

Highland Herald

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MCC offers students helping hand

Michelle A. Williams
Staff writer

The Caring Closet is open to all students in need here at McLennan Community College, but it is in need of items to replenish their supplies.

The Caring Closet is a food/clothing/toys and essential items area on the MCC campus. The students at MCC may have need of these items. The Closet is open year-round.

"The caring closet was established last March as a result of the Phi Theta Kappa Can Food and Toy Drive," Phi Theta Kappa president Angela Ragan said.

"After helping so many MCC students at Christmas time last year we became aware of the year-round need of so many students on campus that we thought it would be a wonderful thing to be able to help all year instead of just at the holidays," Ragan said.

"Students use the caring closet for many different and varied reasons. It is open to everyone in need. If a person is hungry we want to take that hunger away. No student can study if they are hungry or they are worried about their children being hungry. We also try to keep in stock things that can be eaten for lunch. This closet was put together in mind to help those in need. Anyone! Not just the people who can prove on paper they need it. It is hard enough to ask for help, we do not want to hinder them by asking a lot of questions, we just want to help," she said.

According to the Counselor's Office, between 5-10 people a week use the closet.

"We try to keep toiletries, all canned food, especially soups, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, baby food, dry cereals, diapers, and small toys, soap, both dish and laundry. Anything that you use on a daily basis is needed for the closet, but toiletries



Digital Images by Angie Moya

Angela Ragan and Maria Gonzalez, both officers in Phi Theta Kappa seek donations for the campus' Caring Closet located in Career Development.

are one of our biggest needs," Ragan said.

In order to receive items from the Closet a student goes to the Counselor's office, which handles the giving out of food and clothing. The student's identity is kept confidential. The only person who knows is the counselor who goes into the closet with them. No names are taken down.

People can donate items year-round.

Money and coupons also can be donated to the closet. They are used for buying more food and other items donated to the closet.

The money can be given to Alesha Vardeman or Angela Ragan.

"I have asked at the Inter-Club

Council that each organization pick a month to bring in donations. Last month, September, was the respiratory care club, Ro Kappa Pi's, month. We did not have anyone signed-up for October. All MCC students in need can benefit from the closet. Just ask," Ragan said.

"The caring closet allows students to help each other out. We all know what it feels like to be in a tight situation, and having somewhere to go is a step in the right direction. I would encourage all students to bring supplies or canned goods. There would be an excellent opportunity in November during our PTK food/toy/book drive. Those that we help today could be the ones that help us

tomorrow," Maria Gonzales, Vice President of Service-PTK said.

"We have paperwork for Caritas to help us but they require us to give information and since the caring closet is confidential, we do not ask for any kind of information like that," said Ragan.

The annual Food Drive is also an upcoming event for October 31 and next month in conjunction with the Phi Theta Kappa food/book/toy drive.

The food drive consists of boxes where faculty, staff and students can place items located in every building on campus.

The boxes will be emptied daily and the articles put in the caring

closet.

There is no limit to the items being purchased in the caring closet or the food drive. Clients can get all the items they need.

Any monetary donations would need to be given to either Vardeman or Ragan.

Monetary donations will be used to purchase perishable items and any items needed to fill out the boxes.

"With the donations we receive we put together food boxes for the students in need on our campus.

In these boxes we try to include toys and items for the children in these families," Ragan said.

"Last year we were truly blessed and everyone gave generously."

See "Helping hand" Page 2

PTK family grows

Alyson Moulton
Staff Writer

Phi Theta Kappa's 2001 inductees were called "brilliant scholars-in-the-making" by Dr. Orlando Bama, Professor of Government, the keynote speaker for the international honor society's fall ceremonies for new members on Oct. 3.

Bama began by thanking everyone for the honor and opportunity to speak, but also left a question he said should linger in the minds of the inductees:

"What must you do to better prepare yourselves for leadership in the global village?"

This year's program was a special program. Joliet Community College was the first to have the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. Every year it is tradition to have a candle lighting ceremony but there was a different meaning to the ceremony this year.

At the annual regional meeting MCC received the Joliet Community College candle to use in their candle lighting ceremony.

This is also MCC's Phi Theta Kappa's 100th anniversary. A rose-giving ceremony was also added this year.

A record breaking number of inductees were attending this year.

Angela Ragan, Chapter President, said she believes that one reason the turnout was so big this year was that Phi Theta Kappa started sending their letters out three months beforehand. Ragan said she also made sure that students who had already qualified received a letter, adding that there were many practices and orientations to help recruiting.

"It's wonderful," Ragan said.

"I think Phi Theta Kappa will open up new doors for me. I'm looking forward to getting to know new people and getting more involved. I'm also excited about the opportunities for scholarship and knowledge that will help me in the future," Amber Harrison, a new inductee, said.

Phi Theta Kappa members must maintain good grade point averages and stay active in Phi Theta Kappa events.

"As I glance in the rear-view mirror of my life and see the road I traveled to reach this point, being. See PTK Page 2

International view

Exchange students find some surprises coming to America

Sung W. Hwang
Staff Writer

As time goes by, lots of international students are coming to America.

In most cases, American students don't know what foreign students think of American culture.

I went to Baylor ESLI (English as Second Language International) to survey how international students think American culture.

Even though I went there for the convenience of contacting many international students at the same time, I was unable to meet any South Americans or Europeans. However, at least, we all are able to know some cultural differences between Americans and Asians with this result: I met three Chinese, three Japanese, eight Korean, and five Taiwanese students at Baylor students.

One of the differences between Asian and American cultures is food.

Many students said they thought Americans mostly ate fast food. In fact, an overwhelming ten out of nineteen students said they thought of the hamburger as the traditional American food, followed by steak and fried chicken.

Also, most students said they found American food less enjoyable than food from their homeland. Most people said that hamburgers are their favorite American food. However, many students pointed out most American foods such as steak are too greasy, high caloric, and salty. Additionally, they said they thought American people love sweet tasting foods.

When asked what American res-

taurant is most famous back home, 12 out of 19 students said McDonalds was well known, while chains like Burger King and Pizza Hut were less popular.

It seems the hamburger is a medium of American culture to Asian countries. However, the reason many Asian students don't like American food seems to result from their own traditional food, such as steamed rice and soup that is not greasy.

Students are divided on their opinion of living in Waco.

Eight of 19 students said they didn't enjoy Waco too much, while six said they found it okay. Three students said they liked it very much, while two students said living in Waco was terrible. Some students answered Waco is a good place to study, with its peaceful mood, but others complained there is nothing special to experience, besides constantly changing weather.

What do students do during their holiday or weekend for entertainment? Watching movies, studying and traveling are common distractions. Many students said they enjoy going to the major cities for fun.

