



# HIGHLAND HERALD

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McLennan Community College Waco, TX 76708

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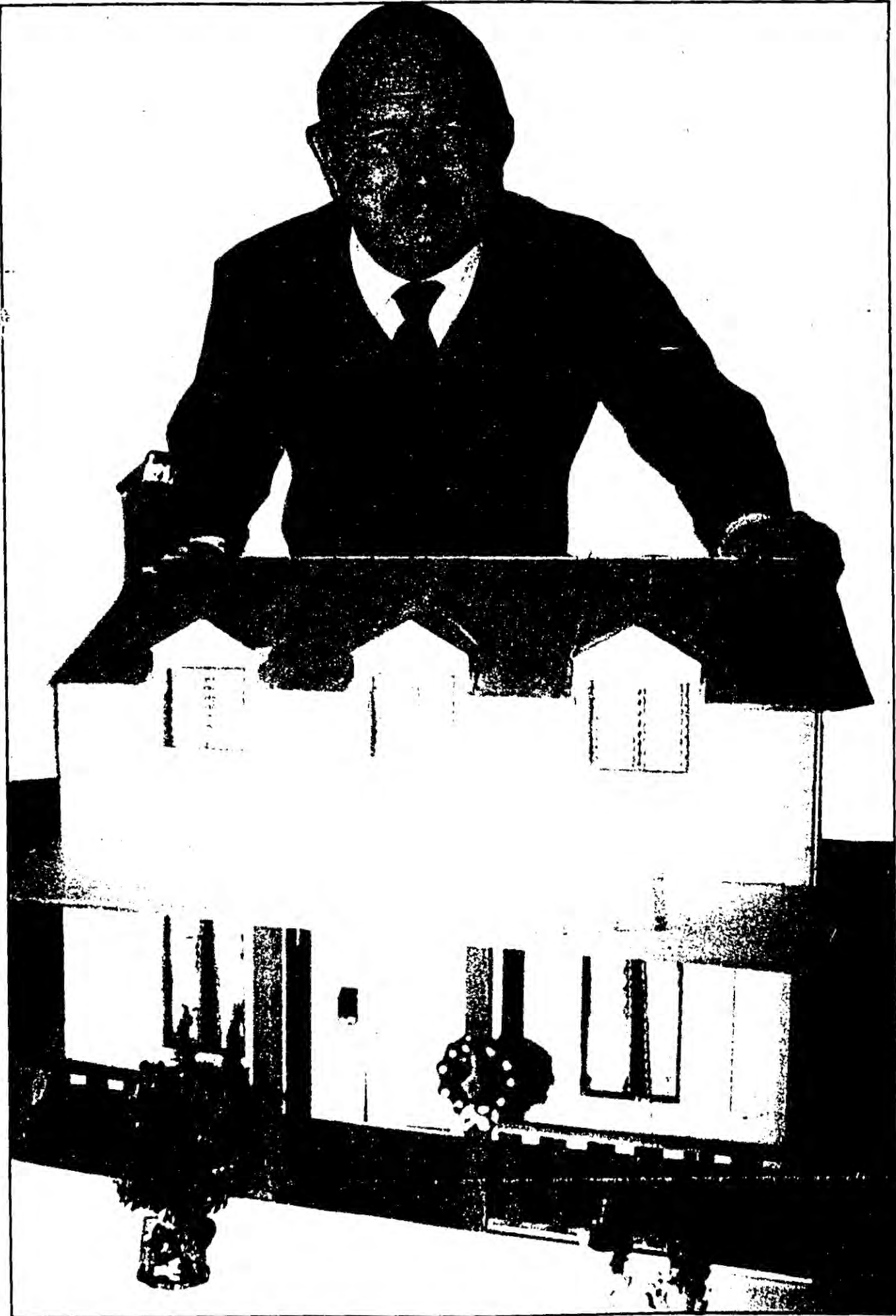


photo by Wade Carpenter

**DR. MICHAEL WHITE**, history teacher, exhibits a dollhouse he has completed for the Christmas holiday. White has been working at his hobby for the past 15 years.

## Just in time for Christmas

History teacher shares hobby with others

By JENNIFER HOTZ

Every little girl's dream is to wake up Christmas morning and find a beautiful dollhouse under the tree.

Dr. Michael White, history instructor, has been responsible for many of those dreams coming true. For many years he has built dollhouses to give away as gifts and to show in exhibitions. Mainly, he builds them for entertainment.

White has an interest in architecture and started building architectural models, which led him to the art of dollhouse construction. Carrying on his hobby for 15 years, some different designs he uses are salt box, which is a Cape Cod style, Texas farm house, Victorian and Colonial. The Colonial style being his favorite.

Ann Harrell, speech instructor, had a replica of her home made as a Christmas present to her daughter. She said that White did a remarkable

job using intricate detail.

White has also constructed replicas of the historical homes around Waco, and has them on exhibit in museums like the San Francisco State museum, the University of Texas museum, and the Baylor museum. White completed a replica of the old Dr Pepper plant in Waco and it will be displayed in the new Dr Pepper museum.

White is also teaching a continuing education class on the art of dollhouse construction.

## Board reaches decisions on asbestos removal, computer

By SARA WARTES

The Board of Trustees combined its November and December meetings into one marathon session Nov. 28, considering a number of important issues.

Several major board decisions are covered in related Highland Herald stories. In addition, the board voted to hire two new staff members, authorized the administration to seek bids on another 15 passenger van, passed a revised budget for 1989-90, awarded a contract for property liability insurance and accepted revisions to the staff retirement package.

Jesus Gomez was hired to fill a newly created counseling position. He will join the counseling staff from a position with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Karen Conine was hired as programmer analyst to work with the new mainframe computer system (see related story).

The next board meeting was scheduled for Jan. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the board room.

### Mesa gets contract to remove asbestos

The Board of Trustees has awarded Mesa Environmental Services, the low bidder, a contract for removal of asbestos from a gymnasium in the HPE building.

At the Nov. 28 meeting, the board chose the Fort Worth company, recommended by Southwestern Laboratories, a consulting firm hired to advise the college on the matter. Mesa's bid for \$68,750 was considerably under that of \$146,250 submitted by Abatement Services, of Shreveport, the only other bidder.

Asbestos removal is expected to begin this month.

The HPE gym has been closed since 1984 when Superintendent of Building Maintenance Derrick Toombs discovered that asbestos was flaking from the ceiling. The soundproofing material which had been sprayed on the ceiling when the building was constructed in 1970 was found to contain asbestos.

A class action lawsuit has been filed by the college against National Gypsum Company et al, the contractor responsible for the use of asbestos in the ceiling spray, in an attempt to recover the cost of removal. Pending settlement of the lawsuit, funds already budgeted will be used.

### Computer purchased

By DAVID FAULKNER

The Board of Trustees has approved the purchase of a mainframe computer for administrative use from Datatel Corporation at a cost of over \$1.4 million.

In addition, a number of microcomputers for student instruction will be purchased for \$154,000.

For the mainframe computer, the Colleague Software System was chosen after extensive research and will be run on Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) hardware.

About a dozen college representatives viewed the software system at TSTI and at Odessa College on a different hardware system. A smaller group traveled to Washington, D.C., to observe the Colleague software on the DEC hardware system.

Rauscher Pierce Refsnes, Inc. has been contracted to arrange financing for up to \$1.5 million. The

purchase will be repaid over five years from excess pledged revenues.

In addition to the mainframe system, a contract was awarded to NEXUS computers to provide the school with 56 microcomputer work stations for computer data processing courses in the Applied Science Building. The cost for the work stations will be about \$120,000.

Computerland was awarded the contract for 54 Epson printers, also to be placed in the Applied Science Building. The printers will cost a little over \$10,000.

An expenditure of \$24,000 was also approved for purchase of computers, software, and printers for distribution to other various departments on campus. Entre Computer was awarded this bid.

