 11, as they were swept six of the seven singles and three of the four finals by No. 1 ranked Tyler Junior College in the

Penn Southwest Junior College tournament at Lakewood Racquet Club. Freshman Denise Amagan was the only Highlassies to break through against the powerful lineup of Tyler Junior College.

Amagan a freshman from Flour Bluff defeated Lindsay Tayntor, 6-2, 6-3, in the flight 3 singles final and then teamed with freshman Amanda Schneider to win the flight 4 doubles title.

Amagan only five foot tall defeated the six foot one Tayntor with ease, and has already committed to take her skills to Texas A&M-Corpus Christi for the Fall Semester.

MCC sophomore Phyllis Wilunda lost to Tyler's Brenda Vasek, ranked second in the nation 7-5, 7-5, in the flight 1 singles final.

## Golf teams are nearing end of season

By KEVIN BROCK  
Co-Sports Editor

The MCC womens golf team has only two months to prepare for the national championship, which takes place in May, they will go in as defending champions.

The Highlassies have dominated play all semester, winning three of the six tournaments they have played.

MCC will rely on returning players, sophomores Allison Burns and Alana Farley to guide them to a repeat.

The Highlassies have five freshman on this years team, and should have a great chance to three peat next year, with all of them returning.

The Highlassies will ride the strong play of freshman Rebekah Martin, into their last two tournaments. The team is competing in a tournament in Midland that began

yesterday and they will finish the semester at Sam Houston on April 29-30.

The Men's team has struggled this semester with inconsistent play being the biggest problem.

The Highlanders have lots of youth on their team this semester, and want to rebound from a 12th place finish last month.

The team will need strong play from sophomore's Danny Greaud and Paul Garcia in order to finish the semester strong.

## The Sports Zone

By KEVIN BROCK  
Co-Sports Editor

The NHL playoffs begin this week, so if you ever wanted to get into hockey here is your chance.

The favorite in the west is Dallas, the owner of the best record in the regular season the last two years.

The Stars, who reached the western conference finals last season, have the same team they had last year with the exception of the "golden" Brett Hull who scored 32 goals this season.

Detroit and Colorado are not too far behind.

The Red Wings have finished strong, since their trade acquisitions at the deadline.

The acquisition of such players as Chris Chelios, Wendal Clark and Dale Hunter have fortified a weak defense which has plagued the Red Wings all year.

With all their playoff experience and the leadership of captain Steve Yzerman, the defending Stanley Cup champion Red Wings are a force to be reckoned with.

The Colorado Avalanche come into the playoffs with their stars Peter Forsberg, Joe Sakic and trade acquisition Theorin Flurry.

Colorado is loaded with talent and have maybe the best playoff goalie of all time in Patrick Roy.

Any one of these three teams could win it all.

The favorite in the east is Ottawa. With the best record in the eastern conference under their belt

the young Senators have arrived.

They are led by Alexie Yashin, who had a MVP type year with over 30 goals scored.

Philadelphia and New Jersey are my other picks in the east.

The Flyers will be without all-star Eric Lindros.

A collapsed lung will keep him out of the playoffs, but the other half of the legion of doom, John LeClair and his 40 plus goals will be there.

So will the Beser, goalie John Vanbesbrook The Devils may have the best shot with all-star goalie Martin Brodour leading the way.

With all these teams in contention this years quest for the Stanley Cup will feature the most competitive hockey the NHL has ever seen.

## Marlin helping De-stress finals

By JENNIFER MATELSKI  
Staff Reporter

It's that time of year again. Finals are just around the corner.

You know what that means. Endless nights of stress, studying, stress, lack of sleep, stress, and even more stress can hinder the college students ability to persevere in this semester's final examinations.

Read on, it doesn't have to be that way.

**What is stress?**  
Stress actually refers to a variety of reactions your body undergoes when you encounter stressful situations (like test taking).

Stress can range from the death of a loved one to making the grade on that last chemistry final.

No matter what the stress, the reaction is always going to be the same.

Students under too much stress can not expect to make the grade without at least attempting to relieve some of the stress through natural outlets.

**How can you get rid of stress?**

Stress is a natural part of life. It is with you wherever you go.

No matter how hard you try you will never be able to get rid of all the stress in your life.

Everything and anything in life has the potential to cause stress.

However, whether you experience eustress.