"We don't have lots of opportunities to have a party in a friend's house because I live with my parents," Kwang W. Lee, a Korean student, said.

"American party is rather formal than that of my country, and most guys in my country drink a lot," Korean student Jin C. Hong said.

Basically, the entertainment style of Asian international students is not different from Americans' but most Asian international students said they haven't experienced an American for-

mal party, like "prom."

On the other hand, MTV has made them familiar with various American popular musicians and diverse American songs. Britney Spears and the Backstreet Boys are popular, but other artists are liked by the students as well.

The motivations for coming to America are pretty uniform among international students.

Getting a degree and learning English are the top reasons for International students coming to America.

Out of nineteen students, eleven said they are attending American universities to get a degree. No one said they were here to get a job or for travel. Most of the students said they came to Texas for economical reasons. Some said they are here for the learning environment, while others said they are here because it is safe. A few also said they came to Texas because there is someone they know, such as family members or a friend. Many Asian International students are coming to Texas to get a degree such as BA/BS or MA/MS. They said they are likely to consider several economic factors such as living expenses, and tuition fees in choosing where to go.

A teaching style emphasizing discussion might appeal to many Asian students who come here because they haven't got many chances to do that in their classes back home. Students said factors such as number of students and availability of facilities also matter.

Despite the fact that sixteen of nineteen students said American culture is emulated in their country, students pointed out several differences. See "International" Page 2

In the next issue:

Sung W. Hwang
examines

international students' views on terrorism and the war in Afghanistan.

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Op Ed

Viking's life, the life for me

Jorge Trujillo
Staff Writer

Most people know who I am due to my overwhelming charm and ever-changing hair color, but few know me as a Viking.

But Jorge, you say, Vikings were homeless heathens who moved from place to place living every day like it was their last with a complete disregard for authority and you are nothing like that!

Wake up. I consider myself one of, if not the only, Viking at McLennan Community College. Now, you may ask yourself how one becomes a Viking. Well, all it takes is a duffel bag, a lot of misfortune and a really strong will.

But Jorge, you ask, what does a duffel bag have to do with anything? Apparently you didn't read the 'homeless' part above.

Over summer I received a letter notifying me that MCC was not impressed by my GPA, and I would therefore be placed on financial aid suspension.

But Jorge, you ask, nobody told you to let your grade drop. Isn't that your fault?

Are you going to let me tell the story, or are you going to keep opening your big mouth?

I decided to take responsibility for my actions and literally pay for my mistakes. I figured that a summer of my pay checks would be enough to pay for my next semester of school and housing, and would give me enough time to get my grades up and get back on financial aid.

As the school year approached, I prepared to leave home again by finding an apartment and picking out some classes. Around that time I noticed that my mom, who was recently

unemployed at the time, was a little more stressed than usual. I came to find out that she had gotten into some financial difficulty with the bills and house payment.

But Jorge, you ask, what kind of difficulties did she have and what did you do?

Didn't I ask you to just listen? She had the kind of difficulties you don't write about in a newspaper, thank you very much. And I did what most would have done in my spot. Without any hesitation, I volunteered my bank account to help the best I could.

Around that time I was embarrassed by the fact that I would not be attending MCC for a while. My home town of Killeen is a sand trap; everybody leaves for bigger and better things, but most end up coming back. Everyone took me for one of the first to come back, so I just figured it was my time to return and began job hunting.

Two days before school began I received a message that my old journalism teacher had called and told my mom that he expected to see me in class on the first day. When the first day of school came, I got dressed real

early and used the last of my money to buy a bus ticket to Waco, TX.

But Jorge, you ask, If you weren't planning to attend MCC why would you even bother go through all that trouble over a message from your teacher?

Apparently you've never taken a journalism class at MCC, have you?

Upon arriving in Waco, I got to enjoy the city transit system and took the bus here to MCC. I got dropped off right outside of the CSC building and made it in time to catch the end of the first journalism class.

That day was just totally unexpected. I was ready to hear several things from the journalism teacher except him telling me I now had a partial journalism scholarship and that I should go register. By the end of the day I was registered for all my classes and found a friend to drive me to Killeen to get a duffel bag of clothes.

Upon arriving in Killeen, I told my mom the good news, packed up all my clothes and left for college with no idea of what was to come next. To most people this kind of chaos would be too much, but it suited my person-

ally just fine.

But Jorge, you ask, where were you going to live? Are you a bum?

I don't think that far ahead. Besides, I don't believe that I was meant to stay in Killeen because the doors to Waco were opened for me. Anyway, bum is such an ugly word. I prefer Viking.

So that first night I spent at my sister's boyfriend's apartment. And from there the true chaos started. I have crashed with almost all my friends at least once. I have made some really good friends down here this semester, some I stay with just for that night, others for longer times.

I carry all possessions on me. I live out of a duffel bag. I eat, sleep, shower and iron wherever I stay that night. Up to now, this is how I'm living and will keep living until I find a place of my own.

But Jorge, you ask, doesn't that make you a moocher?

See, there's another ugly word I don't like to use because it implies the worst. I prefer Free-lance Home-maker.

But what is so horrible about my life style at this point? I'm doing everything in my power to stay in college and prove to the powers that be that I have learned and will do what it takes to get back on the right track.

Is this partially my fault, yeah. Okay, entirely!

Did I make a few mistakes? Naturally.

Are there people better off than me? Sure.

Are there people worse off than me? Of course.

Will I ever just give up, stop trying and go back to Killeen, Never!



Reporters have the same rights

Jana M. Vaculik
Editor in Chief

Act."

Basically, it was Griffy's word against Tresner's in this situation. It is a reporter's notes against an interviewee. People complain.

"That is not what I meant to say."

Well, you said what you said, and I am printing what you said.

A part of a reporter's job is gleaned through their work experience on high school and college newspapers. We learn quickly that we need to take accurate notes during an interview. It is a part of the job.

According to the Attorney General's decision, open records laws do not govern college newspapers because the information is collected by students and not by the university.

"The student newspapers are funded by student fee monies...The University is the publisher of the student newspaper but many, if not most, of the daily decisions are made by student editors," Bowden said.

The advisor of *The Patriot* was not a part of the conversation so it was basically a "he said she said." The advisor is there to advise and only talked to if the reporter screws up.

Just because a reporter refuses to hand over recordings or notes does not mean he or she is hiding something. Reporters have the right to have control over their work product.

Reporters make every effort to have accurate information in their stories. Generally they are honest people who work hard for the money. Newspapers are here to inform people. We want to inform our readership.

Always be on guard with the press around, and if you are not sure, tape record the interview. Do put the responsibility on the reporters to get everything right. We are people too and make

On June 19 the Texas Attorney General's office ruled that a student reporter's notes are not public information. I believe it does not matter if the reporter is working for the New York Times or a little known junior college, they do not have to hand over their notes to anyone.

