



New LTC opening soon

Justin Loosier
Staff Writer

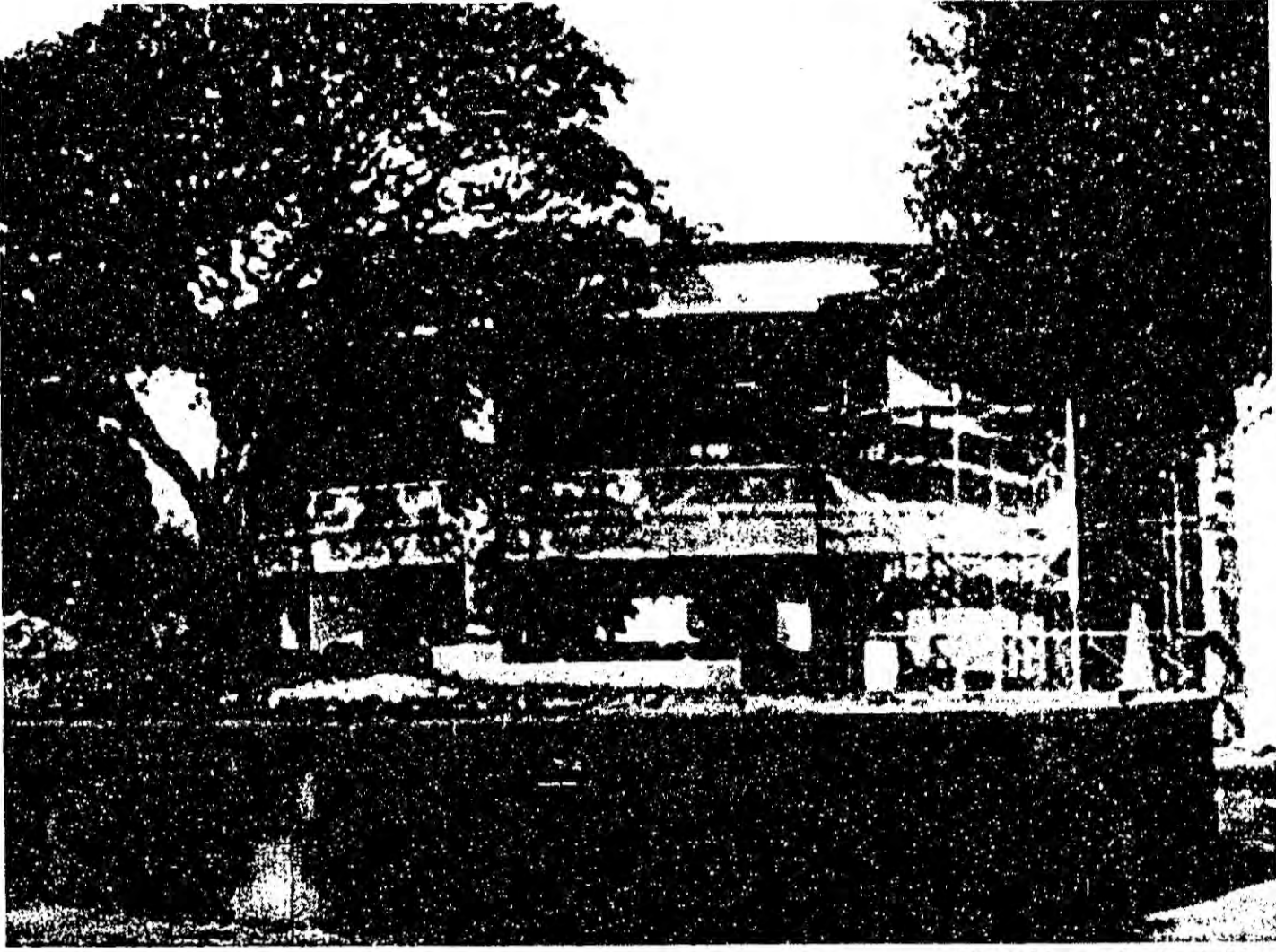
The grand opening of MCC's three-floor, state-of-the-art Learning Technology Center (LTC) is planned for Jan. 9, and will begin with an MCC-hosted board meeting with community leaders from the Waco Chamber of Commerce at 10 am. The ribbon cutting is open to all students, faculty and staff, and is set for 11 am with the unveiling of the "Highlander" — an 8 ft. tall bronze sculpted figure based on the college's mascot. A lunch reception and guided tour will follow at noon.

Kim Patterson, Director of Community Relations & Marketing, said the center will be unofficially completed by the end of November, and that most of the library move should be complete by Dec. 1.

"It's going to be a beautiful building, and a wonderful place for students to go and study," Diane Feyerherm, Campus Physical Plant Director said. "I think it's going to be a positive development and that the students are really going to like it."

Initial construction on the center began in Oct. of 2000. The college had originally planned for the opening to take place exactly a year later, but plans changed last Fall after weeks of heavy rain slowed progress and delayed work.

The LTC will be up and running by the first day of school on Jan. 14, and will include facilities such as



Digital Image by Angie Moya

View of the the new Learning Technology Center which is to be completed by January

fully equipped open computer access, distance learning labs, study rooms, conference centers, a food court and a new library on the third floor, Feyerherm said.

Feyerherm said that MCC is "contracting with a company that is used to moving libraries" to relocate the library from its current location in the

Community Services Center to the new facility.

The moving company will be responsible for transporting everything, books to computers and desks; however, Feyerherm said library personnel will supervise the move to make sure everything is handled with minimal interruption in services.

Library officials said they will be hiring work-study students to work throughout the spring semester as peer tutors and office/library service assistants.

The library Job Fair will be from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Nov. 28 in the Student Center Cafeteria and Nov. 29, from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

MCC health care system working to address U.S. nursing shortage

Michelle Williams
Staff Writer

Changes in health-care delivery systems, declining public perception of quality of care and increasing ages of active nurses may be contributing to a nationwide shortage of nurses, Joyce Sims, Coordinator of Community Health-CE said.

"To prevent the shortage, we try to have a nursing aid once a month, an evening aid once a semester, and a medication aid program in the fall and spring," Sims said.

"MCC has had this nursing program since the late 1960's. All of these factors, and many others, have conspired to decrease the supply of new talent entering the nursing profession, and, in some cases, have resulted in nurses leaving the profession. The shortage is felt more in the western and southern states, in the specialty areas, and in the isolated, rural, depressed urban areas," Sims said.

Sims attended the nursing seminar that was held Friday, Nov 2 from 8 am to 4 pm at the Providence Health Center Pavilion Auditorium. "MCC partnered with Providence Health Center and the seminar was about everything from Ethics to Creative Nursing Strategies. It was our fourth annual conference," Sims said. The Seminar examined the current nursing shortage and identified possible practical solutions through the use of active professional sharing, "group think," and individual/group creativity. The conference was designed for maximum interaction of participants

to meet individual and group needs for sharing problems and solutions for the nursing shortage," Sims said.

"Our goal is to increase the number of nurses who will return or enter. To encourage participants to enrich their nursing practice, and be a part of the solution, by examining the current nursing shortage, sharing individual and group ideas, and determining practical solutions for various nursing practice settings. The seminar happens annually and is helping the nursing program as regards to the practicing nurse, to help keep the nurses informed. We also have evening classes for students with children, that way they could take care of their children and still come to do nursing," Sims said.

The seminar offered 8.1 contact hours to all nurses that attended. McLennan Community College is approved as a provider of continuing education in nursing by the Texas Nurses Association, which is accredited as an approver of continuing education in nursing by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on accreditation. McLennan Community College (MCC) conducts a Nurse Aide class once a month. Successful completion of this class allows the student to take the state certification test to become a Certified Nurse Aide (CAN). The training course is the first Monday of each month from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday, 4 weeks. The course will be located in the MCC Community Services Center. See "Nursing" on Page 2

New system changes registration

Michelle Williams
Staff Writer

A new automated system that makes major changes to MCC advising and registration beginning with the Spring 2002 semester.

"Each student is now assigned a specific advisor who helps them with their classes and schedules," said Karen L. Clark, Coordinator at Student Admissions. "Also, beginning Spring 2002, Automated Degree Plans will replace Course Advising Forms in the registration process.

The Automated Degree Plan lists all of the courses required for your degree or certificate, classes you have completed, and all remaining classes you need to take, giving the student an on-going record of what they need in order to graduate," Clark said.

All students are encouraged to be advised prior to registration; however, new students and students who are required to take developmental classes must be advised.

Students are to pick up an Automated Degree Plan in the office of Student Admissions or they may

print one through the WebAdvisor. Contact Information regarding their assigned advisors will be printed on their Automated Degree Plan. Students are encouraged to verify that the college has the correct academic program or major on their record. If the student's academic program needs to be changed, they are to complete a Student Data Change Form at the Office of Student Admissions.

"Our advisors have always asked for more information to use when advising students and we continually look for ways to improve our

services to students. As a result, an Automated Degree Plan Task Force was created in order to determine how to implement the use of the automated degree plan in advising. The task force was chaired by Herman Tucker, Director of Student Enrollment Services and included representatives from across campus. We have used the automated degree plans to complete graduation evaluation for quite a while and we knew it would be a good advising tool," Clark added.

Students whose advisor is a faculty member or administrator may contact their advisor by phone, e-mail or in person to schedule an advising appointment.

See "Advising" on Page 2

Courses now available at discount tuition price

Jodi Dobbs White
Staff Writer

MCC students can save money on tuition next spring by taking designated popular courses offered at a discount rate, said Dr. Jay Box, MCC Vice President of Instruction.

MCC will be featuring 11 of the most popular classes on campus, starting between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., and may continue to offer them

through the Spring 2003 semester, Box said.

The Texas Legislature during its last session passed an act "establishing a pilot project for measuring the impact of reducing tuition legislation for community college courses offered at times of low enrollment," Box said.

Tuition will be discounted by 50 percent for designated courses. This discount will make the tuition for these courses \$14.50 per

semester hour for students living in McLennan County. Fees, however, will not be discounted.

The program is intended to "promote greater access to higher education by making courses available at a discounted rate and encourage a more efficient use of college facilities and resources by scheduling classes when the buildings are least used," Box said.

