

Highland Herald

McLennan Community College, Waco, TX
http://www.mclennan.edu/hherald/index.htm

Volume 41, Number 2

September 12, 2003

Board adopts \$27.9 million budget

Erica Sanchez
Managing Editor

The McLennan Community College 2003-2004 budget includes property tax increases and budget cuts.

The McLennan Community College Board of Trustees adopted a budget of \$27.9 million for the 2003-2004 fiscal year on Aug. 26, which included \$343,000 in budget cuts and an 18 percent property tax increase, but refrained from increasing tuition for the 2004 spring semester.

Although the board didn't increase tuition for the upcoming semester, the 2004 summer semester is not protected from increases, and will

be considered at a later date.

In order to avoid some unwanted cuts, Board President, Bob Sheehy Jr. said that \$100,000 should be added to the cuts as revenue. The board approved his proposal.

The board considered another budget scenario before coming to the \$27.9 million conclusion.

The alternative also included an 18 percent tax increase, but tuition for the 2004 spring and summer semesters would have risen to \$3 per semester hour and fewer cuts would have been made.

"Almost all the teachers are teaching an extra class," MCC President Dennis Michaelis said.

"They (the faculty) are going beyond the call of duty. That is not what I encourage, but it is what the faculty are willing to do for students,"

Jack Schneider, Vice President of Instruction.

This is due to the increased enrollment, he said.

As of Aug. 26 the enrollment was at 7,200, which could have a 75- to 100-student decrease for non-payment or increase because some students are still registering, said Lynn Abernathy, Dean of Student Services.

"They (the faculty) are going

beyond the call of duty. That is not what I encourage, but it is what the faculty are willing to do for students," said Jack Schneider, Vice President of Instruction.

Another discussion involved the President's report of current activities at MCC, in which Michaelis said, "All you need to do is look at

the parking lot to see what's going on at MCC."

Michaelis said that the McGregor Center addition has an enrollment of 525, well beyond his expectations.

He also said that community enthusiasm for the center was apparent when a local church greeted students

on the first day with free drinks and homemade cookies.

"If we didn't have those seats at McGregor we would need that here, and more parking spaces," he said.

He said that everything has been orderly. There have been no severe traffic or parking problems.

If it wasn't for the temporary parking lot on Powell Drive and the lot by the CSC, Michaelis said, MCC would be in trouble.

In other business Michaelis asked the approval of the board to purchase a house for MCC at 1820 Powell Dr. for \$35,000. MCC owns all but one house on the left side of Powell Drive. This house would be used for further

Revived New interest takes program out of slump

John Pippin
Staff Writer

MCC's engineering program, has been resuscitated from a two-year slump thanks to a renewed student interest.

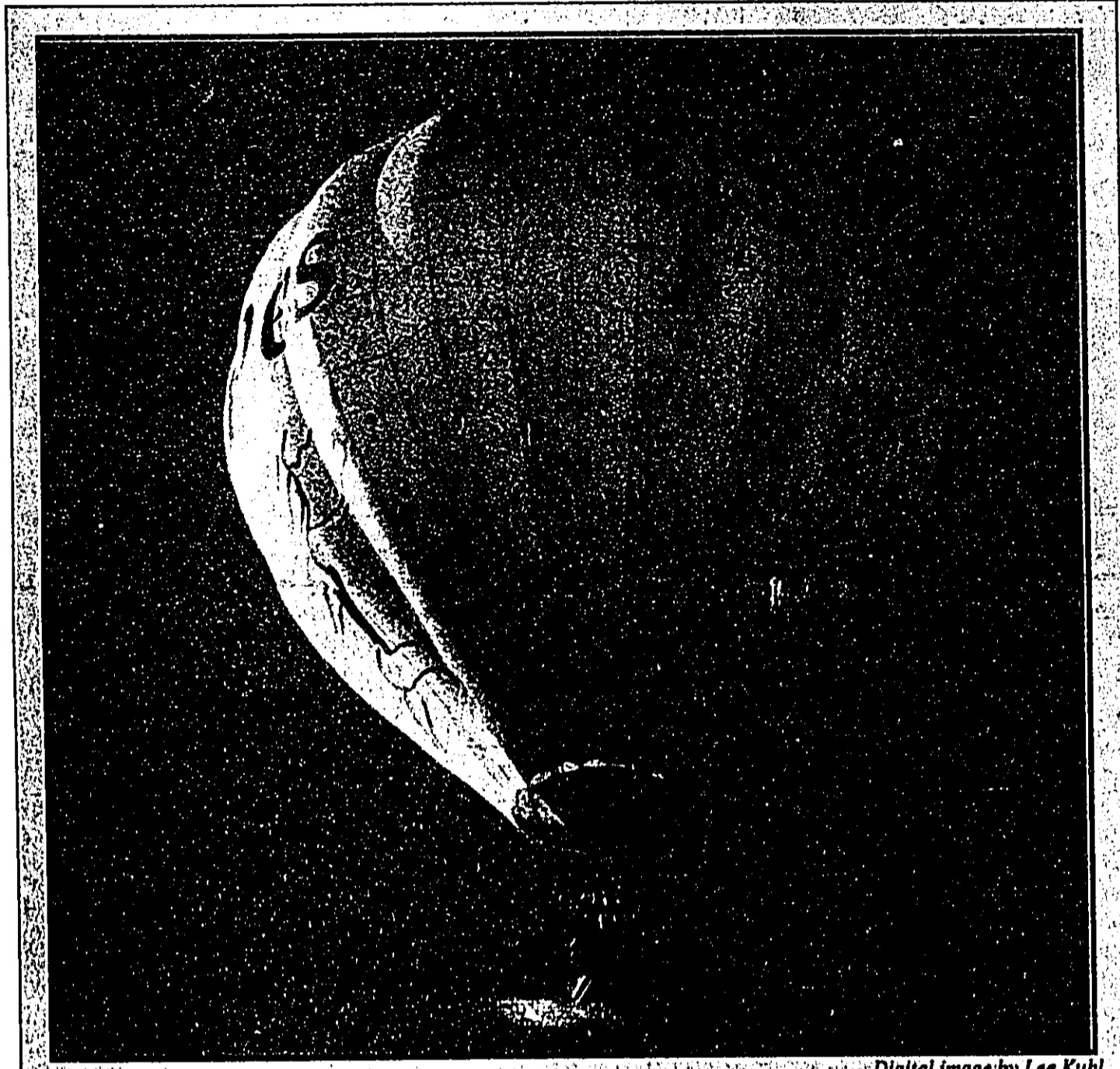
"During this period of statewide budget cuts and the scaling back of college programs at many Texas community colleges, I am proud to state that MCC has the foresight to revive and update their engineering program after a two year hibernation period," said Program Director Dr. Jeff Watson.

The program is math and science intensive, and the current Associate of Science degree program contains the approved Engineering Field of Study that includes 18 hours of advanced math courses, 13 hours of engineering, 16 hours of science, and 19 hours of general education/physical education courses.

Courses common to most engineering programs throughout Texas make up the 66 credits students earn after two years.

They are transferable to any publicly funded four-year Texas university or college.

Students also will be required to take three semesters of Calculus, one semester of Differential Equations, one semester of Linear Algebra, two see engineering on page 3



Digital image by Lee Kuhl

Balloons flew over Waco September 3-7. Balloonists competed in the Heart of Texas National Hot Air Balloon Championship, taking off from Baylor Campus and landing in various places across town.