## Who's Who selected

By WADE CARPENTER

Seventeen MCC students have been named on the Who's Who list in American Junior Colleges.

They are Mary Jane Bohon, Rebecca Brunson, Veronica Cepak, Elizabeth DeLeon, Cynthia Dickinson, Jo Ann Durant, Linda Kay Gahagan, Doris Denise Hobart, Lori Inlay-Nixon, Marlene Kohler, Sandra Lehman, Michael Macko, Richard Martin, Carol Mims, Carrie Ann Ready, Juanita Walton, and Sara Wartes.

Students are chosen by campus nominating committees and editors of the annual directory based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

For Piper Professor Award

## Kelly receives nomination

By SAM ALLGOOD

MCC's Piper Professor nominee for 1989 is Marilyn Kelly, 18-year speech instructor, who will be in competition with nominees from other colleges and universities for one of the state's most prestigious academic honors.

"The award is given to the 10 most outstanding professors in Texas each year," said Michael Bahnt, executive director of the Piper Foundation. "It is not a typical award program."

"We seek those professors who have made a special impact on students and community. The selection committee stands in awe of the accomplishments of nominees. It's a difficult task to pick 10 professors out of several hundred," said Bahnt.

The results of the committee will be made public in March. Winners receive a pin with logo, a certificate of honor, and a honorarium of \$2,500.

Biology professor Hoyt Burnette is the only person from MCC to ever be named to the top 10 in the Piper competition.

Nominations of sociology instrue-

tor Carol Jolly, counselor Hazel Martin, medical laboratory technician program Director Winfred Watkins and Kelly were sent to our committee. Extensive background reports were written by each and distributed throughout the faculty. The nominees were voted on by the faculty and Kelly was selected to represent MCC.

Kelly said of campus awards she stresses the community within the college. "For any of us to get an award would be for all of us to get an award."

"When awards came up on campus there was concern that it would become competitive, causing a loss of camaraderie. I have never felt in voting that we have simply found the best and that it became a competitive situation. We lose cooperation by competing. That hasn't happened."

Kelly said, "One of the really fine things on campus is that we're in the mindset of working together to find representatives of good teaching." She said she feels the faculty should "choose a representative of great teaching instead of labeling one teacher as great."

Her achievements include both the tangible and the intangible. She

receives "immediate good feelings" through student community involvement—for example the sight of basketball players from her class holding up second graders giving them the experience of making a hoop.

"None are as important as what goes on in the classroom," Kelly said. Other highlights in her career include:

— Serving as chairperson of the Faculty Council during a year of presidential change in 1986-1987.

— Serving as co-chairperson of the Master Plan Steering Committee in 1989.

— Most recently having published an interpersonal communication workbook, "Experiences," with Joseph A. Devito.

Kelly said the interpersonal communication text, grew far beyond what the editors were expecting.

"Experiences," is packaged with a copy of "Messages," a textbook by DeVito. The Harper & Row publication, due out this spring, "includes drills, original exercises, and popular printed material to tie in with the textbook," Kelly said.

In marketing the product, the publishers have claimed that the workbook is "the best supplement Harper & Row has produced," she said.

For the homeless

## Local shelters provide basic needs and hope

By KEITH JENKINS

and

SANDRA M. HEWITT-PARSONS

Editor's note: Some friends and I were walking out of our hotel in downtown New Orleans. Although the night air was extremely chilly, we were all excited about being away from Waco and anticipating the many sites of the city.

As we walked along talking about what we wanted to see first and where to eat, my eyes shifted to a vacant building where five or six men covered in dirty and torn clothing were lying outside the entrance.

I immediately stopped and looked at them. I began to wonder what their circumstances were, why they were out there shivering in the cold and what could be done to help them.

This setting is also not uncommon to the Waco area. You may see them at any given moment, in the streets, under a bridge, on a park bench or even huddled up in some alley. Who are they? They are known as the

homeless or street people.

But much more exists than what society sees or thinks. Not all of them are "drunks" or "bums" begging for money. From hearing their stories, I discovered that although their futures seem hopeless, some do have the desire and incentive to improve their lives and erase some of the misconceptions with which they've been labeled.

Waco to the rescue

It's a Friday evening and the Waco Salvation Army, one of the city's organizations for the needy, is filled with a number of homeless people. Whether traveling from town to town, drug related or having no other choice but to seek shelter from the cold, they've come here.

Watching television is one family who had been living in their car since Sept. 14 in a nearby park. Across the room sits a 23 year old who has chosen to take to the streets moving from city to city. Sitting across from him is a desperate woman whose family has abandoned her for personal reasons.

According to "No Place Like

Home," a recent television program, over 3 million Americans are homeless.

Salvation Army Shelter

With all the recent media coverage that the homeless have been receiving, some may think that the attention is as current as the issue. But according to Janet Harrison, director of social services at Waco's Salvation Army, the problem has existed since the late 1800s.

"There has always been a homeless problem since about 1865 when the Salvation Army originated. I think that more people are aware more than ever about the situation, but many just don't know what can be done to help them," said Harrison.

The Salvation Army is one of the shelters in the area that provides basic emergency needs for people who are transients, the homeless who continue to move to different cities; street people, those choosing to live in the streets in the same area; or those forced from their homes for various reasons.

The organization provides shelter starting at 4:30 p.m. each day. A person is allowed to stay one night every 30 days. However, during the colder

### Emergency Shelters

1. Transient Lodge-Salvation Army  
500 S. 4th St.  
Waco, TX 76703
2. Good Samaritan  
600 S. 3rd, St. and Clay  
Waco, TX 76703
3. New Hope Ministries (For Men)  
2504 N. 20th St.  
Waco, TX 76708
4. Runaway Hotline  
1-800-992-4682

months when the temperature remains near freezing, or in the case of someone maybe needing extra time to seek employment, the policy is temporarily suspended. Meals are also served every evening for all those who aren't able to provide for themselves.

Harrison estimates that the num-

ber of street people who spend their nights on a regular basis at the shelter is under 100. But as for the number of transients and other homeless, it's difficult to estimate.

According to Raymond Stemocher, the shelter's night manager, as many as 48 people have stayed over in one night during the winter.

Harrison explained that it's important to be honest and upfront with the policies to prevent people from getting "too comfortable" in the facility. "If we had unlimited rule, people would stay for an unlimited time," she said.

But in the case of those who prove that they want to help themselves by needing time to look for a job or home, Harrison said they are granted a longer stay.

This is the case for a family who recently moved from Michigan to Waco. Although the three of them had been living in their car three months ago, the parents are now employed, have their daughter enrolled in school and stay at the shelter.

For Steve Tigert, 23, choosing to live in the streets was part of his desire to travel across the country. (continued on pg. 5)



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Success story p. 6



## EDITORIAL: A good job!

At first glance, our school's physical features truly stand out. The combination of vivid trees, hills and modern architecture produce a peaceful learning atmosphere and add to MCC's great reputation.

But other aspects of our school may not be as evident: the hard work and dedication to progress of the people behind its walls.

Several recent decisions by the Board of Trustees reflect the fact that the quality of services and the future needs of the college are not taken lightly. A team effort made up of the administration, faculty, and staff has led to a series of innovations that will take the school into the new decade of the 1990s.

A new mainframe computer for administrative use will improve data management and registration procedures and has the potential to improve greatly other administrative functions. We salute the administration for bringing the school into the computer age.

Another purchase of personal computers will enhance the capability of the school for teaching computer skills. Students can leave MCC equipped for the latest data processing techniques.

Food service on campus should be improved by cafeteria renovations and a new food service contract. The board decision to contract for food service was a difficult one, made after careful research. Underlying the decision was the desire to provide the best possible food for students and employees at reasonable cost.

