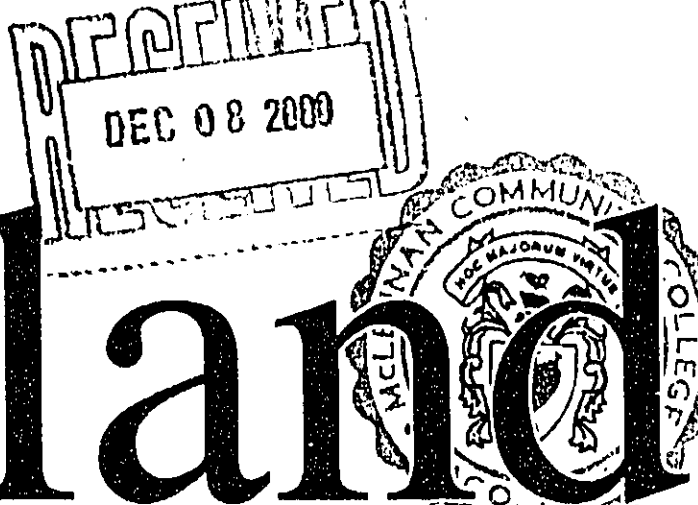


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Highland Herald

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McLennan Community College, Waco, TX

December 8, 2000

Celebrations of Christmas

Students and faculty look forward to family holiday traditions

Andrea Garza & Marie Rent
Staff writers

On any given day after Thanksgiving, trees are moved into malls and into people's houses. Wreaths are hung on doors, walls, and front bumpers on vehicles while lights are strung from the roof, trees and yard ornaments. Candelabras and menorahs are placed in windows. Don't forget the mistletoe and the stockings that are hung in doorways and on mantels. These are all obvious signs that the holiday season is quickly approaching.

During this holiday season many people celebrate it in many ways. Some celebrate it in a religious way, some celebrate only the commercialized version of the holidays, and others have family traditions that they wish to carry on. Still, some people already have an idea of how they would want to celebrate the holiday season with their families in the future.

Ben Drews, a local MCC student, says that his ideal future Christmas is to spend it as a family, and hopefully not fall too far into the commercialization of the season.

"I would want everyone to be together and make it a point to retain the meaning of Christmas," Drews said.

James Rakeshaw, who works at MCC with Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), said that his family's traditions are simple. "We eat, we watch football, we disperse." In Rakeshaw's family, he said they don't each expect gifts every year and they give gifts to whom they want.

Erik Castillo, another MCC student, celebrates the holiday season in another way. He said that his mom and aunts make tamales for dinner, as well as flautas, menudo, and bunjellos, a fried Mexican pastry. He also added that his family goes to midnight mass on the 24th of December, and on Christmas Day they watch the parade on television and open their gifts.

"I like Christmas dinner with my family and I would like to keep

See 'Traditions' on Page 2.



Amanda Knebel puts the finishing touches on the decorations of the Christmas tree located in the hallway of the Community Service Center.

Board of trustees OK's renovations

JonMichael Swetnam
Staff writer

MCC will be getting more construction work over the holidays. The board of trustees voted Nov. 28 to renovate the Community Service Center's (CSC) C-module, add a fire alarm system to eight buildings, and buy new computers for the Technology center.

The board accepted a proposal from Mazanec Construction to conduct the proposed renovations. Due to the recent construction, the liberal arts and science buildings will not be available for summer session. The renovation would give the campus some much needed space for summer classes. The project is expected to cost around \$620,000.

Mazanec Construction's bid was third lowest, but their projected date of completion for the renovation was sooner than any other offer would allow. The board considered this a key factor, with all of the current building activities and installations going on around campus.

"With all of the construction going on, the amount is worth it to have the facility completed that much sooner," Dr. Dennis Michaelis, McLennan Community College president, said.

Under the current contract, construction will begin January 5th, and the building will be completed by early May of 2001.

The board also approved the purchase of new computer workstations for the Learning Technology Center. The majority of the computers will be provided by Agama Systems with Dell providing an additional 30 computers. The benefits of the new systems will include improved maintenance and service, as well as improved technology. It is hoped that this arrangement will keep the headaches common to switching systems to a minimum. As a side note, this is the first time MCC has purchased its computers from a name-brand supplier. The computers will be available for use by students and faculty.

Additionally, the board voted to install new fire alarm systems in eight buildings around the campus. The contract was awarded to Esquire Fire and Safety, which had the lowest bid. Accepting the lowest bid will allow the installation to proceed on an accelerated schedule. Originally, the project was supposed to be completed in five years, but under the current contract the systems will be installed in two years. Having a similar system in the buildings will lower maintenance costs and ease any problems that may arise.

The buildings that will receive the new fire systems are some of the oldest on campus, and are among the few buildings not currently receiving any form of construction work.

Singers get high marks in regional competition

Cedric Iglehart
Editor-in-Chief

Eleven vocal music students from McLennan Community College participated

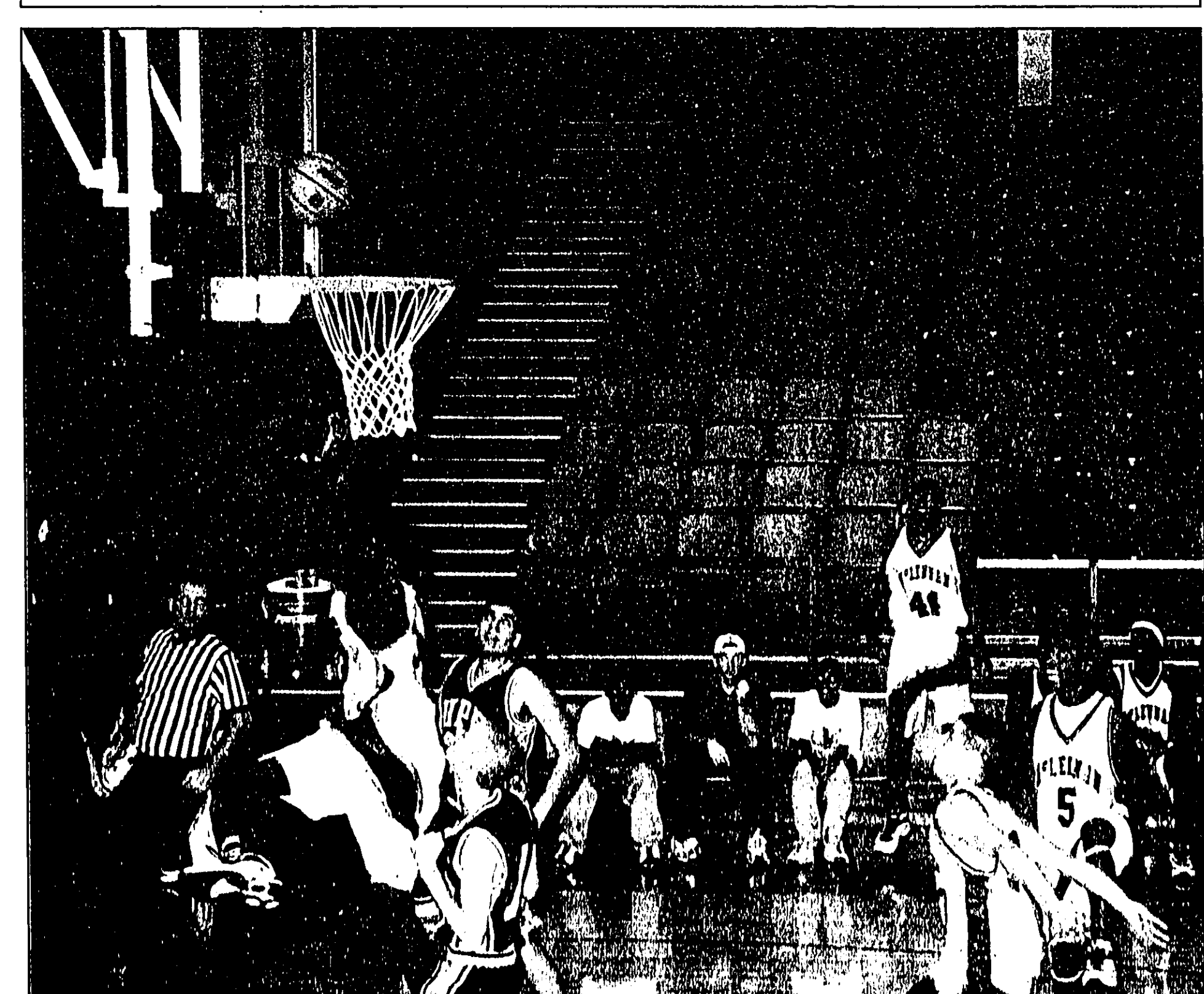
in the National Association of Teachers of Singers (NATS) Texoma Region Competition held Nov. 9-11 at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. The regional competition included colleges from Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

"It was a very difficult competition," said Lise Uhl, MCC vocal instructor and opera director. "They (the judges) didn't advance as many to the semifinals this year as in year's past so evidently the judging was a lot harder."

