



Digital Image by Stacy Gallin

Ashley Cruseturner, MCC government instructor, moderates the Phi Theta Kappa 'Vote Smart' forum on Sept. 14.

## ΦΘΚ Rallies Smart Votes

By Jonmichael Swetnam  
Staff Writer

Making an enlightened political decision can seem nigh impossible amid heated local elections, a controversial war in the Middle East, a shaky economy and unending advertising broadsides flying between candidates over every issue from the validity of military service records to redistricting.

MCC's Pi Chi chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society participated in the Vote Smart Rally on Sept. 14, a nonpartisan airing of the issues in the November general election.

"Nothing could better correspond to the mission of MCC than to talk about the issues facing today's voters," Ashley Cruseturner, history instructor and event facilitator, said.

MCC's student government association was involved in the project

as well.

John Cullar, Chair of the McLennan County Democratic Party, and M.A. Taylor, Chairman of the Republican party of McLennan County, were the event's keynote speakers. Taylor and Cullar have held their posts since 1994 and 1995, respectively, and have served their parties in numerous other capacities.

Each speaker briefly outlined their party's political tenets and answered students' questions on issues including local elections and reasons to vote.

Both representatives stressed that people need to involve themselves in the electoral process.

"This country will be a different place 50 years from now. It'll be either good or bad; but either way, it's going to be your decision," Cullar said.

"One day our country and gov-

ernment will be in your hands, so we appreciate your interest," Taylor said.

"Democracy is not a self-perpetuating institution; each generation must embrace self-government," Cullar said, adding "There are two weeks left to register to vote. Then you'll have to wait two years before you have any kind of voice."

Taylor and Cullar opened the rally by outlining the parties' basic platforms.

"The Republican party believes in self-government based on personal integrity and a proper moral foundation. We also believe in limiting the civil government and public trust to providing services that people cannot provide for themselves," Taylor said.

The democratic party believes that Federal government can improve the lives of ordinary people, Cullar said.

"You'll find when you discuss platforms, there's a lot of similarity as far as where they want to go. The difference comes from the methods you use to get there," Taylor said.

Both sides' economic policies are good examples of 'differing methods'.

The republican party hopes to build a prosperous economy with minimal government interference, Taylor said.

The Democratic party believes the government should provide infrastructure for workers and small businesses, Cullar said.

"We want to build jobs and businesses instead of letting them go overseas," Cullar said.

The Republican party supports a government based on the individual's strengths, Taylor said.

"Equal opportunity is a privilege; equal outcome is not," Taylor said.

"For most people, their greatest asset is their ability to work and earn a living; we want to make good jobs, so  
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## To Study Or Not To Study... That Is The Question At MCC

By Kelly DuShane  
Staff Writer

Most students would agree that they didn't do much studying in high school.

Students' adjustments in the transition from high school to college includes learning to study.

Students might agree with Michel Jones, an Education major, who said, "If I don't study, I'm in trouble."

It doesn't have to be so hard, though, if students learn to take good lecture notes, join a study group, or just use time wisely.

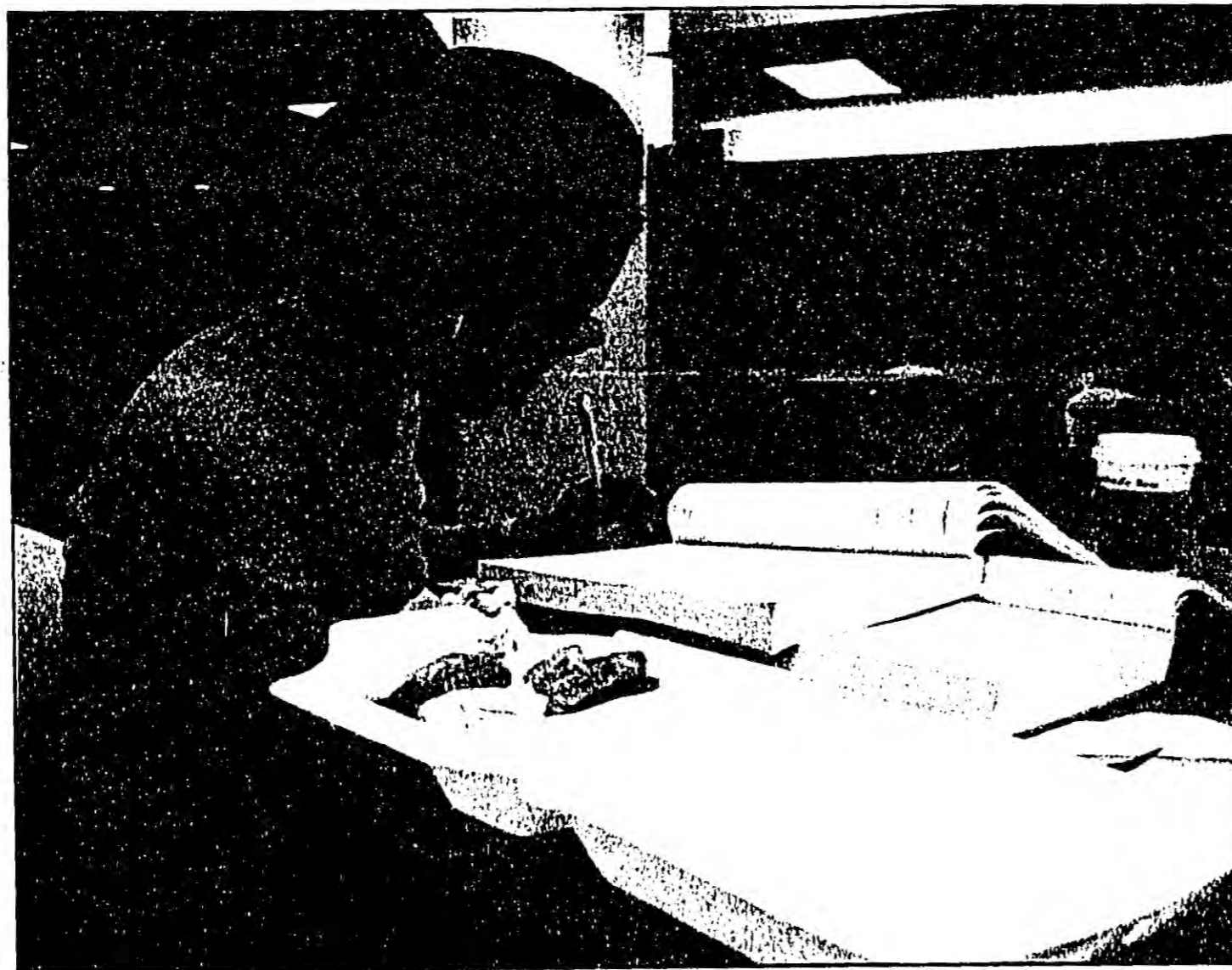
Notes in any sort of history class are essential.

"If you keep good lecture notes, you should be in good shape," said Daniel Greene, history instructor.

Taking good notes does not mean transcribing every word or sentence, but writing down what the instructor seems to focus on or the key points and thoughts, Greene said.

Too much shorthand isn't always a good idea; when it's time to read and look over notes, it helps if they're legible.

Look over notes right after class to reorganize them when the ideas are still fresh, particularly if they include



Nina Stephens studies while she eats in the Learning Technology Center.

Digital Image by Allison Smith

a lot of abbreviations.

But good notes alone will not ensure an A on the next exam.

Some instructors' exams are not based solely on notes from class, but involve outside reading, Greene said.

Procrastinating on the reading is a bad idea.

"Chances are it will just pile up, and personally, I would rather read two chapters a week than eight chapters the night before the midterm," Jones said.