Of course there are exceptions, such as a judge with a subpoena for a trial. Wrong, judges or the police do not even have the right to take any work products of reporters. Some reporters notes may not contain accurate information until further investigations prove otherwise.

The case involves *The Patriot*, the college paper at the University of Texas at Tyler. A reporter, Melissa Tresner, now the editor-in-chief for the Patriot, investigated allegations of election fraud by the student government association. The president of the SGA, Aimee Griffy, claimed Tresner misquoted her and asked to see Tresner's notes and recordings.

According to assistant attorney general Nathan E. Bowden's written decision, the notes are the property of the student instead of the university.

"It appears that the notes and recordings were provided by private students for the student-run newspaper. Even if we assumed that the notes and recordings are collected, assembled or maintained for the university as publisher of the newspaper, it does not appear that the university either owns or has a right of access to this information. Consequently, we conclude that the requested notes and recordings are not "public information" for the purpose of the Act and thus are not subject to required disclosure under the

Walking for Diabetes



Digital Image by Angie Moya

Several captains for the October 20 Walk for Diabetes Arlel Lombard, Dale Price, Kris Kahler look over a flyer.

Courtney Griffin
Staff Writer

Central Texans are getting together in an event to support their fellow Texans, as well as others affected, in the battle against diabetes. This particular event is called the "Walk to Cure Diabetes," which will be held Saturday October 20, 2001 at Indian Spring Park. Check in time will be at 7:30 a.m., and starting time will be 9:00 a.m.

Among the many organizations and families participating is MCC. Various organizations around campus are dedicating their time and ef-

fort to augment the goal of raising the minimum of \$1,000 together.

"This is a situation that affects everyone, and as a community college, I feel that we in particular should help out with this event," Dale Price, president of student government, said.

Price went on to say that pulling representatives from all of the organizations on campus was one possible way that everyone could get involved, as opposed to having a sign up list.

"I encouraged every organization to at least donate money if they are not able to walk Saturday. Everyone can be involved and walking is just

one of the ways that students can participate," Price said.

"Maybe next year the number of students and organizations participating will have increased," Price added.

The organizations, personal goals and captains: Respiratory Therapy: \$25 per person, Andrew Rutledge; Physical Therapy: \$25, Tom Rherson; Student Government: \$700, Kris Kahler and Dale Price; Phi Theta Kappa: \$25 per person, Angela Ragan and Maria Gonzales; Nursing Club, Student Baptist Ministry, Single Parents in Career Development.

"International" Cont. from page 1

"I feel much freedom here, but, at the same time, I should deal with some problems I've never encountered in my country," Paul, a Chinese student, said.

"Living in Texas without your own car is inconvenient because there is just a little public transportation," Kenichi Hisayoshi, a Japanese student, said.

"Of course, communication is a problem," Sang H. Park, a Korean student, said.

"There are very few humans in huge Texas. I don't think here is quite safe," Paula, a Taiwanese student said.

According to international student advisor Michelle Pruett, there are 47 international students on MCC campus.

"Helping hand" Cont from page 1

We had enough to give 14 families a box," Ragan said.

Items most needed are anything from books, toys, non-perishable food items, coupons for food or a grocery card that can be used for perishable food items.

Anyone who would like to donate any of the above items, contact the Counselor's Office on the bottom floor of the Student Center.

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

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

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

Real thing is better

Spend money on real research

Kasia Redden
Staff Writer

What a lovely thought... A whole army of not-really-people to go out and fight our wars for us, or participate in the most dangerous outer space or deep-sea operations...how easy it seems. All we have to do is engineer "people" to do our dirty work for us! It's pure art! Picasso, Rembrandt, and Da Vinci would be so proud. So, of course, would Adolf Hitler, but that is, I suppose, beside the point.

In a 1963 speech in Detroit, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. made one of the most powerful statements that I, personally, have ever heard. He said, "If a man hasn't discovered something that he will die for, he isn't fit to live." This was a statement about his willingness to die for the freedom of his culture. This was a statement about believing in something so strongly that he would be willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to further his cause. National differences aside, isn't that the reason why we started reaching into outer space and under the sea? We believed that there was something there. We hoped against hope to find something, or someone, that we didn't know was there before. It was a dream. That's all it was. But because people were willing to sacrifice, it is a dream that is slowly coming true.

Wars are fought because someone truly believes that what they are fighting for is worth their life. Lt. Col. James Doolittle said in 1942, of his Tokyo Raiders, "There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer." Later, comrades of Doolittle's said that he truly believed that men who were given a choice, and chose to fight, would fight much harder and with much more success than men who are forced to fight.

I guess my main problem with cloning people for the purpose of "doing the dirty work" is one that won't be resolved any time soon. It really falls in with the question of whether clones have souls, morals, consciences, belief systems, or anything that we would consider to be a human set of values. I disagree with it still, whether they do or not. If they do have all of these things, then we are doing nothing more than killing an engineered human, whose only true variance from us is its place of origin? However, if it doesn't, then common sense steers me toward the movie Jurassic Park. No, I don't think that the clones would eat us. I am talking about unpredictability. If we can't predict what people within our own race will do, how can we possibly predict what something that has no conscience or moral values will do.

I'm sure the argument will be made that we can program them, or "breed" them, if you prefer more animalistic terminology, however we like. We can have their "default values", if you please, set any way we wish. Well, that's reassuring... except for one minor detail. I would like to meet the person who comes up with the genes to program these clones. I mean, can I shake the hand of the person who creates the "you are an unstoppable, compassionless killing machine toward everyone but the XXXXXX race, color, sex, age, and/or ethnic origin" gene. Wow, that would be something, wouldn't it? I guess my question is, if we are going to program them to fight wars, how do we make sure that they don't fight wars against us? If they

have no set of values or loyalties, except the task that they are programmed to complete, how will they know the difference between "the good guys" and "the bad guys"?

Have we come so far in science and technology that we would actually spend billions of dollars, and hours of time, just so we could come up with a way NOT to have to do anything? Oh, so these clones could perform all the so-called menial tasks that we are too busy to burden ourselves with. Hmm... If we even know that these menial tasks exist, then there must be someone doing them right now, as we speak. Someone who, perhaps doesn't like the job, but needs it to support his or her very existence. What, do you suppose, we should do with those people? Tell them that the meager tasks they complete each day in order to go on living, are now so unimportant or grotesque to the rest of us that we are going to use clones to do the job from now on?

"Thank you so very much for your loyalty and hard work in completing a job that most people wouldn't dream of having. You are truly one-of-a-kind, oh, umm, well... You WERE one-of-a-kind. As a reward for a job well done, we are replacing you with a clone, and we have a lovely one-finger salute for you as you leave. Please pick up your identity and dignity on the way out. We won't be needing it anymore."