Four students were able to advance to the semifinals in their perspective levels. Those students were Jodie Wachsmann, freshmen women; Kristian Roberts, freshmen women; Patrick Kelly, freshmen men; and Rosa Tulyaganova, graduate (master's) women.

"I was very pleased with everyone because we've never had such a high percentage of students advance to the semifinals," Uhl said. "As far as I'm concerned, they were all winners."

See 'Musie' on Page 7.



The Highlanders attack the basket for two points in their 128-72 victory over the Howard Payne University JV. For complete basketball coverage, see Page 4.

Organizations join forces to help feed the needy

Jeff Wyers
Staff writer

This holiday season some Waco residents who wouldn't normally be able to afford anything special, will soon celebrate with the rest of us. The reason is because on Oct. 31 various MCC student organizations held a food drive which benefited 15 MCC students and their families, an overall total of 40 people.

The food drive, headed up by Phi Theta Kappa, was the first of its kind here at MCC.

"We're hoping to make this an annual event," said Alesha McCambridge, Director of Student Activities.

The PTK's hope is that less fortunate families of students can worry little about some of the more necessary commodities that most might take for granted during this holiday season.

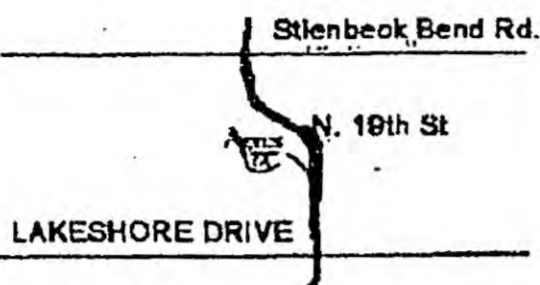
Some of the different student organizations helping out were the Student Government Organization, the Baptist Student Ministries, and Phi Theta Kappa working with MCC's Respiratory Club.



2000 NATS Semifinalists from MCC are Jodie Wachsmann, Patrick Kelly, Kristian Roberts and Rosa Tulyaganova (not pictured).

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Traditions

Continued from Page 1

doing that," Castillo said of future traditions.

Something that Khristy Walker's immediate family does as a tradition is everyone helps decorate the tree. They put up stockings over the fireplace and always make it a point to get everyone *something*.

"Me and my husband stay up late wrapping gifts," Walker, an MCC student, said.

Walker said all of her family comes to her house on Christmas Eve and the kids open some of their presents at midnight. Some family members end up staying the night, and those that go home come back on Christmas day for a big dinner, a night of television and to open the rest of the presents. Their dinner sometimes consists of ham, different vegetables with greens, dressing, pig's feet, and hog's tails.

Food tends to be a tradition that is different, but important, in every family.

"It's not Christmas in my house without gingerbread cookies," said Esther Quinn, who works at MCC with RSVP.

Her family has used the same recipe for their "Christmas cookies" for 80 years and have for every year without fail. Quinn did note, however, of the Christmas they weren't made. The day after Christmas her sister arrived and upon hearing there were no cookies, supplies were bought and the cookies were made that day.

Christmas also does not start until Quinn's family has attended church on December 24. The gifts, however, must wait for Christmas morning. Not only that, but her sons must sing the Marine Corps hymn before they enter the living room on Christmas because her husband and two of her sons served in the Marines.

Susan Copeland, who works at MCC with RSVP, said her favorite tradition is picking

someone who has shown kindness during the past year and giving that someone gifts as if they were a family member.

Copeland enjoys everything about Christmas with one exception.

"The bills. And even that I don't mind because when you give someone something they really like, it's worth it," Copeland said.

Christmas night, after all the gifts are unwrapped, Copeland's family plays poker. Everyone in the family plays, the younger ones teamed up with more experienced players. Copeland said there is a big jar of pennies that her family bets with and they stay up to the wee hours of the morning, trying to get a winner.

Traditions are as unique as families and faiths. Many families, whatever their faith, drive around to admire all the sparkling decorations that others put up. The decorations everywhere brighten up the gray skies of December.

Greek organization to hold second blood drive

Jeff Wyers
Staff writer

Phi Theta Kappa hosted a campus wide blood drive on Oct. 31, and due to its overwhelming success they're gearing up to do it again.

This time, they hope to utilize more volunteers and collect more units of blood for the local branch of the Red Cross. The last blood drive produced over 80 usable units, even with the lack of beds and the two-hour wait.

The upcoming March blood drive is going to take place over a shorter amount of time, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., so the Red Cross can give the student organizations more workers. Hopefully, this will create more room and less time to wait.

Also, a greater output is expected. PTK hopes to acquire at least 150 donors with a 100 unit minimum rendered. The screening process is what weeds out most of the unusable blood due to iron deficiency or blood pressure. Iron deficiency is the reason why most were turned away last time. In order to remedy this problem, PTK president Laurie Chamberlain suggests that everybody "eat your meat and spinach!"

All types of blood are needed. This is because of the severe nationwide shortage which gives almost all hospital and health administrations, even those in McLennan county, what is called a One-Day supply. A One-Day supply is an administrative term which basically means, if there were to be a nationwide disaster, donated blood for transfusions would only last an average of one day.

Blood is also needed due to the shut down of one of Waco's blood facilities. The facility was broken into and several units slashed, therefore making them unusable.

This year's drive won MCC an award, and PTK hopes to make the drive of 2001 bring the same results. Students are encouraged to volunteer and donate.

Correction

In the last issue the Highland Herald incorrectly reported commendations recognized at the Board of Trustees meeting on November 26.

The awards given by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board were not given to individuals listed, but to the following departments: Nursing, Child Development, English, Theater and Music. Individuals who accepted the certificates were accepting them on behalf of their respective departments and divisions. The English Department commendation certificate was accepted by Dr. Linda Cook.

A Public Thank You!

These theatre majors braved the cold and the rain to pick up trash in and around the Performing Arts Center and Fine Arts Building on Saturday, Nov. 18.

Zach Beseda, Russell Eldhardt, Melissa Hurta, Luke Leonard, April Stanley, Alex Lerma, Josh Graves, Jade Ambler, Sarah Beth O'Donnell

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Season's Greetings from the Highland Herald Staff

Editorial

December 8, 2000

McLennan Community College

Page 3

No winner in 2000 election

Corey Farrar
Guest Columnist

It was eleven o'clock in the central states when the word came down. What appeared to be heading for a 269-269 electoral tie came to a screeching halt. "Arkansas has been projected to be won by Governor Bush."

The game would be decided tonight, at very least tomorrow. Not even in the deepest recesses of the most skeptical mind did anyone foresee what was to come in the following five hours. With every report out of Florida, the Bush lead was shrinking and the impending fallout was becoming more apparent.

Austin and Nashville were quiet. Not even the most devout optimists dared cork a bottle of champagne. The margaritas were running low in Austin, and the bourbon in Nashville was already out. The victory parties had been reduced to a staggering group of politicians shrouded in confusion and vomit-ridden clothes.

When it was all said and done, the Bush lead was down to 1700 votes and an automatic recount was ordered. But in a decision of this magnitude and closeness, you can be assured that it will not be that simple.

In Palm Beach County, a widely democratic district with a substantial Jewish vote, reports have surfaced of voter confusion. Many would-be Gore supporters have complained that due to the layout of their ballots, they accidentally voted for Pat Buchanan. The third party could end up costing Gore the election, but it was supposed to be the Green Party, not the Reform Party. Buchanan ended up receiving over 3000 votes in this district, roughly 2000 more votes than he got in any other Florida precinct. And make no mistake, Jewish people voting for Buchanan is the equivalent of Republicans voting for Louis Farrakhan.