New Tartan Cafe for CSC in the works

Trinda Martin
Staff writer

A new café is in the works at MCC.

However, some details have yet to be ironed out.

MCC plans to build the café at the front entrance of the CSC building near the Child Development Center.

The Tartan Café will cater to the needs of faculty and students who spend most of their time in the CSC, and allow them to avoid walking all the way to the LTC for a meal, said Gary Willis, Senior Auxiliaries Specialist for Financial Services.

The projected date for the café opening is Oct. 1, Willis said.

He said he anticipates the same hours and services as the CSC's current café, the Snack Shack, but with a more spacious layout.

Willis said he hopes the new café will offer a more pleasant eating area



Digital image by Lee Kuhl

New area for Tartan Cafe. for faculty and students.

The larger space is intended to offer a better atmosphere to facilitate smoother customer traffic.

"There will be plenty of coffee, and hopefully, a menu for hot meal items," Willis said.

The Snack Shack is expected to close on Sept. 26th.

Police report

Parking violations, lock outs and car start-ups in first weeks of school

Jason Ellis
Staff writer

During the first week of class for MCC, Police Officers helped nine motorists with low batteries, six automobile lock-outs and one student with a flat tire, Larry Radke, Chief of Campus Police said.

More than 800 students were given written warnings for various parking violations.

Beginning this week, officers will no longer be giving out mere warnings.

Instead, citations will be issued Radke said.

Fines start at \$20 for parking violations and \$15 for no parking sticker.

Parking stickers can be obtained in the LTC building at MAC Card desk.

Officers reported the following activities:

Theft in Fine Arts building on August 8.

Criminal Mischief in Lot N on August 14.

Vandalism in CSC E on August 24.

Medical emergency in Applied Sciences Building on August 28.

Vehicle accident at the intersection of College Dr. and Highlander Dr.

Property found at intersection of Park Lake and Lake Shore Dr on September 2.

Vehicle accident in Lot B on September 2.

"MCC is a safe campus," Radke said.

Radke, a 12 year veteran at MCC, supervises six officers and four security guards that make up the campus police force.

13-year-old accepts MCC challenge

Margo E. Moreno
Editor in chief

Troy Dodge is a normal 13 years old who just happens to be in his second year of college taking nine hours each fall and spring semester.

"I need something more challenging and something at my level; I know a lot of the stuff in the grade level I should be in and thought college would be the most challenging thing," Dodge said.

With Dodge in his second year in college, he feels more settled and used to college life he said.

"I was afraid people would think of me as just a kid, but they haven't. They've really accepted me," he said.

At the age of three Dodge taught himself to read with the influence of his mother he said.

"We thought he was memorizing pages like most kids do, but we realized he could read when he picked up a book we had never read to him and started reading it," said Dodge's mother and teacher Marilina Weis.

Weis home schools Dodge, a course she was advised to after



Digital image by Margo E. Moreno

Troy Dodge looking over his piano book. He is taking National Government Freshmen English and Piano this semester.

having him privately tested.

Home schooling allows her to set a curriculum at Dodge's pace since he was ahead of children his age.

He is still being taught math and

science at home, since he is not at college level yet Weis said.

Dodge attends PE classes at the YMCA and also attends Baylor's University for Young People.

The Baylor program allows him to work in groups and go on field trips. "The sort of things that come regular with public school he gets at the University for Young People," Weis said.

This past summer Dodge was given an internship with the School of Engineering and Computer Sciences at Baylor.

This internship gave him the opportunity to build a web page for the program.

He sings for the Waco Symphony Boys Choir and also for his church choir.

Dodge also has a part-time job as a soccer referee, and he also plays soccer for the Heart of Texas Soccer Association.

Dodge competes in ten and five kilometer runs.

"I am pretty physically involved in things," Dodge said.

And for fun he likes to relax in front of the TV or just play video games he said.

He plans to attend MCC until he's eighteen and then transfer to Baylor, where he will major in Pre-Med he said.

Student Life

MCC student survives New York blackout

Blackout
By Arthur Fisher

I didn't expect it, and it was nothing like I expected. I was in New York City during the blackout.

Inside the Times Square Toys 'R Us, where the return to the 19th Century found me, is a two-story Barbie Dreamhouse, a 15-foot tall dinosaur, a complete adult-sized recreation of Candyland and a four-story Ferris wheel.

Every single toy appears to have it's own larger-than-life promotion behind it.

So when the power went out, I kept expecting a spotlight to turn on a giant giraffe telling me about the great deals on floor three.

But Geoffrey was silent.

Instead two large men with flashlights barreled out of the emergency doors screaming for everyone to move towards the exit.

At the time, I assumed that the power had just gone out in the store and would return shortly.

Everyone made his or her way orderly and calmly out the front exit without incident.

Except for some very frightened people who were stuck on the now motionless Ferris wheel.

After I made my way out of the building, it became apparent that the problem was just a little bit bigger.

Times Square is lights.

Every inch of every building is an electric billboard.

Without power, one of the busiest and most exciting places in the world was gray and barren.

But there was no reason to panic.

The Metropolitan Transit Authority does construction constantly, and I assumed they had just cut a wire that took out this block.

I decided to walk south, where I was positive power was still up and running.

As I walked, the problem got a little bigger.

In New York City, pedestrians and automobiles wage a constant battle

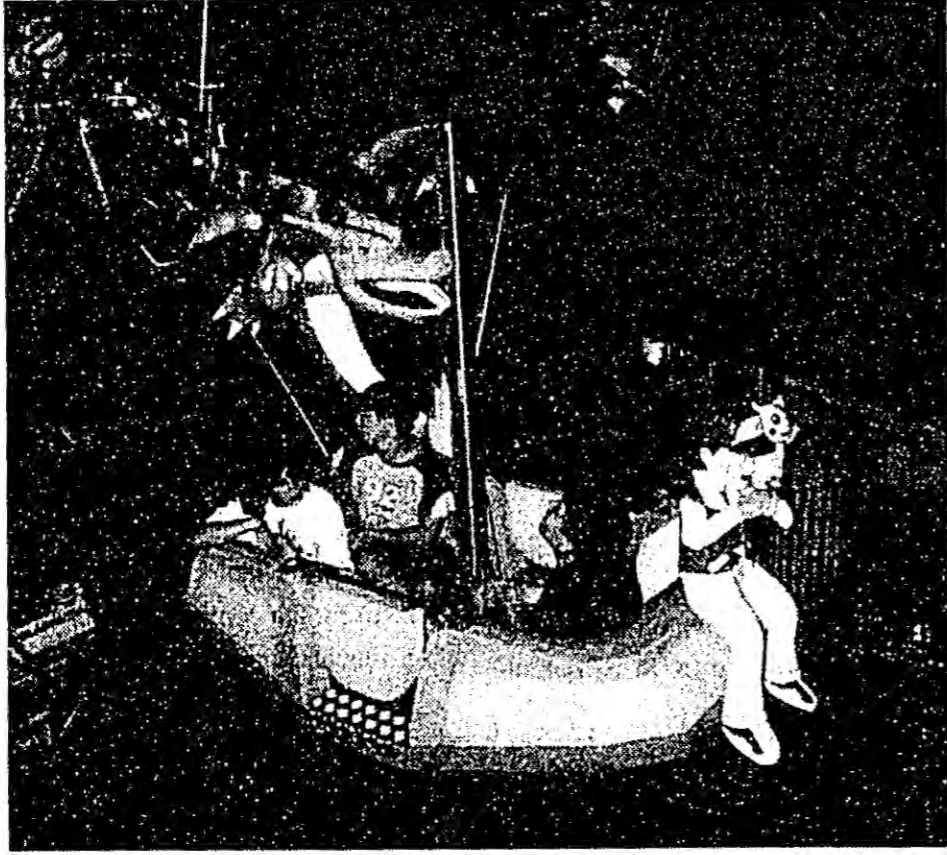


Image by Arthur Fisher

Not even Pikachu could save these children from the New York blackout.

for control of the streets.