Jones said she has about two new chapters to read in one class before the class meets again, and it can be hard to keep up if students are not careful.

Study Groups are also helpful, said Dr. Jim McKeown of the MCC English Department.

"Get a group of about four or five, six is almost too many, and talk about your notes and the stories we've read," McKeown said.

Chances are they probably noticed something you didn't, he said.

"I think a study group is a really good idea. A lot of times you don't really get to talk to people outside class, and this is a good way to do that," said Vanessa Sais, a sociology major.

Another point to keep in mind is

that instructors are not out to get you; they want their students to do well and enjoy class, Greene said.

Most instructors are not going to have obscure exam questions, but more than likely tests will involve questions that have been discussed were clear points in the reading, Greene said.

"I'm not going to give you questions that leave you scratching your heads," Greene said.

He said one of his graduate school professors described how most instructors feel saying an A or a B was not a failure on his part, like a soccer goalie that let one by, but instead, he wanted his students to succeed.

Some instructors occasionally offer a teacher-student study session outside the classroom, such as Vince Clarke of the History Department, or Dr. Jim McKeown.

An instructor might provide a session like this when an exam is coming up so that he or she can answer questions and review for the test. If an instructor offers something like this, it would be in the best interest of the student to attend.

So even if students didn't do much studying in high school there is still hope in learning the type of study habits that will bring academic success.

## Who's Your Buddy? The Doctor, Of Course

By Jonmichael Swetnam  
Staff Writer

Buddy Powell, Dean of Arts and Sciences at McLennan Community College, was awarded a doctorate in Higher Education Administration from Baylor University.

The degree is an Ed.D., which differs from the Ph.D. in that Ph.D.'s are more research oriented, while Ed.D.'s are geared towards practicing educators, Powell said.

"I started work on it about six years ago, and finished the coursework about three years ago. I didn't really start working on the project 'til Fall last year," Powell said, adding that "it took a while to really get focused on an idea; I was interested in the roles and responsibility of faculty in advising, and how policy and technology effect and influence those roles."

"I hope to write an article and perhaps present findings at professional organizations. For spring I talked to the Texas Community College Teachers' Association about doing a presentation," Powell said.

Powell shared a little advice on pursuing doctorate degrees.

Potential graduates should first look at where they are regarding career goals, Powell said.

The student needs to focus on the type of program he or she wants, and collect an information base on the various programs, he said.

"It's important to arrange talks with students who are in or graduates of the program you're looking at," Powell said.

It's also important to consider program size and the faculty support available to students, he said.

"You can get into competitive situations, so it's a good idea to consider the amount of support you can expect from your professor," Powell said.

Students should also weigh the program's percentage of graduating applicants, he said.

"If you want to pursue it, do so as early in life as possible. It gets much more difficult if there are work pressures, or if you've been away from school for awhile," Powell said.

"As far as sitting down and writing your dissertation, most of the professors stress that you should 'get finished, not famous,'" Powell said.

"One of the promises I made to

Doctors Schneider and Michaelis was that I'd finish my dissertation, so I enjoyed keeping my word on that. I enjoyed the courses, and enjoyed my dissertation," Powell said.



Digital Image by Jonmichael Swetnam

Dean of Liberal Arts, Buddy Powell, shares a joke with health and physical education instructor James Burroughs at Powell's reception celebrating his earned doctorate.

The degree was awarded through Baylor's Scholars of Practice program.

It was a very fine graduate program for practicing educators, Powell said.

The program was quite unique, using the cohort system-the same people stayed in the same group

throughout the program, Powell said.

It was a program designed to allow working people to go and work on their doctorate while balancing personal and work considerations, Powell said.

"I looked at other programs, but they pretty much required me to quit my job and become a student. This one met my needs," Powell said.

Another interesting facet was the program's travel component, he said.

"We visited different organizations in Washington, D.C. and we even spent three weeks in Thailand and China," Powell said.

Traveling to China was informative, Powell said.

"It's sort of like the European system. There are a lot more tests, a lot more tracking by the administration. If you blow a test, it closes a lot of doors to you. So there's a lot more competition," he said.

"I think that's the great thing about American education. It's so open in terms of opportunity. If a student decides he wants to change majors, they pretty much have the freedom to do so, whereas in China, once you select a major, you pretty much are committed to it," Powell said.

Lynn Abernathy, Vice President of Student Services, has a degree from the same program, as does former Vice President of Instruction Jay Box.

Powell was the only community college administrator in his cohort.

Baylor is discontinuing the program, he said.

## Psychological Effects On Students Range From Obesity To Anxiety

By Jason Wetzel  
Staff Writer

The main psychological effects on MCC students are obesity, depression, stress, and anxiety that can be caused from lack of financial funds, sleep, and even encouragement.

"Disorganization makes a big contribution to stress levels," psychology instructor Juan Mercado-Almodovar said. "When students are disorganized you soon become confused. When you're confused, your stress increases. So for some students, if they want to combat stress, the first thing they must do is get themselves organized."

"What we have to realize is being under stress is a matter of feeling. If that is true, then in order to lessen stress, we have to change the way we feel."

"One thing that lowers stress is engaging in activity that gives pleasure," he said.

"Schedule a few hours for relaxation," he said.

"Try to sit in an hour a day to relax. If you can't sit an hour, try for 30 minutes. Just stop whatever

you're doing, sit in a rocking chair, and rock or do whatever. Just let your mind blank," he said.

"Try to combine relaxation and enjoyment," Mercado said. "Then establish a livable schedule and then modify it as needed."

The only permanent thing is change," he said. "Get the idea in your head that life is change."

"Some people are always worried because they can't adapt to changes around them," he said. "Change is growth. If you stop changing, then you stop growing so be flexible."

Psychology should increase student awareness of different ways of thinking and understanding our world.

It is a study of current developmental and social perspectives such as brain and behavior, relations, drug effects, learning and memory, personality, mental health and abnormal behaviors. Psychology is also the systematic study of behavior, mental processes, and the factors that influence those processes, stated Susan Spooner PhD, Psychology professor at M.C.C.

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## Pride And Joy To Play At River Jam

By Davis Gonzalez  
Staff Writer

For true-blue Blues fans, Pride and Joy are a 'must see' when it comes to live music. The local family band, made up of lead guitarist phenomenon Chris Castaneda, younger brother John Castaneda on drums, and father Tony Castaneda playing bass, has been playing in and around Waco for about a decade.

When you consider that the youngest member of the trio, John, is only 20-years-old, the heart they put into their music becomes evident.

Their sound covers the scope of blues from B.B. King to Stevie Ray Vaughn, with each member of the band adding their personal influences.

Pride and Joy is known for their signature guitar and drum solos that leave those who've never seen them wondering, 'Who are these boys?'