The point is this: Vegas isn't paying out on the presidential election yet. The presidency is still anybody's guess. At this hour, it seems hopeless that any thing truly democratic could happen. The likelihood of the most genuinely American institution, the law suit, deciding our next leader is now a guarantee. Where that will leave an already apathetic public is yet to be seen.

It is likely that there will be an outcry from the democratic ranks to abolish the Electoral College. Gore winning the popular vote and yet losing to Bush is a tough pill to swallow indeed. But that would be the absolute wrong thing to do.

If this election teaches us anything, it is the value of those electoral votes. Rumors of missing ballot boxes in Florida and mass confusion in St. Louis (where there were reports of people casting votes five hours after the polls closed, reopened, and then were ordered shut down again by an appellate court) serve as our reminders. In an election this close, the people in the know have reduced the count to one state. If we were going by the popular vote, voter fraud would be much easier, and the fallout today would be much worse. Our forefathers were right and wise not to trust the people to directly vote for the president.

The system usually works and has for years. All we can do for now is wait for the courts to settle this thing for us, remain calm through the uproar that follows from the losing side, and bask in the realization that the winner will only be with us for one term.



Drugs on MCC campus virtually nonexistent

Jeff Wyers
Staff Writer

"I don't think that it's just a problem, I think it's a travesty...the very place where minds are supposed to be expanded and challenged, some are working to pervert and close those minds."

These were the words of a second year MCC student from McGregor when asked if she thought drug use on campus is a problem. Many students were interviewed concerning the issue of controlled substances, and the majority of responses was that there is a problem.

Drug use anywhere is a problem. It has been proven that such substances can have negative effects on the body, particularly the brain and its functions. With such negative effects on an individual, it seems the question that should be asked, 'Is substantial drug abuse evident in daily campus life?'

The terms 'substantial' and 'evident' are used here toward whether obvious substance abuse occurs, and whether or not the effects of their use hinders others in their studies and daily life. Is there a great number of students who indulge in drug use in solitary areas on campus? No. Is there a great ratio of open commerce involving drugs at MCC? No. Are some students using and selling drugs while here at school? Probably, but is this actually impeding anyone other than that individual from their studies? No, not to any discernable effect, anyway. If there were, MCC would look less like a pleasant community college and more like an inner city park. There would be more lights, locks and gates, not to mention more police. The simple fact that the McLennan Community College police report consists mostly of flat tires and lockouts rather than overdoses and drive-by shootings is a testimony to how slight the problem is here.

This doesn't mean that something shouldn't be done to halt the abuse and distribution of drugs entirely, because it is undeniable that any is bad. But the low level of this problem and the consistency of the students and their dedication toward learning, rather than selfish lazing is admirable, and it could certainly be a lot worse.

'Tis the season for good tidings

Michelle Gold
Managing Editor

Unlike Blanche Dubois, I have not always depended on the kindness of strangers.

Spontaneous acts of kindness from strangers are a rarity in today's society. But the other day, something unusual happened to me.



At the end of a horribly slow day at work, I received a generous tip from a customer who knew my luck was down that day. I have encountered acts of kindness from people I knew, but never from a complete stranger.

I had heard of these incidents in books like *Chicken Soup for the Soul*. There was even a movie (*Pay It Forward*) about this exact situation. But when it happened to me, in real life, I was shocked.

I was most amazed by exactly how shocked I was. Should I have been so surprised? Are people just as nice as they used to be?

The answer is no. People are not. There is an unbelievable amount of distrust among human beings in this day and age.

The reason I am bringing this all up now is the 'holiday season' is here again, or to some the 'stress season'. Most of the public is concerned with making money to buy gifts, getting to the front of a line in a crowded store, or trying to squeeze as much as they can into their limited schedule.

It seems that in the midst of all this brouhaha, we tend to forget that those in line next to us are going through the exact same thing as we.

The holiday season is supposed to be about being nice to everybody; not to just those that you know. Lately, we have become so focused on the personal issues of individual lives that we do not take a look at those around us.

When I say acts of kindness, I do not mean acts such as giving away large amounts of money, personal belongings, or spending your holidays in a soup kitchen. I am talking about the little things such as holding a door open for a person who is juggling ten bags, smiling at a complete stranger, or allowing someone with just one item to purchase go in line before you. It is amazing how much these little things can make a difference in someone's life.

But who am I to talk? I remember a time when I used to get irritated when I smiled at people and they didn't smile back. Now, I don't even make eye contact with people, lest I have to acknowledge them. What have I become?

I am not usually a happy-go-lucky type who bursts at the seams with energy, but I do believe in being respectful to others. The incident made me realize I was even losing respect for people.

So, I decided I would make a challenge for myself this holiday season, I am going to revive the spirit of the holidays within me. No, I won't shout out "Merry Christmas" in passing or shake hands with everyone I see, but I may let a smile slip here and there. I will try to have a little more patience while in line at the swirling chaos we call the mall. It is the little things that count. Who knows, maybe it will prove contagious. Maybe it will spread.

Yes, Virginia there is a Santa Claus and believing is more than just seeing

Dear sir,

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in *The Sun*, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

This famous editorial first appeared in the New York Sun in 1897. Every year since it was printed during Christmas until the paper went out of business in 1949.

Virginia O'Hanlon's father was hesitant to answer question, so he told her to write to the Sun's Question and Answer column. In O'Hanlon's family if there was doubts on how to pronounce a word or information on any topic her father would write to the Sun. Her letter was put in the hands of editor Francis P. Church, a Civil War correspondent had worked for the New York Sun for 20 years on the editorial board. Church's motto was "Endeavour to clear your mind of can't." Although he had a very cynical view of the world, Church wrote a reply entirely unlike any of his other work. It had become the nation's most famous editorial. In 1912 Virginia O'Hanlon began teaching in the New York City school system and later become a principal. All of her life she received mail about her letter to the New York Sun and with each reply attached a printed copy of the Church editorial.

Church died a decade after he wrote the editorial. He had no children.



I'm filing suit for a recount...

Please e-mail letters and comments to: herald@students.mcc.cc.tx.us or drop them off in room B42 of the Community Services Building.



Sports

"I think I'm the best. I'm taking all on-comers ... whoever wants to play me. I play with the Browns. That is how diverse I am."

— Terrell Davis on 'John Madden 2001' for PlayStation 2

Red to blues

Recker tragedy proves there's more to life than basketball

It was just another exhibition game, this one against the ubiquitous Athletes in Action.

A nothing game really, one of those artificial sweeteners meant to take away the bad taste of too many preseason wind sprints, to whet the appetite for

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

games that count.

But that's not how Luke Recker saw it at all.

After a year and a half without meaningful competition of any kind, he was just happy to be an athlete in action himself.

And when he had finished pouring in 32 points on 12 of 18 shooting for Iowa on Friday, if he didn't feel whole again, he certainly felt a whole lot better.

But the pain still hasn't gone away from the terrible tragedy that struck a little over a year ago when his girlfriend, Kelly Craig, and her brother were seriously injured in a car accident in Durango, Colo.

Another friend was killed in the same collision with a drunk driver.

Recker also was injured in the accident, but most of his wounds have healed.

The one that didn't was inside.

Not long after Recker decided to transfer to Iowa to be closer to Kelly, who is from Indiana, the ugly whispers from the Indiana compound were that the reason Recker transferred from Arizona was because he knew he wasn't good enough to play on perhaps the most talented team in the country.

They were words meant to sting, coming from people who had felt betrayed by the local boy who had gone long distance.

But after having to endure this tragedy it makes me, along with every die-hard basketball fan in the state of Indiana, realize that there is much more to life than basketball.

Instead of remaining bitter about his leaving their institution, they should help him out in his time of need. Because basketball is a game but it's not the game of life.

Highlanders head in to conference on a roll

Highlanders 10-2 start largely attributed to balanced play

Aaron Smith
Sports editor

Kilgore

Sophomore Cedric Palmer and Freshman Roderick Nealy both scored 22 points as the MCC men held on for an 81-74 win over Kilgore Nov 10 in the Hill College Classic.