The reduced tuition classes available this spring are:

Control #	Course	Description	Room	Days	Times
20924	BMGT 1303.R1	Prin of Management	HOSP 0001	TH	05:15 P.M.-8:15 P.M.
20951	COSC 1301.R1	Microcomputer App.	AS 105	TTH	02:00 P.M.-02:55 P.M. 03:10-04:05
20950	ECON 2301.R1	Macroeconomics	AC 205	MW	02:00 P.M.-03:30 P.M.
18987	ENGL 1302.R0	Freshman Comp II	LA 102	MW	02:00 P.M.-03:30 P.M.
19011	ENGL 2322.R0	British Masterpieces I	LA 214	W	03:00 P.M.-06:00 P.M.
19232	MATH 0301.R1	Prealgebra	HPE 203	MW	02:30 P.M.-03:50 P.M.
19246	MATH 0307.R1	Blom Algebra	HPE 205	MW	02:35 P.M.-03:55 P.M.
19252	MATH 0307.R2	Blom Algebra	HPE 205	TTH	02:20 P.M.-03:40 P.M.
20801	MATH 1314.R1	Colloge Algebra	HPE 204	TTH	02:20 P.M.-03:40 P.M.
20103	SOCI 1301.R0	Intro to Sociology	LA 208	MW	03:00 P.M.-06:00 P.M.
19732	SPAN 1411.R0	Span for Begin	LA 215	TTH	02:30 P.M.-03:50 P.M.
			LA 215	MW	02:30 P.M.-03:25 P.M.
19750	SPCH 1315.R0	Public Speaking	LA 110	T	03:00 P.M.-06:00 P.M.

Book for "The Stone Circle" a publication filled with artwork, poems, and short essays by the students of McLennan Community College November 23



MCC tips off basketball season

The MCC Highlasses learned the meaning of being battle-tested during opening night as they squeaked out a 77-74 win over Claredon Nov 2 at the Highlands.

See Page 4



Wendlands Project

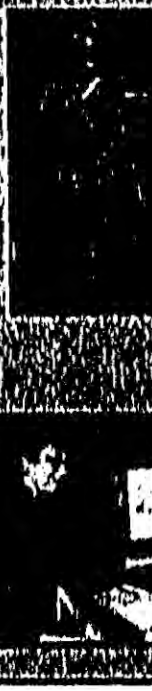
Amidst a 1977 burning and an occasional make-around, 300 volunteers braved the wilds of McLennan County to help the City of Waco create a Wendland.

See Page 2

Message from the Fourth Floor

October 4, 2001

See Page 6



"Camino Real"

Don't miss the MCC drama department's production of Tennessee Williams' "Camino Real" at the end of November. It's coming sooner than you think!

See Page 6

Cameras closure

Some local camera locations may not be able to handle the need for film before the end of the year because of lower demand for film.

See Page 6

Organizations help out at Waco Wetlands

Jodi Dobbs White
Staff Writer

Amid poison ivy, burbling mud, and an occasional snake, around 300 volunteers braved the wilds of McLennan County to help the City of Waco create a wetland that will house a variety of plants and animals.

Members of McLennan Community College's National English Honor Society, Sigma Kappa Delta, were among the volunteers for the "Wetlands Project," on Saturday, Oct. 20.

The city has taken up this project to replace habitat that will be lost when the City of Waco and the United States Corps of Engineers raise the water level of Lake Waco seven feet in 2003, Shirley Hyltin, Staff Assistant for the City of Waco Water Utilities Department, said. Volunteers were needed to plant five to six out of 174 total acres that make up the Wetlands.

Rita Bayer, Public Relations officer for Sigma Kappa Delta, said she read this summer that volunteers were needed to help with the Lake Waco Wetlands project. She got excited and asked English instructor Jim McKeown if Sigma Kappa Delta could participate in the Wetlands Project as a required service project. He was supportive of the idea, and several people signed up for the project at their next meeting.

"We hear so many people griping about our environment but rarely hear of people getting involved. Well, we decided to be a small part of the solution," Rita Bayer said.

Leroy Hyltin, Shirley Hyltin's husband, who distributed drinks to workers and volunteers during the project, said he observed the volunteers Friday evening and Saturday morning.

"First, they go through registration. Then, we introduce them to a shovel. They see the dirt and mud on the shovel, and I think that gives them their first real hint of what's going to happen," Mr. Hyltin said.

I soon found out he was correct. Not only did I get a shovel, I soon found out the shovel was

only useful for digging holes, and my hands were needed to make the plant stay in its new home: mud.

Murky, stagnant smelling water with a top layer of disturbing foam covered the mud where we were planting.

I had on a brand new pair of galoshes, and I was feeling very smart until I got into the "swamp" and had to fight the mud that apparently had an appetite for rubber that day.

I was not alone. A volunteer for the City of Waco told me that a troop of Boy Scouts ended up running around in bare feet Saturday morning, because their shoes came off.

I had a difficult time planting because sweat poured in a steady stream into my eyes, but I still appreciated the signs of life around me: wild birds and blue fireflies.

Then my allergies attacked and I had to quit an hour early due to an asthma attack.

So went my great contribution to our environment.

In contrast, Bayer said her experience really wasn't bad.

"The mud washed off, and I didn't encounter any snakes. So, I had a good time spending the afternoon outdoors."

I figured I was fairly safe from any legless reptiles during my "tour of duty," because the paperwork Bayer obtained from the City of Waco stated, "Members of the City of Waco will be available to deter snakes."

I figured wrong: I did encounter a snake, but at least I met it in the road on the way back to my car.

If I had discovered the wriggling creature before I began to dig or while I was digging, I doubt any amount of prodding could have convinced me to wade through the tall grass, stay in the muck, and continue to grab earthworm infested mud with my bare hands.

I should have known that my realm of protection did not extend to the field where volunteers parked their cars

Bayer said that the city staff was great, and I agree.

"They were constantly asking if we needed a break, a coke, or water," Bayer said.

Bayer also said she received a t-shirt, coupons, and a certificate of appreciation.

(I missed out on these extras, but it was probably due to my early departure.)

Mrs. Hyltin said this was the only weekend they would work on this project until sometime in late spring or early summer, and that they will need more volunteers then to repeat the process on the other acres of the Wetlands.

Bayer plans on going back for spring planting; I think I might do the City of Waco a favor and volunteer in a different capacity.

I would like to continue to contribute to this project, because according to a former MCC Environmental Science instructor, Billy Cardwell, and City of Waco personnel, a wetland would benefit the environment and our community.

Bayer told the Highland Herald staff about Cardwell, whom she interviewed last fall for an English research paper over finding solutions to our water pollution problem in Waco.

Cardwell proposed a wetland area that could attract tourist dollars to help with expenses and be an educational experience for school groups, Bayer said.

"It sounded like a good idea, but we knew it would take money and doubted the city would consider it," Bayer said.

Tom Conry said that although there is a requirement that the City of Waco replace lost habitat when the pool level of Lake Waco is increased, the City of Waco Council voluntarily decided to initiate the Lake Waco Wetlands Project, because they were only required to replace lost bottomland hardwoods.

"The Council took a very important and proactive step to provide a unique resource for habitat and Central Texas residents. This will be the only habitat wetland open to the public between Lewisville and Victoria," Conry said.

"People will have an opportunity to visit the Lake Waco Wetlands Project, either on a casual and informative basis, or to conduct studies, such as the Audubon Society, several college classes (chemistry, biology, etc.) The Texas Parks and Wildlife's Birding guide for Piney Woods and Prairies will list this site in Spring 2002," Conry said.

According to Conry, the elevation of Lake Waco will also provide an additional 20,770 acre/feet per year for the residents of Central Texas and secure an additional water supply. This water supply is projected to meet demands for the next 50-100 years.

"The position that the Wetlands is in will have a helpful effect on the water quality of Lake Waco, because these plants will naturally filter the water," Mrs. Hyltin said.

Conry went into more detail; he said, "Wetlands really are 'Nature's nursery,' because there are so many species that rely on both terrestrial and aquatic environments within their lifespan. As an example, there will be a lot of vegetation in a wetland - substantially more than in a terrestrial or an aquatic environment. This vegetation provides habitat for mammals, insects, amphibians, and aquatic species. The vegetation also provides a good substrate for microbial life, which breaks down material (nutrients and detritus) in the water, making that food source available for other species. The amount of vegetation and diversity of life supported in a wetland allows populations of animals and birds to grow in density and diversity."

According to the benefits Conry said will come with the Wetlands, I feel that Sigma Kappa Delta and the community picked a worthwhile cause for their time.

Sometimes I think it seems futile to try to "save the environment."

But I look at the Wetlands Project and see that we can make a difference.

Conry said that he believes that the first phase of the project was successful, and that in similar past projects, 60 to 80 percent survival is expected.



Digital Image by Jodi Dobbs White

Rita Bayer, Public Relations officer for Sigma Kappa Delta, volunteered to help with the Lake Waco Wetlands project as seen above

Hanging on in spite of mid-semester blahs

Justin Loosier
Staff Writer

The transition from high school to college can create major challenges for many first year college students, Paul J. Hoffman, Career Development Services Counseling & Guidance Specialist said.

Statistically, the major period of adjustment takes place during the first year when students learn to balance freedom with responsibility. For many students, being on their own in a new environment creates quite a shock.

There are several things that students can do if they need extra help in dealing with a new situation, and keep from dropping a class in the middle of the semester.

According to Hoffman, the first thing that a student who is having difficulty should do is to admit there is a problem. A good way to begin is for students to visit with their instructor to let them know that they are having difficulty. Hoffman said that the instructors at MCC are here for the students and that if a student is having trouble it is best to address the situation by making the instructor aware that there is a problem. Making an effort to speak one-on-one gives the professor the impression that the student is concerned and that they desire to get help and improve. It is especially important for students to visit with their instructors if they are considering dropping a class because it presents them with the opportunity to

see if the course can be salvaged. The instructor may also be able to suggest some options for the student to consider before they make their final decision. Students who quit coming to class in the middle of the semester without an approved withdrawal slip will still receive a grade at the end of the semester that reflects their absence. This grade will then be added to their transcript.