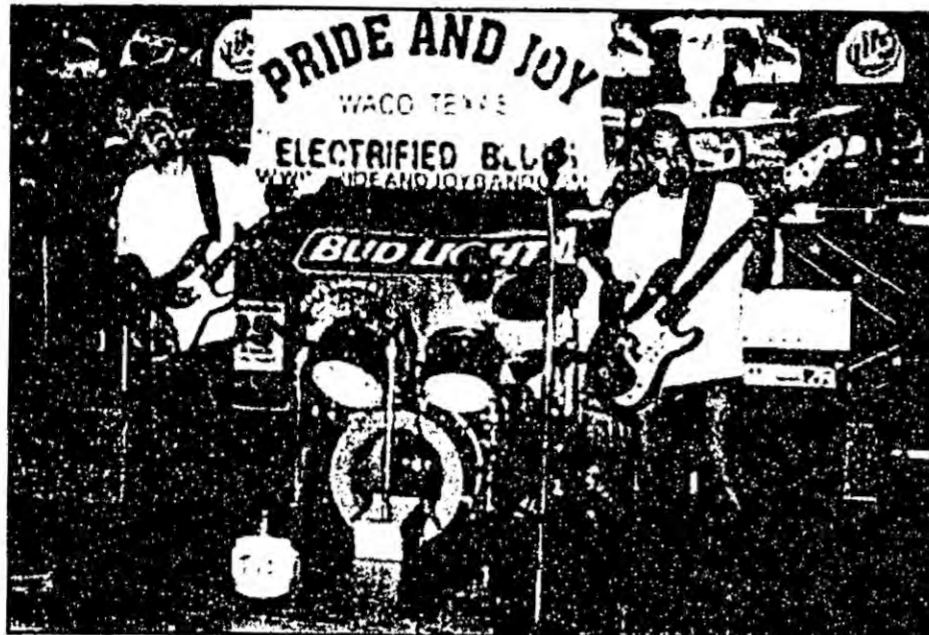
In a style that defines Texas Blues, the band emphasizes the lead guitar riffs and totes the slogan 'electrified blues' to describe their music.

Since the younger members have taken time off from college and with their father Tony focusing more on their soon-to-be released second album, Pride and Joy has hit the music scene across Texas.

Of their 20 appearances in

September, only four could be caught in Waco.

The city of Austin has fallen particularly in love with Waco's hometown blues band, and they can be caught regularly entertaining the jaded music crowd of Sixth Street.



Chris Castaneda, younger brother John and father Tony Castaneda will perform Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Third annual River Jam at the Bosque River Stage.

Stops in Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Austin, as well as more local gigs in Temple, Killeen and Waco have the band traveling the state spreading the news of the blues on a full time basis.

Unknowingly, many people who have never seen the band may have heard some of Chris' guitar work on

### Russell Headlines BRS In October

Singer, songwriter and producer Leon Russell, a man behind a long list of hits, including "This Masquerade," "A Song for You" and "Superstar," will perform at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 3 at the Bosque River Stage. Regional favorite Monte Montgomery of Austin will open.

Tickets are \$20 for stadium and \$17 for lawn seating. MCC Students, faculty and staff tickets are free.

one of Sonny Mac's well known singles, 'Shake Now.'

Samples of their music, include future hits like 'The It,' can be found on their website at [www.prideandjoyband.com](http://www.prideandjoyband.com). But to really experience what blues music is like, aspiring blues aficionados will have to see a live performance, a concept understood by this Texas trio, so a streaming video clip is also available.

The band will play at the River Jam this Saturday, Sept. 25 as part of a musical line-up that includes such local artist as Spivey Crossing, Red Letter Day, Johnny E. Mandell and the Muddcats, Hourglass, Elephants Gerald, and Common Ground.

## Everything Entertainment

By Ian O'Mallan  
Entertainment Editor

Summer is over and fall is here, and that means it's time for the fall Oscar race of overly reviewed, overly critically acclaimed movies that usually suck.

Choices this summer were slim as usual, with only a few shining spots to redeem the summer movie experience.

It was sequel fever yet again with only the 'Shrek' and 'Spider-man' franchises producing winners.

The big surprise was the talented Mr. Damon proving that Jason Bourne could put the hurt on James Bond any day.

Other surprises included 'Dodge Ball,' 'Anchorman,' 'King Arthur' and 'Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle.'

There were Vacuum awards aplenty this summer as the following proved that they, in fact, do suck:

Hugh Jackman got one for the piece that is Van-Helsing.

There were also awards for 'Catwoman,' 'Chronicles of Riddick,' 'The Village' and 'The Day After Tomorrow,' rounding out the bottom of the barrel.

The Fall movie season should be huge with the studios packing the multiplexes with their big contenders

for the coming Oscar season. I hate those movies and don't believe in reviewing them, because half of them usually suck.

On the upside, 'The Incredibles' will probably beat out 'Shrek 2' for the Best Animation award, and Michael Moore's propaganda piece 'Fahrenheit 9/11' will get shut out and ignored (fingers crossed).

On the music front, this fall promises to deliver a lot of good albums (hopefully enough to get me buying CDs again).

There is hype all around as Eminem, Destiny's Child, System of a Down, and Green Day all have albums due out.

Eminem's aptly titled 'Encore' is more or less icing on a really big cake that is his career, and seeing that he has never failed to deliver, it should be a really good album.

On the other end of the spectrum, we have Destiny's Child, whose two founding members coming off of monstrous solo careers are trying to see if they have one more Grammy-worthy album together.

Then there is Green Day. With their new album 'American Idiot,' they hope to prove to an industry they showed how to rock, that they can still rock with the best of them.

## 'Hardcore' Christian Band Rocks Out On New Album

By Jeremy Richards  
Staff Writer

In the midst of the entire buzz about music lately, one band stands out above all the rest, but then again, you might not even know its name.

Blindside is marked as a 'Hardcore' Christian band, and would like nothing less than to be marked so.

This Swedish band takes every chance to make an impression by rocking the stage.

This new album, 'About a Burning Fire,' is nothing but a total example of the band's versatility. The CD starts out with the heavy metal song 'Eye of the Storm,' moves on to the smash hit 'All of Us,' and then goes to a more native song

'Shekina.' The album ends with a slower song called 'Roads.'

If you don't feel like going out to the store to buy this CD, you can just go to the official website at:

[www.blindsideonline.com](http://www.blindsideonline.com)

The site has some rockin' demos and the tour dates for the 'About a Burning Fire' tour alongside the bands Me Without You, The Kick, and Namur.

Alltogether this album is a radical addition to Blindside's collection. I would firmly suggest that you go out and buy this CD, and as long as you are there you might buy their other album 'Silence.'

## Olive Branch Offers Bistro Flavors

By Lee Kuhl  
Staff Reporter

The enticingly rich aromas of fresh pastries and coffee assailed my senses as I walked into the foyer of the small Euro-American bistro, "The Olive Branch," 601 Franklin Drive.

It is more aesthetically suited to the busy streets of New York or Chicago than those of downtown Waco.

Expansive plate glass windows place you on the streets, while the vaulted ceilings and wooden appointments pull you to a time when Waco and the world moved at a somewhat more involved pace.

Enough of venue, pleasing though it may be.

I came for the food.

Having eaten here several times before, I was prepared for the slight challenge of ordering from the wall-mounted menu. The hand-written menu is in the style of most bistros, but falls short of being simple to read. Cluttered with descriptions of meals, perhaps better left for the small printed take out menus on the counter menu, the bill of fare easily stretches several full chalkboards.

With deftness of one tired of standing in line, though a surprisingly short queue for 12:30 p.m. on a Friday, I dictated out my order.

I started with a Caesar salad (\$3.50), and settled on a Margherita sandwich (\$4.75) for a meatless accompaniment. Unlike the tequila and lime margarita, the sandwich is based on an Italian American pizza made with fresh basil, roma tomatoes, and fresh mozzarella. I also added a soft drink at which time I was unceremoniously handed a Styrofoam cup and an order number for my lunch.

Finding a table was not difficult, save for my companions who were as always extremely picky.

I placed our numbers in the holder and settled in to wait for the arrival of our meal. Normally at this time we would be debating the futility of war, or the ingeniousness of sliced bread, but today my companions had more pressing business, as did I.

It took less than 10 minutes for the food to arrive, of which the salad was first.

Some may say that the order in which the meal is presented matters little in such an establishment. I say it is refreshing to see such etiquette in any environ, even ones as relaxed as The Olive Branch.