Kevin Mitchell added 12 points for the Highlanders (3-1), who were coming off 44-point loss at San Jacinto just three days earlier.

"Like I told them, the true test of their character was coming back and getting a win," MCC

coach Ray Farrell said. We wanted to re-established ourselves like we did the first two nights and play the kind of defense we know we can play."

The Rangers did not go without a fight however as they came back from a nine-point halftime deficit to tie the game at 61-61. But Nealy and Palmer sparked a closing 20-13 run that sealed the victory for the Highlanders.

Richland

The Highlanders frontline of Roderick Nealy, Cedric Palmer and Grant Davis combined for 63 points as The Highlanders blew

out Richland College 99-69 Nov 11 in the Hill Classic.

After leading by just seven at the half, the Highlanders (4-1) wore down the smaller Thunderducks and dominated them with the inside trio of 6-8 Davis 6-6 twins Nealy and Palmer. Nealy had a game high 27 points, while Davis and Palmer 17.

"(Davis) just broke out," Farrell said. "We got a lot of nice, easy shots for him inside. Cedric's the workhorse. And then Rod, he's just getting it done. He's rebounding, scoring inside and out, anything we need him to do."

Farrell said the Highlanders got off to a slow start after an emo-

tional win over Kilgore Nov 11, "but we woke up in the second half." MCC outscored Richland 60-37 in the last minutes.

Blinn

The MCC men drove through a steady rain to get their game against Blinn College Nov 18 in Brenham. Once they got inside, the rain kept coming- in the form of field goals.

The Highlanders used an 8-0 run at the start of the second half to roll to an 88-79 victory.

It was the Highlanders' second win over Blinn this season and both games were run-and-gun affairs.

MCC has averaged 103.5 points in the two games against the Buccaneers this year.

Farrell was especially pleased with the efforts of a pair of Waco-area freshman guards, Don Hooks of LaVega and Jason Kemp of Waco High.

"They really helped us take control in the second half," Farrell said. "Defensively, and with their leadership, they really gave us spark."

Kemp and Hooks scored 12 and 10 points, respectively. Roderick Nealy led the Highlanders with 23 points, while Cedric Palmer added 13 in the winning effort.

Richland College

If freshmen center Grant Davis got his wish, the MCC Highlanders would play the Richland College Thunderducks every night.

After scoring 19 points in a victory two weeks earlier against the Thunderducks in the Hill Tournament, the 6-8 freshman came back with 25 in a 105-84 Nov 21 in Richardson.

The Highlanders (6-1), jumped out to a 10-0 lead in the first five minutes and then blew the game wide open in the second half. Also scoring in double figures for the Highlanders were sophomores Roderick Nealy (18), Cedric Palmer (14) and Kevin Mitchell (11).

Eastfield

Roderick Nealy had a career-high 30 points and 15 rebounds as the MCC Highlanders rallied for a 97-94 win over the Eastfield Harvesters.

Freshman guard Alfred (Junior) Sanchez hit a crucial three-pointer in a closing 14-7 run and finished with 10 points as the

See 'Balance,' page 5



Digital image by Andrea Garza

Scoring two of their many points are the Highlanders as they went on to demolish Howard Payne University's JV, 128-72.

Highlassies doing the small things to win

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

Kilgore

Sophomore Laura Clagett hit two three-pointers and scored 17 points to lead the MCC Highlassies to an 88-74 win over Kilgore Nov 10 at the Hill Classic.

"If I had a game ball to give, she would get it," coach Ricky Rhodes said, "because she really stepped it up tonight."

Vershonda Williams had 15 points and seven rebounds and Tammy White added 13 points for the Highlassies.

Odessa

Four players scored in double figures, led by sophomore Vershonda Williams with 15 points and 10 rebounds, as the Highlassies defeated Odessa, 71-61 Nov 11 at the Hill Classic.

Crystal Cook and Julie Weise scored 11 points apiece and Latoya Prudhomme added 10 as the Highlassies (4-1) won a re-

gion V showdown against one of the stronger teams from the Western Conference.

"I told our players that this sends a message to the west," coach Ricky Rhodes said. "We didn't start out too fast, but we kept hanging in there and hanging in there and eventually we wore them down."

Panola

Four players scored in double figures as the Highlassies closed out the Temple Classic with 100-40 rout of Panola Nov 18 in Temple.

"It was just an all-around balanced effort," Shawn Trochim said.

Amanda Bloodworth paced the Highlassies (5-3) with 20 points, while Julie Weise added 17. Vershonda Williams chipped in 15 and Laura Clagett had 11. The Highlassies shot lights out from behind the arc making 12-25 from three point range in the winning effort.

Coming back from a six-point half time deficit, the Highlassies used

"I told our players that this sends a message to the west. We didn't start out too fast, but we kept hanging in there and hanging in there and eventually we wore them down."

—Coach Ricky Rhodes

a balance attack to defeat Blinn Junior College, 74-68 Nov 21 in Brenham.

Blinn

Four players scored in double figures, led by sophomore forward Vershonda Williams with 18, as the Highlassies improved to 6-3. Tammy White added 12 and Julie Weise and Latoya Prudhomme chipped in 11 points apiece.

The Highlassies biggest edge came from the charity stripe where they hit 24 of 35, compared to just nine of 20 by the Lady Buccaneers.

They say most games our won and lost at the free throw line. That theory proved to be true as the Highlassies overcame poor shooting from the field to pull out a 66-53 victory over Blinn Col-

lege Dec 2 at the Highlands.

The Highlassies were red hot from the foul line shooting a blistering 30-37 for the game from the charity stripe. With stars Julie Weise and Vershonda Williams both having off nights the Highlassies got a much needed spark from the bench as Sheila Bustillos scored nine of her 10 points in the first half to help lead the Highlassies to a 29-21 half time advantage.

But the cold shooting continued in the second half as the Lady Buccaneers from Brenham went on a 10-0 run to take a 35-33 lead.

The Highlassies (7-3) went on a 13-0 run of their own to take the lead for good 50-39.

Leading the Highlassies in scoring were Julie Weise 17 and Tammy White with 11 points respectively.

NJCAA WOMEN'S GOLF RANKINGS

1. Midland College, Midland, TX
2. McLennan CC
3. Rend Lake College, Ina, IL
4. Daytona Beach CC, Daytona Beach, FL
5. Tyler JC, Tyler, TX
6. Pima CC, Tucson, AZ
7. John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL
8. Central Lakes, Brainerd, MN
9. Phoenix CC, Phoenix, AZ
10. Iowa Central CC, Fort Dodge, IA
11. Seminole State College, Seminole, OK
12. Cisco J.C., Cisco, TX
13. South Mountain CC, Phoenix, AZ
14. Texas Southmost College, Brownsville, TX
15. Dodge City CC, Dodge City, KS

NJCAA MEN'S GOLF RANKINGS

1. Odessa College, TX
2. New Mexico Military Inst., NM
3. Scottsdale CC., AZ
4. New Mexico JC, NM
5. Faulker State CC., AZ
6. San Jacinto College, TX
7. Wallaseo State CC., AZ
8. Central Alabama CC., AL
9. Brevard CC., FL
10. Utah Valley State CC., UT
11. Midland College, TX
12. McLennan CC., TX

Balance abounds as Highlanders continue to rack up wins

Continued from page 4
 Highlanders (10-2) won their fourth in a row. Cedric Palmer added 20 for MCC, while Victor Hampton had 21 for the Harvesters.

International Sports Federation

For most of the season, Kevin Mitchell's main job has been to

feed the posts. But McLennan Community College's sophomore point guard got to satisfy his own appetite Thursday night.

Mitchell hit three three-pointers and scored 14 points as the Highlanders rolled over the International Sports Federation, 99-81, in a conference tuneup at the Ferrell Center.

"Kevin's done a great job being unselfish and getting the ball inside," MCC coach Ray Farrell

said. "But today we tried to run some set plays and get him some more shots, because he's been giving it up to Ced (Cedric Palmer) and Rod (Roderick Nealy) a lot inside. We were trying to get Kevin more involved and Micah (Mack) shooting the ball a little more."

The game was delayed by 20 minutes when the Dallas-based sports ministry team was late arriving because of traffic.