Yes, that's lovely. What a lovely way to use up money that we could be using for disease/ cure research, or eradication of illiteracy, or even helping the homeless and the hungry! What a great idea for increasing the rate of unemployment!

While we are busy programming these clones, let's make sure that they are programmed to never get sick, never reproduce, and not to get too overworked or stressed out. That way, they would never have to take a vacation, or a sick day, or maternity leave. It will be great! Who on Earth would want a human to work for them when they could have a CLONE!!! We could program them not to need food or water, and never to get tired! Then, they could work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and we wouldn't have to pay them a dime! They wouldn't need it for anything. Of course, that means that no one else has money to pay for anything either. Do you suppose that

before our beloved scientists die of dehydration or starvation, they will make clones that are programmed to make more clones?

Yes, I know I am exaggerating, but since we have no idea what to expect from these clones, we cannot say that this scenario is completely impossible. War, although brutal, is one of the most important parts of our development

Jonmichael Swetnam
Staff Writer

Not too long ago, humanity made a startling discovery. We cracked into the secrets of the genetic code. Boundless new fountains of knowledge exploded in front of us, allowing startling advances in the technol-

fills, which double as barracks for the workers to cut down on housing costs, of course. I have absolutely no problem with sending clones to build moon colonies or underwater arcologies or having them labor tirelessly in dank, unsafe factories that don't conform to OSHA standards. Why? Simple.

If we don't GROW people to perform all of these ugly jobs, then somebody else is going to have to, and that somebody might as well be someone besides ME.

If that sounds like the viewpoint of a ruthless, self-serving jerk, congratulations: You win the tin medal for perception. I am indeed an evil little man. How evil? Evil enough to suggest that we breed what is essentially a slave caste. I am not merely suggesting we grow a bunch of worker bees. I am suggesting we grow a mass of worker bees that are controlled by drugs, or propaganda, or genetically inhibited intellect, or soma, or whatever you can find that works. Vodka. Coal oil. Tingle galleries and movies. It doesn't have to be subtle. Just effective. I am suggesting that we rip away the very freedoms that make us human beings. I am suggesting that we do something

Now, on to the benefits of cloning. First off, no more draft. Instead of going down to the recruiter and signing your name up, you just bop down to the cloning office and leave some cells. These cells can just be used to grow all of the military conscripts you need. Your debt to society is paid, and it costs you, at most, some epidermis and a bit of nerve culture. There will be no need to risk your life in some pointless war, nor will you need to labor thanklessly for a boss that never quite seems to give a damn for the fact that you have three kids and an ailing relative to take care of. And a house. And a car or two. And school for the tykes. And bills. And insurance. And all of that fun stuff that makes life worth living.

Now, how many of you would REALLY miss having to go out and slave for a living? How many of you wouldn't like to be able to just sit back and relax and live a reasonably easy life? Oh, there would be work, no doubt of that. How many of us wouldn't like to be able to go out to the movies every night? How many of us would miss all of the grime and the grit and the daily struggles of life? Which of us could honestly say they miss flipping burgers for a bunch of people who don't really give two fips about whether you live or die? Who among us wouldn't like someone else to do our job for us, if only for a little while?

It can be done. All it will cost is a stabbing pain in your conscience. Then again, you can probably get over that, given enough bread and the right circus.

Whether we actually want to pay that price is, as usual, up to us.

Send in the clones

Let the clones do the dirty work



and existence. We have an appreciation for our freedoms, our homes, and our families because we have had to fight for them. If we have clones doing our fighting, then we are nothing more than cowards, willing to give up one of our greatest freedoms as a human race... the freedom to stand up and fight for the things we believe in.

Sometimes I wonder if, in all of the airy, spouted BS about our right to do this or that, we forget what our true freedoms, not just as a nation, but also as a human race, really are. Other members of the animal kingdom defend things that are absolutely vital to their existence: their food, their life, and the lives of their young. We, however, have the freedom and ability to make informed choices about everything in our lives, and whether we want to defend it or not. Are we in such a hurry to have the freedom, or rather, the excuse, to be lazy, that we would throw all of these great freedoms and abilities out the window?

Congratulations... Just when I thought I had reached the limit of my ability to be disgusted by the direction of humanity, something else surfaces and proves me wrong.

ogy required to grow identical clones. As interesting as I find the concept of a field full of sheep that look exactly alike, I am more intrigued by the possibilities raised by cloning. I am especially interested in the idea of cloning humans. Frankly, I like the idea of growing people in triplicate. I think it opens up a lot of possibilities for humanity. I think cloning will eventually make the world safer for humanity.

I have no qualms about growing legions of engineered vat-babies and training them to loot, kill, and ravage before sending them off to support the cause of might, right, and justice in the States' global police action of the month. I have no problem with breeding waves of semi-moronic worker drones to go dredge the trash out of the Hudson river because we finally got sick of wasting away in such filth and foulness. I have no objection regarding the creation of hordes of identical pseudo-humans and making them spend their solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short lives lugging radioactive slag and noxious chemical waste into land-

little red devil perched on your shoulder.

Now, I'm guessing that somebody is pretty upset at what I'm suggesting. I hope a LOT of people are upset; it means we still have a conscience swimming around out there, somewhere. I hope we get absolutely furious that somebody could even suggest condemning a bunch of innocent people (as innocent as any other fetuses, anyway) to a semi-existence punctuated by endless hardship. I hope we deplore the idea of creating our own little brave new world. But, before we get carried away, let's unbend our collective halo, take one giant step off of the moral high-ground, and take a look at the wonderful invention we call Real Life.

Imagine for a moment that we develop the ability to grow an army overnight and we have a government that is ruthless enough to hurl them into the fray with no regard to safety, decency, or morality. The clones will become so much unprocessed gristle, fed into the great meat grinder of war, gulped down and chewed up and spat

from 'PTK' Page 1

"As I glance in the rear-view mirror of my life and see the road I traveled to reach this point, being invited to join and be inducted into Phi Theta Kappa emerges as, perhaps, the brightest point. Attending college had never been one of my goals or aspirations. So, it was with a great deal of pride, yet humility, that I walked across the stage to be recognized for an achievement that, a few short years ago was not only unimaginable, but considered an impossibility." Inductee Bill Meurs said.

Phi Theta Kappa is a two-year college honor society, but member-

ship is considered when applying for university honor societies.