Surveying my lunch, I am once again surprised by the startlingly large portions. This overly large "small" Caesar salad consisted of romaine, house-made dressing, croutons and shredded parmesan cheese, all of which make this salad uniformly standard. Unfortunately, the dressing

was rather watery, the reason for which was revealed to be the presence of vinegar in the mix. Besides the thin dressing, the salad for the most part was normal, hopelessly, utterly normal.

On the other hand, the Margherita sandwich more than made up for lack of flare on the vinegar-soaked salad. While its marinated mozzarella cheese and full leaves of fresh basil leading the cavalier taste can be daunting; it's more than backed up with the mild but still present essence of fresh romaine and roma tomatoes which give the entire sandwich a stability that was the intent for its pizza predecessor.

Although wonderful in its novelty, the sandwich was served with potato chips and a wedge of dill pickle.

It may not kill me to eat ruffles with this Italian culinary treat, but it will make me take off a point or two on the overall feel of the meal.

After I completed eating a healthy portion of my meal, the latter portion of which I chose to save until later, I proceeded to order a dupio (double shot) of espresso and a slice of the simply displayed lemon-blueberry layer cake.

When this arrived I asked to speak with the manager.

Soon I was greeted by the smiling face and humble air of Leah Stewart.

Leah was only available for interview at that moment, so hastily retrieving my espresso and my companion's tape recorder, I motioned for us to move to a more private place.

I was still marveling over the taste of the single bite of cake I had taken as I sat at a small table, more or less out of the way.

More on the cake later.

Leah Stewart is the 28 year-old owner and chef of The Olive Branch. She has more than a year "under her belt," opening on Aug. 4, 2003.

"(Business) has been really steady, which I have been pleased at," said Stewart.

Unlike many businesses, especially restaurants, which tend to lag during the Waco summer months, a lag partially due to the seasonal closing of the colleges.

The Olive Branch seems to have pulled through unscathed.

"We were truly blessed," she said.

The Olive Branch is open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Since this is Stewart's first

restaurant, there was some experimentation behind the decision to close early.

"When I first opened, I was open until ten o'clock at night," she said. "Ideally what I wanted to do was after three be a dessert-coffee," though as people wanted a full menu around dinnertime. She had to rethink her hours.

A varied background of work force experience and a BBA in marketing and international business have sowed a fertile field for such a young entrepreneur.

"I worked six years as the business manager at Common Grounds," Leah said. "That's where I got a lot of my experience."

Before the existence of The Olive Branch, a small French bakery known as La Petite occupied the same building. Retrofitting any business is a daunting task even for a company of international size such as Brinker or Fired Up Inc., taking many months and many man hours. For Leah it was to be done in two weeks time.

"The major renovations were cosmetic," she said. So how much did she do herself? "Every single inch of it."

She showed me photographs of the renovations.

Painting and carpeting dominated the images, all showing the happy, tired faces of Stewart's family and friends who showed up to help in her first restaurant endeavor.

After awhile I had to bide goodbye to Leah Stewart and rejoined my companions who were preparing to leave.

I looked mournfully at my plate, which now held only a small portion of the cake I had left. I swallowed the last of my unsweetened espresso.

To understand coffee, you first must forget everything you know.

Begin by abolishing the ideas of corporate coffee houses and the office coffee pot from your mind.

Coffee in Europe is an art, an art which is rarely put to practice here in America where we standardize most everything.

The first thing to look for when dealing with espresso is something called the crema, the creamy froth that rests on the top of the drink. I'll put it this way, if you can see the dark coffee, it's not a good thing.

See RESTAURANT, Page 4

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# 2004 College and Career Night To Celebrate Diversity at MCC

By Allison Smith  
Editor in Chief

Four hundred area high school sophomores, juniors, seniors and their families will "celebrate the possibilities" of studying at McLennan Community College during the upcoming College and Career Night on Tuesday, Sept. 28 on the second floor of the Learning Technology Center from 6 to 8 p.m.

"College and Career Night is an excellent opportunity for everyone in the community to get a better

understanding of what MCC has to offer and to learn about all the services that are available to our students," said Mito Espinoza, MCC's admissions specialist.

This year's theme will be "Fiesta, Celebrate the Possibilities." Participants are encouraged to decorate their table with streamers, sombreros, maracas, or anything colorful.

"This is not a typical openhouse; we have door prizes, a competition for the table decorated the best, students and faculty available to talk with and many of our staff will be in costume,"

Espinoza said.

Prospective MCC students will have the opportunity to learn all about MCC by visiting with students and faculty from each area of study, including the University Center programs, the testing department, student support services, Upward Bound, Financial Aid, the MCC Foundation, the Highland Ranch, Student Activities, the McGregor Center and Continuing Education.

"We will have workshops about financial aid, dual credit classes, transferring to a four-year university and testing information that is directed toward high school students and those getting ready to enter college," Espinoza said.

About 350 people attended last year's College and Career Night.

This year Espinoza said he expects about 400 or more.

"Each year, we have gotten more people to attend and this year we have advertised it more and earlier," Espinoza said. MCC has also met with counselors from middle schools and elementary schools and invited to attend this year.

Several student organizations, including Mu Alpha Theta, Phi Theta Kappa, Student Government, Sigma Kappa Delta, International Students Club, Baptist Student Ministries, Black Student Association and Non-Traditional Student Association, will host tables at the event.

Students currently taking Orientation 0101 classes are especially encouraged to attend.

For more information about College and Career Night, contact Espinoza at 299-8440.

## A High School Story

By Jeremy Richards  
Staff Writer

Many students who attend McLennan Community College would much rather be back in high school.

This reporter conducted a random survey of 50 students on campus in which the students were asked how much they missed being in high school. Out of those students, 22 said they were very glad to be out of high school, 11 said they missed high school more than not, nine said they kind of missed it and eight students didn't care.

Some students who were interviewed and did not miss high school mentioned that they like having more freedom, less responsibility and less worries.

MCC freshman Kurt Bell said he believes that when a student gets out of high school everything changes; that person becomes more mature and has much fewer responsibilities.

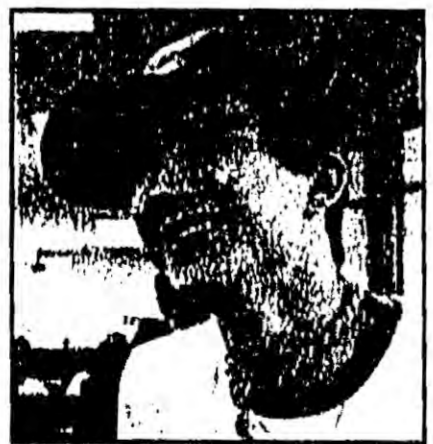
Grace Turner, who is at MCC for her third year, says the hours are better, and she has more freedom.



"I don't have to have an excuse if I skip a class at MCC, but I did in high school," said MCC freshman Josh Flanagan.



"I don't miss school, but I miss the teachers," said student LaTamara Gunn.



"Everything becomes more complicated after high school, and you have to worry about a lot more stuff," said student Kyle Richardson.



"After you are out of [high school] you have the freedom to do whatever you want," said high school drop-out Ty Childers.



Other students like college better because they had family difficulties that stressed them out.

Some students that don't really miss high school, including MCC student Jonathan Olvera, say they do miss their friends who are still in high school, while others have made new, better friends in college.

Some people said that believe that most of the students who miss high school were the so-called "preps and jocks" and that they based their whole high school careers on people, and didn't make any "real friends."

Once they get out of high school they don't have anyone to turn to, and no one to support them.

But after interviewing one of those "jocks," a student who chose to remain anonymous said that he never thought he was a "jock." People that he considered "jocks" were all "meat heads" that had no common sense, and he only missed high school because he got to play sports there and wasn't good enough to play in college.