But it didn't seem to bother Mitchell. He hit a three-pointer and three free throws in the first 2 1/2 minutes to get the Highlanders' offense on track early.

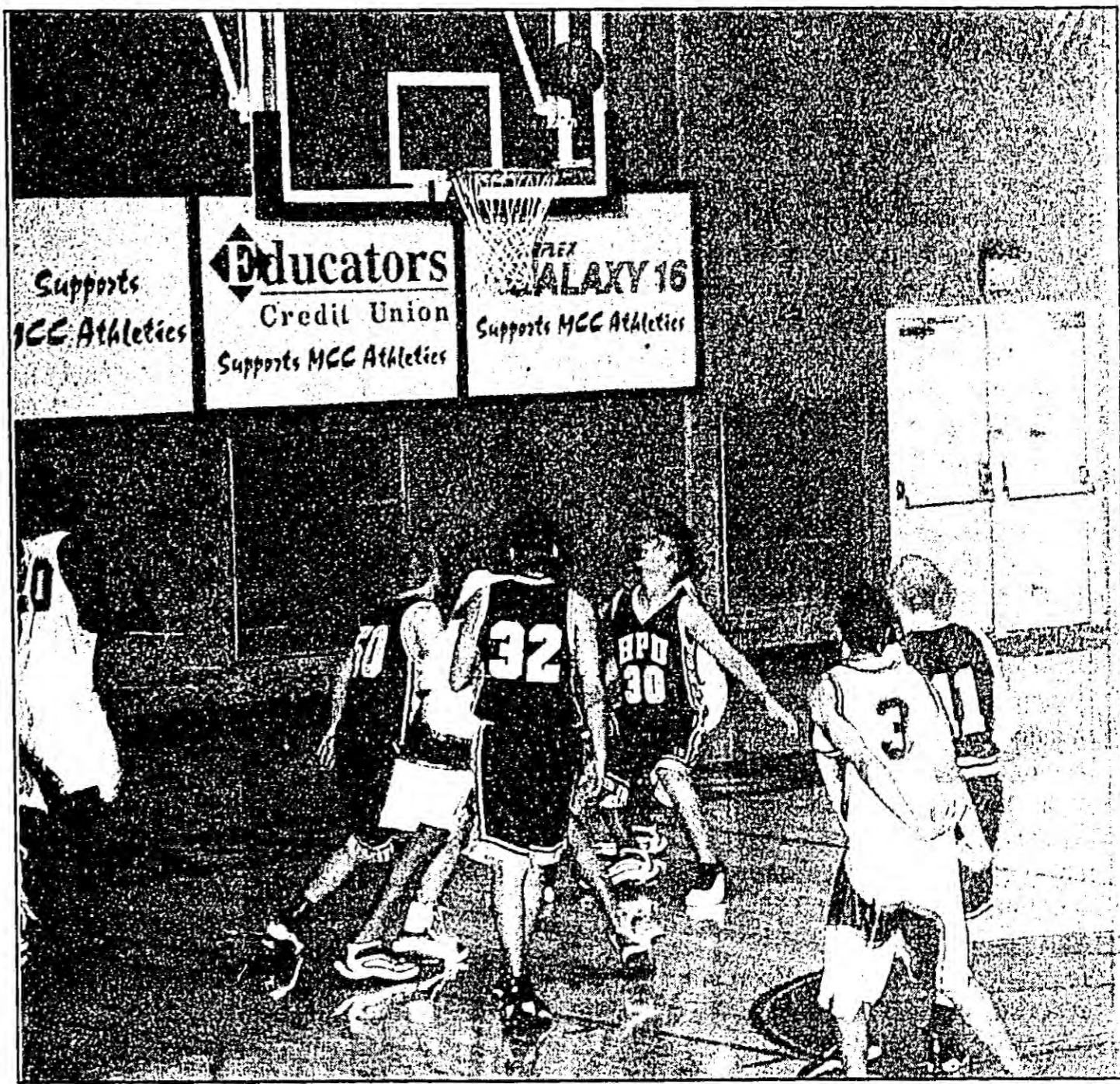
Former Angelo State guard Chris Connolly hit a pair of three-pointers as ISF kept pace for the first 7 1/2 minutes, trailing just 21-17. But MCC had a 10-0 run and outscored ISF, 26-9, over the next five minutes to take a commanding 47-26 lead.

That run was keyed by the Highlanders' deep bench, as Mike Jones scored seven points and freshman guard Don Hooks hit two three-pointers to give MCC a little breathing room.

Twelve of the 13 players who saw action scored for the Highlanders, including Palmer with 15, Jones with 13 and Hooks with 10.

"We wanted to give everybody a chance," Farrell said. "The only problem in a game like this is you see guys who don't play as much shooting and doing some things that they're not used to doing."

ISF was able to close the gap to 54-39 by intermission and just



Digital image by Andrea Garcia

Hitting the long range jumper is guard Kevin Mitchell, who chipped in 14 points, and hit three 3-pointers en route to a 128-72 victory Nov 28 at the Highlands.

never went away in the second half, when the Highlanders' biggest lead was 19. Former Texas A&M-Commerce forward Jay York led the team with 20, while Connolly had 18, Liberty's Larry Jackson chipped in with 11 and SMU-ex Josh Ihde had 10 as four of the seven players scored in double figures.

"Unfortunately, guys see it as

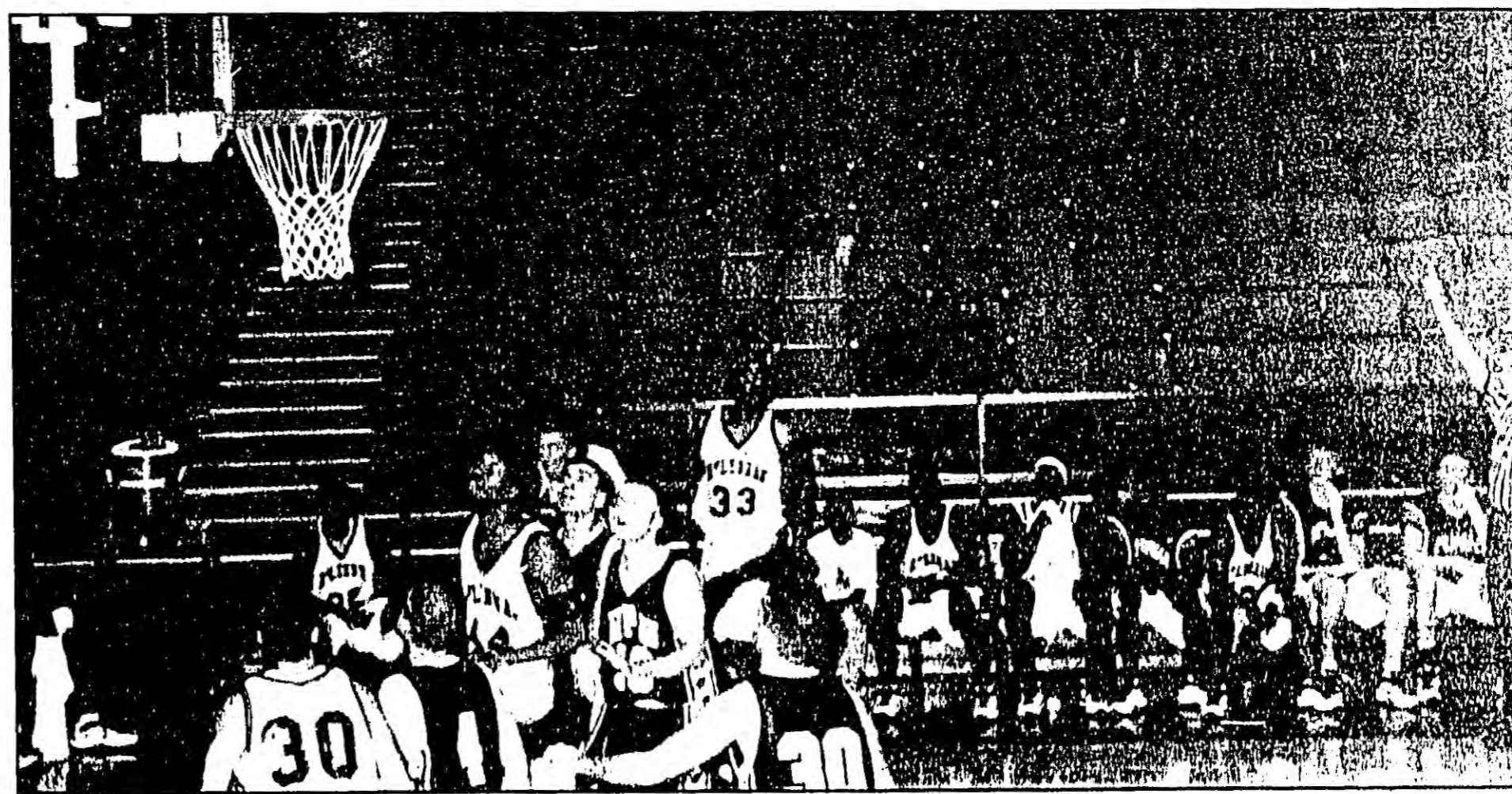
an exhibition-type game since they're not a college team," Farrell said. "And guys start going one-on-one rather than playing our game. But I was pretty happy with the start of the second half. We just ran plays, and everybody was knocking jumpers down. So from that standpoint, it was good."