Dama also left with a quote by President Lincoln, which plainly says, the sheep and the wolf are not agreed upon the definition of liberty. "As you get ready for leadership in the global village, are you the sheep, the wolf or the Sheppard? If you are the sheep, you might live in constant fear of someday being eaten by the wolf or even the shepherd; if you are the wolf, you just might go hungry from time to time; and if you choose to be the shepherd... well, GOOD LUCK! Again I congratulate you and thank

you for your kind attention". These inductees became members with the lighting of the candle and the Phi Theta Kappa pledge:

- Andrea Baker
- Sallina Berry
- Sherry Bolton
- Linden L. Boyd
- Leslie Brown
- Martha Morgan Brown
- Raye Cherie Brown
- Heather Nicole Chandler
- Jason B. Chism
- Janice C. Dehm
- Joe Marcus Dominguez
- Alana Kay Duke
- Brenda Susan Dunbar
- Daryl A. Embry
- Brenda Kay Ferguson

- Tamra LaKay Fisher
- Fredrick Allen Gnyles
- Brianna K. Gerik
- Tramelle Gibson
- Marisa Gingerich
- Michelle Dawn Gloor
- Jan Glooring
- Denise Gonzalez
- Nicole Greener
- Julie Griffin
- Christina Renee Guthrie
- Amber Harrison
- Da Hiestand
- Cori Laine Higginson
- Heather Nicole Hillard
- Jeremy Hollifield
- Evelyn Hollingsworth
- Nicole Hoxworth
- Michelle Hunter

- Tamara Jantz
- Elvira Khamidova
- Janice Martin Kroll
- Elizabeth Carmen Loggins
- Cherita S. Lueck
- Angella Kim Mack
- Patrice Teresa MacShute
- Adam Trent Macksey
- Chad P. McAninch
- David McKown
- William Lyle Meurs
- Mark Randall Monthie
- Kim Elliska Moravec
- David W. Morris
- Kathryn Lorraine Moxley
- Milagro Mullet
- Uchechi Eunice Okani
- Mollye Marie Parton
- Kylo G. Pate

- Patrick Rhynes
- Kristian S. Roberts
- Elizabeth Lynne Scamman
- Sandra Shelton
- Jessica Lynn Shook
- Danella Sill
- Helen Dawn Slough
- Justin Slovak
- Jason Scott Slover
- Lindsay Rae Snelling
- Shannon Marie Snider
- Lindsay M. Turner
- Robert Vick
- Emily Wachsmann
- Cindy L. Watson
- Rhendene Weber
- Charlotte White
- Lindsay Willis
- Ashley Marie Young

Laughter is the best medicine, theme of brown bag luncheon

Alyson Moulton
Staff Writer

"Laughter is the Best Medicine" was the theme of the Brown Bag Luncheon on Oct. 12, which is held once a month in the Student Center.

The Wellness Committee of McLennan Community College said it believes in overall wellness and tries to provide quality programs to raise awareness and wellness levels for faculty, staff and students with a goal to improve attendance and morale. To do this, the Committee met this summer and set up ways to get wellness ideas out to students and faculty at MCC.

"One idea was to have Brown Bag Lunches with topics that had to do with wellness including spiritual, mental, and physical aspects," Paulette Williams, Coordinator-Paramedic/EMS-CE said.

"The luncheon was informative and entertaining," Kenneth Harris, EMS Instructor/Assistant Coordinator-Paramedics said.



Digital Image by Angie Moya

Joyce Sims speaks about laughter at the Oct. 12 brown bag luncheon. The next luncheon will about personal protection during the Christmas season.

The first lunch was cancelled due to the Sept. 11 catastrophes. "With Americans still in a state of shock and disbelief we

thought 'Laughter is the Best Medicine' would be what the psyche needed," Williams said. Speaking at the Luncheon

was Joyce Sims, Coordinator-Community Health CE. Sims started out speaking on the leading causes of death in the past and the present. She pointed out that in the early 1900's most deaths had an indisputable cause like Bubonic Plague, Typhoid, and Cholera. Since 1972, deaths like homicide, which make up one-third of the total, and other causes which do not have a definable agent and can mostly be attributed to social problems, have risen.

Throughout the program, handouts were passed out including a "Life's Daily Menu" handout. On one side it described how to have a "terrific" day and the other side listed ways to have a "bad" day. The menu gave "Appetizers" like "Awaken early-Appreciation for life". One of the "entrees" on the menu was "Nourishing Breakfast-A alertness, Energy, Vitality".

Next month, Martin Huse will be discussing Personal Protection, which comes just in time for the Holiday Season with full malls and increasing personal injury due to violence.

Tartan day festival needs Celtic logo

Jana M. Vaculik
Editor-in-Chief

Tartan Day, a Scottish festival celebrating McLennan Community College's heritage needs a logo for advertising and t-shirts.

Tartan Day will be held on April 6 at the Bosque River Stage. Anyone with any experience Scottish music, dance, art, food and vendors.

Mary Darden, Coordinator Community Programs said the logo could be either black or white in color. Entries may be submitted digitally on a disk but the panel needs to have a printed copy for the full effect and meet the committee guidelines.

"We are thinking of using black shirts and posters so possible artists should take that into consideration."

Submit all entries to Mary Darden in Fine Arts office 105. The

deadline for submissions is November 15. The winner will receive \$100, six t-shirts, and free admission to Tartan Day.

"The design should be Scottish, Celtic, and very dramatic," said Darden.



"With MCC's Scottish roots we thought it was appropriate to have a Scottish festival," Darden said. "Currently we are in the planning stages."

Ed Miller and the McLennan Community College Piping Band are scheduled as entertainment.

Admission will be \$5 for adults and \$1 for children with a possible student admission price.

"There will be fun things for children and a student area," Darden said.

Student art relating to the British Isles, though not necessarily Scottish, will be on display Darden said.

What's Happening

Satellite Seminars

On October 23 is the next Phi Theta Kappa Satellite Seminar 6:30 p.m. in the Lecture Hall.

Colligate Organization of Wymyn meeting

The C.O.W. will have their meeting on October 30 at 6 p.m. in LA Room 201. Meetings are every other Tuesday.

Alcohol Awareness Week

Alcohol Awareness Week, October 15-19 will be sponsored by the Student Government Association.

Meet N Greet

The Phi Theta Kappa Meet'n'Greet, will be October 24 at 6 p.m. in the Student Center.

Course Advising Forms

Course advising forms for Spring 2002 will be available October 29.

Pumpkin Carving, Halloween Blood Drive

Pumpkin Carving Contest, 10 a.m.-noon, October 31 in the Student Center. The Phi Theta Kappa Blood Drive will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Financial Aid Deadline

Financial Aid Application deadline for Spring semester is November 1.

Holiday Food Drive

Phi Theta Kappa's annual Food/Toy/Books Drive November 1 through the 30.

Hillcrest Hosts AHA Provider CPR Course

The course will be hosted November 14, 2001 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Room 509 of Julian H. Pace Administration and Education building. \$30 course fee. Call (254) 202-5979 for more information or for reservation.