Traffic lights and WALK signs usually keep this battle in check.

Without power, however, every intersection of New York descended into chaos.

People didn't know when to walk, cars didn't know when to drive and traffic for both was becoming worse by the second.

To top it all off, everyone who had been inside a building was now pouring into the streets, and each of them had the same idea. Now the streets were packed with people all wanting to cross the street without a bright, white stick figure to tell them it was safe.

I was confident in my ability to get where I needed to be.

None of those New Yorkers knew that I had a secret weapon.

I was from Texas.

I viewed this trepidation to cross the street like any Texan views a four-way stop: If you're wondering whose turn it is to go, it's not yours.

I barreled down the pavement, hoping that in just a few blocks I

would find power.

Instead, I saw more and more shopkeepers closing their doors. Without power to work the registers, they had no reason to stay open.

Without shops to be in, more and more people began crowding the streets. Everyone had a look of confusion on his or her face and walked the sidewalks, not because they had somewhere to be, but because they didn't know what else to do.

Every few blocks a street performer or a pavement preacher took advantage of a now-captive audience.

One break-dance troop appeared to be calming people down, made jokes and invited people to join the act.

One group with a battery-powered microphone told everyone the outage was the work of the white devil, which had quite the opposite effect of calm. Through it all I thought the power would come on any second.

Surely a long-term blackout couldn't happen in the largest city in the United States.

Even the power in Valley Mills comes

on after about five hours.

As I walked further south, there were groups of people huddled around car radios, listening to the news.

Here I found out the power wasn't just in this part of Manhattan.

It wasn't even limited to New York. The power in the entire Northeast had shut down.

Then I knew it wasn't going to come back on.

I kept expecting panic.

I was sure that any minute someone was going to scream "Fire" and the hordes would begin rioting.

There was a look of tension and frustration on everyone's face. Yet nothing happened.

Looting seemed the last thing on peoples' minds at this point.

One man waiting in line for a now cancelled concert screamed out the word "Terrorist", but was met with disapproving looks from people who had lived through a real terrorist attack, and knew this wasn't it.

Walking down the streets, I could see teenage girls crying on the sidewalks. I almost instinctively knew that they weren't crying out of fear or panic.

They were tourists, crying because their vacation had just been ruined.

For those who lived in the city, there was no time to cry and no time to

panic.

The subways were down; the buses were stuck in immovable traffic and it was getting dark.

No one cared about the rhyme or reason behind the blackout, they just needed to get home before the city that never sleeps grew so dark you couldn't see your hand in front of your face.

So I walked north to meet some friends at our school and see if I could stay with one of them, rather than walking the 10 miles to my Brooklyn apartment, a walk that would require that I know at least 15 different gang signs.

I was tired, hungry and furious at a city that I felt had let me down, as was everyone around me.

But there was nothing to do but keep walking.

Some restaurants began offering \$1 drinks (insanely low cost in New York) and had blackout parties on their porches because the refrigeration had failed.

Some people, stuck at Grand Central Station with no way to their homes outside the city, camped out for the night in the middle of the train station.

One man went from street vendor to street vendor buying as much bottled water as he could and selling it for

twice the price in grueling, unair-conditioned heat that most Yankees aren't used to.

I ended up volunteering to escort one of my classmates home to Roosevelt Island, the redheaded stepchild of the five boroughs.

It's there, but no one talks about it. This meant I was walking six miles into Queens with about a million other people.

The Queens Borough Bridge was a sea of people.

Police officers tried to keep order between traffic and pedestrians, but there is only so much that can be accomplished by yelling at a tightly-packed group of sweaty, annoyed mob.

We all crossed when we wanted, to the very nasty looks of some truck drivers.

The sun set as I walked into Roosevelt Island.

I was hungry, hot, angry and exhausted, but for the first time in five hours I had a chance to think.

I had been far too busy walking, deciding what to do and snapping photographs to pay attention to what had just happened.

The country's largest city had just shut down, and everyone was okay. There was no panic, no rioting.

Most people were safe, fed and had a place to stay.

New York wasn't crippled without electricity; it was just annoyed.

I looked up onto a completely dark city, and for the first time in years, Manhattan wasn't visible against night.

For the first time in years, we couldn't see the stars.



Image by Arthur Fisher

Commuters flood the Queens Borough Bridge fleeing the Manhattan melodrama.

Gym Hours -

Monday - Wednesday
2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
Tuesday - Thursday
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Weight Room Hours

Monday & Wednesday
12:30 pm to 4:00 pm
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Tuesday & Thursday
12:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Friday
12:30 pm to 4:00 pm
5:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Pool Hours

Monday/Wednesday/Thursday

Student Calendar

Student Government

Meetings
Date: Every Monday
Time: 1:00pm
Place: LTC
Student government meetings are open to all students.

Baptist Student Ministry

Free lunch and Fellowship
Date: Every Wednesday
Time: 12:30 - 1:30
Place: By bookstore
For more info call Dave Dover at 754-0989

Phi Theta Kappa

Orientation
Date: September 24
Time: 1:00 & 5:00 pm
Place: MCC Lecture Hall

Student Government

Student Government Election
Date: September 24 & 25
Time: 9am - 1pm
Place: LTC
All students can vote for Student Government officers

Get Fit. Get Paid.

For part-time Package Handlers at FedEx Ground, it's like a paid workout. The work's demanding, but the rewards are big. Come join our team, get a weekly paycheck, tuition assistance and break a sweat with the nation's package delivery leader.

P/T PACKAGE HANDLERS

Qualifications:

- 18 years of age or older
- Must be able to lift 50 lbs.
- Ability to load, unload, sort packages
- Part-time, 5 day week, AM Shift available

Please apply in person, Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm at our terminal:

FedEx Ground
6805-B Imperial Dr.
Waco, TX 76712

fedex.com/es/careers

Women and minorities are encouraged to join the team.



Letters to the Editor

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@students.mclennan.edu

Or drop them off at the CSC Room B42

Phone (254) 299-8524

Fax (254) 299-8747

* anonymous letters will not be printed

Highland Herald Staff

Editor in chief
Margo E. Moreno

Managing Editor
Erica Sanchez

Copy Editor
Jon Michael Swetnam

Student Editor
Anson McHenry
Tyler Darby

Sports Editor
Aaron Smith

Photo Editor
Leah Hill

Entertainment Editor
Magen Rigdon
Brandi McCarty

Staff Reporters

Tony Farris
Jason Ellis
Megan Farris
Trinda Martin
John Pippitt

Kelli Pope
Davis Gonzales
Karin Redden
Mark Cappullo
Fred Buttaccio

By Arthur Fisher

Staff Photographers

Erin Prater

Wes Stron

ΦΘΚ features Tai Chi benefits

Magen Rigdon
Entertainment Editor

Phi Theta Kappa members learned that Tai Chi, a centuries-old Chinese exercise regimen, can relieve pain for arthritis victims.