With Alfred Sanchez nailing a

three-pointer and Hooks going coast to coast for a layup with 8.8 seconds left, the Highlanders had a chance to score over the century mark for the second straight game. But the Waco freshman connection couldn't convert because guard Jason Kemp from Waco High missed a slam dunk at the buzzer after receiving a pass from La Vega's Hooks.

MCC BASEBALL - 2001 SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT
SITE	TIME	
SAT.	FEB. 3	ANGELINA
ANGELINA	1:00(2-7s)	
WED.	FEB. 7	PANOLA
PANOLA	1:00(2-7s)	
TH,FR,SAT	FEB 8,9,10	HILL TOURNAMENT
HILL	TBA	
TUES.	FEB. 13	NATIONAL CHRISTIAN
MCC	1:00(1-9)	
SAT.	FEB 17	HOWARD
MCC	12:00(2-7)	
WED.	FEB. 21	BLINN
MCC	1:00(2-7s)	
SAT.	FEB. 24	PANOLA
MCC	12:00-(7&9)	
WED.	FEB. 28	*TEMPLE
TEMPLE	12:00-(7&9)	
FRI.	MAR. 2	ANGELINA
MCC	1:00-(1-9)	
SAT.	MAR. 3	*BROOKHAVEN
MCC	12:00-(7&9)	
WED.	MAR. 7	*GRAYSON
MCC	12:00-(7&9)	
SAT.	MAR. 10	*RANGER
MCC	12:00-(7&9)	
WED.	MAR. 14	*COLLIN COUNTY
MCC	12:00-(7&9)	
SAT.	MAR. 17	*HILL
HILLSBORO	12:00-(7&9)	
MON.	MAR. 19	BLINN
BRENHAM	6:00(1-9)	
WED.	MAR. 21	*VERNON
VERNON	12:00-(7&9)	
SAT.	MAR. 24	*NORTH CENTRAL
MCC	12:00(7&9)	
TUES.	MAR. 27	UMHB-JV
MCC	1:00(2-7s)	
SAT.	MAR. 31	*TEMPLE
MCC	1:00(7&9)	
WED.	APR. 4	*BROOKHAVEN
DALLAS	1:00(7&9)	
SAT.	APR. 7	*GRAYSON
DENISON	1:00(7&9)	
MON.	APR. 9	BLINN
BRENHAM	6:00(1-9)	
WED.	APR. 11	*RANGER
RANGER	1:00(7&9)	
MON.	APR. 16	EASTFIELD
MCC	1:00(1-9)	
WED.	APR. 18	*COLLIN COUNTY
PLANO	1:00(7&9)	
SAT.	APR. 21	*HILL
MCC	1:00(7&9)	
WED.	APR. 25	*VERNON
MCC	1:00(7&9)	
SAT.	APR. 28	*NORTH CENTRAL
GAINSVILLE	1:00(7&9)	
*CONFERENCE GAMES		



Highland Herald Sports Staff predictions were chosen from Big 12 bowl game matchups and NFL games with possible playoff implications

1 Oklahoma (12-0) vs. 3 Fla. St. (11-1)	Oklahoma
2 Miami (10-1) vs. 7 Florida (10-2)	Miami
4 Washington (10-1) vs. 14 Purdue (8-3)	Washington
5 Va. Tech (10-1) vs. 13 Clemson (9-2)	Virginia Tech
6 Ore. St. (10-1) vs. 10 Notre Dame (9-2)	Oregon State
8 Nebraska (9-2) vs. 19 N'western (8-3)	Nebraska
9 Kan. St. (10-3) vs. 21 Tennessee (8-3)	Kansas State
11 Oregon (9-2) vs. 12 Texas (9-2)	Oregon
15 Michigan (8-3) vs. 20 Auburn (9-3)	Michigan
16 TCU (10-1) vs. Southern Miss. (7-4)	Texas Christian
17 Ga. Tech (9-2) vs. LSU (7-4)	Georgia Tech
Texas A&M (7-4) vs. Miss. St. (7-4)	Mississippi State
Texas Tech (7-5) vs. R. Carolina (7-4)	Texas Tech
Washington (7-6) at Dallas (4-9)	Washington
Tampa Bay (8-5) at Miami (10-3)	Tampa Bay
Minnesota (11-2) at St. Louis (8-5)	Minnesota
New York Jets (9-4) at Oakland (10-3)	Oakland

Aaron Smith
 Sports Editor
 Season record (11-6)



Cedric Iglehart
 Editor-in-Chief
 Season record (12-5)



Clay Zachery
 Sports Writer
 Season record (11-6)



Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Florida State
Miami	Miami	Miami
Washington	Washington	Washington
Clemson	Clemson	Virginia Tech
Oregon State	Oregon State	Notre Dame
Northwestern	Northwestern	Nebraska
Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State
Oregon	Oregon	Texas
Auburn	Auburn	Michigan
Texas Christian	Texas Christian	Texas Christian
Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Louisiana State University
Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M
Texas Tech	Texas Tech	East Carolina
Washington	Washington	Dallas
Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay
Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota
Oakland	Oakland	Oakland

The newest gadgets are great gifts for family

Jana M. Vaculik
Staff Writer

Palm IIIc costs \$330 and features a color display and rechargeable batteries.

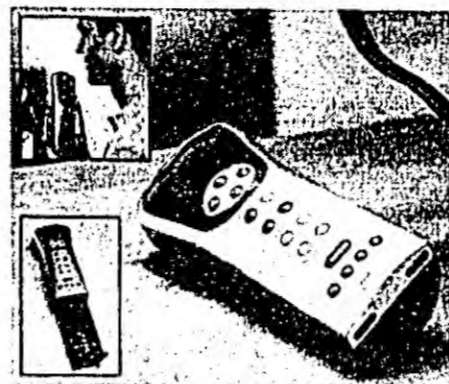


Another palm computer organizer is the Palm IIIxe and is similar to the Palm IIIc. Although it does not offer color, it has the same amount of memory capability and costs

about \$250. Twenty years worth of appointments, 24,000 addresses, 6,000 to do items and internet hook up are offered in the Palm VIIx Handheld computer. It is a bit pricey at \$500, but with all that memory it might be worth the cost. All palm computers range in price from \$100 to \$500 and are available at most electronic stores.



Walkie talkies have come a long way from past years. The new generation of these handheld toys are very high tech and sophisticated. The Motorola FR-50 comes in a two pack, has 14 channels and costs \$70. The Audiovox FR-214C camouflage looks like it comes straight out of a Schwarzenegger movie. It has 14 channels with a two mile radius and the price is \$180 each.



A Pair of Audiovox FR-230-2s cost \$40 and they have a 30-hour battery life with a two-mile range.

A voice-activated remote is perfect for those who never want to leave the comforts of the couch. The remote enables them to surf from the TV, VCR, CD player and cable without touching a single



button and for \$50. Some students are prohibited from having pets due to apartment regulations, but a voice activated Tekno Puppy works just as well as the real thing. This puppy is very high tech but low maintenance

because it never needs to be fed or let out. \$30-\$40 JC Penny's



and Toys R Us are some of the stores selling the Tekno Puppy.