Another good decision has been to put an end to the asbestos stalemate that has kept a sizable portion of the IIPE building from use. A contract for removal of asbestos from the ceiling of the IIPE gym and the filing of a class action lawsuit against the contractor who installed it should bring to an end that unfortunate situation.

President Michaelis, his able supporting administrative staff, the Board, and all other faculty and staff members who worked hard on these projects have served our school well.



**T**was the night before final edition, and all over the college

Could be heard the hum of students still cramming for knowledge. The semesters averages all hung in the grade book with care, in hopes that the instructors would have a lenient ear.

The studios were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of knowledge danced in their heads. And Clay in his sweatsuit, and Stevie in his cap, Had just settled down with coffee and notes, no chance for a nap.

While out in the newsroom there rang such a clatter, Sara sprang from the "Mac" to see what was the matter. Away to the computers Keith flew like a flash, Only to see Aimee, David, Suzy and Mon Tina with a late story crash.

The moon over the Performing Arts, alive with a show, Gave off an orange luster to the campus below. When what to Brian's wondering eyes did appear, But cartoonist John with 10 new reporters, nothing to fear.

With a little old Editor, so lively and quick, Thomas knew in an instant, this was definitely not St. Nick. More rapid than eagles, his instructions they came, As he whistled and shouted and called them by name.

"Now Cyndi! Now Sam! Now Mark! Now Brian and Mary! On Paul! On Lee! On Michelle! On Wendy and Gary! "There are" and "alot" send me up over the "very" wall! Now dashes and dashes--away with them all!"

As dry assignments before a wild story doth fly, When staff are met with obstacles, mount up to the sky. So back from the Tribune, the couragers they flew, With a bundle of copy and Dr. Buckner too.

And then in a twinkling, I heard it--the truth, Rewriting and editing, necessary for good proof. So Wade drew in his head, and turning around, Back from the Trib came Dr. Buckner with a bound.

He was dressed as usual from head to foot, But his clothes were covered with picture point and printers ink soot. A bundle of copy he had flung in a sack, And he looked like a paper merchant just opening his pack.

His eyes--how they twinkled, his grin it was merry, His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry! His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow, And the hair on his head was turning as white as snow.

The stump of a pencil he held tight in his teeth, And ideas encircled his head like a wreath. He had a broad face and a round little belly That shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly.

He was reminiscing, a right jolly old elf, And Elizabeth giggled in spite of herself! A wink of his eye and a twist of his head, Soon gave Jennifer and Nathan to know they had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, And filled all the easels with copy--then turned with a jerk. And laying his finger aside of his nose, And giving a nod, back from the Trib he arose.

He sprang from the newsroom and to the staff gave a whistle, And away they all flew like the down of a thistle. And we heard the staff exclaim, in a voice loud and clear "Happy Holidays to all, and we'll see you next year."

## Student Focus

### A toast to the '90s

By KEITH JENKINS Editor-in-Chief



When thinking of all the events that can happen over the course of time like in a year or in a decade, several experiences can definitely reshape a society in its thinking and actions. Following the time line of past decades, the '80s were no exception.

The past ten years stirred all kinds of emotions in our hearts and minds. Many moments occurred causing laughter, pain, anger and even elation. Some we tried to forget, but then others remain everlasting.

Along with emotions, the later years of the '80s sparked change and hope. It's as if society had been in a deep sleep over the past few decades, and finally an alarm sounded waking us up to the world's severe problems and the need for us to start cleaning up our act.

From the Reagan years to the Philippines crises, to the fall of the Berlin Wall and Kaddafi, world issues constantly remained in the public eye as people paid close attention and interest in both world leaders and governments.

With the AIDS epidemic, the space shuttle explosion and other man-made and natural disasters, society lived in constant fear and shock. Although some of these instances caused panic and numerous unanswered questions, these events brought people together to help and comfort the many victims left behind.

From Band Aid to USA for Africa, to Farm Aid and Hands Across America, celebrities were admired even more as they took time and effort to raise money for the world's poor, hungry and homeless. It was moments like these that made you feel good inside knowing that others could benefit through strong human efforts.

It was the music decade from walkmans to compact disc players, to the music video explosion and kids wanting their MTV. Bruce "the boss" Springsteen brought back glory days through his music, while the sequined gloved one himself made us take a good look at ourselves in the mirror.

It was also the Cosby era which produced such mega definers like Reagan, Oprah, Spielberg, Letterman, Bono, Murphy, Gorbachev, Aquino and of course Lady Di.

But as usual with every society, scandal reigned back and forth as we got a closer peak behind doors of some of the private lives of the rich and famous. Gary Hart, Donna Rice, Jim and Tammy Bakker, Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos, a former Miss America, Oliver North and poor little Jimmy "I'm a sinner" Swaggart made headlines on every newspaper and magazine across the country. And the worse news, America loved it and wanted more.

But more important than all the cabbage patch dolls, rubik's cubes or swatches, was the shift in human emotion. More and more people began to wake up and start caring for others in need and the environment around them. Countries which had been locked from freedom over the years created powerful movements for democracy and peace.

And so, as we venture out into the '90s, what do we have to look forward to? This question is left to be answered at later dates. But with our new outlook, things may become a little bit more hopeful. So let's continue to stick together, clean the air, wipe out the drug dealers and teach the kids for a better tomorrow.

20 REASONS TO ENJOY AND APPRECIATE CHRISTMAS!!	20 REASONS TO REALLY HATE THE FIRST TWENTY REASONS!!
* COUNTRY MUSIC TELEVISION X-MAS SPECIALS	* DOLLY PARTON IN A SANTA OUTFIT
* MISTLETOE	* UGLY PEOPLE WITH PORTABLE MISTLETOE
* SHOPPING MALL SANTAS	* SEEING SANTA PULL UP TO THE MALL IN A '75 BUICK LE SABRE
* SHOPPING MALL SANTAS THAT ARRIVE IN HELICOPTERS	* AIRSICKNESS
* SNEAKING A PEEK AT PRESENTS	* BOOBY-TRAPPED PRESENTS
* JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH	* PLASTIC JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH YARD ORNAMENTS
* HAVING YOUR HOUSE FULL OF FAMILY	* HAVING YOUR HOUSE FULL OF FAMILY
* PLENTY OF TURKEY	* TURKEY SANDWICHES FOR A MONTH AFTER
* WATCHING CHILDREN OPEN GIFTS	* WATCHING CHILDREN OPEN GIFTS YOU SHOULD BE OPENING
* TOYS	* OTHER PEOPLE WHO WANT TO PLAY WITH THEM
* REAL X-MAS TREES	* VIOLENT ALLERGIC REACTIONS TO THEM
* X-MAS PARADES	* HORSES IN FRONT OF MARCHING BANDS IN PARADES (USE YOUR IMAGINATION)
* STOCKINGS	* STUPID THINGS PEOPLE PUT IN THEM
* GOING CAROLING	* HAVING CARLERS COME TO YOUR HOUSE
* PLENTY OF CRANBERRY SAUCE	* CRANBERRY SAUCE SANDWICHES AFTERWARDS
* PUTTING UP X-MAS LIGHTS	* 98% CHANCE OF BEING ELECTROCUTED
* ANIMATED TV SPECIALS	* NEVER CAN GET ENOUGH OF THEM
* FRUITCAKES	* THOSE GREEN CHUNKS IN FRUITCAKES THAT NO ONE SEEMS TO BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY
* PEACE, JOY & GOODWILL TOWARDS MAN	* A LACK THEREOF

## Point of View

### Looking back, looking forward

By SARA WARTES Senior Associate Editor



If one lesson is to be learned from the 1980s, it should be one how precariously mankind is perched on planet Earth.

Mount St. Helens started the decade off literally with a bang by blowing its top in 1980.

Since then earthquakes in Mexico City, Japan, China, Armenia and of course San Francisco have shaken our buildings and our confidence.