The first Phi Theta Kappa meeting of the semester featured 12 Tai Chi steps for arthritis sufferers, demonstrated Sept. 2 by Darla Wilson of the Arthritis Foundation.

Wilson, a Tai Chi instructor, spoke about the benefits of the exercise discipline to help relieve pain.

"Arthritis sufferers see a difference in how they feel and get around after taking classes," Wilson said.

She provided an instructional video by Dr. Paul Lam in her lecture.

Dr. Lam contracted arthritis and relied on the ancient Chinese art of Tai Chi to relieve his suffering, she said.

He developed a 12-step program using key moves from Tai Chi to help arthritis sufferers.

Tai Chi helps posture, balance, strength and flexibility.

Dr. Lam currently has a series of videos designed for sufferers.

Wilson said Tai Chi has helped improve her health in other ways.

"It has helped my breathing

improve," she said.

Wilson was presented a gift from the PTK officers.

Free sub sandwiches, chips and sodas were provided at the meeting.

Julie Ming, PTK officer, led members in an "icebreaker" exercise.

She had members answer questions about their personalities, then divided participants into different groups named for snack foods based on their answers.

Groups were named Doritos, potato chips, snack crackers, Cheetos, and pork rinds/beef jerky.

Doritos were the high achievers who are very social, potato chips were considered messy people, snack crackers were shy, Cheetos were the retentive, and pork rinds were loyal.

Mary Gallery spoke about upcoming events such as the PTK Enchanted Evening that raises money for the Cancer Society.

PTK is also raising money and putting a team together for Relay for Life.

PTK members are selling Liberty discount cards to raise money for Regional and National PTK conventions.

The organization will host an ice cream social on Sept. 16 for members to recruit friends and introduce them to the society.

Student Organization Contact Information

Organization Name	Advisor	Phone	E-mail
Baptist Student Ministry	David Dover	754-0989	bsmmcctstc@mcclennan.edu
Black Student Association	Linda Austin	299-8940	laustin@mcclennan.edu
	Johnnie Talton	299-8491	jtalton@mcclennan.edu
	Joyce Spivey		jspivey@mcclennan.edu
Collegiate Organization of Women			
Data Processing & Mgmt Assoc.	Dave Burgett	299-8254	dburgett@mcclennan.edu
Epsilon Delta Pi (Computer Science)	Fred Hills	299-8270	fhills@mcclennan.edu
Gay-Straight Alliance	Kim Roppolo	299-8987	kroppolo@mcclennan.edu
	Julie Groman	299-8600	jgroman@mcclennan.edu
	Bill Howard		bhoward@mcclennan.edu
Inter-Cultural Club	Kim Roppolo	299-8937	kroppolo@mcclennan.edu
	Chelleye Crow		ccrow@mcclennan.edu
International Student Org.	Gail Blanpied	299-8426	gblanpied@mcclennan.edu
M.E.N.C.-Music	Karen Albrecht	299-8284	kalbrecht@mcclennan.edu
Music Teacher Nat'l Assoc.	Ruth Pitts	299-8108	rpitts@mcclennan.edu
Non-Traditional Student Assn.	Mike Campenni	299-8941	mcampenni@mcclennan.edu
Student Paralegal Assn.	Linda Gassaway	299-8203	lgassaway@mcclennan.edu
Student Nursing Assn.	Carol Sherwood	299-8365	csherwood@mcclennan.edu
Physical Therapy Assistants Club	Barbara Gresham	299-8526	bgresham@mcclennan.edu
	Julie Pickle	299-8715	jpickle@mcclennan.edu
Psi Beta (Psychology)	Jim Hail	299-8932	jhail@mcclennan.edu
Rho Kappa Pi (Respiratory)	Doug Gibson	299-8369	dgibson@mcclennan.edu
Sigma Kappa Delta (English)	Carol Lowe	299-8949	clowe@mcclennan.edu
	Jim McKeown	299-8952	jmckeown@mcclennan.edu
	Alesha Vardeman	299-8443	avardeman@mcclennan.edu
	Ashley Cruseturner	299-8909	acruseturner@mcclennan.edu
	Jim McKeown	299-8952	jmckeown@mcclennan.edu
Student Government Assn.			

BSA seeks members and ideas

Kelli Pope
Staff writer

The Black Student Association may provide an answer for those who would like to make a difference but feel it is impossible.

BSA is a relatively new organization at McLennan Community College dedicated to serving the community by working with children.

Members work with the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of America, read to children or become part of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

"We're just trying to give back to the community," Pamela White, BSA President, said.

"We deal mostly with community service," she said.

Although the BSA is open to members, there isn't a regular meeting time yet.

Meetings will probably be scheduled for every other Monday in the old cafeteria above the bookstore, White said.

Recruiting is the group's main focus right now, White said. They're looking for members before they look for ideas, she said.

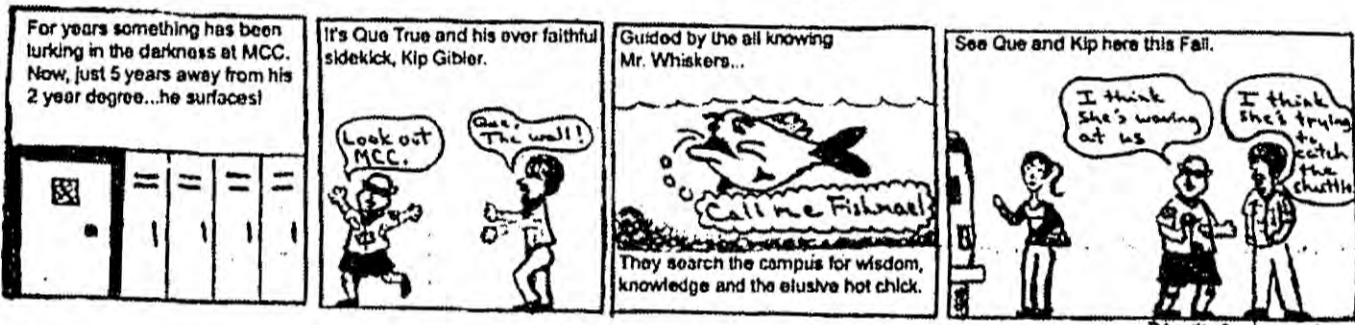
"I'm looking for around 25 to 30 people, but if you're interested in joining, numbers don't really matter," she said.

"We're trying to get new members that are dedicated and actually want to do something," she said.

White became president of the organization this year.

The BSA was a part of MCC last year, but it wasn't well known, she said.

Que and Kip



The English, Fine Arts, and Journalism Departments announce the next issue of

The Stone Circle

MCC's Literary Magazine in Connection with Casa De Café 2003

Vol. 3 No.1

To Submit:

1. Deadline is October 6th, 4pm.
2. All currently enrolled students can submit entries.
3. Include your name, phone #, SS#, and email and/or street address along with the title on a cover sheet.
4. Title of piece only on the manuscript!
5. For further information, contact: Jim McKeown, at ext. 8952, or e-mail jmckeown@mcclennan.edu

LitZine seeks entries
Object: publication

Categories:

Poetry

Short Fiction

Graphic Arts

Submit art to:
Andrew Murad, ext. 8791
or e-mail amurad@mcclennan.edu
Submit writing to:
Jim McKeown, ext. 8952 or e-mail
jmckeown@mcclennan.edu

Multiple entries welcome!
Each entry should have
its own cover sheet!