Hoffman said that if a student is going to drop a class, instead of failing to show up, they should pick up an official withdrawal slip and get it approved by their instructor. Hoffman said that students are required to get their instructor's approval before dropping a class.

Students can keep from getting an unwanted grade added to their transcript by following this procedure. They might even benefit from dropping the class because they will have more time to focus on other courses and will be able to retake the dropped course at their convenience.

The next step that students should take is to act. Hoffman said that there

are many services available at MCC that are designed to help students.

The Career Development Services department is one of these services. It provides students with degree plan advising and counseling. Career Development Specialists create degree plans and see to it that students are enrolled in the classes necessary for their specific degree.

The staff in the Single Parent Displaced Homemakers department provides assistance to students with children. The Single Parent Displaced Homemakers program is federally funded, and pays for transportation and childcare.

Student Support Services is another federally funded service provided for the students of MCC. Students who are eligible to use this service must have a documented disability, and must present documentation that explains the disability. Such disabilities include blindness, Attention Deficit Disorder, learning disabilities, and emotional disturbances.

The Academic Success Center is located on the second floor of the

Student Center, and offers students open access to computer programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. Students can also check e-mail and study here.

The final step is for students to learn from their mistakes. Hoffman said that many students lose sight of their goal because of one class, and that it is important that they learn to be strong and admit when they need help.

"Nobody gets through college by themselves," Hoffman said. "Don't be afraid to ask for help."

Nursing from Page 1

(CSC E161). The cost is \$269 plus textbook, and the course number is NURA 1001.

Nursing assistants perform basic nursing functions under the supervision of a License Vocational Nurse or a Registered Nurse. Nursing assistants handle procedures relating to patients' personal hygiene, safety, nutrition, and exercise needs. Nursing assistants work in many types of health care facilities, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, home health agencies, community health clinics, hospices and physicians offices. The Texas Nurse Aide Registry and Training course is required to become a nursing assistant. This course consists of 100 hours of training required by the federal government for anyone wishing to work as a nurse aide in a long-term care facility. At the end of the course, the student takes both the skills and written components of the examination.

The nurse aide course is offered every month throughout the year except December, at McLennan Community College, an approval provider of the Texas Nurse Aide Registry and Training Course. A high school diploma or GED certificate is not required to enter the Nurse Aide Registry and Training Course.

McLennan Community College two-year Associate Degree Nursing curriculum prepares competent registered nurses to give patient-centered care in hospitals and other health agencies. The program is accredited by the Board of Nurse Examiners for the state of Texas. The program also has met national standards for nursing and is accredited by the National League for Nursing.

Advising from page 1

Students whose advisor is a counseling specialist in Career Development may visit that office for advising—an appointment is not required.

Students must bring their Automated Degree Plan and a copy of their transcript from any other college attended. As mentioned, students may pick up their Automated Degree Plan in the Office of Student Admissions, or they may print one off of WebAdvisor. Students who

have attended other college must submit official transcripts to the Office of Student Admissions. Students may be advised from November 1-December 13 or during Last Chance Registration January 10-12. Students should register using either Telephone Registration or Web Advisor. Registration periods are from November 5-January 4 or during Last Chance Registration January 10-12.

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Editorial

Team support is refreshing sight in professional sports

Troubled closer gets support from his teammates after two tough outings in World Series



Sung W. Hwang
Staff Writer

As soon as I witnessed the Arizona Diamondbacks' a m a z i n g victory over

the New York Yankees, I was totally excited.

I was not able to stop celebrating with my friend until a neighbor knocked on the door and told me, "calm down."

What made me so interested in the game?

Finally, I learned a phrase, "hanging tough", from this World Series.

Mostly, a relief pitcher for the D-Backs: Byunghyun Kim. He blew two saves in the World Series, but was a key member of the team, and was cheered by his teammates after two tough games in a row. In fact, his performance in the World Series was contrary to the eager expectations of Arizona's fans, including 40 million Korean people. Personally, I wanted him to show outstanding pitching on the stage

of dreams. Like many international students who come to America to study and make their own dreams come true, he came here to learn and play baseball at its highest level. I could not help thinking that he is in the same boat as I am. I might have been trying to find myself in this public figure.

Instead, he thoroughly failed to save his team twice. I thought the only thing left for him was to be derided by most Americans and his teammates. Again, things turned out differently. His colleagues encouraged their youngest teammate. Mark Grace comforted him right after watching him sitting helplessly after the game-tying homerun by Scott Brosius in game five. Luis Gonzalez said on the plane back to Phoenix, "That's not only your fault, but ours." I was able to see strong companionship in this.

Another thing I highly esteem is the faith the D-Backs manager, Bob Brenly, had in each one of his players including Kim. After he let Kim stand on the pitcher's mound again, many people grumbled it. In spite of that, the manager said that Kim is their closer and has done the job all season long for them. If I were BK, I would cry because of the manager's warmhearted trust. Following the Confucianism principals summarized by the

loyalty to father, teacher, and king, he should do his best for his teammates and the manager in the future to compensate.

Finally, I was enthralled by the American fans' attitude.

Both teams' fans observed order. The fourth, fifth, and final games were all classic games. All three games were decided in the home team's final at-bat. Even though almost all audiences were excited at the time, nobody stood on the aisle and everyone applauded the team they supported. Isn't that cool?

It was quite a contrast with the attitude of some hooligans who made a commotion in other sports events. Orderly American audiences might give their baseball players opportunities to do play excellently.

Finally, I learned a phrase, "hanging tough", from this World Series.

Someone said, "Baseball is like human life." We can compare the nine innings and seven games to daily life and a long human life. Let me look back this World Series. I would say that the series is the series of overturning. Human life consists of ceaseless despair and hope. Here, the thing that we need to notice is that we should do our best in living our life until the final moment, ninth inning with three out counts. Now, the world is waging a war on terrorism. All people including Americans need to hang tough for their own lives, family, country, and values.

Overall, I've learned a lot from the 2001 World Series. I will never forget the single by Gonzalez and the beautiful scene afterwards. The masterful pitching by Curt Schilling and Brenly's bear hug to their young hope, Kim.

Reality television, flower power and early Christmas; What comes next?



Digital Images by Kim Carter



Jana M. Vaculik
Editor in Chief

I could not believe what the new reality TV show on Fox will be next season.

Remember, this is the same network that gave us 'Who Wants to Marry a Multimillionaire', 'Temptation Island' (one and two), 'Love Cruise' and 'Who Wants to Be a Princess'. For next season, the ever-creative networks will be showing 'I want a husband: Alaska'. According to an executive producer, it's 'Sex in the City' meets 'Northern Exposure'.

Who is the idiot who came up with this idea?

The story line is basically this: Four women from the contiguous states who want to get married choose from 21 Alaskan men. Suitors of every type will woo the ladies, including park rangers, tour-boat captains, professional fishermen, teachers, and professional snowboarders. The women do everything from interior design to software management. They go out on dates featuring Alaskan activities such as dog-sledding, hunting, and ice-fishing. In the final episode the men will have an opportunity to propose marriage, or not, and then tell everyone the reason why. How romantic!

Everyone say 'awwww'.
What are these women thinking?!

What does Steward's icebox offer to

them except snow, snow and more snow? Ok, so men outnumber women in Alaska. I take it the idea of having someone to snuggle with on a cold night might sound appealing to you ladies. But a state with sub-zero temperatures, you are going to have to do more than just snuggle. The whole concept of the show is to put people together.

Give me a break. I can't wait until Fox announces their next show. I can just see it now: eight people trying to survive three months at a Piggly Wiggly. Better yet. Gangbangers of Los Angeles. Get a group of white-collar law abiding citizens and have them trade places with actual gang members from the rough streets of L.A.

Wouldn't the workplace be transformed?

Prince Charles needs to stay away from psycho girls with carnations. On a recent visit, commemorating the tenth anniversary of Great Britain's recognition of Latvia's independence from the Soviet Union, Charlie was attacked by a 16 year-old girl.

The assailant shoved carnations up the prince's nose.

According to press reports the mentally unstable girl was protesting Britain's involvement in Afghanistan and NATO's expansion to include Latvia. Slapping the heir to the throne with flowers is not the way to drum up support for your cause. It will only land you in jail and what good are you in jail? Prince Charles has nothing to do with NATO expansion.

Maybe NATO will not want to expand into Latvia. The extra security at

checkpoints needed to seize any possible weapons (namely carnations) would be expensive.

At a local department store, I was browsing through the racks. Suddenly, my powers of perception allowed me to clearly hear Christmas music playing on the sound system. Announcements to the upcoming holiday season were up before Halloween. Christmas music and decorations before Thanksgiving is ridiculous. It is very disturbing. As I was walking through the store, I heard Bing Crosby singing "White Christmas" (like we are going to see one in Texas), and many other holiday favorites kept playing. The brainwashing of the American people by the department stores has begun. They go to great lengths to make us buy stuff for Christmas. I can't get into the mood of Christmas when I have yet to stuff myself with Thanksgiving turkey. Almost always there is an emphasis on how much Americans spend during the days leading up to Christmas. With the economy in a slump, stores are anxiously waiting to see if the spending habits of Americans will change this holiday season. I believe there is way too much emphasis on the giving of gifts. Aren't family, good health, and the reason for the season enough for people? Never.

I think I will stay in my perfect snow globe world. I will not let commercialism take over my brain. My special Christmas message to everyone? Bah humbug! It's early.

What's wrong with the state of fear; mutually assured destruction works



Jon Michael Swetnam
Copy Editor

Think about it. The only thing that kept us from blowing the world into a glowing radioactive cinder during the Cold War was the fact that we couldn't get away with it.

They'd fire back just as fast. Yes, you have to love the concept of mutually assured destruction. I mean, the whole concept is just plain nifty. There's just something deeply amusing about the notion of violence defeating itself.

But President Bush is hoping to change that. His new plan would forever free us from the grim specter of nuclear holocaust. No Chernobyl bubbles on Long Island, by God. We've got a nuke-proof vest. Our president is asking the rest of the world to sit and watch as we build up a massive, high powered anti-nuke shield that will defend us from any intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) fired at us from foreign nations. He is apparently hoping such a defensive measure would insure that rogue na-

tions like China and North Korea, or our ever-popular antagonist, Iraq, don't rain fire on us from the heavens. If we have the new shield, we will be able to withstand the incoming barrage of superheated mass-destruction unscathed. We will then be able to respond with a blistering series of precision strikes that will utterly eliminate all of our foes. We will be able to throw the punch and duck the counterstrike.