So do all students have the no-more-high-school-blues? I guess it's all a matter of opinion.

## SGA Votes Are In

By Brittney Mortensen  
Staff Writer

All the fall 2004 Student Government Association offices have been filled.

Elections were Sept. 16 and 17 in the LTC Building first floor, where poster boards on tables advertised each candidate.

Officers of SGA are Lisa McNabb President, John Pyles Vice-President, Heather Orta Secretary, Marissa Markey historian, newly elected DeLeon Harris as parliamentarian, and newly elected Stacey Jones as the Public Relations Officer.

The freshman representatives are Mike Shields, Jason Wetzel, Ariana Hernandez, Tiffany Baucham, and Janet Wigley.

The sophomore representative is Lindsey Legrand.

With the end of elections the

organization can turn to other concerns, SGA members said.

"We now have active officers, but we now need more active constituents," McNabb said.

63 votes were cast for this election. McNabb said she is pleased with Student Governments' new officers, but needs students to voice opinions/concerns to their student government and aid in offering solutions by turning ideas into actions.

"One of the First Priorities of SGA is to change its image within the student body and find ways to encourage more student involvement," McNabb said. Meetings are held every Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:00 in the Student Center and any student is allowed to attend.

Any student can become a member of SGA. To find out more about how to get involved, contact Alesha Vardeman at 299-8884.

## McLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT CALENDAR

- September 25 - October 22 - Jerry Brem Paintings Exhibition.
- September 28 - Phi Theta Kappa Meeting from 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center. College and Career Night from 6 - 8 p.m. in the Learning Technology Center.
- September 29 - Phi Theta Kappa Fall Orientation from 1 - 5 p.m. in the Lecture Hall. Student Government Meeting from 1 - 2:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center.
- September 30 - Tarleton Writing Proficiency Review from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall. McLennan Theatre presents 'La Strada' at 7:30 p.m. in the Ball Performing Art Center.
- October 1 - 17th Annual MCC Foundation/Athletic Golf Tournament at 8 a.m. at the Bear Ridge Golf Club. McLennan Theatre presents 'La Strada' at 7:30 p.m. in the Ball Performing Art Center.
- October 2 - McLennan Theatre presents 'La Strada' at 7:30 p.m. in the Ball Performing Art Center.
- October 3 - Leon Russell in concert with special guest Monte Montgomery at 7:30 p.m. at the Brazos River Stage.
- October 4 - Phi Theta Kappa Satellite Seminar from 6 - 8 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.
- October 5 - Phi Theta Kappa application and dues deadline Lecture Hall. Phi Theta Kappa Meeting from 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center.
- October 6 - Student Government meeting from 1 - 2:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Center.
- October 7 - Tarleton Writing Proficiency Test from 2 - 4 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.
- October 4 - 20 - Paul McCoy and Mike Maguire Ceramics Works Exhibition.

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### Student Discount Locations

- Dr. Pepper Museum & Free Enterprise Institute  
Corner of 5th Street & Mary - 757-1025  
www.drpeppermuseum.com  
Student Admission Price: \$3.00
- Texas Sports Hall of Fame  
1108 S. University Parks Dr. - 756-1633  
www.tshof.org  
Student Admission Price: \$2.00
- Waco Hippodrome  
724 Austin Ave. - 752-9797  
www.wacohippodrome.com  
50% off single ticket price if purchased same day of event
- Twin Falls Mini Golf  
3780 S. Jack Kullgen Expressway  
Student price: \$4.00
- Hollywood Movie Theater  
Highway 84 & Jewel Dr. - 399-9500  
www.wallaceheaters.com  
Student Admission Price: \$2.00
- Starplex Galaxy 16  
333 S. Valley Mills Dr. - 772-5333  
www.starplexcinemas.com  
Student Admission Price: \$5.00  
Student Concessions Combo: \$1 off med. popcorn & drink
- LaBella Visage Salon & Day Spa  
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- Dreamscape Day Spa  
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5% off any competitor price
- Padgett's  
5054 Franklin Avenue - 776-3130  
www.padgetts.com  
70% off photographic chemistry, printing paper and film
- Waco Transit  
750-1613  
Student Fare: \$0.75
- Toten's Crown Printers  
408 N. 25th Street - 753-6541  
10% off business cards and resumes
- PrintMart, Inc.  
1109 Richland Dr. - 776-7088  
www.printmart.com  
10% off all services
- Alphagraphics  
1428 Wooded Acres Suite 132 - 398-8355  
B & W copies, five cents each, ink, toner

## It's Good To Get Carded MCC Students Offered Discounts

By Lisette Medina  
Staff Writer

Tuition and fees; books, books, and more books; gas to and from campus. It seems the outflow of money that comes with being a college student never stops. But there is a silver lining on the black financial cloud hanging over your head, and it is probably sitting in your empty wallet right now.

As a student at McLennan Community College, you belong to an elite group of people. You can enjoy the same goods and services as the general public, but you won't pay as much. All it takes is a flash of your student ID.

Ok, so maybe it's not that easy.

A couple of students have told me that many businesses don't even know they participate in a student discount program. For some reason, several establishments require manager intervention. Others ridiculously discriminate against non-Baylor students, as if we are less worthy because we don't attend a nationally-known four-year university. Whatever the case may be, try using your student ID everywhere because it could work in your favor.

In my research I uncovered some businesses that never even thought of entering to students before I asked

and now they are offering discounts just to MCC students. It may take some prodding and hard work, but it might be worth it.

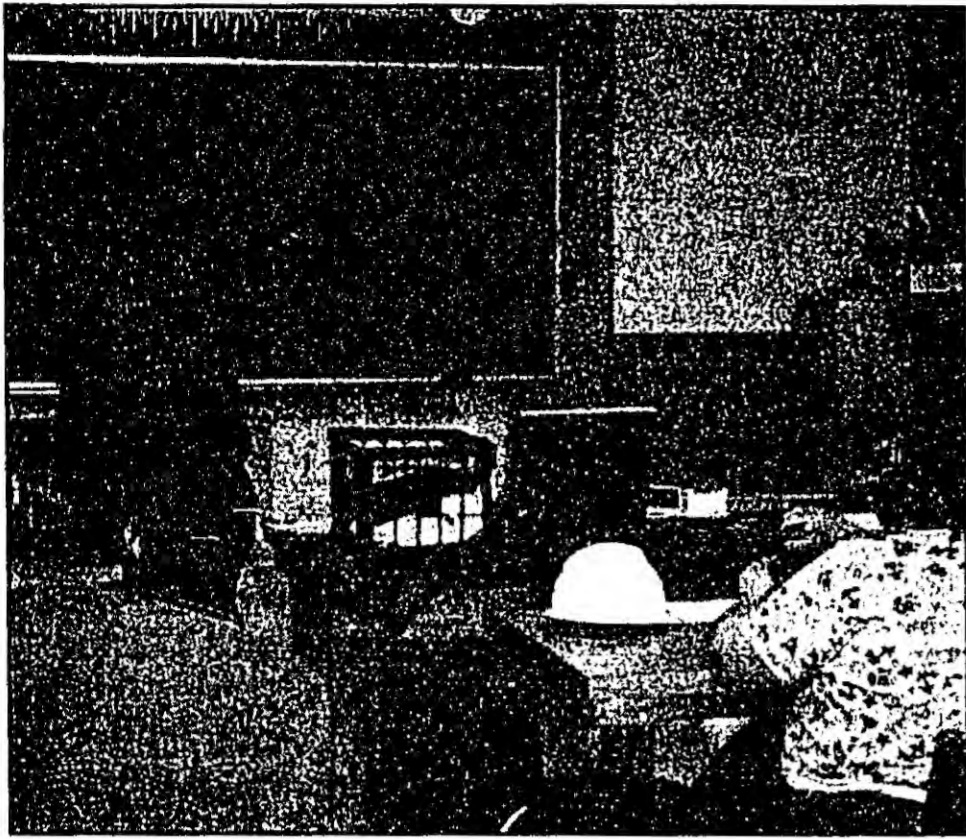
Need a relaxing break from studying? Go get a facial. Both La Bella Visage and Dreamscape Day Spa will give you 10% off.