The good kind of stress that energizes you.

The bad kind of stress that drains you is known as distress. It is really up to you.

**What can you do to reduce your stress level during finals?**

Preparing yourself for times of high stress is important.

That way you can be at your best to handle anything that comes your way.

College students deserve to

ditch the stress in order to prepare for this years final examinations.

Prepare for eustress, it is what every college student needs.

**Marlin Festivities**  
I have a great idea for students to relieve pre-test and pre-stress syndrome.

About 35 miles from the college there lies a quaint little community in Falls County named Marlin.

April 30th through May 2nd, students are invited to attend the annual three-day party.

The party occurs at the beautiful Marlin City Park the first weekend in May.

Marlin Festival Days will help you in your dire need to de-stress just before finals.

It is a proven fact that students can remember more if they clear all the clutter out of their mind.

Marlin Festival Days 1999 has a little bit of something for anyone that is in need of a stress reliever.

Students can invite a wide array of people to go with them.

Little brothers or sisters would have a really good time, friends, parents, or even grandparents will find something enjoyable and entertaining to do.

Events planned for Friday night include a variety of arts and crafts exhibits, good food and interesting people to talk to.

There will also be a dance floor to show off all the new dance moves you have learned.

Did I mention that Texas Knights will be featured on 'The Budweiser Stage' beginning at 8 p.m.?

Friday is considered "carnival ride" night at the festival.

Everyone that donates two cans of food and you will receive discounted tickets to all of the rides.

Come kick up your heels and have a good time until 12 a.m. when the park will close for the evening. Plan on staying all day Saturday.

Events will kick off at 8:00 a.m. with the 5-K Run.

A parade down main street in Marlin will follow and is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m.

Festival gates will open at 11:00 a.m. for "The Coors B-B-Q Cook Off."

The cook off is an event that

leaves visitors every year with memories of the best bar-b-q they have ever tasted.

Final judging for this event will be completed at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday's events do not end there, not by a long shot.

There will be an archery tournament, volleyball tournament, and presentations by line dancers and cloggers.

Kids and adults alike can enjoy themselves on the carnival rides all day long and into the night.

Speaking of nighttime fun, get your favorite blue jeans and boots from the closet because Running on Empty will begin their performance for your dancing pleasure at 8:00 p.m. and last until 12:00 a.m.

Sunday morning feel free to sleep-in, gates do not open until 12:00 p.m.

You should get there in time to witness the competitiveness at the horseshoe tournament that will start at 1 p.m.

Some of you may prefer cheering on all the contestants in this year's Little Miss and Mr. Pageant.

The pageant starts at 1 p.m. and will wrap up at 5 p.m. with the crowning of this year's most angelic faces.

Maybe some of you "would be" singing sensations should consider demonstrating your abilities during the karaoke session that will last from 5-7 p.m.

The group Rampage will wrap up this years festival on Sunday evening beginning at 8 p.m.

You will be allowed to dance until your hearts content, or 12 a.m., whichever comes first.

Everyone knows about the saying "all work and no play will make a dull person."

Do not let this be you, no one will want to hire an ogre with no personality or technique for de-stressing.

Chances are (if you can see beyond their clever disguises), you may even see a few of your MCC Professors de-stressing as disguised normal people kicking up their heels in Marlin Texas.

## Briefly

The college is holding a softball tryout camp from noon to 1:00 on April 25 at the Lake Air Little league field No. 5.

The tryout is for the 1999-2000 season.

Female students of the college and special guests are eligible to attend.

All players are required to bring a glove.

For more information contact Carmack Berryman at 299-8848.

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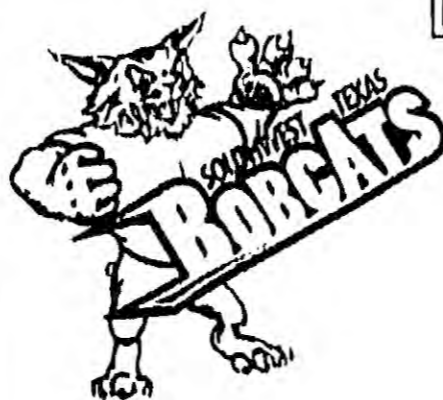
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# PAGE 7

April 20, 1999





# 'Pagingini in blue jeans'

By FAWN FALETOGO  
Entertainment Editor

Meet Richard Leo Johnson -- and a side of acoustic playing you probably haven't heard before. Nevermind Jewel's "You were meant for me" guitar strumming, because this is raw music-grit straight out of nowhere.