I don't think I'll go into the merits of scrapping a tool that has shown itself to be perfectly effective at deterring violence (that tool being good old fashioned FEAR), just so we can replace it with a hi-tech device that will probably cost us a lot of dollars that, as far as we know, MIGHT work until they develop a viable counter to it. Let me ask you: just how well do you trust your car stereo, home computer, toaster and so on? Mine work just well enough to make me leery of trusting something REALLY advanced.

Now, as much as I enjoy the idea of being able to level small nations wholesale and with complete impunity, I'm not exactly sure that this is a well thought out idea. Not that such an occurrence would be unusual. This is, after all, from the desk of the administration that has plunged us into a delayed reaction version of Vietnam featuring a longer and more difficult

struggle, with less protest and no free drugs/sex/rock and roll. This is the same thing that Reagan rambled on about for years; the concept that never quite managed to keep from flying like a twenty ton weight flung from the pinnacle of the Empire State Building.

I am not saying I don't agree with this idea. I think that if one nation on the planet has to have the ability to decimate its foes without fear of damaging itself, it might as well be the one I live in. My only concern is that, by removing the threat of our demise, we will remove the only thing that kept us from nuking everyone in the first place. It's sort of like getting into a fight at school. Once you get over the fact that punches hurt, you stop being afraid of them. Once you stop being afraid of getting punched, it becomes alarmingly easy to start getting into serious trouble. Your usual fistfight gets notably longer, more brutal, and nastier. So it is with war of any kind; especially with the type that lasts for five seconds.

Now, to continue the analogy of a fistfight: what if you didn't have to worry about the other guy hitting you at all? He can't even swing. He is, for all intents and purposes, on the ground with his feet tied to his elbows and his elbows behind his neck. And

you are holding a baseball bat.

I think that removing the death and horror associated with war is dangerous in the extreme. It makes war seem winnable. It promotes a concept that has never failed to start trouble in all of it's five million years of use.

Such thoughts tend to lead to imperialism. Such thoughts tend to lead to dictatorship. Such thoughts tend to rip the world asunder. Such thoughts tend to promote wholesale slaughter that nobody wants to back out of until it is far beyond too late.

I am no alarmist. I don't think we'll trample the rights of the rest of the world just because we have a bigger gun (but then, if we have the bigger gun, they don't REALLY have rights. Do they?). I don't think we will become Big Brother's pedestal. I don't think we'll fly off the handle and start firing nukes as if they were about to blow up the factory.

If anything, I find it encouraging that we are starting to try to get over our past fears. If anything, I find it comforting that we might actually be human enough to trust with such a responsibility. But let's be sure that we are ready for such a step. BEFORE we scrap the old treaty.

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Phone Number: 299-8524
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Sports

"They say it's a family. But it's deeper than that. There's a lot of things they do to try and control certain guys. Treat us like men and we'll treat you like you're the owner-boss."

--Charles Oakley on being \$ 50,000 by the Chicago Bulls

MCC men and women tipoff season

Aaron Smith
Lacy Witt
Sports Editors

Highlanders

Blinn

The Highlanders opened the 2001-2002 season in style with a solid 106-94 victory over Blinn November 3 at the Highlands.

The Highlanders were led by two freshmen who drew rave reviews in their collegiate debuts L.B. Bryant who scored 23 and Rod Smith who scored 21.

"L.B. and Rod both showed their potential tonight," Head coach Wendell Hudson said. "But really it was a total team victory everybody contributed to the victory."

The Highlanders took control of the game in the first half going on a 15-0 run to stretch a 13-11 lead to 28-11 cushion and went into the half with a 51-36 lead.

But Blinn would not go away without a fight cutting a MCC 65-44 lead to ten going on a quick 11-0 run but end the end the Highlanders had to much depth for the Buccaneers from Blinn.

"I thought our depth was the key," Hudson said. "When Blinn made that run in the second half it took a lot out of them and they eventually ran out of gas in the end."

Also contributing to cause for the Highlanders were Mike Jones, who scored 17 and Baylor transfer Michael DeGrate who scored 14 (11 in the first half)

San Jacinto

There was almost an upset in the Highlands gym Nov. 6 when the MCC men faced No. 4 ranked San Jac.

Almost. The Highlanders kept pace with the Ravens the entire game, keeping a team that had, in their 2 prior games, blew past their opponents by an average of 35 points, on a short leash.

The two teams fought for the lead until late in the fourth quarter, when MCC point guard, Forest Bryant, sank the game tying shot with just 1.7 seconds left to play.

After a time out, San Jac's Roberto Morentin in bounded the ball from three quarter court to Derrick Payne,



Digital Image by Angie Moya

who hit the game winning lay-up with .7 seconds remaining on the clock.

The Highlanders could do nothing but watch.

Following yet another time out, MCC had the remaining fraction of a second to tie up the game, but fell short. Despite scoring a game high 21 points, Bogdon Konontsuk's 3-point attempt was blocked as San Jac defeated MCC, 88-86.

Despite the loss, MCC Men's interim Head Coach and Athletic Director, Wendell Hudson, kept high spirits.

"I've been so impressed with the intensity level of this team, both in practice and the games," Hudson said.

MCC was also without freshman forward, Michael DeGrate, a key player on both sides of the court, who was out for disciplinary reasons during the Nov. 5 game.

Kilgore

Any wise coach is not anti-fun. After all, winning is fun. Still, when McLennan Community College men's basketball coach Wendell Hudson encouraged his troops at halftime of

Friday's game against Kilgore at the Hill College Classic to enjoy themselves in the second half, they had to be bit surprised.

The Highlanders took their coach's words to heart, turning a close game into a comfortable 90-80 win.

"I thought we lacked a little enthusiasm in the first half, so I told the guys to come out in the second half and have some fun, which they did, and I think that was the difference in the ball game," Hudson said.

Forest Bryant led the Highlanders (2-1) with 19 points, while Bogdan Konontsuk added 14. But it was a pair of unsung players Hudson was most pleased with.

"Condell Delancy hadn't played in the first two ball games, and he stepped up and gave us 20 big minutes," Hudson said.

"And Micah Mack took three big charges late in the game. That's the kind of thing that doesn't show up in the box score," Hudson said.

Highlassies

Aaron Smith
Lacy Witt
Sports Editors

Claredon

The MCC Highlassies learned the meaning of being battle-tested during opening night as they squeaked out a 77-74 win over Claredon Nov 2 at the Highlands.

Up 75-74 with 15 seconds left, the Highlassies came up with a big defensive stop and hit a lay up to seal the victory as time ran out.

The Highlassies rode freshman sensation Tiffany Perkins in the opener, who scored a team and game high of 23 points in her first collegiate game.

"Tiffany really shot the ball well tonight. She came through everytime we needed a big basket," Head Coach Ricky Rhodes said.

Starting the game red hot, the Highlassies finished the first half on a 15-7 run to take a 41-33 halftime lead. The Highlassies showed a few

first game jitters, turning the ball over and making a few lapses on the defensive end.

"It was opening and it's expected to be a little sloppy on opening night, but the key is we got the W and that's all that matters," Rhodes said.

Also leading the way for the Highlassies were Bobbette McLoud who scored 12 and scoring nine points apiece TeNesah Lamb and Kashae Townsend.

"I saw some positives out there and I saw some negatives, but there is always room for improvement, and we're only going to get better," Rhodes said.

Kilgore/Hill Classic

The Highlassies (2-2) missed a wide-open, game-tying shot with less than a minute remaining losing a heartbreaker to Kilgore, 75-73 November 9 in Hillsboro

"It was a close game, but we just couldn't ever get over the hump," said MCC coach Ricky Rhodes,

whose team drops to 2-2. "I don't think either team led by more than five points."

Charise Billingsley paced the Highlassies with 16 points, while freshman Lindy Heller scored a career-high 12. Fellow freshman Tiffany Perkins, who hit for 38 points, including 10 three-pointers, in a win over Paris Tuesday night, had 10 points — and none from downtown — against Kilgore.

The Highlassies will next be in action Friday and Saturday in the Temple Classic.

NTJCAA CONFERENCE

Alyson Moulton
Sports Writer

Collin County

Coming off a conference championship where they went 26-6 overall and 15-1 in conference last season one would expect expectation to be high for Collin County, but with only four sophomores returning the Express will have a new look to this years team.

The four returners are Brandon Twito, Sam Mosely, Noah Ballou, and Anthony Arnick.

But it's the freshmen that have impressed head coach Jim Sigona thus far this season. The Express are lead by two freshman guards San Antonio freshman Kris Collins a 6'2 guard that can light it up from the outside, and 6'3 Lance Burroughs and explosive two guard. "Those two guards have really have impressed me so far," Sigona said. "They give us the added threats of quickness that creates match up problems for bigger teams."

The Express have set their team goal to repeat as conference champs as well as making the playoffs, but to so they will have to do it with speed as they are without a true center. "This conference is so wide open," Sigona said. "There are four or five teams that could easily win the conference, but I think we have as good of a chance as anyone. Sigona believes that Temple, Weatherford, MCC, and Hill all have an equal chance to win the conference this season.

"Anyone of those four teams can win the conference this season this may be the deepest conference," Sigona said. "I think we our going to pose some problems for those teams with our team speed, but it's going to be tough."

Highlassies finish fall season with a bang

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

The Highlassies closed out the fall season finishing tied for fifth in the Islander Fall Classic in Corpus Christi November 12 and 13.

The Highlassies shot a 36-hole total of 988 behind Baylor University, who won the tournament shooting a two-day total of 921.

"Baylor played lights out on a tough course," coach Stan Mitchell said. "It would of been tough for any team to beat them the way they played on both days."

Finishing seventh overall in the tournament was Highlassie freshman Laura Walker, who shot a 36-hole total of 235 (81,77,77) and finished in the top 20 for the second time this fall seven strokes back of first place.

"Laura played well for us against good competition," Mitchell said. "It's something that will help Laura along with the rest of the team later in the season."