A Casio watch with a digital camera is the perfect gift for any spy wannabe. The \$200 watch can store up to 100 images with memos, has five alarms, a timer, stopwatch and even tells time.

For those who can't wait to see



sure you have the right shot. It is USB compatible with digital zoom and optical zoom. The price is from \$680 to \$800. DVD movies have become the latest fashion to have in home entertainment but now you can take one with you anywhere. A portable DVD player is perfect for a long trip or just in an apartment. The Panasonic DVD-L50 has built in speakers, built in recharger function, wide-screen monitor with 280,000 pixels for amazing detail. Advanced virtual sound creates a movie theater atmosphere. The player ranges in price from \$700 to \$970.

that perfect picture, there is hope. The Olympus C-2-11 Zoom digital printing camera allows you to actually print photos on the spot after viewing them to make



competition.

"Rosa competed on the graduate level, which is amazing, considering the fact that the women on that level have been training for five or six years, and she's only been training for about two," Wachsmann said.

Even though the quartet achieved unparalleled success for a two-year college in a competition of this nature, they all give the credit to their vocal instructors Uhl and Karen Albrecht. "We've got great teachers," Roberts said. Kelly concurred, saying, "All of the credit goes to them."

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Music

Continued from Page 1.

"In my division there were 113 other entries I competed against and 56 made it to the semis," Wachsmann said. "Of those in the semis, only five advanced to the finals."

These junior college students were up against stiff opposition including entries from Baylor University, Texas Tech University and the highly regarded University of North Texas School of Music.

"Considering the fact that we

had four advance and one to make the finals, it's kinda like we put MCC on the map so to speak," Roberts said

Everyone who enters competes in the preliminary round. The semifinalists are then selected for achieving an average score of 90 or better.

Kelly was not only a semifinalist, but he managed to finish third in the freshmen men's finals. His award-winning performances included an aria from Handel's "Messiah".

Tulyaganova was the only MCC student who competed in the master's women level of the

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ANNUAL STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

FEBRUARY 8 THRU MARCH 1, 2001

Specifications: Any student currently enrolled at McLennan Community College may enter up to three works in any media. Entries must be completed within the past two years and be ready to hang or install. Any special installation requirements are the responsibility of the entrant. Works previously exhibited in competition at MCC are not eligible. Works may be for sale.

Awards: Entries selected by the Juror will exhibited in the Visual Arts Gallery from February 8 - March 1, 2000. \$200.00 will be awarded at the discretion of the Juror.

Juror: Robbie Barber is assistant professor of art at Baylor University, where he teaches sculpture and three dimensional design. He received his BFA degree from East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina and his MFA degree from the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona.

Mr. Barber has gained notoriety as a sculptor working in a variety of media, and is the recipient of numerous awards. These include a North Carolina Arts Council Fellowship and a Southern Arts Federation/NIAA Fellowship in sculpture.

A partial list of his solo exhibitions includes the McAllen International Museum in McAllen, the Grace Museum in Abilene, and Gallery 210 at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis.

Group exhibitions include the Buffalo Bayou Artpark in Houston, Greenhill Center for North Carolina Art in

Greensboro, Arizona Museum for Youth in Tempe, and Socrates Sculpture Park in Long Island City, New York.

Mr. Barber has been teaching art since 1993 and has presented workshops and lectures at universities, colleges, and museums nationally.

Calendar: Deliver entries on January 23, between 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to the Visual Arts Building, CSC-F Room 139, 108 or 134. Entries may not be received after noon, January 25. Reclaim unselected entries February 15 and selected entries March 12, between 10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. in the CSC-F Room 139, 108 or 134. Notification of jury results will be posted February 8, in the Visual Arts Gallery, CSC-F Room 103.

Liability: All reasonable care will be given to the work in the custody of the MCC Art Department; however, entries submitted are done so at the entrant's own risk. McLennan Community College cannot assume responsibility for damage, loss or reproduction of any work preceding, during or after the exhibition. Unless notified otherwise in writing, any entry may be reproduced or photographed for publicity or education purposes.

Agreement: Submission of an entry to this exhibition constitutes an agreement on the part of the entrant to the above conditions.

MASTER FORM 2001 Student Art Exhibition | McLennan Community College | PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 Social Security Number _____

List information for each work submitted. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

Title	Media	Date Year completed	Size	Price
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

NOTES: All reasonable care will be given to the work in the custody of the MCC Art Department; however, works submitted are done so at the entrant's own risk. MCC cannot assume responsibility for damage, loss or reproduction of any work preceding, during or after this exhibition. Unless notified otherwise in writing, any entry may be reproduced or photographed for publicity or education purposes. Submission of an entry to this exhibition constitutes an agreement on the part of the entrant to the above conditions.

Entry forms are available in the Visual Arts Building CSC-F, Room 110, 112, 109 or 108.

Two entry forms should be completed for each work entered. Both forms should be attached to the back of each work, but one form should extend from the back enough to be read from the front. Cut along dotted lines. Complete one master form and submit it to the art department.

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 McLennan Community College
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Name _____
 Title _____
 Media _____
 Date (year completed) _____
 Size _____
 Price _____

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 Media _____
 Date (year completed) _____
 Size _____
 Price _____



entertainment



Mythical movements

'Medea' dances with death, revenge and a woman scorned

Jonmichael Swetnam
Staff Writer

Jason, the adventurer, warrior, hero, and glorious golden-boy of the Greeks, has just completed his quest for the magical Golden Fleece.

During his perilous journey, he happened to have the good fortune to meet a cunning lass named Medea. This charming and clever princess fell head over heels for our fearless hero. At least, she fell just enough to kill her father, slaughter her brother, forswear her crown, abandon her home, disown her family, and flee to Greece with her newfound love (after saving his life a few times, of course). In Greece, they were quickly wed, for Jason had promised to marry Medea if she saved his life from her father's army.

The marriage seemed like a happy one.

Until it got old.

Yes, after the novelty of sleeping with the same woman for more than two weeks wore off, Jason started casting his eye about for another bride. His eye fell on the lovely and talented Glauce, daughter of King



A dancing chorus provides an unusual aspect of MCC Theater Department's "Medea." The dance conveys the emotion onstage much more effectively than mere spoken words.

Creon. Jason was torn between loyalty to faithful and clever Medea or the feisty, buxom, wealthy Princess Glauce.

As usual, virtue hardly put up a struggle.

Jason dropped his dearly-wed like a sack of concrete. Medea was understandably hacked-off at this and began to get even. Her plot was grisly to say the least. She slaughtered her own children, and

poisoned Glauce and Creon before fleeing to safety in Athens.

Your typical tragedy: violence, rage, sorrow, betrayal, deceit, maliciousness and other hallmarks of civilization.

The play had some interesting features.

There is the clever use of a trio of alter-egos. These serve two functions. First, they represent the various stages of the characters' lives. Second,

they illustrate the personalities of the characters.

For example, the young Medea (played by Raina Krause) represents Medea's detached cunning. The youngest Medea (Kelsea Main) portrays the innocent love for Jason. Medea (Sarah Beth O'Donnell) often converses with her youthful selves as she plots revenge. The alter egos often step in and speak for her, assuming her cunning, innocent or wise nature according to the situation at hand. The alter egos alternately show Medea's struggle with her conscience and her memories or hopes.

Then there is the use of a dancing chorus which provides an unusual aspect of the play. The dance conveys the emotion onstage much more effectively than mere spoken words.

The play itself was well done. Aside from some occasional stiffness, which may have been intentional, it was very enjoyable and well-executed.

The soceresses (Claire McPherson, Crystal Dabbs) did a good job of appearing mysterious, while Creon (Joshua Graves) was suitably imperious.