Hillcrest Offers Flu Vaccination

Flu shots will be offered beginning this month. Special dates and times where the shots will be offered at the cost of \$10. For more information, call the Hillcrest Information Line at (254) 202-1183C.

NTNA officers for 2001-2002

The new Music Teachers National Association officers are: President-Kristian Roberts, Vice-President, Jared Welch, Secretary/Treasurer, Sara Timberlake, Reporter, Gene Olvera.

Respiratory care provides job variety

Treva L. Bowdoin
Staff Writer

The Respiratory Care allied health specialty field offers many opportunities for students interested in health careers, including participation in the Rho Kappa Pi national representative club for RC students.

The respiratory care field covers health care departments such as critical care, advanced life support, adult pediatrics, newborns, diagnostic techniques, sleep studies, and breathing treatments, to name a few.

"The field provides a variety of job choices," George Harvey, Director of Clinical Education for the Respiratory Care Program, said.

"It's a job for life; that pretty much sums it up," he said.

Harvey said that the program is an excellent opportunity at this time, because the job market for RC's is at an all-time low.

The RC program is a 2-year associate of science degree. Students get exposure to hospitals in the first semester, and generally find employment by the second. "If a student needs money for a 4-year university, this is the way to do it," Harvey said.

Salary for RC jobs is a little over forty thousand dollars a year, but by using the program as a

stepping-stone into other occupations, students can make much more.

"Many employers in the medical field have a preference for students with background in respiratory care," student and Rho Kappa Pi member Lori Stein said.

"We really do a lot," student Helen Massey said.

Stein and Massey said that the work they do can be overwhelming, but they really enjoy the program and benefiting from the wide variety of job choices.

The Rho Kappa Pi club has participated in many community projects, such as the Caring Closet held in September. One future project the club plans to participate in is the Health Fair on October 19 in the Highland Gym. They will conduct noninvasive screenings of blood oxygen levels, pulmonary screenings, and test lung volumes for students and faculty. The club will also participate in the Walk to Cure Diabetes on October 11, as well as a food drive. They also plan to submit an entry in the MCC pumpkin carving contest.

Club members may be busy with all of these projects, but they still find time to recognize the staff, physicians, and clinical instructors that help them out with special awards of appreciation and recognition for all their help and support.

Halloween blood drive to replenish local supply

Justin Loosler
Staff Writer

The Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society is planning to host its annual Halloween blood drive from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Oct. 31, and is asking for all MCC students over the age of 18 to give blood to the American Red Cross. A donation center will be located on the second floor of the Student Center.

Phi Chi Chapter President Angela Ragan says the MCC Halloween blood drive has been a Phi Theta Kappa tradition for several years and that its purpose is basically to replenish and build up the blood supply in central Texas.

"The blood donated during the event will benefit people throughout central Texas who are sick, hav-

ing complications after surgery, or who have been injured in accidents.

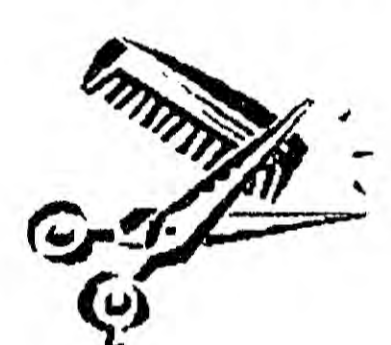
Ragan said that blood supplies are always lower around the holiday season and that giving blood now will help to boost the supply once the need arises.

"Giving blood is the gift of life," Ragan said. "Phi Theta Kappa sponsors many different events on campus. This one, I think, is one of the most important. Giving back to the community that supports the college and the students who attend is very important to me. By giving just a few moments of my time and a very small amount of my blood I can make a difference in another's life, and this makes me happy," she said.

"The Halloween drive is one of three Red Cross blood drives sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa each year.

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Sports

"I didn't even see the horse . . . I was just backing up to make a kick."
— Tim Seder, Dallas Cowboy kicker on being kicked by a horse in pre-game warmups prior to their Monday Night Football game against the Washington Redskins.

Class act's a dying breed

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

On October 7 two of the greatest players of all time left the game of Major League Baseball leaving marks that will never be surpassed or duplicated again.

Both Cal Ripken and Tony Gwynn accomplished something that will probably never be accomplished again. No, they didn't set a homerun record, no they didn't make it to the World Series every year, but they did something that in this day of big bucks and Free Agency is mind boggling. They played their whole career with the same teams.

Their loyalty to their respective clubs is something that is simply amazing. Let's start off with the Iron Man. Cal Ripken's 3,000 hits and 400 homers is enough to make him a Hall of Famer. But it's Ripken's two other feats that will probably never be surpassed; namely, the consecutive games streak of 2,632 straight games (without missing a single practice during that time), and playing his whole 21 year career with the same team. Which I am sad to say will probably never be equaled again in this day of selfishness.

Ripken, was truly dedicated to the game of Baseball, and not even Jose Mesa, who broke his nose in a freak all-star game photo shoot accident could keep Ripken out of the lineup.

Then there is Tony Gwynn, who finished his career amassing over 3,000 hits in career and, despite playing on some bad teams in San Diego, remained loyal to the organization and played all 20 years of his career with the same club.

Gwynn might of been one of the best hitters ever, and what made him so remarkable was not his eye the plate (which was also great)

With players like the Texas Rangers Alex Rodriguez signing a 10-year 252 million dollar deal, it seems highly unlikely that someone will ever come close to accomplishing the same feats as Ripken or Gwynn. The temptation to go with the money is killing any team loyalty in this day and age of Major League Baseball. With the departure of both Gwynn and Ripken the question is constantly asked who will take their place in being a positive rolemodel and ambassador of the game of Baseball. Their are a few potential candidates to replace the class acts as positive rolemodels for the game of Baseball like the New York Yankees Derek Jeter, and the Texas Rangers Alex Rodriguez.

But overall the game is hurting in finding any type of team loyalty.

It seems like with all of this going on players like Cal Ripken and Tony Gwynn are a dying breed, not just in baseball but all sports. Greed and Free Agency have, for all intents and purposes, ruined any kind of team loyalty.

Yankees simply the best

Lacy Witt
Sports Editor

I love the New York Yankees. You either love them or you hate them, and I am on the more positive end of the scale.

I love them, not because they have won more World Series in the last decade than some teams have won in the history of their organization, but because they seem to bring the true spirit of baseball back to the game. They truly are America's team. They can hold a lead, or, as they showed in the last series with the Oakland A's, they can come from behind.

I know what you are saying, "Yeah, sure they're America's team, the best team money can buy." Well, that may be true, but if it's that easy to build the best baseball team in this country then why hasn't everyone else followed their lead? Why haven't the Rangers done it? They spent enough money on Alex Rodriguez to found a small mint. Has it helped them? As most Rangers fans have seen, no.