Johnson's artist bio-sheet, which is sent to publications by way of his P & R representative, is peppered with adjectives like "propulsively turbulent" and "exquisitely pensive" in describing his acoustic style.

Now, sappy biographies campus, but just one descriptions are thrown around in artist the way the rest of us throw trash around in the case of Richard Leo Johnson, this is voice in the chorus of approval.

Rave reviews have emerged from every corner of the entertainment industry, including Billboard Magazine, the Houston Post, and a number of publications from cities that have had the honor of experiencing Johnson's presence.

One reviewer, in particular, had an epiphany.

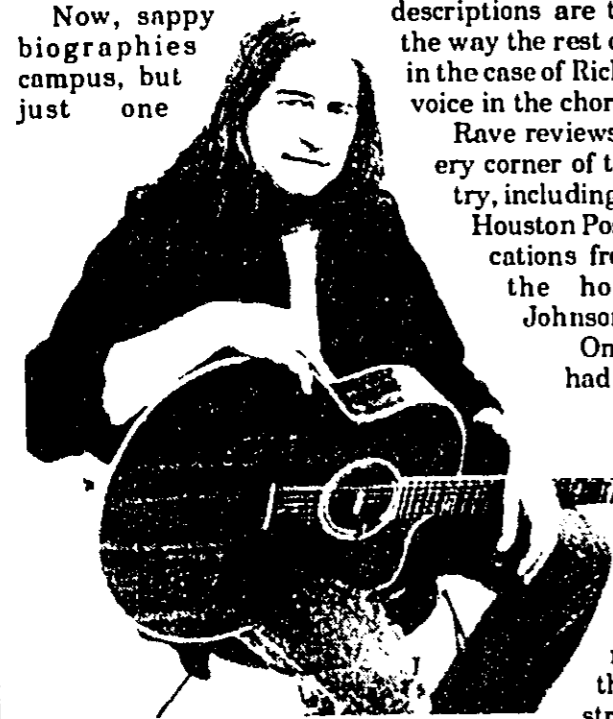
"I saw God at the Downstairs Cafe," Liz Ireland from Athens, Georgia writes. "His name is Richard Johnson."

Perhaps it was his unconventional creativity that evoked this statement. Or, maybe it was the way he made his 12-string guitar speak a language no one's heard before.

Either way, this is not the first time he's been accused of godliness. After a South Florida show three years ago, reviewer Laura Wilansky was convinced he sold his soul.

"I call him 'Pagingini in blue jeans' because he reminds me of the legendary 18th century violinist who played so fast and so brilliantly, [that] contemporaries thought he must have made a deal with the devil."

Johnson, possessed or not, is scheduled to perform in a mini-concert and workshop at the Lone Star Music shop located on 914-A Lake Air Drive this Tuesday at 7 p.m. Come form your own opinion. Admission is free.



## Y2K

(continued from page 2)

food and hiding in a bunker. Some are fearing a recession, the breakdown of our country, and the beginning of the end. A surprising number of people are planning on removing their savings from the banks.

World wide, trillions of dollars will be spent on becoming compliant. There will also be trillions spent in court cases that involve the Y2K bug. Many are worried that this could lead a bad economy.

The national government even has a toll free number to educate the public about the Y2K bug. The hotline number is 1-888-USA-4Y2K.

The simple fact is the millennium bug is not that big. In fact, it's only two digits long.

We will never solve the problem by withdrawing all of our savings, withdrawing from society, hiding underground, and vowing to never touch another computer.

# Gettin' TIPA wit' it

By JACQUELINE HARVEY  
AND FAWN FALETOGO  
Editors

Imagine driving down the highway in a crowded van with 10 cramped journalism students fighting for feet space. This was the scene on April 8, when a selected few of the journalism students journeyed to Kerrville for the 1999 Texas Intercollegiate Press Association convention.

Kerrville: It was a one horse town, and that horse was dead.

At first glance, Kerrville seems to be a nice, abandoned middle class neighborhood town. Maybe two or three convenience stores line the streets, but as one TCJC reporter from Ft. Worth put it, "This town is run by the mafia." He went on to explain, "there is no way anyone can make their living here. There's no commercial businesses ... very suspicious."