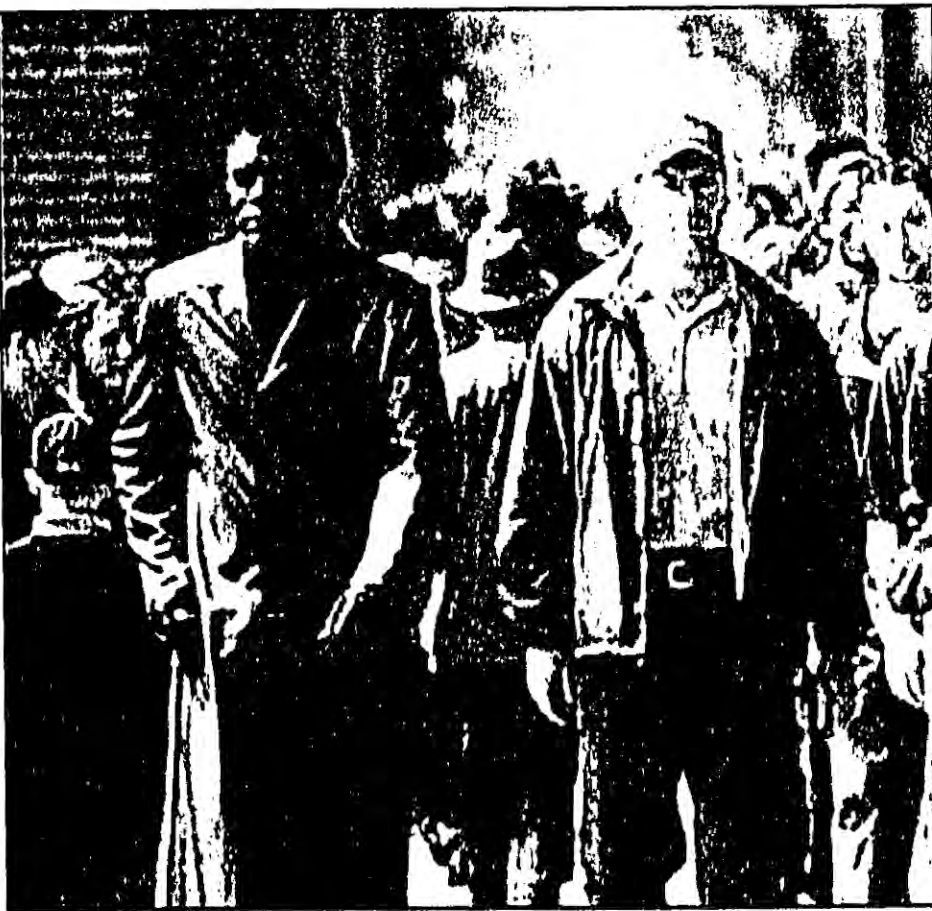
'Medea' was under the direction of Jerry MacLaughlin.

Exam Schedule

Day Schedule	Exam Day	Exam Time
Classes		
Mon.-Wed.-Fri. Classes		
6:55-7:50 a.m.	Mon., Dec. 11	6:55-7:50 a.m.*
	Wed., Dec. 13	
8-8:55 a.m.	Mon., Dec. 11	8-10 a.m.
9:10-10:05 a.m.	Wed., Dec. 13	8-10 a.m.
10:20-11:15 a.m.	Wed., Dec. 13	10:20-12:20 p.m.
11:30 a.m.-1:25 p.m.	Mon., Dec. 11	11:30am-1:30pm
12:40-2 p.m.	Wed., Dec. 13	1:30-3:30 p.m.
2:15-3:35 p.m.	Mon., Dec. 11	2:15-4:15 p.m.
3:50-5:10 p.m.	Wed., Dec. 13	3:50-5:50 p.m.
Tues.-Thur. Classes		
8-9:20 a.m.	Thur., Dec. 14	8-10 a.m.
9:35-10:55 a.m.	Tues., Dec. 12	9:35-11:35 a.m.
11:10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Thur., Dec. 14	11:10am-1:10pm
12:45-2:05 p.m.	Tues., Dec. 12	12:45-2:45 p.m.
2:20-3:40 p.m.	Thur., Dec. 14	2:20-4:20 p.m.
3:55-5:15 p.m.	Tues., Dec. 12	3:55-5:55 p.m.
Evening Schedule		
6-7:20 p.m.	MW Mon., Dec. 11	6-8 p.m.
7:35-8:55 p.m.	MW Wed., Dec. 13	7:35-9:35 p.m.
6-7:20 p.m.	TTh Tues., Dec. 12	6-8 p.m.
7:35-8:55 p.m.	TTh Thur., Dec. 14	7:35-9:35 p.m.
6-9 p.m.	M Mon., Dec. 11	6-8 p.m.
6-9 p.m.	T Tues., Dec. 12	6-8 p.m.
6-9 p.m.	W Wed., Dec. 13	6-8 p.m.
6-9 p.m.	Th Thur., Dec. 14	6-8 p.m.

Saturday Classes Exams for Saturday classes will be given at regular class time on Dec. 9. **Off-campus classes** exams will be arranged by your instructor, but not given before Dec 9. **Classes meeting between 5 and 5:55 p.m.** will hold final exams at regular class time between Dec. 11-14, at the discretion of the instructor. See page 3 for Summer I and II final exam dates.

'Unbreakable' breaks 'Sense'



Samuel L. Jackson and Bruce Willis explore a cartoon world that isn't exactly Dr. Seuss in the dark, understated 'Unbreakable' running through this week at area cinemas.

Dylan Newhouse
Copy Editor

'Unbreakable' is an understated, slow-moving comic book of a movie.

In other words, it is box-office poison.

I saw the film on opening weekend, thought it was amazing, and pegged it as a huge financial bomb. To my surprise, 'Unbreakable' scored \$47.2 million, second only to the mediocre marketing-juggernaut 'The Grinch.' My faith in the American movie-going public is up, thanks to this movie.

'Unbreakable,' is writer/director M. Night Shyamalan's follow-up to 'The Sixth Sense.' I am one of the few souls fortunate enough to have not seen the latter before the

former.

'Unbreakable' deserves to be seen outside of the daunting shadow of its predecessor. Almost every review that I've skimmed has just compared and contrasted the two films.

There is enough depth and subtext to the picture to warrant a thesis, but in the limited space I've been allotted, I'm going to review a couple of elements that make 'Unbreakable' a great movie.

First and foremost, Samuel L. Jackson gives one of the most nuanced and multi-layered performances in his long career. His 'Mr. Glass' simultaneously functions as a neurotic comic book fanatic, an earnest seeker of truth, and an evil genius.

Bruce Willis delivers a strong, deliberately one-note

character as 'David Dunne.'

This may well be his most engaging film role; that of a security-guard family man who also happens to be a superhuman discovering the mythic call to heroism. Robin Wright Penn and Spencer T. Clark perfect as Willis's wife and son.

Shyamalan directs his cast to act naturally, and give light to the subtler emotions found in his smartly-written dialogue. This creates a sense of realism that serves to keep the comic-book plot earthbound. This acting style makes a scene in which Willis bench-presses several-hundred pounds, to the delight of his wide-eyed son, awe-inspiring instead of laugh-inducing.

M. Night Shyamalan's genius directorial approach is what elevates this picture from good to great.

If it sounds like I'm gushing about this flick, I am. 'Unbreakable' is one of those films requiring dozens of viewings, each revealing a little more insight into its numerous themes.

If you dig cool movies with good stories, you'll like it.

If you are a film fan who likes experimental movies that push the boundaries of what kind of contents can be applied to the medium, you'll love it.

If you are a comic-book fanboy, who just wants to see Bruce Willis put on a costume and use lots of special-effect laden powers, you'll dislike it.

If you like movies such as 'The Grinch', you'll hate it. I loved it.

'Snowflakes' spotted at Jingle Bell Run



Santa (David Burgett, a MCC computer instructor) makes sure that he is warmed up before starting the 3.1 mile race benefiting the Arthritis Foundation while Nicholas Tejedo (below) makes sure he is warm with plenty of blankets and hot chocolate.

Michelle Gold
Managing Editor

A collaboration of MCC faculty came together for a good cause on Dec. 2.

Despite freezing temperatures, the MCC "Flakes" donned costumes resembling snow flakes and tennis shoes for the Jingle Bell 5K/1K Run. The proceeds go to the American Arthritis Foundation.

This is the second year that MCC entered in the fund-raising race.

Last year, the MCC team pulled through the race dressed as reindeer and won the prize for Best Corporate Costume for the second year. They kept that title this year.

The "Flakes" were David Burgett, Joann Woods, Beverly Roberts, Diane Hampel, Alice Myers, Becky Griffin, Debby Hewitt and Maggie Harbough.