Every year hurricanes have threatened to make matchsticks out of our coastal cities. Floods have saturated, droughts have desiccated.

Yet somehow in the aftermath of the awesome forces of nature, mankind has risen to the occasion.

Who can forget the scenes of desperation in Mexico City as workers dug through mountains of rubble and miraculously freed newborn babies from a collapsed hospital?

In San Francisco, ordinary people performed acts of heroism to rescue strangers following the catastrophic earthquake there.

Over and over on television during the decade we saw people standing in front of homes destroyed by floods, tornados, hurricanes and earthquakes. They said variations of the same thing, "Everything we had is gone, but we're just thankful to be alive. That's the important thing."

The will to survive is strong in mankind.

#### Do-it-yourself disasters

Ironically, we have created our own disasters of the 1980s. At Chernobyl, the worst fears of environmentalists were realized when a meltdown occurred in a nuclear power plant.

Oil spills abounded, the worst just this year in Alaska, covering the shores with now-frozen sludge.

The tropical rain forests, so essential to the world's oxygen supply, are being destroyed at a rate of about 53 acres per minute.

In August 1988, biologist Thomas Lovejoy, assistant secretary for external affairs of the Smithsonian Institution, said, "I am utterly convinced that most of the great environmental struggles will be either won or lost in the 1990s. And that by the next century it will be too late."

I believe the human spirit will again rise to the occasion to combat the disasters of our own making. I'm betting that we will win the environmental struggles of the 1990s. But this is one battle we can't afford to sit at home and watch on television. If we win, it will take commitment from all of us.

## The HIGHLAND HERALD POLL

### To you, what has been the most memorable event of the 1980s?



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 CARTOONIST  
 John Davidson



**JIM STILLWELL**, sophomore; mental health, substance abuse counselor. "Saving a company from going bankrupt, it was a local co-op in Lacy Lakeview."



**BARNEY FITZPATRICK**, faculty, art and photography. "A recent exhibit of my art work at the Valley House Gallery in Dallas. It marked a change in my life, in my art work."



**LAURA EVANS**, freshman, undeclared. "I will never forget that day in fourth grade, when the teacher interrupted our class time to announce that Reagan had been shot and was in the hospital."



**SUE GRAHAM**, faculty, vocational nursing. "Getting married in 1985, one of the best things that has happened to me and it's still great."



**CINDY TIPPIT**, cosmetology. "Seeing the progress in the world and reading the book of Revelation and seeing how far along we are in it."



**GEORGIA JONES**, sophomore, government. "Coming back to school after four years and giving birth to my two children, Brittany Jones, and Rickey Jones."



**JOE ARRINGTON**, faculty; mental health. "The big fish kill along the Trinity River. I believe we are going to have to come to grips with our environment. With what's going on in Europe it looks like we're not going to blow ourselves up, but we may poison ourselves."



**ROB PAGE**, faculty, commercial music. "For me, my three kids, the Page explosion. In music, all the new technology."



**RANJAN PATEE**, freshman, LVN. "When I gave birth to my son Dominicko Cruz and coming to America."



**DON HUTTO**, sophomore, kinesiology. "When I became a legal participant in America's political system."



**KIM SMITH**, cosmetology. "Having a child, a boy in 1983. His first day of school, because I cried and he didn't."



**PAGE PERRYMAN**, freshman, physical education. "When the space shuttle Challenger exploded."



**WES MILAM**, sophomore, drama-cosmetology. "The number of social diseases that have risen that we have to deal with."



**MAURICE GANDY**, sophomore, kinesiology. "Being in the Victory video with Kool and the Gang."

**POLICY STATEMENT**  
 The Highland Herald is a publication of Journalism classes at McLennan Community College and is published every other week from September through December and January through May. No off-campus advertising is accepted. The campus newspaper is printed by the Waco Tribune-Herald. Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the MCC administration.

NEWS BRIEFS

# Water Pollution:

## Environmental problem poses threat to nation, local area

Part III of a series

By DAVID FAULKNER  
PAUL CROSBY

Water pollution is "not necessarily from a water's source but from the point of use," said Mike McAulay of Culligan Water Conditioning Co.

Many pipes in the northeast part of the country are still asbestos or lead lined, said McAulay.

Waco, while not facing the problems of the Northeast, does have a problem with a large concentration of nutrients.

Hewitt faces a problem with a high concentration of sodium in their drinking water. People who must cut down on sodium are forced to drink bottled water.

### Dairy farms

Wilson Snyder of the Texas Water Commission said that currently their biggest concern is local dairies.

A letter sent by the Texas Water Commission to dairy farmers states that "in order to improve and maintain surface and groundwater quality...certain operations obtain a permit from the Texas Water Com-

mission and all such operations must employ waste and wastewater management practices to ensure that this material does not contaminate surface and groundwater."

Waste consists of such things as manure, litter, bedding, or feed waste from feedlot operations. If this waste runs into a stream or river it can contaminate the water and make it unsafe for consumption.

Dairies that have been considered unsafe by the Texas Water Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) can be fined up to \$10,000 a day for the violation.

A water quality check is performed on all streams to protect those that use the water.

### Campus water checks O.K.

Water on campus was tested by Culligan and passed all qualifications for safe drinking water.

Some items can be found occasionally in our water supply, which are considered to be at a harmless level, are DDT derivatives and arsenic defolants.

The DDT derivatives, DDD and DDE, are harmless because they and

other pesticides are broken down. Arsenic, which came from cotton gins, is also broken down and thus harmless.

In the past, disposal of hazardous waste was not regulated and some waste was dumped into the water or buried near water sources.

The EPA has now put strict regulations on manufacturers who produce hazardous waste. They are being monitored regularly to make certain that they are meeting EPA standards.

Another recent problem has been the influx of nitrates into water. This chemical causes the rapid growth of algae which decay and causes more pollution.

A possible solution to this problem is restrictions in the use of nitrate fertilizer.

On a national level, water pollution has taken place in excessive amounts, especially in the form of the Alaskan oil spill earlier this year.

According to the Associated Press, 600 miles of coastline, including fishing communities and a national park were threatened by the spill.

But water pollution is not just a national problem, it has also been prevalent locally.

According to The Waco Tribune-Herald from 1986, thousands of fish were found dead in the Bosque River. The death of these fish was partially blamed on discharges from two sewage treatment plants located along the North Bosque River.

Earlier this year, the Tribune-Herald reported a cleanup project for Lake Waco. About 700 volunteers gathered between 10 and 12 tons of trash from the lake shores during the Great Lake Waco Cleanup.

The paper also reported in 1985 that a state commission judged cities according to the amount of water pollution in their area. Over 70 cities were cited for water pollution, including the Central Texas cities of Hamilton, Cameron, and Teague.

This commission has the power to levy fines on polluters such as the cities mentioned, and a list of these cities are published four times a year, naming the best and worst in regards to water pollution.

## Spring Fever: Registrar's office gears for spring registration

By BRIAN YATES

With the completion of early registration, the registrar's office is now preparing for spring semester regular registration which will be held Jan. 10, 11 and 13.

Times for registration on Jan. 10 and 11 will be 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., by time permit only, and 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m., on a first come, first served priority.

Registration on Jan. 13 will be 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., first come, first served.

Late registration for the spring semester will be Jan. 15-17, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Late registration will also be held Jan. 18 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. for evening classes only.

Tuition is \$14 per semester hour for McLennan County residents and \$18 for residents of other Texas counties.

Persons interested in applying for financial assistance should contact the office of financial aids at 750-3598. For other information, call 750-3522.

## Color change rejected

By SARA WARTES

After considerable discussion, the MCC Board of Trustees has voted to reject the Student Government request to add blue to the official school colors.

At the meeting Nov. 28, the board debated the pros and cons of changing the present colors of white, orange and black to include blue. President Dennis Michaelis favored making the official colors those of the McLennan tartan.