The hotel was the only source of life, and it became lively. From these journalist's opinions, it was a portal out of civilization and back into the Chisolm trail days. The John Wayne-esque motif of the YO Holiday Inn (pronounced YOI), provided: an atmosphere that would make Ted Nugent proud.

In fact, the atmosphere was so spaghetti-western, "Blazing Saddles"-like that some of us were almost tempted to push on the walls to see if it were a movie set that would fall down.

The heads of such animals as Giraffe, moose and grizzly bear that were nailed to the Inn's walls can intimidate a guest at first. But as one journalism student put it, "It's okay, man. They were dead when they found them."

But on a serious note, the convention was a great learning experience. One could learn about every facet of the journalism profession in the sessions that went on all day.

One of the breakout sessions, "Communicating in Style," was about communicating effectively by deciding the personality of the respondent. This helps a journalist in the interviewing process.

Other sessions helped to alert students to resources such as press associations that would help a journalist get the information he/she needs. The speaker provided phone numbers of legal services and first amendment rights organizations that help protect journalists.

In all, over 50 colleges and universities were present, and over 500 student journalist participated in the on-site contests.

The Highland Herald was honored with two awards for staff members from last semester. Former Editor-in-Chief Justin Braswell received a 2nd place award for "Division 3 Newspaper Sports Feature Photo," and former Senior Associate Editor Travis Evers received an honorable mention for his informational graphic.

The next TIPA convention will be held next spring at Baylor University.

# The dirt on Earth Day

By MANDOLIN SHANNON  
Staff Reporter

Earth Day was filled with fun activities, education, and musical entertainment.

Volunteers made this year's Earth Day celebration a success. The music department donated the use of a sound system and expert volunteers to manage the sound board.

MCC's country band delighted the audience on Saturday. Later the ensemble rock band took the stage to liven things up a bit. They played several modern and classic rock songs. One of the most well received songs was The Guess Who's "New Mother Nature."

Several other activities took place throughout the day.

For example, local wildlife rehabilitation expert Nada Wareham took the main stage to present a bird show. Children crowded the stage to get a up close look at a red-tail hawk and a great-horned owl.

Gary Lasseter from the Waco Civic Theater was on hand to do improvisational workshops with the crowd.

The MCC Art Center also participated in the children's activities area.

About 1,500 people came out to enjoy the Earth Day Celebration on Saturday.

Earth Day Chairman Bruce Allen said the goal of Earth Day is to increase awareness of the environment.

He went on to say that "we are here today to celebrate the natural world, and to help people understand why it is important to protect our environment."

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## Dinner (and death) is served

By STEPHANIE HALLMAN  
Staff Reporter

The Agatha Christie play "Appointment with Death" opens next Wednesday and runs through the first of May.

The play is going to take place in the Wilbur A. Ball Performing Arts Center (BPAC), starting at 7:30 p.m., with tickets going on sale tomorrow in the lobby of the BPAC.

According to Mickey Reyes of the Public Information Office, "In this classic mystery, murder is the bond shared by an international cast of

characters brought together in a Jerusalem hotel. Although 'Appointment with Death' made its debut in 1945, it continues to confound audiences today."

The play is not the only thing that is going to happen.

"Dinner Theatre," as one drama student calls it, starts at 6:30 along with dessert at first intermission.

MCC students and faculty members can view the show for free. The Ticket price for seniors is \$5 and \$7 for adults.