The Stone Circle
winners may elect to
read poetry at Casa de
Café 2003



Digital image by Wes Strom

Elephants Gerald performed Aug. 22 at the Bosque River Stage

Non-Traditional; not alone

60 percent of MCC students aren't typical high school grads

Brandi McCarly
Staff Writer

Have you ever had to worry about being the oldest student in class? Then you're a non-traditional student, and you are not alone.

Sixty percent of MCC's student body are older, hold full-time jobs, have families, or are returning to school after a gap in their education, said Mike Campenni, the faculty advisor to the Non-Traditional Student Association (NTSA).

A year ago, Campenni first noticed the absence of a support and activities group for those trying to juggle work, family, and school, and the NTSA was formed.

Now an active student association, the NTSA pride themselves on being a non-political and non-controversial group, Campenni said.

Their goal is to be known as the group that helps balance family and school life, Campenni said.

The members' spouses and

children are invited to the NTSA's social activities, which include a movie night on the first Thursday of each month, and a bowling night every third Thursday.

Upcoming activities also include a trip to the Ball Park in Arlington and concerts at the Bosque River Stage.

They also encourage community involvement, and are volunteering for the Cancer Run/Walk and events with Keep Waco Beautiful.

In September they are hosting financial aid seminars designed specifically for non-traditional students, and a women's health seminar, "Balancing the Female, Mother, and Significant Other" scheduled for October.

They also have a mentoring program that matches new students with more experienced ones.

Some members even schedule classes together to insure a mature and reliable study partner.

Right now the Non-Traditional Student Association has over 50

members, but others are encouraged to join, said Tracy Marek, NTSA secretary.

There are no official meetings, just family fun and a chance to make new friends, said Marek.


For more info contact the faculty advisor Mike Campenni at 299-8941 or mcampenni@mcclennan.edu.

Special thanks to NTSA secretary, Tracy Marek, for her help.

Engineering from page 1

semesters of Physics, two semesters of Chemistry, plus all required general education and physical education courses.

Students can contact Dr. Watson in his office at (254) 299-8176 or via email at jwatson@mcclennan.edu for more information.



WANT WINGS?

DINE-IN OR CARRY-OUT

Downtown
296-9464
New Road
761-9464

WING FLAVORS

- ORIGINAL HOT
- MILD
- CAJUN
- ATOLAC
- HAWAIIAN BARBECUE
- GARLIC PARMESAN
- LEMON PEPPER
- TERIYAKI

WING ORDER BEERS

- 10 PIECE 3.99
- 20 PIECE 7.99
- 30 PIECE 13.49
- 50 PIECE 16.99
- 75 PIECE 27.99
- 100 PIECE 36.99

HOMEMADE SIDES

- FRESH CUT SEASONED FRIES
- Large (Have them a go-round) 1.69
- HOT CHEESE SAUCE99
- PEARL POTATO SALAD99 & 2.29
- BOURBON BAKED BEANS99 & 2.29
- CREAM VEGETABLE SOUP49
- CREAMY RANCH ON CHUNKY BLEU CHEESE DIP49
- DINNER ROLLS31

PHONE AHEAD

Downtown 296-WING

New Road 761-WING

FREE

\$.99 Seasoned Fries with any Wing Order

Sports

Golf getting geared up

Teams prepare for another run at a national title

Tonya Farmer
Staff Writer

McLennan Community College's men and women's golf teams are gearing up for another run at a national title.

Both programs made strong attempts at claiming a championship, with the women finishing second.

Last year the women were just one stroke shy of the victory, losing to the host team Daytona Beach Community College. T

he Highlassies swung their way to an early 8-shot lead after the first two rounds before faltering on Day three. Heather McRae, Natalie Kinsey, and Laura Walker finished first, fourth, and seventh, respectively, to pace the team.

This year's team will be led by sophomore Christa Gunn, who shot 322 to finish eighth in last year's tournament.

The rest of the squad is comprised of sophomore Ashley Robb and freshmen Chelsea Boothe, Stephanie Crolla, Bekah Gregory and Sjavon Wilson.

Stan Mitchell is in his seventh year coaching women's golf and his 14th year coaching golf at MCC.

"We want to win the national tournament. We only lost by one stroke last year," he said.

The Highlassies begin their season on September 20 at the Southwest Texas University Fall Tournament. Their schedule also

includes stops at tournaments hosted by Hardin-Simmons, Sam Houston State, Baylor, and Texas A&M universities.

For the men, five incoming freshmen bolster returning sophomores Kyle Roberts, Andreas Kali, Ryan Knoll and Paul Cormack.

The freshmen are Lance Avants, Matt Cordell, Colby Harwell, Ryan Pierce and Paul Robinson.

"We want to make it to nationals," Kali said. "We went last year and that was a big experience." The eight-year veteran golf player was All-American last season and was named to the All-Tournament team.

"There is a lot more dedication from all the players this year and I think we have a chance to win nationals this year," Knoll said.

Rick Butler is in his third year as men's golf coach and this season will receive help from volunteer coach Vince Clark.

"One of our philosophies is to try to get a little bit better each and every day that we practice and play," Butler said. "Whatever aspect they're working on, same thing in the classroom."

Last year the men finished fifth, 15 strokes behind Faulkner State Community College from Bay Minette, Alabama, with Kali being the only Highlander to end up in the top 20 individual standings placing 12th.

"Looking forward to a good year. The girls are really great. We have a good team and we're pretty strong at



Digital Image by Tonya Farmer

everything. I think we're going to win nationals this year," Gunn said.

The Highlanders start their season September 15 at the Toyota Collegiate Preview Tournament in Dodge City,

Kansas. The men's team will host Golf with the Champions, on Oct. 3 at Bear Ridge, with all proceeds going to the MCC Athletic Department.

It's only cheating if you get caught

Aaron Smith
Sports Editor

Coaching college basketball calls for cover-ups: it's the nature of the business.

And as insidious as the business practices of former Baylor University Basketball coach Dave Bliss sound, college coaches do far worse to living players everyday.

There is a sinister and twisted touch to Bliss' soulless plot to pitch Patrick Dennehy as a dope dealer, but understand something: at the highest levels, where cheating has been out of control for so long, the life of a corrupt coach is a constant cycle of cleaning up messes, suppressing incriminating evidence, and intimidating possible squealers into silence.

Take a walk around the country, hitch major six- and seven-figure salaries to a lie detector and ask if they'd portray a dead ballplayer as a drug dealer to save their jobs.

Would they do the same as Bliss? Call me cynical, but I'd guess that about half of them would.

The trouble was, Bliss had no hope of selling this story. When he tried, this stunt, he was too far in denial to see his coaching career was done at Baylor.

Everyone can feel free to turn

Bliss into Satan with a clipboard. He deserves it.

Yet what Bliss did wasn't a new low in college basketball; it's just a new low caught on tape. It's business as usual, in a business where coaches have a history of sacrificing anyone and anything to save their necks.

Come on: Georgia's Jim Harrick Sr. let his own son take the fall for him.