The Highlassies once again were the only junior college to participate in the tournament. Finishing second overall in the team standings were the North Texas Eagles, who shot a two-day total of 959 (309,319,331) and

rounding out the top three was the host school Texas A&M Corpus Christi who shot a total of 964 (312,329,323).

Winning individual medalist honors, was Baylor's Nicole Johnson, who shot a 228 for the tournament (71,76,81). Baylor dominated the tournament having the top three players of the tournament the others being Tara Bateman (230, 75-77-78) and Melanie Hugewood (232, 81,73,78).

Mitchell, however was pleased with his teams effort on one of the toughest courses around.

"We had a couple of players, who weren't happy with their scores," Mitchell said. "But, they had to realize how tough of a course this was to play on."

Also finishing in the top 20 overall in the tournament for the Highlassies was Ashlie Simmons, who shot a 242 (82,82,78) for the tournament.

Finishing in a four way tie for 22nd for the Highlassies were Heather MacRae (80,83,84) and Stephanie Smith (79,84,84), who shot a two-day total of 247.

The Highlassies begin the Spring season right where they ended the fall in Corpus Christi February 25-26.

2002 Spring Schedule

Highlassies	Highlanders
February 25-26 TX A&M Corpus Christi	February 11-12 Bossler Parish Tournament
March 4-5 Centenary College	February 25-26 St. Mary's Univ. Spring Invitational
March 11-12 Sam Houston State University Galveston Invitational	March 4-5
March 18-19 Oral Roberts University	March 18-19 Roger Williams Invitational
March 28-29 Baylor University	April 6-7 Texas State J.C. Tourney
April 15-16 Idaho State University	April 25-26 Region V Tournament
May 20-23 NJCAA Womens National Championships	May 21-24

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Instruction's Dual Focus "Building a Community that Works" and "Bridging a Community to a Higher Degree"

In the October 4, 2001, edition of the *Highland Herald*, Dr. Johnette McKown shared with you the roles of the various departments of the Business Services division. I would like to follow her very informative article with my own commentary about the Instructional Division of Dr. Bob



dedicated folks in the Student Services and Instructional Support Services areas. Led by the Dean of Student Services, Dr. Lynn Abernathy, the SS area is divided into four divisions: Admissions and Recruitment, Records and Registration, Career Development Services, and Financial Aid. Since over 31% of the high school graduates in McLennan County attend MCC, we know that our Student Services personnel stay busy recruiting, admitting, testing, advising, registering, and helping folks obtain financial assistance on a daily basis." In fact, your first contact with MCC was most likely with an employee from our Admissions and Recruitment division.

The Instructional Division is divided into five separate areas—Workforce Education (formerly Technical Education), Arts and Sciences, Continuing Education, Student Services, and Instructional Support Services. Although all five areas have distinct missions, they work closely together to best serve our students, our employees, and our community. Since MCC is a comprehensive community college, we strive to maintain a dual focus in our credit programs of (1) preparing students in our community to join the workforce by offering one-year certificate or two-year associate of applied science degree programs and (2) providing students in our community the first two years of course work necessary to transfer to a university. This is accomplished through the leadership of the Dean of Workforce Education, Al Pollard, and the Dean of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Jack Schneider.

Dean Pollard's Workforce Education area consists of three divisions—Business Programs, Human Services, and Health Sciences. Similarly, Dean Schneider's Arts and Sciences area maintains three divisions—Liberal Arts, Fine Arts, and Math/Science/Reading/Physical Education. Courses are taught by 307 faculty members (75% of whom hold a Masters or Doctorate degree) including 158 full-time instructors and 149 part-time instructors. Full-time instructors teach over 70% of the classes.

In addition to the credit programs, MCC offers a variety of non-credit courses and programs through our Continuing Education division. Over 12,000 students annually take courses ranging from "Bag Piping" to "Building and Construction Trades." Within our CE division, the Community Programs area was recently recognized as being the nation's "Exemplary Program" for 2000-2001 by the National Council for Continuing Education and

Our Instructional Support Services area is divided into two divisions—the Library/Academic Success Services and Instructional Innovation. The Library/Academic Success Services division is led by Associate Dean Jane Vargas. I hope by now that all of you are familiar with the Library and with our Academic Success Center. The services they provide are essential to your success in higher education. You might not be as aware of the services provided by the Center for Instructional Innovation. Led by Associate Dean Randy Schormann, this division is responsible for designing and delivering professional development programs for our faculty and staff. In addition, the division oversees the University Center, dual credit programs, and distance learning programs; and it makes sure that instructors have the multi-media equipment necessary to teach a media-enhance class. Both of these divisions will be moving to the Learning Technology Center for the Spring 2002 semester.

I hope that this article has given you a better understanding of how the Instructional wing of MCC functions. I also hope that you realize that no amount of instruction or services provided to you by our faculty, staff, and administrators can substitute for your desire, dedication, and determination in succeeding in your educational goals. I wish you the best of luck in your educational journey.

Local Caritas in need of donations

Jodi Dobbs White
Staff Writer

Some local Caritas locations may not have enough food for needy families before Jan 1 because of lower donations due to the Sept. 11 attacks and the economy, according to Marjorie Kultgen, Waco Caritas Executive Director.

The Waco Caritas is closing one of its three main programs, the food bank, Kultgen said.

Caritas is a non-profit organization which distributes food and financial aid to about 1,000 impoverished and homeless people per month.

Waco's Caritas is hoping to keep open in Falls, Freestone, Limestone and McLennan Counties over the next two months, she said. Waco is still the distribution center in the Central Texas area for now, she said.

"Our parent food bank in Austin is going to serve Falls, Freestone and Limestone counties after Jan 1; after that we will concentrate on the direct service approach, which is where we give food directly to households," Kultgen said.

"We will no longer be the distribution center, but we will have food distributed to us," she said.

According to Kultgen, the Sept 11 attacks are not the sole cause of the drop in donations.

"Our donations were already showing stress due to the bad economy before the Sept 11 attacks," she said, "the attacks did not help matters."

"From Sept. 11 to the present, we are down \$8000 from this time last year, and we live on donations," Kultgen said.

The food bank is the only division closing, and there are no plans on closing the other two programs: emergency assistance and the thrift stores, she said.

They are not currently helping with utilities, but they are still helping with medical assistance and referrals for the thrift store and food pantry, Kultgen said.

Caritas has a food drive coming up in November. Caritas needs food for the Nov 16 food drive more than they ever have, not just immediately but long term as well, Kultgen said.

Sunday of service at bridge

Nursing students provide screenings

Jodi Dobbs White
Staff writer

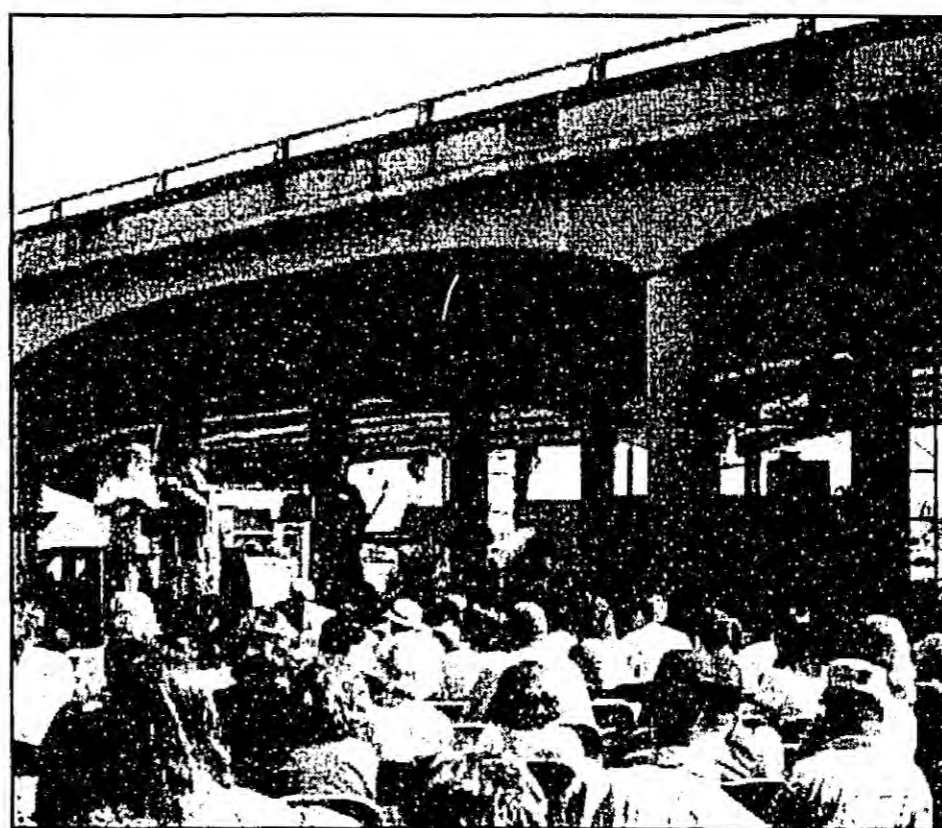
Have you ever washed a total stranger's feet?

Recently, MCC nursing students spent a Sunday proving they could make a difference in the community by providing screenings to homeless people, and the foot care screening included washing their feet. Dr. Debbie Morgan, MCC nursing instructor in the nursing associate degree program, said.

Sunday, Nov 11, saw about a dozen nursing students and four nursing faculty members giving their time at the Church Under the Bridge in order to make four basic screenings available to homeless people who attend their Sunday services: blood pressure, vision testing, foot care and blood glucose levels, Morgan said.

"This is the MCC Nursing Club's third year to provide these services at the Church Under the Bridge. It was great, even though it was raining. We actually stayed dry under the bridge," Morgan said.

According to Kim Patterson, MCC Director of Community Re-



Members gather during Sunday service at Church Under the Bridge

lations and Marketing, the number of people screened this year is larger than in the past two years.

"This is the third year they have done this, and they usually see 40-50 people each time," Patterson said.

There is more involved in the services

Digital Image by Angie Moya

they provide than simply screening these people and sending them away, Morgan said.