As my father used to tell me, you can't put all of your eggs in one

basket. You can't invest all of your funding into one individual and expect them to carry a team. It just doesn't work that way, and until Tom Hicks and whoever he appoints as his new general manager realize that, the Rangers are

Maybe Tom Hicks should invest some money on him; that would beat any financial decision that he's made thus far. But I digress... Aside from the business end of the organization, the Yankees just have talent on top of talent piled

with their post-season domination. Winning the games that most teams dream of seems old hat to them. Yes, they're cocky, but wouldn't you be too? I know I would.

Losing the first two games of a best-of-five, on home turf, is not a great idea. In fact, it's never been done in the whole history of five-game series, especially not by a team that actually won the series. But they pulled it off in true Yankee style. David Justice told members of the media after Monday's game, "Now see, YOU all are surprised by what we do. We're not surprised. All we had to do was win three games in a row. We know we've won three games in a row before. So we figured it was possible

to win three games in a row again, and we did."

Sure, it is possible for the Yankees to win three in a row, but against a team that had not even lost TWO games in a row since August, it was a terrific feat. The A's have an exceptional team this year, but the Yankees are phenomenal, and have been for a long time. There's a difference.

The Yankees see no limits for their success, and that could be what has given them success for so long. Whatever the reason, they exude greatness, and whether you love them or hate them, you have to stand and take notice.



going to remain a mediocre to poor organization. The Rangers are just one among many teams who have made financial decisions that were impulsive at best. I'm just picking on them because they are the most widely known in this area, and because it suits me today, so deal with it. I'm not against the Rangers; I'm just stating the facts. Don't kill the messenger.

The bottom line is that A-Rod is trying to earn his keep, but he's a baseball player, not a magician. You know, I heard on the radio the other morning that David Copperfield correctly predicted lottery numbers last week.

into one team. Whether they got it by paying them more or by the glory of winning, the fact of the matter is that they've got it. It's been rumored that Barry Bonds will go to New York next year, if he does, then it is my prediction that the era won't end anytime soon. If you hate the Yankees, turn off your televisions, cancel your newspaper subscriptions, and invest in earplugs because it's going to be a long time before you stop hearing about them.

Most people hate the organization simply because they are weary of seeing the same team win over and over again. Even the Yankees themselves seem bored

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Gettin' jiggy with it

MCC Dance Co. seeks second national title



The MCC Dance Company works hard in preparation for a run at their second straight national title.

The three officers of the MCC Dance Company for 2001-2002 attended UDA collegiate dance camp in San Marcos in July. They won second place for their performance of the fight song in the open division. The Dance Co. Officers also received a superior trophy for receiving all blue ribbons for their efforts during camp and were also asked to apply to teach for UDA next summer. These officers are Captain Marla Blanck, Lt. Rebekah Jones, and Lt. Kristen Nusz.

The entire team of 15 dancers attended NCA collegiate Dance Camp in August.

The team received the first

place trophy for the best style routine in Division II. They also received second place for their performance of the team dance in Division II. Most importantly, the team received a bid to NDA Nationals to be held April 3-7, 2002 in Daytona Beach, Fl. Lt. Rebekah Jones was selected as an All-American Dancer at this camp. This is only the third All-American Dancer that MCC has ever had.

Other members of the MCC Dance Company this year are: Freshmen- Anya Arishon, Randi Cullihan, Meredith Cogbill, Jessica Gosnell, Chayla Harrison, Elizabeth Haught, Carrie King, Amanda Lindsay, Ashley Schnitzlus, Brandi Tidmore. Returning Sophomores

include the three officers mentioned above along with Lanie Arp, Crystal Jones, Nancy Sanchez, and Chelsea Shofner.

The MCC Dance Company's next performance will be October 26 at a pep rally at Texas Christian Academy.

The MCC Dance Company will be holding it's annual Kid's Clinic on Saturday, October 27th. The Dance company invites K-12th grade students, and even college students to attend the Kid's Clinic to be held in the Highlands Gymnasium from 9a.m. to 2:30p.m.

They will be divided into groups that will be taught appropriate dances for their ages.

They will perform these dances at 2:00p.m. for parents, friends, etc. Each dancer will receive a T-shirt and a certificate and will be invited to perform at the basketball game to be held in the Highlands on Saturday, November 3, 2001.

The cost for the clinic is \$25 per person and a registration form must be filled out and signed by a parent or guardian.

The registration form may be received by contacting Sandy Hinton, MCC Dance Co. Director, at 299-8851 or by e-mail at sjh@mcc.cc.tx.us.

Cultures collide in theatre production

Harlan E. Short, Jr.
Staff Writer

In a bar, an old general, a young man, a team of friars, an Inca captive, and a rag-tag group of soldiers all prepare to embark on a doomed voyage for gold.

Francisco Pizarro (Andrew Love),

an orphan-turned-general, persuades this diverse group of men to leave their homeland in the pursuit of gold, but what they get is something altogether different.

After receiving the blessing of the church and picking up Miguel Estete (Arthur Fisher), a representative of the Spanish crown, they all board

ships and sail to Panama where they encounter thick forests, high mountains, and their own fear and greed.

They search the land for months, cutting their way through the jungles and converting the natives they find, without discovering any gold.

During this time, however,

Pizarro is constantly pushing young Martin (Ben Hollandsworth), who volunteers to be his page, that things such as honor, love, and hope have no purpose in the life of a soldier.

After searching for several months, they finally find what they were looking for.

The Inca nation is rich with gold, though the Incas do not think of themselves as wealthy.

And the Spaniards want gold.

When the Incas come forward peacefully in honor of the 'white god,' the Spaniards attack and kill most of them, capturing Atahualpa (Tim Riley), the 'Sun god.' During the following months Fray Vincente De Valverde (Scott Morales) and Fray Marcos de Nizza (Jonathan Alonso) attempt, with Martin translating, to convince Atahualpa that he is not a god and convert him to Christianity. They have no luck.

Then Pizarro and Atahualpa make a deal.

If the Spanish let him go he will fill the room with gold in three days.

As his subjects begin to fill the room, Atahualpa befriends the emotionally deteriorating general and becomes interested in the ways of the Spanish, and what is causing the general's breakdown.

After the room is filled, Atahualpa asks for Pizarro to live up to his end of the bargain. Pizarro refuses unless Atahualpa swears not to harm any of his men. This was not in the original deal and it enrages Atahualpa.

Meanwhile, the soldiers begin fighting over the gold as Pizarro begins fighting himself and everyone around him in an attempt to find what he truly believes in.

After many arguments with the priests, his friends, Young Martin, and Atahualpa, Pizarro is helpless to stop Atahualpa's execution.