In the past year, assistants for Mike Kryzewski, Bob Knight and Pete Carril were busted for bad behavior.

The stereotypical images used to separate clean and corrupt coaches have been obliterated.

There was always a sense you could tell the good guys and the bad guys apart simply by the pedigree that spawned them.

No more. Bliss has reminded everyone that it isn't so much an issue of cheating in college basketball as degrees of cheating.

For now, anyway, Baylor is the benchmark for college corruption.

Bliss tumbles into history as the scoundrel for the ages, and rest assured, he is a low-down creep in a low-down business.

But Bliss isn't the worst of the worst.

Highlanders and 'Lassies shoot for titles

Davis Gonzalez
Staff Writer

Highlander basketball will be out to improve on last year's mildly successful season this November, depending on your point of view.

Competing with only three sophomores, Head Coach Kevin Gill managed to amass an overall record of 22-10 (13-3), which was once again good enough to earn the Highlander's the runner-up position in conference play for the second straight year, before ending their season in a 72-93 second round defeat to South Plains.

With the loss of seven players, two starters, and more important, last year's high scorer, Keith Simpson, Coach Gill will be out to add another conference title to the 21 the tradition rich program has accomplished.

This year's team will be anchored by the experience of seven returners, sophomores Eric Dawson, Andre Owens, Jesse Kimbrough, Allen



Digital Image by Lee Kuhl

Houston, Brent Compton, Dedrick Nowlin, and Chris Johnson. Unlike the men's team, the women's team is practically a new squad.

To put an end to a five-year title drought, the longest in the Highlander basketball programs' history, Coach Gill will have to rely on his veteran players.

This year's team will be anchored by the experience of seven returners, sophomores Eric Dawson, Andre Owens, Jesse Kimbrough, Allen Houston, Brent Compton, Dedrick Nowlin, and Chris Johnson.

Together they provided last year's squad with over 58 percent of the team's offense and hope to improve on that this season.

In addition to this year's sophomores, two transfers, 6-5 forward Cody Lewis of Corpus Christi and 6-5 forward Brandon Cluck of San Antonio will be bringing their skills and experience to the floor.

Replacing last year's graduates will be five incoming freshmen, led by guards Jejuan Plair 6-1 and Kenneth Wilson 6-4, and including 6-5 guard Chris Thompson, 6-5 guard Wesley Pendley, and last year's redshirt freshman 6-7 center Roderick Jacobs.

In addition to this year's sophomores, two transfers, 6-5 forward Cody Lewis (Corpus Christi) and 6-5 forward Brandon Cluck (San Antonio) will be bringing their skills and experience to the floor.

The Highlander basketball program made one other notable move by acquiring a new Assistant Coach, Anthony Fletcher, from Eastfield College in Mesquite.

With a strong nucleus returning and the high expectations for the freshmen players, Highlander Basketball is in a good position to add another conference title to their record.

The Highlassie Basketball team will be showcasing a barrage of incoming talent this year.

Brand new 'Lassies

Unlike the 'Landers, the women's team is practically a new squad.

There are only two returning players, Sophomore Bridgette Brackens and redshirt freshman Rebecca Arnold, from last year's 22-9 team that reached the second round of the region V tournament.

Coaches Ricky Rhodes and Shawn Trochim have had to restock their roster.

Other than Brackens', the Highlassie's will have only two other sophomores, transfer students Chavun Chadwick of Ft. Worth, and Ashley Abrams of Round Rock.

Brackens' average of 11 points per game (ppg) earned her a pre-season, all-conference nomination, and Chadwick's credentials include all-conference as a freshman, and recruiting class 'Top 50 of Texas'.

This year's team will be composed of fourteen freshmen.

Three of them who have earned 'Top 50 of Texas' honors according to Southwest Shootout Inc. are Latoya Wyatt of Ft. Worth, Jennifer Ruppert of Victoria, and Margaret Wimbish of Corpus Christi.

Tanesha Barefield of Victoria and Valerie Suarez of San Antonio are also expected to make an immediate impact.

Kimberly Tally (Temple), Kimberley Robinson (Katy), Katie Norton (Waco), Shurese Boswell (McGregor), Pilar Pinkus (Cedar Park), Leslye Yates (San Antonio), and Bridgette Onelleite (McComey) will add much needed depth that the Highlassies have been without.

"This is the most talented crop of Freshman we have had here in the past five years", Trochim said.

The Highlassies added depth might overcome their youth and be the key to getting the Highlassies part that elusive regional and a conference title.

Highland Herald staff picks of the week

	Davis	Fred	Tonya	Aaron
St. Louis vs San Francisco	San Fran	St. Louis	St. Louis	San Fran
Houston @ New Orleans	Houston	New Orleans	Houston	Houston
Dallas @ NY Giants	NY Giants	NY Giants	NY Giants	NY Giants
New England @ Philadelphia	Philly	Philly	Philly	Philly
Pittsburgh @ Kansas City	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh	Kansas City	Pittsburgh
5 Texas vs Arkansas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas
Michigan vs 14 Notre Dame	Michigan	Noire Dame	Michigan	Michigan
Penn St. @ 18 Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska
Georgia Tech @ 10 Florida St	Florida St	Florida St	Florida St	Florida St
Baylor v SMU	Baylor	Baylor	SMU	SMU
Totals to Date	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0

Entertainment

La Traviata raises the roof in Waco

Magen Rigdon
Entertainment Editor

The Lyric Opera of Waco showcased *La Traviata* Sept. 6. Set in Paris during the 1850's, the Opera opens with a party at Violetta's (Elizabeth Blancke-Biggs).

Alfredo Germont (Don Bernardini) visits Violetta during her illness every day the previous year.

She is amused and touched as Alfredo declares his undying love for her.

Seized by a fit of coughing, Violetta stays behind as the others retire to the ballroom.

Alfredo stays with her expressing concern about her way of life. He then declares his love, which he says began a year ago. She makes light of his declaration, but gives him a flower and directions to come back after it wilts.

Left alone, Violetta contemplates her conversation with Alfredo. She dismisses the idea of love as fool-

ishness. She is happy with her life of pleasure with the Baron Douphol (Robert Best).

Act two opens with several months having passed.

Violetta and Alfredo now live together in a country house outside of Paris.

Violetta is madly in love with Alfredo, and their lives are simple and happy. Alfredo discovers that Violetta sold all her possessions to afford their blissful existence. He becomes upset and ashamed and heads to Paris to try and do what he can.

Alfredo's father, Giorgio Germont (Peter Castaldi), comes to the country house and asks Violetta to leave Alfredo.

Germont can't bear to have the family name besmirched. Germont is afraid that his daughter's fiancé will end the engagement if he learns of Alfredo's indiscretion with Violetta.

Violetta's refusal is adamant but Germont sways her, for

Alfredo's sake. Violetta and Germont part tearfully.

Violetta's heartbreak is chilling. Violetta finds the only one way to have Alfredo give her up, by going back to the Baron.

She writes a letter to Alfredo, saying she is leaving him for the Baron.

When Alfredo finds the letter he is consumed with rage, but Germont returns in time to calm him.

Germont wants Alfredo to come back home, but Alfredo, still upset, follows Violetta to the ball where she will be with the Baron.

Act three opens as Violetta's friend Flora Bervoix (Kathryn Chambers) hosts a ball.

Gypsies entertain the guests with dancing and music.