"We keep a card on everyone that goes through screening and mark the cards where problems show up. Most problems show up in the blood pressure screen-

ing," Morgan said. After their screenings this year, everyone was given a hat, gloves, socks and fresh fruit, Morgan said.

"These items are collected from among the Health Careers faculty and students or purchased with club funds," Patterson said.

"HEB donated the fruit. They are really good about doing things like that," Morgan said.

According to Morgan, the care for some of these people does not stop with the donations.

"At the end of the day, we take the people who have problems and turn them over to Rita Cone, representative for Mission Waco," Morgan said.

According to Morgan, Rita Cone is responsible for directing these people to medical facilities to receive treatment.

Mission Waco sponsors the Church Under the Bridge and representatives are there every Sunday, Morgan said.

This is a service that the MCC Nursing Club plans to continue to provide annually, Morgan said.

"These students made a big difference for these folks. It shows that MCC is taking their place in providing for the community," Morgan said.

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Op Ed

November 15, 2001

McLennan Community College

Page 7

You're not a victim get over it!

Kasia Redden
Staff Writer

In America, I have a hard time believing that anyone has no choice but to beg for money and food on a street corner. In America, I have a hard time believing that you have no choice but to spend your whole life on welfare to support your children. No, I didn't say that being on welfare was bad, or unacceptable. I said that STAYING on welfare as a permanent means of support was unacceptable.

Welfare, ideally, is meant to be a stepping stone, something to help people get back on their feet, like drawing unemployment. There are people who have circumstances beyond their own control at some times. These circumstances may put them in a position to need welfare for a time. Once again, this should be a temporary means of support, not easy money.

There are jobs to be had. Perhaps not glamorous or fun jobs... perhaps not the job that little kids dreamed about having... but there are jobs, nonetheless. This, of course, means that I have no sympathy for the people who choose to remain jobless. Yes, I did say CHOOSE. You may not have a choice when you lose a job, but you do have a choice in whether you remain jobless. For the homeless, there are organizations that will provide a shower, clean clothes, and warm food. After that shower, shave and a hot meal, these people should be presentable enough to go and look for a job. Most places that hire regularly, namely fast-food restaurants, want people who look presentable enough to be serving food, and who are willing to work and to learn. These places will train new employees how to use different equipment, from cash registers to cookery. There is no excuse why someone shouldn't at least try and put in an application.

On that same note, there are many construction, plumbing, and other companies who could use laborers. The job usually requires the ability to dig, deliver equipment, and follow instructions. Most places pay fairly well, usually between \$10 and \$15 an hour. In time, especially in the plumbing business, you can enter apprenticeship school, earn more money, learn a new trade, and eventually earn a license. There are career opportunities to be had, if people are willing to try.

There are children born into the world every day with debilitating diseases and injuries. Many of those children live and succeed because no one tells them that they are unable to do so. There are paraplegic runners,

blind mountain climbers, deaf composers, and quadriplegic artists. These people look to their goals and then look at how they can achieve them. They run on prosthetics, and help develop better ones that will enable more activity. They get a good team of sighted mountain climbers, choose a mountain, and start climbing. They lay their pianos on the floor and feel for the vibration of the notes. They hold paintbrushes in their mouths and learn to control and paint with their teeth. They conquer their fears and their illnesses, no matter how hard it may be. These people succeed in a different way, using different methods, but they succeed

how you want to handle the opportunities that are presented to you. Your opportunities may not always be the same ones as everyone else has, and they may not always be as glamorous as some others, but they ARE opportunities. There isn't anyone who can say that they do not have choices in this country. I don't care who you are or what your situation is, you have or have had an opportunity to make choices that could drastically affect the rest of your life. Even if it is only the choice to live or die, it is a choice.

Now, I am not asking people to run out and expect to change the world, or change the course of their lives in a day, but I am asking that people take

Jonmichael Swetnam
Staff Writer

There are no victims in America. No, that's not entirely true.

There are a few people in this nation that have been chronically and systematically shafted out of life, liberty, possession of property, and the inalienable right to pursue happiness, what ever happiness may be.

They're called Native Americans. Before we go any further, let's define the word 'victim'.

What exactly makes you a victim? If a 'victim' is someone who has a traumatic or otherwise bad experience happen to them, then we are ALL victims.

We are victims of money, music,

fears, insecurities, overconfidence, corrupt government, honest politicians, personal prejudices, educated opinions, advertising, the news media, mistaken perceptions, faulty products, frivolous lawsuits, a malignant sun that is slowly killing us with steadily increasing levels of gamma rays...the list goes on for chapters.

There are thousands of kids who get smacked across the backs of their big fat heads because they are too smart or too stupid.

There are thousands of adults who are routinely betrayed because they trusted the wrong person or because the right person trusted them.

There are people who are victims of families that don't care at all, and there are victims of families that care too much.

A syllogism: those who suffer are victims. Life is composed largely of suffering (at least, the parts that show you who you are consist of suffering).

Therefore, if those who suffer are victims, and living means having to suffer at one point or another in some way, shape, or form, then those who live are victims.

Unless of course they kill themselves. In which case they might be a victim of death.

Or maybe a victim of life, depending on how you look at it.

Now, on to the issue of suffering. I would first like to point out that this is one of the few countries on the planet that will actively try to keep you from starving to death or killing yourself with or over wine, women, song, dance, and what not.

We have outreach programs and focus groups and all sorts of helpful stuff for people who are beaten down

by life.

There are people out there who do care enough to go and try to help others.

We live in a society that has a growth industry or twelve feeding off of the fact that we all hurt and we all want a shoulder to cry on.

There are people out there who will work to build you a house, just because they want to build you a house.

Go look at the self help section of the local book-nook sometime. Amazing, isn't it?

I never took psychology courses: I just went to the library; there are books in that self-help section that help you deal with conditions you've never heard of.

We have suicide hotlines.

We have welfare systems and medical aid systems that help get you food and get you medicine and pay some money so you don't have to run yourself ragged trying to earn enough money to buy starvation wages.

How then can you say you suffer, as you sit here in a society that is ready, willing, and eager to help (for a modest and reasonable fee, of course)?

How can you sit in a government-supplied house and say you are downtrodden?

Have you been enslaved?

Has the army come by and burnt your house down?

Probably not.

How can people go on national television and complain about the fact that their freedom of speech is being stifled?

I would wager that people do this because it is convenient.

I would imagine that people can sit here and say they are suffering victims of the cold and heartless machinery of fate, because it is much easier to be lazy than it is to actually claw your way out of a bad situation.

And no, I'm not saying all people on welfare are lazy.

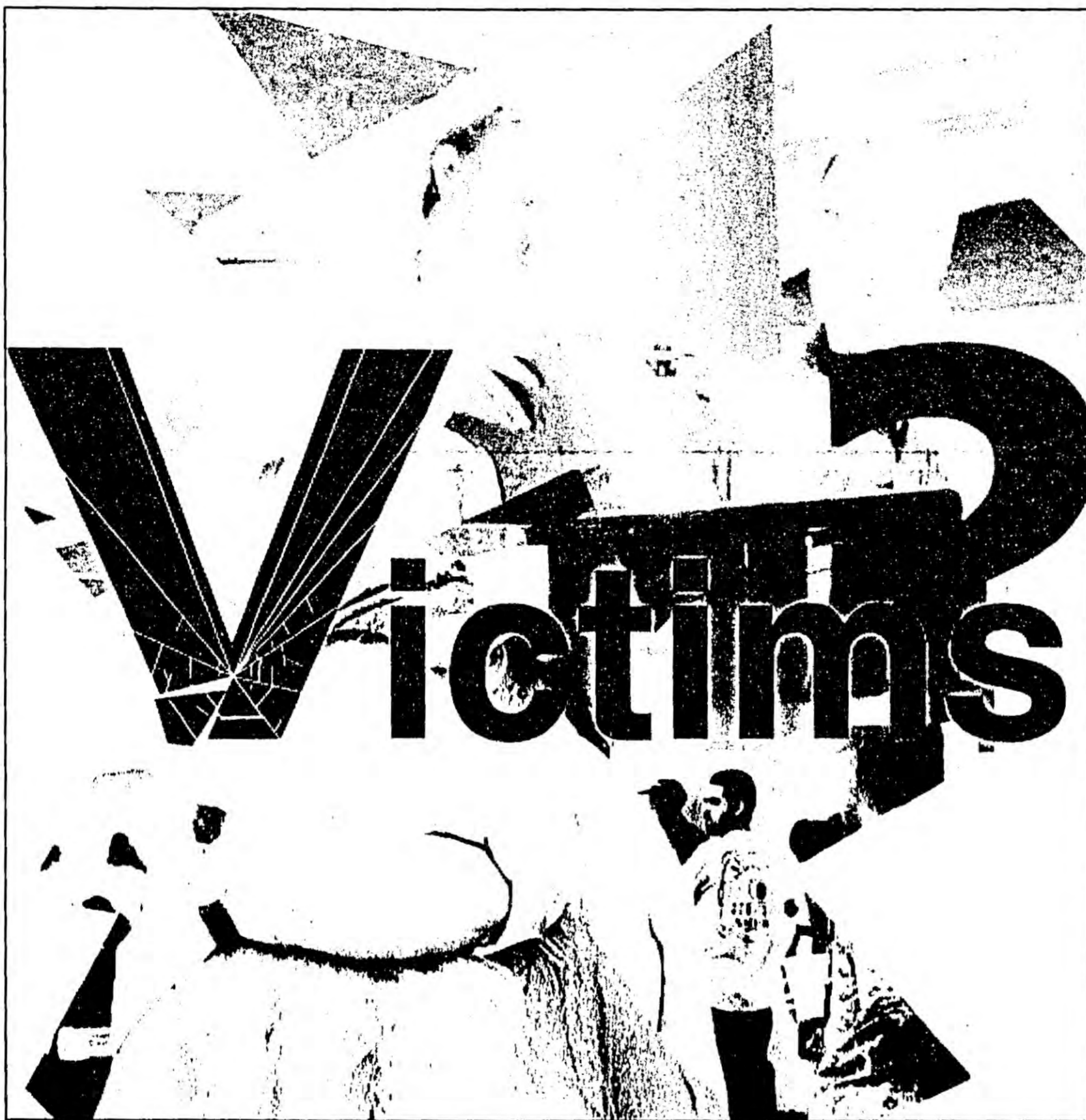
I'm not saying there aren't people out there who get victimized.