Need help printing professional resumes so you'll be prepared once graduation rolls around? PrintMart and Toten's Crown Printers can help you look good on paper and save you money.

Have to make B & W copies of a presentation for class? Head off-campus to Alphagraphics and save five cents per page versus on-campus library prices.

A Collegiate Card, in combination with your ID, can save you cash while filling your belly at restaurants such as Chili's and Sonic. If you don't already have one, cards are available—while supplies last—from Alesha Vardeman in the Student Activities office located on the second floor of the Student Center. To see a list of locations accepting this card go to www.thecollegiatecard.com.

Not everything has to be such a strain on your finances. From games of miniature golf to film processing, your student ID can help put money back into your pocket. So go ahead—get carded!



Digital Image by Davis Gonzalez

Building Construction Technology Instructor Fred Quick introduces students to the router, one of the many tools with they will use in the course of their study

## Building A Future In Construction

Davis L. Gonzalez  
Senior Sports Writer

The MCC Building Construction Technology program, offered as a credit or Continuing Education class at an off-campus site, is often overlooked by traditional college students when considering career options.

Thanks largely to the work of instructor Frederick Quick and the versatility of MCC, area students have been able to take advantage of vocational training that would otherwise be neglected.

"This is the seventh year of it. I've been here five," Quick said. "When I came here five years ago, there were two kids, two students at night. I have 31 students this semester."

If one were to include the eight high school students coming from Waco and University High that also participate in the program, the total would add up to 39, a far cry from the 267 statewide students TSTC had in its program the last year it had control of it before giving it up nine years ago.

Since taking over, Quick has shown his students the benefits of learning a trade that could translate into a career as a interior designer, civil engineer, or carpenter.

For those who plan to work for themselves, there is an added bo-

nus involved with this field.

"This is one of the few industries that you can find that you can go to work for yourself and not have a big investment in it," said Quick. "It does not take a big large investment to get started in it."

The tools of the trade can be purchased for around \$1,500 to \$2,000.

Not everyone interested in the course needs to have goals of working in construction because it also aids in better understanding of other related trades.

"I just wanted to get pretty much how to do things right. That way when I read my blueprints, I know what I'm doing; carpenters aren't breaking my pipes or anything because they didn't get put in the wrong spot," said Antonio Olvera Jr. of Rojas Plumbing company.

Still others have found a more practical use for the college credit hours, learning skills that they can put to use at home.

"I was looking for an extra credit that would help me with my house and started looking through the book and found it," said carpentry student Samantha Edwards.

Quick said he has hopes of expanding Construction Technology in the future to include some electrical and plumbing courses, as well as add more high schools to the program.

## Restaurant

Continued from Page 1

drink.  
Second, if anyone ever brings a twist of lemon or lemon zest with your espresso its intended to cover up the overly bitter taste of bad espresso.

At The Olive Branch, I was served my espresso in a small enameled tin cup on a likewise enameled saucer. The crema' was thick enough to cut, and no lemon in site.

My critique?  
Wonderful.

I did promise a description of my slice of lemon-blueberry cake, which I came to find had been pilfered by my friends.

Here it is: The icing first struck me as outstanding. Not only was it obviously made from scratch, but it tasted of true butter cream.

True butter cream icing is just becoming an heirloom recipe.

I would not expect to arrive and order the lemon-blueberry layer cake on another day; Stewart tends to change her selection with regularity; although some do stick around;

"There are always brownies, (caramel apple) bars, always cookies," she said.

Yes, according to Stewart every-

thing in the case is made by hand, and new treats do pop up with regularity.

Some things I didn't try my interest you as well.

The Olive Branch serves several soups, French onion, cream of potato as well as the Soup du Jour.

You may even have your favorite in a bread bowl for \$4.25. Another sandwich to try would be the chicken-pesto. The chicken is slightly under-seasoned for such an establishment, but the sauce makes up for the slight lack of flavor.

If you're looking for a lighter sweet to accompany your meal, there are fresh fruit cups (\$2.50) and plates (\$6.25).

The plate is served with seasonal fruit and low-fat cottage cheese sprinkled with candied walnuts. It also comes with a croissant and sweet fruit dip. I haven't tried them, but it sure sounds excellent. A visit to The Olive Branch is beyond just lunch.

"Take care to schedule plenty of time, the atmosphere and food will take your mind far from the clock.

## Unconventional Opera Opens At MCC

By Jonmichael Swetnam  
Staff Writer

Chase scenes, food fights, abundant asides and a voluptuous puppet named "Smeraldina" will grace McLennan Community College's Ball Performing Arts Center this Fall.

"La Strada" is loosely based on 18th century Italian playwright Carlo Goldini's "The Servant of Two Masters", a comedy revolving around the misadventures of a cunning servant who seeks to double his income by working for two masters. Mistaken identities and tangled romantic webs very swiftly complicate matters.

The production promises to be a departure from the average theater

fare.

"The actors really interact with the audience. They talk to the audience a lot; they have food-fights and chase scenes. I suppose it's a cross between Benny Hill and Mel Brooks," Director Jerry MacLauchlin said.

The actors often have to stop rehearsal because they break down laughing, MacLauchlin said.

Costumes are a wild mix of high fashion and street styles, with everything from tuxedos and top hats to snake-skin pants and motley vests. Costume Designer Kathleen Cockran said.

The cast comprises Addison Roush as Pantalone, Bobby Sands as Lombardi, Cole Welch as Silvio, Katy Baker as Clarice, Mark Capalbo as

Brighella, Justin Gamble as Truffaldino, Colette Currie as Beatrice, Jacob Critz as Florindo, Cade Turner as Vinny, Brent gates as Mugsy, Jason Sanchez as Pee-wee, Ty Hoppe as Signor C, Camren Turner as Vittorio, Stefan Peterson as Nicki/Porter, and Oliver Lukach controlling the puppet Smeraldina.

Principal Dancers/Gymnasts are Matt Rogers, Stefan Peterson, Doug Gassaway, Sarah Enriquez, Dennis Funderburg, and Jerry Bilbo.

Aaron McFarland and Amy Harvey will perform as Mimes.

Rebecca Taffline will play keyboard while Camren Turner will play violin. Percussionist Justin Cox will join them.

Jerry Bilbo is serving as improvi-

sation coordinator, while Jeremy Stott is Production Stage Manager. Cory Sharp is Assistant to the Director, and Additional Script Treatment came from Cade Turner.

Edward J. Dent translated the piece, while Jerry MacLauchlin and Cindy SoRelle adapted the work. Michael Sullivan is in charge of Scenery and Lighting Design. Costume design is under the direction of Kathleen Cockran.

Jerry MacLauchlin is Directing the play, and Cindy SoRelle is in charge of Dramaturgy.

Performances are scheduled for Sept 30, Oct 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m.

For ticket information call the box office at 299-8100.

## VOTE Continued from Page 1

people can utilize that asset," Cullar said.

Some students voiced concerns over a shrinking paycheck and rising cost of living, as well as a change in overtime pay.

"It's always been a sticky issue. I don't know the basic reason for it, save to clarify the law as far as letting people know who's eligible for it," Taylor said.

"The reason it was initially put in place was to encourage employers to hire two people who work 40 hours instead of just one person who works 80 hours. But now these new regulations cause many people to lose money," Cullar said.