Then Alfredo appears and shocks everyone, increasing the scene's tension by asking the Baron Douphol to a card game.

Violetta, very dramatic in a black dress, is very upset with Alfredo's appearance.

Alfredo approaches her and she lies, telling him she doesn't love him.

This infuriates Alfredo and he besmirches her name and character in front of everyone.

He then proceeds to throw money in her face in repayment for the possessions she sold.

Violetta is so distressed she falls to the floor in utter misery.

Germont comes forward to condemn Alfredo's actions toward Violetta.

Alfredo's anger is replaced by a sense of self-loathing about his actions.

The Baron challenges Alfredo to a duel.

Act four opens with Violetta terminally ill with tuberculosis many months later.

She asks her maidservant to open the curtains of her bedroom, and morning light streams through her window.

She opens a letter from Germont.

It reveals that the Baron was wounded in the duel and Alfredo has been abroad and is now knowledgeable of Violetta's sacrifice.

This is the only thing keeping her alive.

Alfredo returns, not knowing about her deteriorating state.

The joy was tangible when Violetta sees him in the doorway. Violetta feels a burst of energy with Alfredo there.

He speaks of the splendid life they will lead once she is well. Germont embraces Violetta as a daughter. But the belated resurgence of life fades.

Violetta gives Alfredo a locket to remind him of her, telling him to find a pure girl to marry and to tell their story and that she will pray for them from heaven.

Violetta dies a tearful death in Alfredo's arms.

The audience was attentive.

Elizabeth Blancke-Biggs' portrayal of Violetta was heartwrenching.

Don Bernardini didn't have the presence of Blancke-Biggs on stage, but his emotions were still conveyed well.

"The tenor [Bernardini] swayed a little too much while singing, but he did a good job overall." Stephanie Hinton, a freshman at McLennan Community College said.

Kathryn Chambers had a minuscule role, but her voice was not minuscule in the least.

Peter Castaldi showed such emotion as Germont that it touched the audience.

"People in opera usually can't act, but the baritone [Castaldi] can." Rebecca Tafline, a MCC freshman said.

Many previous and current MCC students performed in the chorus.

Jerred Welsh, Mark Thomas, Gene Olivera, Pat Kelly, and Christian Roberts are previous MCC students who have transferred to Baylor, that performed in the opera.

Elizabeth Sekora, an MCC sophomore, was also in the chorus.

It was a lovely night spent watching very talented singers per-

Sloppy Joe performs

Waco-based cover band entertained crowds

John Pippin
Staff writer



The last time most people heard a white man sing "Soul Man" was back in the days of the Blues Brothers. That is until Saturday, Sept. 6, when more than 100 individuals gathered at MCC's own Bosque River Stage to hear local celebrities Sloppy Joe.

The Waco-based cover band entertained the crowds with swing, Jazz, and modern rock hits from the early 70's to the late 90's including everything from John Melencamp's "Pink Houses" to 311's "Down".

Though the show went well for the most part, the band put the "sloppy" in Sloppy Joe with their lackluster rendition of Sublime's "What I Got" forgetting parts of the lyrics and mumbling the rest in an off-beat manner that can only remind you of Steve Martin in "The Jerk".

The band redeemed their performance, however, when they

lifted the crowd to their feet, dancing to the sounds of The Commodores and Rick James.

Adding to the fun, Treff's Bar had a beverage table set up at the entrance selling drinks out of a cooler.

Overall, the show was a success and audiences should keep their eyes peeled for repeats in the future.

Sloppy Joe consists of Brian Brown on vocals and guitar, Jeremy Bryant on the drums, Mike Ramos on the saxophone, (originally) Steve Palmer on bass, and Bill Lewis on the guitar.

The member's of Sloppy Joe are accomplished musicians who have the potential to make it big, but they need to break away from the cover scene and show us what they can really do.

Community Calendar

September 14 Michael Martin Murphy 8pm at Bosque River Stage

September 20 Music Association of Central Texas River Jam benefits Caritas 4-11pm at Bosque River Stage

September 26-28 Open Door Festival 11am-11:30pm at Heritage Square

September 27 HOT Fair & Rodeo Kick-off gala at HOT Fair grounds

Dino Crisis upcoming

New horror game already turning heads

John Pippin
Staff writer



From the start you can tell that Capcom's upcoming *Dino Crisis 3* is not just another lacking "make money quick" sequel, but a much needed and welcome addition to the X-box's survival/horror lineup.

The game places you into the boots of a handful of less-than-willing marines sent on a search and rescue mission after they lose contact with a reconnaissance team sent to investigate reports of a spaceship, *The Ozymandias*, mysteriously resurfacing after 300 years.

The demo places you in control of Patrick and his partner, Sonya (Sonya was not controllable in this demo).

The game makes its first impression almost immediately after you enter the second room, when what appears to be a mutated, fleshless *Tyrannosaurus Rex* bursts through the emergency shutters and chomps down on a squirming soldier.

After flailing his body around for a bit, the T-Rex flings the soldier's body into a nearby wall, with a bloody splatter.

The soldier's body then slides to the floor on a smear of gore.

Once the player resumes play, it's apparent that a few landmark changes have been made to the

standard survival/horror control scheme.

These changes include the ingenious implementation of a jump button and a jet pack, which can be used for reaching high areas, long-distance jumping, hovering, and dashing around at high speeds.

This is very useful when dodging around and firing at mutant slugs and hammerhead velociraptors.

Also, movement is based in a 3-D control scheme (push right=move right, and so on) instead of a fixed scheme (a la *Resident Evil*).

Another useful new feature is

the ability to manipulate the layout of the *Ozymandias*.

Need to get to the ship's hangar quickly to rescue your partner from certain doom? Is the engine room blocking your way? Simply find a nearby on-board console and move the whole room.