According to Michaelis, the early student handbooks list the tartan as the school color. He said white, orange and black did not appear as

the official school colors in the handbook until more recently.

Since the tartan contains blue, red and green as well as orange, white and black, the Student Government request to add blue would have been served by this solution.

However, several board members contended that having too many colors to choose from would tend to be confusing and would allow teams to request a different color of uniform each year. In addition, trustees expressed the opinion that orange, white and black have become traditional. They said an additional color would violate one of MCC's few traditions.

## Food service chosen

By MICHELLE WILSON

At a recent meeting, the Board of Trustees signed a three year contract with the American Restaurant Association to provide food services for the students and faculty.

After assessing each bidder for food service, the board felt ARA would be the best choice. "We be-

lieve that the quality and the professionalism will pay off in the long run," said Dr. Dennis Michaelis.

ARA's bid was in the middle range of bids received for food service. ARA will provide athletic meals, selected entrees, and snacks.

The five employees MCC has now in food service will be placed in other jobs on campus. ARA will use their own employees and equipment.

Fall Exam Schedule			
FALL 1989 FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE			
DAY SCHEDULE			
Classes	Exam Day	Exam Time	
HWF 7:00 a.m. - 7:50 a.m.	Friday & Monday December 15 & 16*	7:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	
8:00 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.	Friday, December 15	8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	
9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.	Monday, December 18	8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	
10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	Friday, December 15	11:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.	
11:10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Monday, December 18	11:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.	
12:15 p.m. - 1:05 p.m.	Friday, December 15	2:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	
1:15 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.	Monday, December 18	2:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	
TT 7:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	Thursday & Tuesday December 14 & 19*	7:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	
8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Tuesday, December 19	8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	
9:25 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.	Thursday, December 14	8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	
10:50 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.	Tuesday, December 19	11:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.	
12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Thursday, December 14	11:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.	
1:40 p.m. - 2:55 p.m.	Tuesday, December 19	2:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	
JATURDAY OTHER DAY CLASSES OFF-CAMPUS CLASSES	Saturday, December 16 Tuesday, December 19	9:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. 2:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	
TO BE ARRANGED-CHECK WITH INSTRUCTOR			
EVENING SCHEDULE			
Classes meeting only one night per week		On regular meeting night per week during December 13 - 19	
HW Classes	W, M, December 13 & 18*	5:20 p.m. - 6:35 p.m.	
6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Monday, December 18	6:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	
8:20 p.m. - 9:35 p.m.	Wednesday, December 13	6:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	
T Classes	Th, T, December 14 & 19*	5:20 p.m. - 6:35 p.m.	
6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Thursday, December 14	6:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	
8:20 p.m. - 9:35 p.m.	Tuesday, December 19	6:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	
*The schedule precludes the option of an uninterrupted period of 135 minutes.			
NOTE: GRADE REPORTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO REGISTRAR BY NOON December 20.			

## Placement office assists in student employment

By MARY EVANS

The placement office located on the third floor of the Student Center is helping students find part-time jobs while going to school and full time jobs after they graduate.

A job workshop was held in the Highlander Room of the Student Center Nov. 28. The three hour long workshop was conducted by counselor Lynn Abernathy and Placement Director Martha Whelan.

The main points discussed were job search tactics and methods of finding employment after graduation.

This workshop was geared toward the December graduates. Other workshops are scheduled for the spring semester.

The graduate placement file is a new service added for prospective graduates specifically to help them in their job search after graduation.

The process requires a student to fill out a general application that will be on file, along with a resume, MCC transcript, and letters of recommendation from instructors. This service will be in full effect before the spring semester. Students are also required to sign a form giving the placement office permission to submit the information.

After the prospective graduates have their application on file, the placement office attempts to find jobs associated with their skills. This process will save time because the submitted information will only be sent to companies looking for that particular position.

The office of placement can help students by accelerating the job hunting process, by placing them in on-campus work study or nonwork-study employment, and by offering assistance in writing resumes, completing a job application, and setting up interviews with prospective employers.

### Dance Co. looks for new members

MCC Dance Company tryouts will be held Jan. 13 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the HPE gymnasium. A routine will be taught during the morning, and after lunch break, there will be practice and tryouts in groups of three and four.

Letters of recommendation from a high school administrator and one drill team director or another authorized person will be needed by those trying out. Those interested should contact Sandy Hinton at the college.

### Public relations internship open

The Texas Baptist Public Relations Association has openings for its Summer Intern Program in some phase of religious communication. TBPA will provide \$100 financial assistance per week plus room and board for the selected students. Placement will be with a member agency, such as a Baptist university, children's home or hospital. To be eligible, students must have completed their sophomore year by next summer and have taken one basic college writing course. Baptists will be given first consideration since funding is being provided by TBPA and Baptist sponsoring agencies.

### Night nursing courses offered

Nursing students on campus will be able to take evening classes for the first time starting next March. Anyone interested must meet both college and program admission requirements and apply by Jan. 4. For more information, call 750-3541.

### Apply now for off-campus money aid

Students who are interested in obtaining financial aid to attend credit classes at either of MCC's two off-campus centers should apply as soon as possible. James Kuback, director of financial aids, will be at 711 Washington Ave. in downtown Waco today from noon-6 p.m. and at the Crossroads Center on Highway 84 and Hewitt Dr. from noon-6 p.m. on Thursday and on Friday from 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

### KCTF-TV to feature MCC Thursday

A 30-minute show highlighting colleges in the Waco area will feature the MCC campus when it airs this Thursday on KCTF (Channel 34) at 4:30 p.m. "Campus Commentary" will spotlight the vocational/technical programs of the college.

### Deadline set for poetry contest

Dec. 31 is the deadline for entering the American Poetry Association Contest. Up to six poems may be sent, each no more than 20 lines. Name and address should be on each page. Send entries to the American Poetry Association, Dept. CT-90, 250-A Potrero St., P.O. Box 1803, Santa Cruz, Ca. 95061. Entries are subject to publication.

### Art student receives scholarship

Teena Kennedy, an MCC art student, received an art scholarship from the Community Artists and Students Association. The scholarship was awarded to Kennedy on basis of art work she submitted for competition. One student each from Baylor and TSTI was also given a scholarship.

### Regular registration begins Jan. 10

Registration for the Spring semester will be held Jan. 10, 11, 13. Classes will begin Jan. 15. Course schedules are available at the registrar's office in the Administration Building. Tuition at MCC is \$14 per semester hour for residents of McLennan County, and \$18 for out of county residents. For more information call 750-3522.

### Carolers come to Student Center

The Sunshine Singers from the Mexia State School will sing Christmas carols on Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Student Center.