"I'm hopeful that if Kerry gets elected, then those regulations will be repealed," Cullar said.

Same-sex marriage has proven a contentious issue this year, provoking wildly different responses between and within the parties.

The Democratic party believes that legalizing same-sex marriages is a state's decision, Cullar said.

"You have to realize that the Democratic party is all over the place on the issue of marriage and family," Cullar said, adding that "some don't necessarily believe that marriage should be extended to same-sex couples; but they certainly don't believe in discriminating against people based on their sexual preference."

The Republican Party regards marriage as a bond between man and woman, Taylor said.

"I think our position is very clear, and that it's spelled out without any doubt," he said.

National issues weren't the discussion's sole topic. Local elections figured prominently in the discussion. District 11 faces heated election featuring Republican Arlene Wohlgenuth and Democrat Chet Edwards.

"I served in the Texas House of Representatives when Edwards was in the Senate. And about all I can say is that he believed in more spending and regulation, and I believed in less," Taylor said.

Taylor said he believes government involvement creates problems.

"Edwards seems conservative in the campaign trail, but votes another direction once he's in office," Taylor said.

"Edwards understands and works hard for the interests of this area. He doesn't always vote as liberally as I would agree with, but he does try to look out for the interests of the people he represents," Cullar said.

The Democratic party's big test this year will be getting Edwards back in office, Cullar said.

"It may happen because he reaches across those partisan lines and works for his constituents," he said.

Democratic representatives left the state last year over a redistricting plan proposed by House Majority Leader Tom DeLay. Democrats said the plan was designed to force Democratic representatives from power and strengthen the Republican party at the public's expense.

The redistricting occurs so the congressional representatives of a district remain in touch with the interests of that district's population, Taylor said.

"The Democrats drew the lines for 130 years. The fact is, in '91 the legislature tried to prevent redistricting. We only had 56 or 57 votes. We were helpless to do anything about the redistricting, but we didn't even think about going to Oklahoma. I get sensitive when people talk about redistricting, because I was a victim of it in '91," Taylor said.

After the Republican party and House Majority Leader Tom DeLay took over, they came in and tried to ensure elected representatives were removed for the sole purpose of thwarting the will of the people who lived in that district, Cullar said.

"DeLay came in and tore apart a three-county heart of a district. The counties and the people within those counties worked together, and had spent the last 100 years learning how to work together, but because the Republican party wanted to knock Chet Edwards out of office, they came in and split up a 100 year old district," he said.

The new district runs from the suburbs of Dallas down through Waco to Bryan-College Station, and will eventually include the suburbs of Houston, Cullar said.

"That doesn't leave any community of interest," he said.

DeLay didn't have a vote in the redistricting; it was on the initiative of the Texas Representatives and Senators, Taylor said.

"As far as redistricting, Oklahoma was courage. Those people were standing up for the people they represent with the only means open to them-breaking a quorum. It is a perfectly legal action," Cullar said.

Another issue facing voters is the state government's decision to slash school funding, even as institutions like MCC are swamped with thousands of new enrollees.

"The Democratic party definitely supports quality public education. We think public education is the cornerstone to building a prosperous society," Cullar said.

"Where does the government get its money? Us. In the form of taxes. These days, you can hardly move without getting taxed for it. If you listen to the Democrats, it's just dollars and cents-the problem is all monetary," Taylor said.

People in Austin have been struggling to come up with a system that supports and provides for public education, without forcing a particular segment of the population to shoulder the bulk of the burden, Taylor said.

"I don't like paying taxes either. But here's what I know: if you have an obligation, you meet it. If you are obligated to pay for something, then you pay it. You do not give away a surplus when people still have needs to be met, just so Big Business can get a tax break," Cullar said.

"The government should act as a community to help meet the people's needs instead of forcing subordinate levels of government to hold the slack, Cullar said.

"I think the federal government should care for the needs of the whole,

not the needs of the few," Cullar said.

Big business is not the demon the Democratic party makes it out to be; rather, it is a vital economic component, Taylor said.

"I spent eight years in the legislature listening to solutions. What really disgusted me was all the time people were talking in Austin; they never said they'd save money-they just said 'give us more money, and we'll do a better job.' I won't support taking people's money until I can tell them what they're getting for it," Taylor said.

"I think the people in Austin are not providing the leadership this state needs. Bush cut property taxes and no one saw a net positive result. It pushed the services down on the county, so the school had to raise tax rates. I think the board at MCC has shown more guts than the people in Austin, by making the hard choices that the representatives in Austin refuse to make," Cullar said.

"We need to ensure that public schools have adequate funding; that our people are a good resource. We need people who say they'll do what's needed to provide for the education of Texans," Cullar said.

"All the years the Democratic party was in power, taxes went up, up, and up. The Republican party looked at the bureaucrats, and I tell you it was amazing what percentage of the mental health budget, for example, was being spent upstairs at the administration level and not on the kids," Taylor said.

The greatest amount of bureaucracy was created when president Bush developed his "No Child Left Behind" program, and then refused to fund it, Cullar said.

The program forced schools to go out and hire more people, and then didn't help the schools support the new staff, Cullar said.

Deciding which way to vote is one of the most difficult issues the voter faces. Especially as negative campaigns often reduce voters to deciding between which candidate they detest less, as opposed to which one they most agree with.

"Negative campaigns make me think that maybe those campaigns don't have any merits to run on," Taylor said. Negative campaigns have the unfortunate side effect of weeding out many decent people who don't want to subject themselves and their families hostile opponents, he said.

"I hope one day we can reach a point where political campaigns are sort of like commercials-your candidate can get up there and give you a reason to vote for him instead of getting on stage and just giving you a reason not to vote for their opponent," Taylor said.

"I think it would be wonderful if more situations existed where every voter could take the time to listen to issues and look at platforms, and take advantage of this generation's unprecedented access to information," Cullar said.

"I guess the best advice I can give is to look at what the parties stand for, see what you as voters and as a community need, and then vote," Cullar said.

## Psychology

Continued From Page 1

"Psychology has helped me learn more about life and why people do the things that they do. Psychology also helps condition my mind to learn and accept things," said MCC student Michelle Coe.

Psychologists created an organization that boasts over 150,000 members, known as The American Psychological Association or A.P.A.

The A.P.A. contributes many things to the field of psychology. A.P.A. sets ethical guidelines, pays lobbyists to insure federal funding of relevant research and other programs, provides a setting for psychologists to meet and discuss current issues and reach solutions for those issues.

The reason for the different divisions of the A.P.A. is to help psychologists that are interested in specific areas can meet other psychologists with similar interests.

The divisions also aid in furthering specific areas of study, increasing awareness of these areas, and possibly influencing social and political arenas related to those divisions.

For instance, the division on addictions is interested in furthering research on addictions as well as ensuring adequate treatment options and rehabilitation programs. Spooner said one of the divisions she is interested in is the teaching of psychology that highlights effective teaching methods, classroom demonstrations and more.

This division published a journal, "Teaching of Psychology" and it is a great resource to help teachers of psychology keep their classroom fun and effective while learning about psychology.

The A.P.A. website, [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org) gives current events and lists the different divisions of psychology and how students can become members. The reasoning for Spooner including the A.P.A. website is because of the benefits for the students.

Those benefits will include the monthly publication, the A.P.A. Monitor enables students to read about current research findings like weight management and dieting focused on obesity. Students can learn current issues in the field including whether psychologists should be allowed to prescribe certain medications.

Potential job seekers can also read the job classified ads to see what kinds of jobs are available and what are the educational requirements.

For more information contact Spooner at her office between 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, and Tuesday 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Or call 254-299-8920 to set up an appointment.