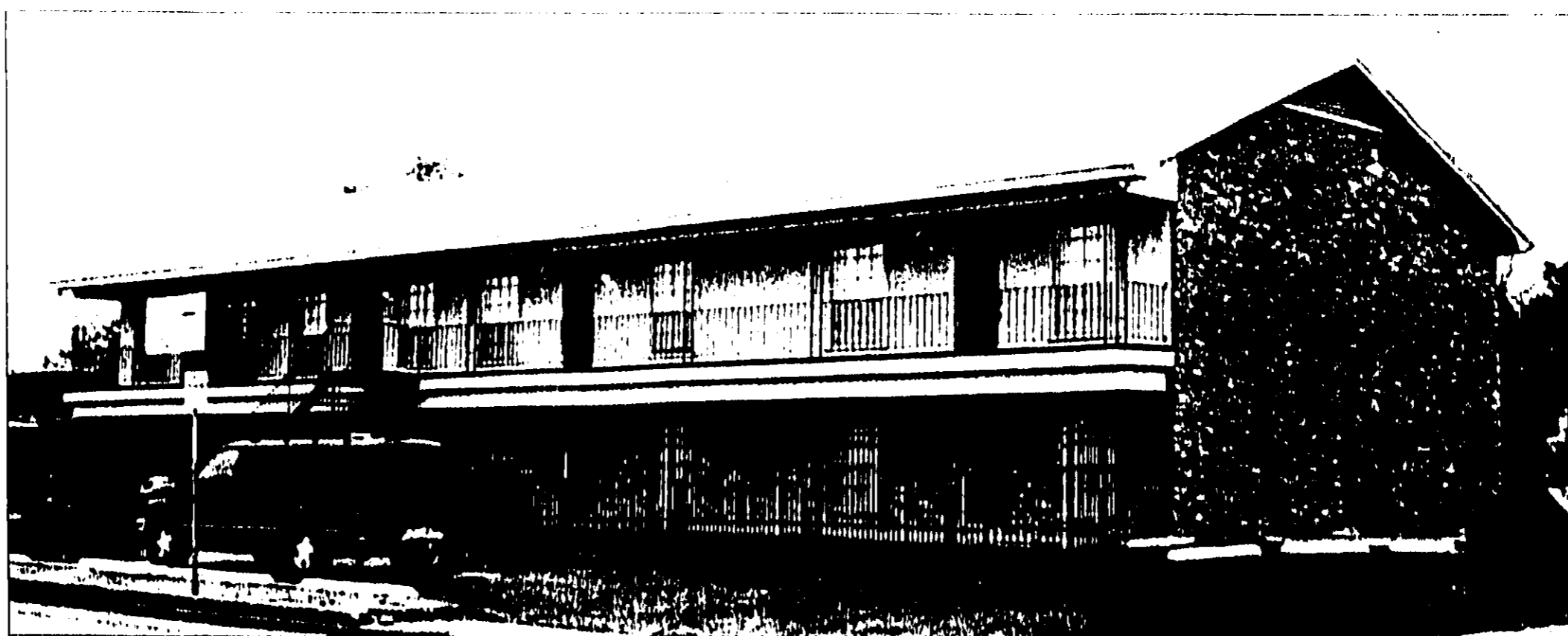
Ticket prices for the dinner and dessert options are available at 299-8200.

THE

# OASIS

ON THE BRAZOS

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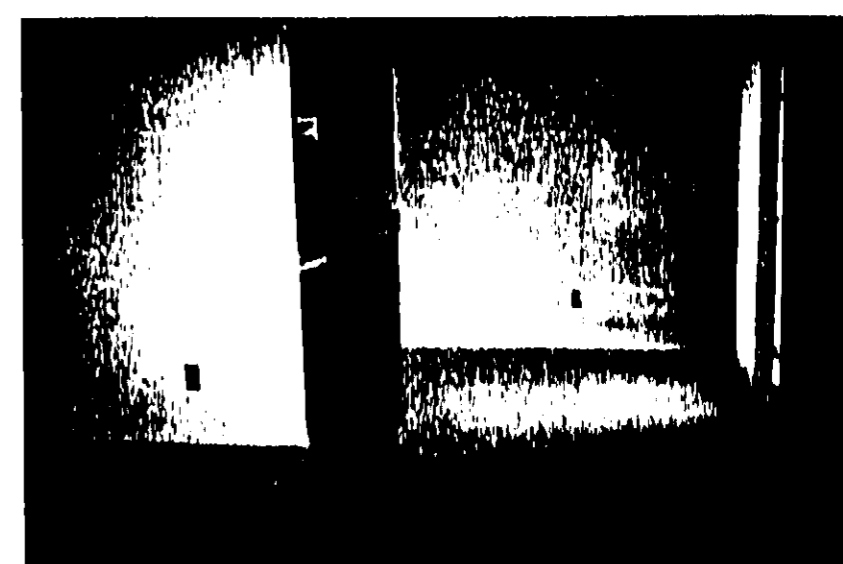
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LARGE BREAKFAST/DINING area with large window for viewing.