I am saying that there are people who look at what happens to them, and try to change it. Those people may be victimized, but they are not victims.

I am saying that there are people who hide behind the word victim because they can't get over the fact that life doesn't always serve up a dish of roses.

I am saying these people need to get over it and console themselves with the age old comfort to victims throughout time, be they real or imagined.

It could be worse.



nonetheless.

No matter how bad off you may be there is always someone who has it worse than you do. You can choose

a little responsibility for themselves.

We are not victims of circumstance; we are victims of ourselves, of our over-guarded pride and our collective

laziness. No, every individual isn't lazy, but as a society, we are. You're only a victim if you allow yourself to be. Stop allowing it, and do

song, dance, and what not.

We have outreach programs and focus groups and all sorts of helpful stuff for people who are beaten down

Korea and Japan: It's time to bury the hatchet

Sung H. Hwang
Staff Writer

Could you look at these relationships: France and Germany in Europe, India and Pakistan in Central Asia, and Korea and Japan in East Asia, etc? Can you find anything similar? There is a common enemy or acute rivalry in history. In my opinion, of all these countries, the relationship between Japan and Korea is especially complicated, due to their convoluted history.

Dr. Hohli, a Japanese scientist, scrutinized Chinese, Korean and Japanese DNA. Results showed that there are many similarities between Japanese and Korean DNA. On the other hand, Chinese DNA didn't show any common features at all with that of Japanese. In other words, this fairly proves a hypothesis that the ancient

Japanese moved from the Korean Peninsula around 2000 years ago, even though there are still several contradictions.

The Baekjae, one of three ancient countries in the Korean peninsula, started to deliver its peculiar culture to ancient Japan. For example, people can observe similarities in pottery crafted in Japan and Korea. However, alternating cycles of war and peace still dominate the histories of these two nations. Japan has always wanted to advance into China through the Korean Peninsula. This desire has sparked several conflicts.

In modern history, Japan fatally agonized Korea with the principle of totalitarian rule. Korea at that time didn't wisely treat and receive new western culture, unlike Japan. The gap of power between Japan and

Korea and Japanese desire as a conqueror produced a long humiliating history for 35 years to Korea. One of the most typical examples was the existence of Korean comfort women during the Second World War. These women were essentially kidnapped from their homes and families and used to provide sexual favors for Japanese soldiers.

After Japan's defeat in the Second World War, America had a special chance to restore their vanquished enemy's economy and social infrastructure. It's the very Korean War from 1950 to 1953. So did Korea. The war in Vietnam rehabilitated Korea not having any economic momentum before the war. In fact, it was one of the significant reasons of the miracle of the Han

River. Japan once was called No.1 in the world economy by a professor in Harvard University even though it was not true. Korea also has cut a fine figure in the world economy since especially 1980's. However, despite physical abundance of both countries, odd hostility has not disappeared in most Korean mind and some extreme right-side Japanese nationalists are still likely to think Japanese attack and forage on Asia during the war was natural destiny. This is the very problem I want to point out in this column.

Koreans need to correctly look at present Japanese advantages and disadvantages. Many Koreans are stuck in unconditional animosity. This is a gigantic obstacle improving relations. Even though Japan is one of the strongest countries in the world,

many Koreans are caught up in national pride and tend to ignore Japan. Before doing that, Korea should make an effort to realize that Koreans could learn from Japanese who firmly raised up their country.

On the other hand, Japan should repent its sins in the war. In fact, Japanese people committed many crimes against Asian countries during the war, but it seems they haven't sincerely confessed. Besides that, even they fabricated some fakes about modern history in their history textbooks for students. Many Asian countries, including China and Korea, blasted this arrogant attitude. In order to gain trust in the international society, it is time for Japan to show tolerance and politeness, especially if it wants to be one of the managing countries in UN such as America, China, Russia, and so forth.

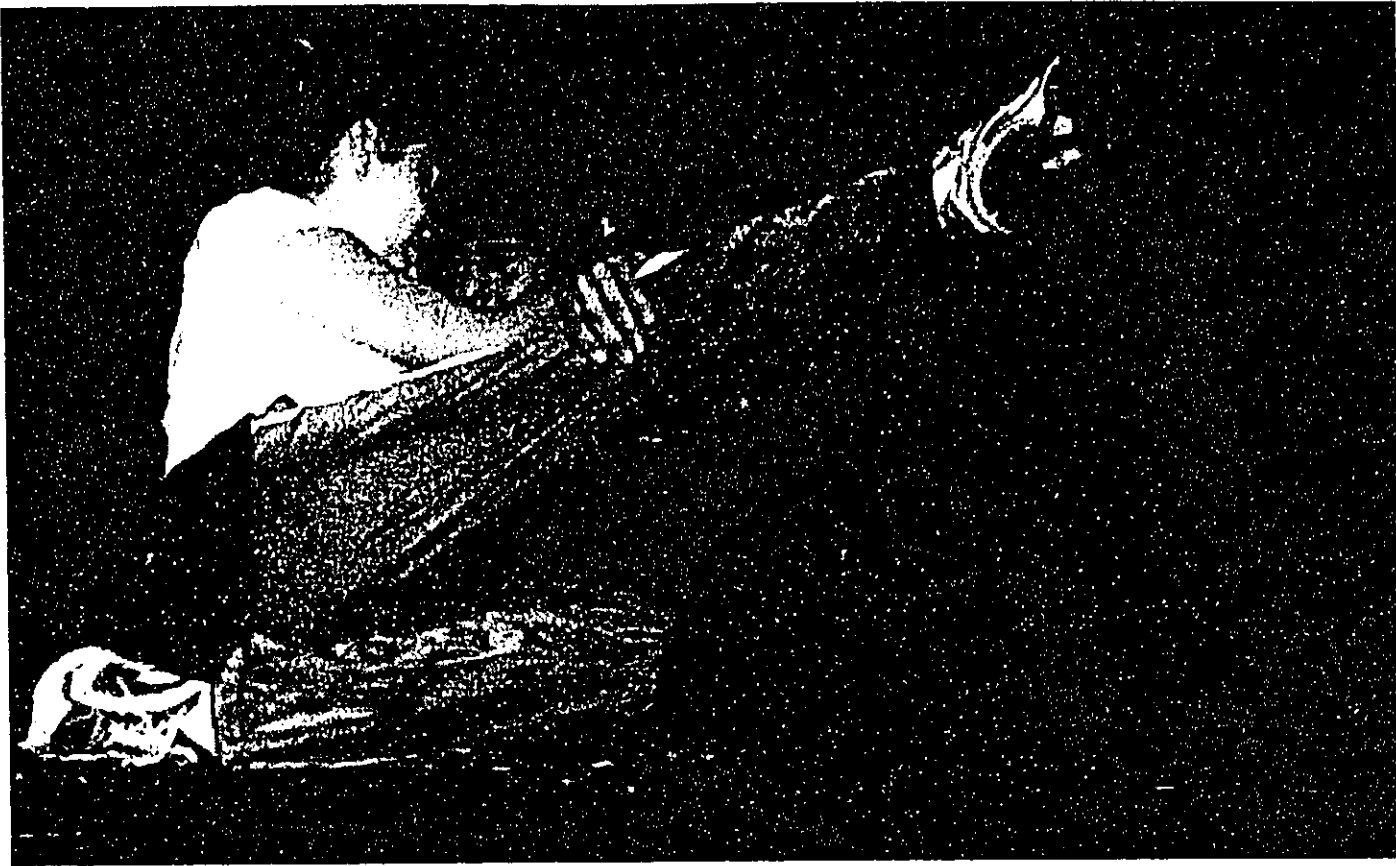
What could be a constructive and positive transformation point in the relationship between Korea and Japan? Many people would say "the 2002 Korea-Japan World Cup."

The World Cup is regarded as one of most famous sports events in the world, like the Olympics. The 2002 Korea-Japan World Cup is supposed to be held in ten cities in each country from May 31 to June 30, 2002. Without intimate cooperation and compromise, both of them might fail to successfully finish the event. While preparing the event, they may negate the long history of conflict and develop further intimacy.

Indeed, many Koreans hope that the first World Cup of this century serves as a turning point and fosters a desirable relationship in the 21 century between Korea and Japan.

entertainment

Practice helps make perfect



UTA and MCC colaboatre for recital on campus

Harlan Short
Entertainment Editor

The Ball Performing Arts Center was set with nothing more than a grand piano and a vase of red flowers for the faculty recital on Nov. 6.

The performance consisted of UT Austin faculty member and tenor Douglas W. Bolin on vocals, accompanied by MCC faculty member Andrew Hudson on piano.

The show opened with three self-standing Italian pieces by Bononcini and Durante.

The second portion consisted of seven German selections from "Schwanengesang" by Franz Schubert followed by a brief intermission.

After the intermission, eight songs from "Winter Words, Op. 52" by Benjamin Britten were performed. The recital was closed with three pieces from "Fiona MacLeod, Op. 11" by Charles Tomlinson Griffes.

Several factors went into the selection of the songs. One was experience with the pieces.

"Dr. Bolin did his lecture recital for his doctorate on the 'Winter Words' and he had already performed the last group," said Dr. Hudson of the selections.

Another factor was choosing something they liked. "Schwanengesang" by Schubert is one of Dr. Hudson's "favorite sets of songs."

"Plus," said Dr. Hudson "they (all songs) contrast well with each other in mood and style."

The selection of music was well received.

"I liked the repertoire. The music selection was really good," Gene Olvera, a voice student at MCC, said.