# SPORTS



## Sports Superstitions Have Life Of Their Own

Davis L. Gonzalez  
Senior Sports Writer

Superstitions and the world of sports have always gone hand-in-hand, often resulting in the merely unusual to the strangely bizarre when it comes to the lengths an athlete will go to improve his/her game.

Some superstitions are well-known and universal in scope, having specific rituals with many starting in the earliest of amateur organizations and extending the career of seasoned pros.

The foul practice of not changing socks while on a winning streak may be one of the better known, but here are a few other commonly followed traditions in sports.

In baseball it is a serious no-no to speak to a pitcher when he has a no-hitter in progress, and for those on the other side of the plate, taking their bats to bed is one way to break out of a hitting slump.

A football player could hinder his performance by switching numbers when traded to another team; and if hockey is your sport, beware of laying your stick crossed over another one.

While these are the more prominent of many sports superstitions, they are, by far, not the only strongly held beliefs.

Many athletes have their own personal rituals that they feel enhance their performance, or at the very least, ward off bad luck.

His 'Ainness,' Michael Jordan himself, would always wear his blue North Carolina shorts from his college days under his Chicago Bulls uniform for good luck.

Falcon's quarterback Michael Vick has decided that he won't cut his hair until he's won a Super Bowl.

To show that superstitions aren't just reserved to people named Michael, the Houston Texans' QB

David Carr issued a similar statement, albeit with a much more realistic goal. Carr won't be trimming his hair until his team can win two games in a row.

Arguably, the most superstitious of all athletes are the baseball players.

Bean Town favorite Wade Boggs is famous for his pre-game meal of chicken only. As a career .328 hitter, the ritual apparently paid off...for everyone but the chicken.

Former pitcher Mark "The Bird" Fidrych talked to himself and the ball while on the mound. This may have did less to enhance his performance as it did to psyche out the batter. Not many people I know want to stand in front of a man talking to sporting equipment who happens to throw a blazing fastball.

These so-called superstitions may say less about the sport than they do about the type of people drawn to the games.

Even the fans have come up with a way to get involved by infusing their own predictions, most prominently this year's Madden jinx.

Fans and commentators alike have pointed out the eerie coincidence that the football players chosen for the cover of the amazingly popular EA Sports game featuring former Oakland Raider coach John Madden over the past few years have found themselves on the sidelines nursing injuries.

Some of the players have bought into this superstition, and what was once an honor has become an accolade they can live without.

It's speculated that in an effort to steer away from the supposed Madden jinx, this year's cover is graced by a defensive player, Ray Lewis, instead of the traditional offensive playmaker.

The jury is still out on whether sports superstitions really work, but if you suddenly see Ray Lewis wearing a cast before the season's over, expect next year's Madden game

## Golf Gets Into the Swing Of Things

Tonya Farmer  
Sports Writer

McLennan Community College men's golf is off to a fresh start playing with a bundle of freshmen, along with one returning Sophomore, Lance Avants.

The Highlanders competed with their host, Dodge City Community College, in Dodge City, Kansas on a Par 71 course at the Conquistador Invitational Tournament on September 18-19.

Competition included Midland finishing first scoring 873, Dodge City second with 901, and Odessa College Blue placing in third with a total of 910.

Highlanders golf team finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place with a score of 915. The more experienced Highlander, Lance Avants, placed

in the ALL-Tournament Team with a score of 221.

The other four freshmen golfers include Jeffrey Frye 79+74+77=230, Martin Olsen 77+76+77=230, Richard Hyland 75+76+83=234 and Chip Brooks 89+79+88=256.

This year's rooster includes returning sophomore Lance Avants from China Spring, freshman's Zach Branch from Gatesville, Braxton Brin from Monahans, Chip Brooks from Houston (The Woodlands), Jeffrey Frye from Palestine, Cole Howard from Burleson, Richard Hyland from Aberdeen, Scotland, Martin Olsen from Charlotend Denmark (Rungsted Gymnasium), Ryan Rodriquez from Big Spring, Casey Wharton of Groesbeck, and Jasiah Vasquez from Gatesville.



This year's Highland Golf team includes 10 freshman and returning sophomore Lance Avants.

### Highlanders Fall 2004 Golf Schedule

September 18-19	Dodge City C.C Invitational	Mariah Hill Golf Course, Dodge City, Kansas
September 27-28	5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Coca-Cola/McLennan Community College Invitational Golf Tournament	Bear Ridge Golf Club, Waco, TX.
October 2-3	18 <sup>th</sup> Annual Collegiate Amateur of Andrews Club	Andrews Country Andrews TX.
October 9-10	Paris Invitational	Paris County Club, Paris, TX.
October 18-19	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Invitational	Mill Creek Country Club, Salado, TX.

### Highlassies Fall 2004 Golf Schedule

October 4,5	Oral Roberts University Golf Tournament	Shangri La Resorts
October 11,12	Arkansas State University Golf Tournament	Jonesboro Country Club
October 25,26	Sam Houston State University Golf Tournament	Waterwood National Resort
November 8-9	University of Texas-Pan American-Golf Tournament	Los Lagos Golf Club

## MCC Dance Team Prepares For Future Competitions

Micah Patzke  
Sports Writer

McLennan Community College's dance team is in full swing, performing at pep rallies and parades and gearing up for spring competitions.

The last three seasons the team has won awards at the American Dance/Drill Team, a National competition held in Denton, Texas.

Students can look forward to seeing the team perform their mixture of funk, jazz, and pom style dance during the MCC fall basketball games.

This year's team consists of six returning sophomores and 15 freshmen.

"We're like a spirit group, it's very high energy" said Sandy Hinton, Director of the Dance Company.

A new addition to the coaching staff is Assistant Director James "T.J." Maple, who danced with the team for the last two years and is currently finishing up his degree. "My heart's here at MCC."

"We are cheerleaders and dancers," said Hinton.

The dance team had qualified for the National Dance/Drill Team, a National competition held in Daytona Beach, Florida, in which they took 8<sup>th</sup> place last year.

## MCC's International Student Club



Are you an international student?

Have you lived part of your life in a foreign country?

Are you a band-backed Central Texan who would like to meet people from other countries?

Then MCC's International Student Club is for you!

OUR PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE FELLOWSHIP, FRIENDSHIP, AND SUPPORT TO ALL OF MCC'S INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS; EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Somewhat activities include: Having a table Sept. 28 MCC's College and Career night at the ITC (best decorated table wins a prize, so come help us decorate for the "Flaga" theme!); free Admission Education at Southern Methodist University in Dallas on Sept. 30; Heart of Texas Fair and Rodeo Oct. 8

Call faculty sponsors Chli Blumpled or Charlotte Laughlin (299-8331, 299-8336 or 299-8905) or email them at cblumpled@mcclennan.edu or cloughlin@mcclennan.edu

Check out Pingway Blam's website for information about ISC. Click on the button labeled ISC on the left side of his home page. <http://pingwayblam.myweb.tinet.net>



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# A Night on the Town.....



Digital Images by Lee Kuhl

MCC's own Lise Uhl directed a star-studded cast in the opera "The Old Maid and the Thief" at the Waco Hippodrome Theatre September 16 & 18.

Uhl teaches voice and diction, and directs the opera on the MCC campus.

The cast included Jennifer Mays as Miss Todd, Deborah Williamson as Laetitia, Matthew Moore as Bob and Julianne Best as Miss Pinkerton.

The play concerns an old maid who resorts to thievery after she lets a tramp into her home as a lodger. When he is suspected of stealing, the old maid urges him to escape, but instead the two run off together stealing anything that is portable.

The moral of the story: "a virtuous woman can make a thief of an honest man."