To add to this highly emotional scene is the fact that the entire story is being told by Martin (Josh Graves) when he is a good deal older and has become a Spanish soldier himself. He seems, at the end, to be telling the story in honor of his mentor, Fran-

cisco Pizarro.

In addition to a strong cast and powerful performances the play has many interesting visual effects. Among these are the use of shadows to project depth and to draw out ranging emotions. The Royal Hunt of the Sun also puts into play many varying and vibrant colors.

Another interesting effect was the way Pizarro and Atahualpa were tied together towards the end of the show when they were arguing. It seemed to reemphasize the fact that they had become close and were still tied together by that bond.

The troupe also presented the play at the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival at Texas A&M-Commerce Oct 17

The costume design was by Kathleen Cochran, scenery and lighting design was by Tim Poertner, and choreography was by Jerry MacLaughlin.

'The Royal Hunt of the Sun' was under the direction of Jim Rambo.



Digital Image by Jorge Trujillo



Digital image by Jorge Trujillo

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

Francisco Pizarro (Andrew Lowe) tries to disabuse Martin (Ben Hollandsworth) of his idealistic notions in "The Royal Hunt of the Sun."

Local donations decline in wake of Sept. 11 fears

Jodi Dobbs White
Staff Writer

Local charities said they are anxious over a decrease in donations they have seen or expect to see in response to the recent September 11 attacks, and subsequent national fund-raising.

According to a poll conducted by the American Association of Fund-raising Counsel Trust for Philanthropy/Giving USA, and the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, total giving significantly increases after the United States has a war or crisis.

However, Chris McGaugh, Administrative Assistant for Goodwill in the Waco area, said that donations in the Waco area for Goodwill are down.

McGaugh said that local donations of clothing and household items are most needed, and all of the donations for Goodwill will stay local unless otherwise specified.

Goodwill is focusing on two main programs right now. The Back to Work program is a long-range program that concentrates on retraining people across the nation for new employment. The Gifts in Kind program focuses on aiding corporations that were hurt in the New York disaster, and is operating solely in New York, McGaugh said.

Janet Harrison, Administrator for the local Salvation Army, said that the Salvation Army is experiencing some shortfall and that people are currently donating goods, but very little cash.

She said that when donations come to the Salvation Army earmarked for New York, that is where they must send them.

Harrison said she is concerned about going into the Christmas season because of local economies and job shortages.

"I feel that the local charity companies are going to be hurting, especially over the winter months; the average person probably doesn't realize that what's happened nationally will have a trickle down effect locally," said Harrison.

The Assistant Director for Meals on Wheels, Libby Bellinger, said responses were down on the last fundraising letter they sent out at the end of August.

"Our meals cost about \$4.00 each, and we get \$2.00 through the Older American's Act. We have to get the other through contributions. Right now we are behind about \$1.00 a meal," said Bellinger.

Bellinger hopes that donations will pick back up by Thanksgiving, a day when they deliver meals to people who cannot cook or that do not have anyone to eat with.

They will need volunteers that day to "dish up" meals or deliver them, either of which would take up about an hour of the volunteer's time, Bellinger said.

Students may have noticed United Way posters around MCC's campus. According to Mark Buckingham, a United Way co-chair through the loaned executive program, the posters up right now are directed at anyone on the MCC payroll.

Buckingham said he is concerned that due to the tragedy in New York, local contributions will drop.

"Although it is an admirable act to give to New York, we still need to be mindful of our responsibilities locally; people here are still suffering. Hopefully, the national donations will not be a diversion of funds, but an addition of contributions," said Buckingham.

Pam Smallwood, Executive Director for Planned Parenthood, told Highland Herald Staff that she attended a meeting in Austin last

week where a lot of non-profit organizations were expressing some anxiety over the long-term effects of the stock market decline on charities, but that this anxiety was in no way intended to minimize national support.

"They're just concerned this is

one more way we'll be affected by the terrorist attacks," Smallwood said.

John Rogers, Operations Director at Mission Waco, said that he has seen a little bit of a slowdown since September 11.

"We're afraid that the money people planned to give to us over

Christmas has already gone to New York. However, we get a lot of money from our grants, and I don't think that grants will be affected. We expect that to be constant," Rogers said.

Highland Herald Staff spoke with Susan Duecy, a grant writer from the

Waco Foundation.

"The Waco Foundation," Duecy said, "hired me to work on gaining grants for the non-profits in the area. I help look for grants, critique proposals, and write proposals."

Duecy said that it is too early to predict how grants will be affected.

SGA helps to form "college council"

Justin Loosler
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association reported during their Oct. 10 meeting that they are working with the City of Waco, students from Baylor University, Texas State Technical College, and McLennan Community College to establish a "College Council" to bridge divides between the community.

There has been no organization in place to address the needs of college students from around the Greater Waco area until recently, said Waco City Manager Kathy Rice, that some sort of committee was in growing demand since college-aged young adults make up about 20 percent of Waco's population, compared to 1991, when students represented only 15 percent.

College Council members will serve as ambassadors to the City of Waco to link together the three colleges and the governing body of Waco by addressing, discussing and resolving the concerns and issues among area college students, according to a fact sheet presented at the meeting.

One of the council's objectives is to get college-aged young adults



Digital Image by Aaron Smith

Baylor student Jennifer Terrell works on plans for the College Council during the organizational meeting

acquainted with the citizens of Waco by providing fun events for both students and the community to take part in. The first of such events will be the "Wacky Fax Tour," organized by 20 members from each of the three area schools, and planned for Nov. 14 in downtown Waco.

Rice said she believes that the city has needed a bond with Waco area college students for some time, and is pleased to be part of the newly formed committee.

"We run commission around building alliances with the three schools and making Waco more college friendly," she said. "I think it's really important to do that. Since students comprise twenty percent of the population here, we just thought it would be good to build an alliance so that we're sure we're meeting the needs of people who live here, even if they are students."

The College Council, formerly known as the Task Force Committee,

has officially been in existence since the beginning of this month.

Four members from each school meet on a regular basis with Rice to discuss the needs, issues and concerns of college students from each of the three campuses.

Freshman Representative Yolanda Rincon, who coordinates MCC's committee as College Council Chairman, said her goals for the committee are to help make college life easier and break boundaries by providing a voice for students from each of the campuses to be heard by, and also to unify students from the three schools.

"We're working to make it to where Baylor, TSTC, and MCC aren't looked at as separate, but united," she said.

SGA President Dale Price, Vice-President Nathan Nance, and Sophomore Representative Rahoom Mitchell also take part in defining specific ways of addressing collegiate citizens' concerns by conducting assessments, workshops, and symposia that focus on issues relating to college students.

The College Council meets with Rice every second Wednesday of the month at the Waco City Hall.