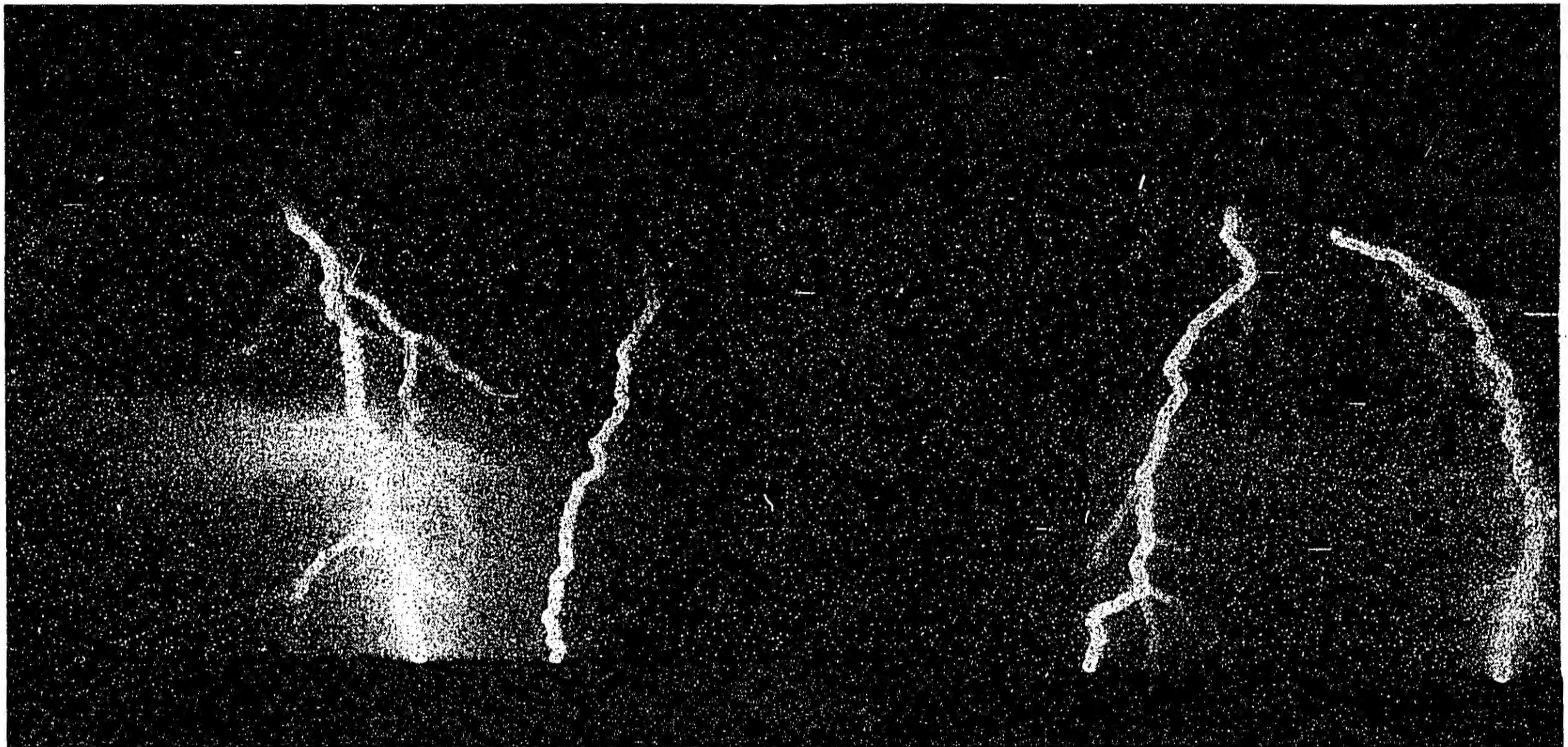
In short, *Dino Crisis 3* is a solid game with an intriguing (if not a bit odd) storyline and an intuitive combat system that should tide fans of the genre over until *Midway's The Suffering* hits shelves.

The game has been rated M by the ESRB for violence, blood, and gore.

It goes on sale Sept. 16 and will retail at \$49.99.

Back-to-School concert at Bosque River Stage kicks off fall shows

McLennan Community College's Bosque River Stage kicked off its fall season with a "Back-to-School" concert on Saturday, Sept. 6. The event featured a variety of local acts, including the cover band Sloppy Joe, who performed a mix of classic and contemporary hits. The concert was held at the scenic Bosque River Stage, drawing a large crowd of students and community members. The evening was a success, marking the beginning of a series of performances throughout the fall semester.



Digital Imageing Manipulation By: Wes Strom

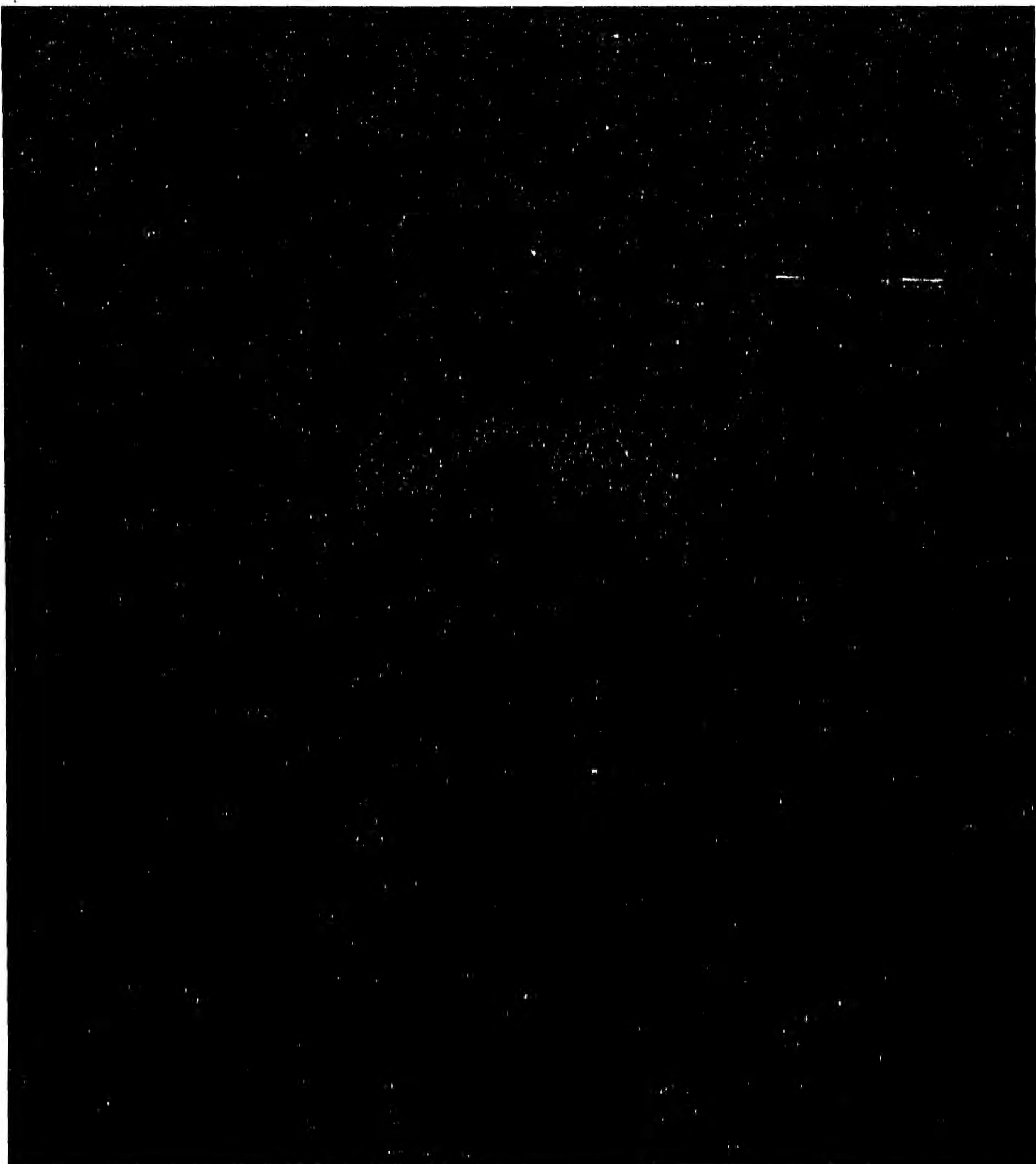
Highland Herald photographers have worked during the last three weeks have worked bringing you the news. Each photographer in this visual essay gives way to his or her artistic side. Wes Strom experimented with digital manipulation and produced a tornado out of rain and lightning. Erin Prueitt's eye searched out our students at the Welcome Back Party. And though experimentation Lee Kuhl seeks to find the essence of light in the most common of places.



Digital Image By: Erin Prueitt



Digital Image By: Lee Kuhl



Digital Image By: Lee Kuhl



Digital Image By: Erin Prueitt