### BSU to attend missions conference

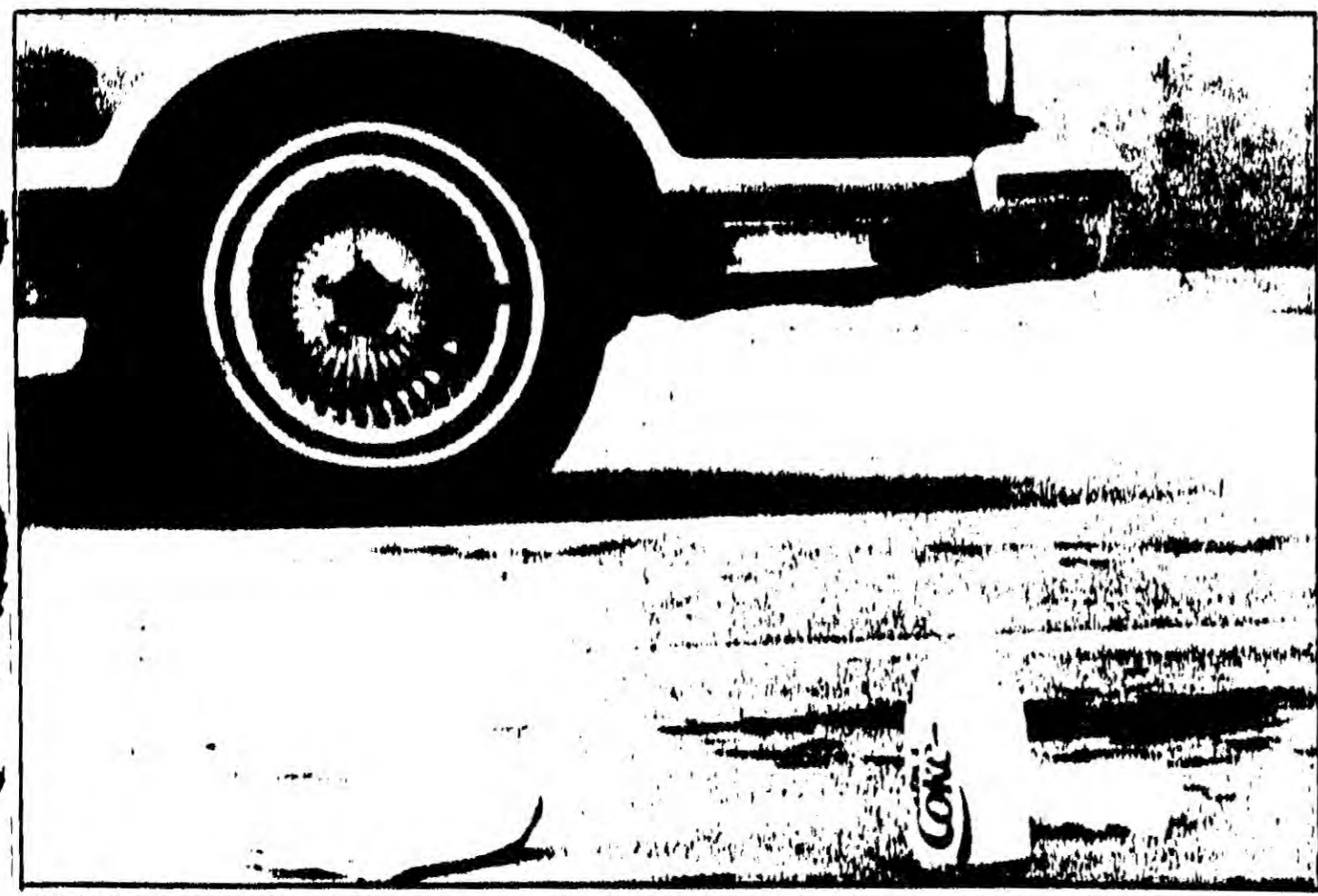
Members of the Baptist Student Union will be attending a missions conference in Fort Worth, Dec. 27-31. "Mission 90" will focus on missions in this country and around the world and will provide students the opportunity to find their place in missions. Anyone interested in attending the conference should call Jeff DeHay at 799-1170.

### Michaelis, Clark run personal bests

President Dennis Michaelis and Student Activities Director Greg Clark ran personal best times in the Dallas White Rock Marathon last week. Clark ran the 26 plus miles in three hours and 18 minutes, qualifying for the Boston Marathon. Michaelis ran 3:44:20-21 minutes faster than his last marathon. The two were featured in the "Sports Extra" page in Monday's Waco Tribune-Herald.

### Music group elects officers

The Music Educators National Conference has elected Darrell Simpson, president; Marlena Collier, vice president; and Casey Glaser, secretary/treasurer. The club is planning to attend a convention in San Antonio during the spring semester.



DON'T MESS WITH MCC. Trash — please to pick it up. Better yet, don't toss it! Help keep our environment and our campus clean.

photo by Sandra Howitt-Parsons



### CLASSIFIEDS

**AFTER SCHOOL CARE:** Monday-Friday, 3-5:30, supervise 5-13 year olds in activities, \$3.75 hour.  
**RENTAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Monday-Friday, 11-6 p.m., quote rates, write contracts, \$5 hour.  
**FOR INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER AVAILABLE JOBS, PLEASE CONTACT PLACEMENT OFFICE, THIRD FLOOR, STUDENT CENTER.**  
**TYPIST-WORD PROCESSOR:** Flexible hours, days. Know IBM PC, \$4 hour.  
**DELIVERY WATERBED SET-UP:** days, hours vary, must use own pickup.

# Defense stops Dolphins

By BRIAN SHAW

The Highlanders continued their recent tradition of close but successful games by rallying to knock off the Alvin Community College Dolphins, 69-65, Friday night at the Highlands.

After trailing by as many as 10 points during the second half, the Highlanders came back to defeat the Dolphins, boosting their season record to 12-3. Their only loss at home this year was against national powerhouse San Jacinto, which is in the same conference with Alvin. The Dolphins fell to 8-7 on the year with the loss to MCC.

Unlike recent high-scoring offensive games, this one was marked by a defensive game on both sides. Both teams played strong defense and rebounded well, but shot poorly, particularly early in the game. With 12:12 left in the first half, the score was tied 12-12. The Dolphins were even called for a 45-second-clock violation early in the game.

Coach Ken DeWeese said that the turning point in the game came in the second half, when he "posted up" guard Javier Ayala, which means that he moved into the middle. "That pulled their big men out, and they didn't adjust to it very well," he said.

Alvin's Derrick Chandler led all scorers with 20 points. Michael Ferguson led MCC with 18, and Maurice Gandy added 15. Coach DeWeese said that the Highlanders' comeback "showed a great deal of determination." He added that he believes the team is developing character and poise.

This was the Highlanders' last game of the calendar year. Their next game will be against Alvin on Friday, Jan. 12 in Alvin. The first home game of 1990 will be against conference rival Cisco on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 8 p.m.

# 'Lassies win three of five

By MON TINA WILLIAMS

The women's basketball team improved its record to six wins against seven losses by beating Randolph Air Force Base 111-93 at San Antonio Dec. 8.

Six Highlassies scored in double figures — Tabitha Truesdale with 23 points, Shonda Reese with 18 points, Shawn Medlock with 16 points, Stacy Alexander with 13 points and 14 rebounds, Jill Reed with 12 points and Kalen Parkinson with 10 points. Alexander led MCC rebounders as she pulled down 14 errant shots.

The Lassies led 48-35 at the half. Randolph Air Force Base was led by Denise Browns' 56 points and Vanessa Starks' 26 points.

### A win over the military

In their fifth victory of the season, Tabitha Truesdale, Shawn Medlock, Kelly Silver, Stacie Alexander and Martine Anderson led the Lassies to a 118-84 win over Randolph Air Force Base on Dec. 2 at the Highlands.

The Highlassies trailed 40-42 at the half.

Medlock, Kendra Parkinson, and Silver each scored three point plays during the first few minutes of the second half. In addition to her 24 points, Alexander grabbed 23 rebounds added to the 73 rebounds contributed by the other team members that aided the Lassies to their victory.

Two players scored all but one of Randolph's points as Denise Brown poured in 56 and Vanessa Starks added 27 points.

### Temple toppled

The Highlassies took a 67-64 victory over the Temple Junior College Leopards.

Truesdale aided the Lassies to their victory with her 17 points and 12 rebounds. Medlock contributed 13 points. Alexander also scored 13 and pulled down 14 rebounds, and Anderson scored 10 points.

The Highlassies led at half time, 38-29, and continued their lead through the remainder of the game to win their second game of the season.

**Tough losses on the road**  
The Highlassies had a hard time on the road Nov. 17-18 in playing Panola Junior College and Kilgore Junior College.