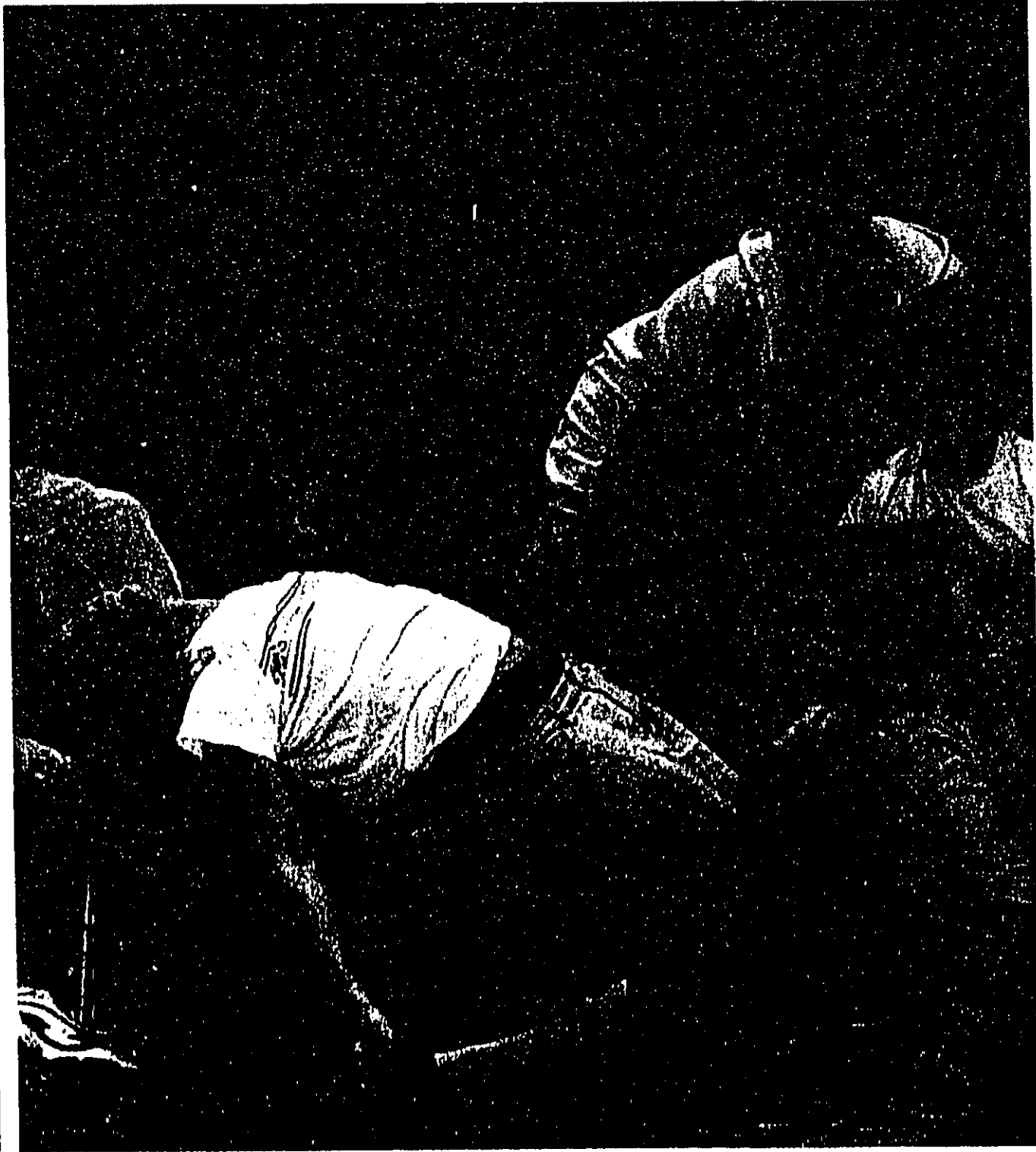
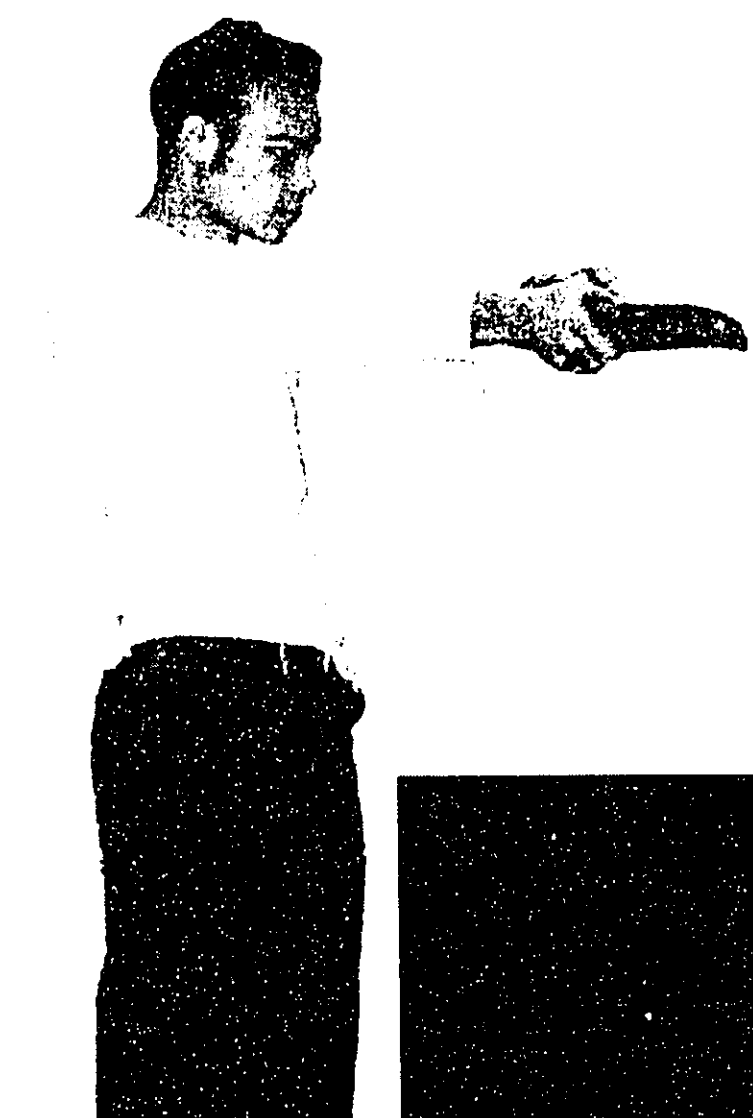
Dr. Bolin, who previously taught at Baylor, is now employed at the University of Texas-Austin. He met Dr. Hudson while he was teaching at Baylor.

Dr. Hudson has performed in Mexico, Canada, Italy, and Germany, as well as the United States.

He has specialized as piano accompanist for vocalists and has performed around a thousand songs over the past ten years.

Piano lessons began when he was seven years old. He received a bachelor's degree from the North Carolina School of the Arts, a master's degree from the University of Cincinnati, and a doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Hudson is in his third year as an adjunct faculty member for the MCC music department.



Harlan Short
Entertainment Editor

Practices for the drama department's latest production of Tennessee Williams's, "Camino Real" have been moving along at a fast pace for the past several weeks.

"They're going well. I'm extremely fast when it comes to blocking...I like to get the shape of it so that we can detail the play within the shape," said Jerry MacLauchlin of practices.

The story centers around the Camino Real, a mythic place formulated in a dream the adventurer Don Quixote has after his trusty servant Sancho deserts him in an unidentified Latin American town along the road, Camino Real.

In this dream, Kilroy, a former boxing champion in the search of a way out, is both taken advantage of and befriended by the various inhabitants who range from literary figures to fictional stereotypes of world cultures.

Digital Images by Jorge Trujillo

Class requirement gives students a live audience

Harlan Short
Entertainment Editor

Students at MCC performed a wide array of musical pieces at the student recital on Nov. 1, in the Fine Arts Theatre.

The goal of the recital was to give students whose main focus of study is vocal performance, the chance to perform memorized musical pieces in front of a live audience of their peers.

The student recital is also a class requirement.

"We're required to sing in one recital each semester," Jason Chisolm, a student who performed that evening, said.

The students who performed that evening were as follows: Matt Husted with "Zueignung" by Strauss, Gene Olvera with "Sleep" by Gurney, Jason Chisolm with "Danza, Danza, Fanciulla Gentile" by Arietta, Rengan Hancock with "Jesus, the Very Thought of You" by James Hanson, Cayyle Luera with "Deh Vieni Non Tar Dar" by Mozart, and Joe Norman with "Il Mio Bel POCO" by Mareello and "Where'er You Walk" by Handel.

As an added bonus Sarah Hibbard-Brown performed an unscheduled piece, "O Del Mio Dolce Ardor" by Gluck.

The next student recital will be on Nov. 29 in the Fine Arts Theatre at 6 pm.

It is a bit of comedy, a bit of pageantry, and a bit of vaudeville all mixed up into a metaphorical play about finding hope in the face of diversity and letting the past go.

"The theme basically is hope. I don't care how much despair you have or how many negative feelings there's always hope. There's always light at the end of the tunnel...I think the play also signifies not living in the past," said MacLauchlin about the themes of the show.

The play "Camino Real" is considered, in some critics' opinion, one of Tennessee Williams' best and is also considered one that does not fit within the bounds of other plays he has written.

"Tennessee William was going through some sort of midlife crisis. This was just a venting of sorts... He was venting a little bit about the way theatre was being structured because he goes totally against

theatre conventions," said MacLauchlin, of the play write.

During the writing of the script, Tennessee Williams was heavily influenced by the film "Casablanca" which he saw some thirty times in the theatre.

So naturally MCC's production of "Camino Real" will have a structural look to it with a film noir feel.

Dance will play a major role in giving the production a Latin atmosphere and energy with several scenes consisting of choreographed dance sequences.

Work on the set, costumes, and lighting of "Camino Real" has been going on for several weeks now.

The drama department's latest production will run from the evenings of Nov. 28-Dec. 1 at the Ball Performing Arts Center, on the MCC campus.

"It's basically like a dream you want to wake up from, but there is hope at the end of the tunnel," said MacLauchlin about the play.

"Camino Real" is under the direction of Jerry MacLauchlin.

To get reservations or more information about show times for the "Camino Real" or any other MCC production call the box office at 299-8200.

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/26/01	11/30/01
11/28/01	12/01/01
12/01/01	12/04/01
12/04/01	12/07/01
12/07/01	12/10/01
12/10/01	12/13/01
12/13/01	12/16/01
12/16/01	12/19/01
12/19/01	12/22/01
12/22/01	12/25/01
12/25/01	12/28/01
12/28/01	12/31/01