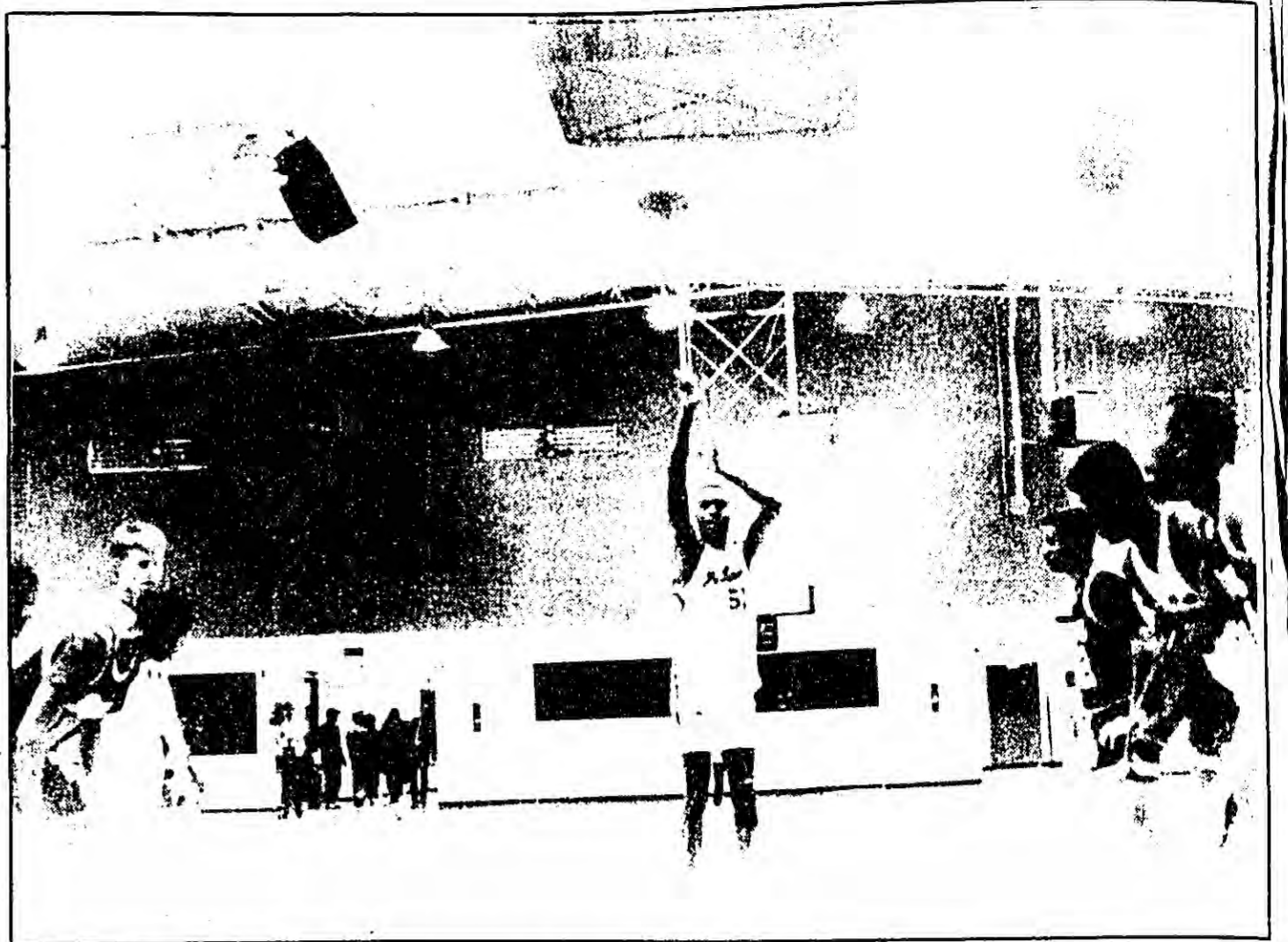
In the game against Panola, the Lassies defeated 84-94. Tabitha Truesdale led the scoring with 26 points grabbed 15 rebounds. Shawn Medlock scored 23, and Jill Reed scored 11. The Highlassies trailed Panola at halftime, 39-49.

In the game against Kilgore, the Lassies were upset by the taller Rangerettes 94-67.

Although MCC answered back to the Rangerettes size advantage, their quickness and excellent ball handling skills weren't enough.

The Highlassies trailed the Rangerettes 46-38 at the halftime buzzer.

Truesdale led MCC with 21 points, and 15 rebounds, Jill Reed scored 15 points Anderson scored 9, and Alexander scored eight and grabbed 12 rebounds.



**PRESSURE AT THE LINE** — sophomore Avery Williams tries to shorten the San Jacinto lead before the halftime buzzer. The Highlanders lost to the Ravens 93-113.

# Highlanders lose to San Jac

By STEVE JEAN

The Highlanders basketball team was behind 46-38 at half time against San Jacinto with hopes of winning. The Ravens shot an incredible 75 percent from the field to the Highlanders dismal 35 percent in the second half to win the game 113-93.

"The good shooting by them opposed to our poor shooting was the difference in the whole game," said coach Ken DeWeese. "When you have that good shooting, it allows you to play with anyone."

The game was evenly matched in the first half as the Highlanders jumped out to a 4-0 lead early in the game. Both teams exchanged several baskets until the Ravens took their first lead, 14-12, at the 13:02 mark.

The Highlanders kept it close and tied the game 23-23 with 8:14 left in the half.

San Jac built its lead back up to eight points before the Highlanders could cut it to four with 2:48 left in the half.

An 8-0 run in the closing minutes of the first half gave the Ravens a 46-38 lead over the Highlanders.

Michael Ferguson kept his team in the game the first half by scoring 13 of his game high 16 points for the Highlanders.

The second half started out with the Ravens making an 8-2 run to build their lead to 54-40 with just under 18 minutes remaining in the game.

The Highlanders tried to chip away at the lead with a few baskets but San Jac was extremely hot as they built their lead to 67-45 with 14:42 left to play.

With nothing falling in for the Highlanders, the Ravens built their lead to 84-58 with 8:30 remaining.

MCC scored a couple of quick baskets to show a little bit of life, but the Ravens went on a 16-6 run for the knockout punch to build their biggest lead of the game, 100-68.

In the closing minutes of the game as the reserves came in to get a little playing time, the Highlanders cut the lead to 106-82.

The closing minutes were promising for the Highlanders as Levon Perrin came off the bench to score 12 points, all on threepointers, for a final score of 113-93.

Leading scorers for the Ravens

were Cassell with 29, Atkins with 19, Terrell with 15, all in the second half, and Sallier with 15 points and 8 rebounds.

"I feel like our players were fatigued mentally as well as being disgusted with themselves. They were simply out of sync," said DeWeese.

"They displayed an incredible three point barrage in shooting 88 percent in the second half and 75 percent in the game to put it out of reach," said DeWeese.

"I have been worried about a bad shooting night but I did not expect it to come against them. Our nine-day lay off was more than we could overcome," said DeWeese.

The Ravens were 86 percent from the line to the Highlanders 76 percent which also made a big difference.

The Highlanders also lost the rebounding battle to the Ravens by a margin of 41-27. MCC's leading rebounder was Maurice Gandy with nine boards and also 10 points.

Other players from MCC who scored in double figures were Don Hutto with 12, and Javier Ayala and Darrel Frederick each had 10 apiece.

The loss drops the Highlanders to 8-3, while the win lifts the Ravens to 10-2 on the season.

# Volleyball tourney begins

By THOMAS BUTLER

The fall semester intramural volleyball tournament is entering the last two weeks of play with one undefeated team and three more teams tied for second place.

The Nabs team has the campus bragging rights so far, but the Gizzards, Bump Set Spike, and the Banes are right behind them with

two losses apiece.

Regardless of records, all eight teams will go to the play-offs. And as intramural Director Wendell Hudson explains, "Every team has a chance to win this thing. The games have been very close, even Nabs have had some close calls."

In the play-offs the first ranked team will play the last ranked team, the second ranked will play the sev-

enth ranked team, etc.

The tournament, which started Nov. 6, has games played each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10 a.m. in the HPE building. The finals will be played on Dec. 11, 13, and 15.

The eight teams are Two Live Crows, Nabs, Home Boys, Bump Set Spike, Phi Slama Jama, Gizzards, The Banes, and Weekend Warriors.

### MCCLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Jan. 12	Alvin College	Alvin	7:30
Jan. 13	San Jacinto College	Houston	7:30
Jan. 17	Hill College	Hillsboro	8:00
Jan. 20	Cisco College	MCC	8:00
Jan. 24	TSTI	TSTI	7:30
Jan. 27	Grayson College	Denison	8:00
Jan. 31	Ranger College	MCC	8:00
Feb. 3	Weatherford College	Weatherford	8:00
Feb. 7	Southwest Christian	MCC	8:00
Feb. 10	Hill College	MCC	8:00
Feb. 14	Cisco College	Cisco	8:00
Feb. 17	TSTI	MCC	7:30
Feb. 21	Grayson College	MCC	8:00
Feb. 24	Ranger College	Ranger	8:00
Feb. 28	Weatherford College	MCC	8:00
Mar. 3	Southwest Christian	Terrell	8:00
Mar. 8-10	NJCAA Regional Tournament	Snyder	TBA

### MCCLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE WOMAN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Jan. 12	Fri.	Angelina	MCC	6:00
Jan. 13	Sat.	San Jacinto College	Houston	6:00
Jan. 17	Wed.	Hill College	Hillsboro	6:00
Jan. 20	Sat.	Cisco College	MCC	6:00
Jan. 27	Sat.	Grayson College	Denison	6:00
Jan. 31	Wed.	Ranger College	MCC	6:00
Feb. 3	Sat.	Weatherford College	Weatherford	6:00
Feb. 7	Wed.	Southwest Christian	MCC	6:00
Feb. 10	Sat.	Hill College	MCC	6:00
Feb. 14	Wed.	Cisco College	Cisco	6:00
Feb. 21	Wed.	Grayson College	MCC	6:00
Feb. 24	Sat.	Ranger College	Ranger	6:00
Feb. 28	Wed.	Weatherford College	MCC	6:00
Mar. 3	Sat.	Southwest Christian	Terrell	6:00
Mar. 6-8	Tue.-Thurs.	NJCAA Regional Tournament	Snyder	TBA

# Exercise lowers cholesterol

By THOMAS BUTLER

An American dies each minute of the year from a heart attack. Claiming 525,000 lives a year heart disease is our number one killer.

The heart's biggest enemy is cholesterol. Cholesterol is a fatty substance that accumulates in the arteries, restricting blood flow. A person's cholesterol level is directly related to his/her body fat and fat intake from food. Diets that exclude most fatty foods help reduce cholesterol. Chicken without the skin, turkey, and fruits and vegetables are low fat foods. The ideal cholesterol level is 180 but any level under 200 is considered safe.

Fortunately, studies show that a regular routine of aerobic exercise can reduce cholesterol levels.

People are finally getting serious about fitness. James Burroughs, chairperson of MCC's athletic department, said "Fitness is not a fad. People want a good self image, they want to look good. Like a model."

The billion dollar fitness industry agrees. We are constantly bombarded with fitness videos. There are scores of fitness magazines and television programs. And that Bo person is around every corner telling us to "Just do it!"


Burroughs said that weight training is now the most popular HPE course offered here. Because of the demand, the course is offered eight times.

The increased enrollment in the weight training courses has enabled the school to greatly improve the weight rooms. The rooms now offer free weights and weight machines, stationary bicycles, rowing machines, a treadmill, adduction and abduction machines (for firming thighs), a total power machine that offers four exercises, and a stairmaster machine has nine different levels of difficulty.

The weight room is now open to all students and faculty during the day. A trained staff is on hand to offer training advise and insure safety. The weight room hours are: Monday 12:15 -4, Tuesday 12:15 -2, 3:30 -7, Wednesday 1:30 -4, Thursday 12:15 2, 5 -7, Friday 1:30 -4, 5 -7.

Call 'em like I see 'em

## Keeping the world of sports clean



By CLAY LASSETER Sports Editor

With the recent suspension of pro football star Dexter Manley, drugs in sports have become wide spread. From cocaine to steroids, drugs in every sport have been taken illegally to enhance performance or receive a natural high by the athlete.

Although Manley is not the only one caught doing cocaine, stricter measures have to be taken to stop the use of drugs. The different pro sports organizations have beefed up testing, but more has to be done to prohibit the use and abuse of any kind of illegal drug.

The Athletics Congress (TAC), which serves as the national governing body for track and field, instituted year-round testing in October. TAC has brought up some new proposals for their 1989 convention that will toughen the appeals process and levels of testosterone, which is a performance-enhancing substance commonly used.

Currently, appealing is to the athlete's benefit. This delays the action taken by the TAC and the athlete is allowed to compete and not be named publicly until the appeal process is completed, which could take up to one year.

An athlete testing positive under the new proposal will be banned from competition and named publicly except in "extraordinary circumstances." The athlete is then allowed to appeal that will be completed in about a month.

Also, athletes won't be able to defend themselves any longer by saying that the substance taken would not benefit them anyway.

Other pro sport organizations should follow TAC's example of buckling down on the use of drugs. One way would be testing the athletes more frequently in order to better control this problem.

A second way to control the use of drugs would be to allow the athlete only two strikes instead of three when found positive of using drugs. The three strike rule allows players many chances before they are banned from that sport. The two strike rule would allow one mistake, to which everyone is entitled, but if that athlete does not learn from that mistake, he is booted out of that particular sport.

Third, the organizations must work united in this effort and make a substance illegal in every pro sport, not just one or a few. This is such with the use of steroids in baseball. Steroids are legal in major league baseball but not in the NFL, NBA or TAC.

Kirk Gibson of the Los Angeles Dodgers was allowed to use steroids in the 1988 World Series for a sore hamstring. Players from other sports are banned if they use them such as sprinter Ben Johnson of Canada. These inconsistencies have got to be plugged up and stopped!

Medical records have shown that steroids may enhance performance and build muscles, but after awhile they begin to make the bones brittle and muscle tension and soreness more common. These drug testing centers that are set up by the pro sport organizations exist to help the athletes, not to punish them.

Such centers should clean up sports and set an example to college athletes that may be using drugs in college. This is telling the college athlete that they may get away with in college, but it will not be tolerated in professional sports.

Drugs are harmful to the athlete and the world of sports does not need them.

# Merry Christmas



A review

# O'Neil makes 'love' hilarious

By ELIZABETH DELEON

"Love is Hell," describes the overall theme of Eugene O'Neil's comedy, "Ah, Wilderness."

Those who saw this production, portrayed by the MCC drama department last week, can easily understand what O'Neil was describing as "true love" through the eyes of the young and innocent.

Keith Adair did an excellent portrayal as the young Richard Miller, who was not enthused with the political philosophies of the times, nor with the family's idea of immigrating to America from England.

Dave Ellis, who did an outstanding job of acting in "Bury the Dead" earlier this semester, again had an outstanding performance in the lead role of Nat Miller.

Len Carrell perhaps stole the show as Sid Davis because as hilarious lines as a "semi-sophisticated" drunk.

Jo Carnahan did a fine job as the bratty yet inquisitive daughter of Miller. She knew how to keep the audience in stitches.

Stephanie Bennett, portrayed a hilariously unexpected role as Belle, a sleazy yet provocative prostitute.

This play was one of reality in which anyone who has ever felt the happinesses and sorrows of love can relate. The well performed presentation provided good entertainment, and compliments should go to many on what a fine job was done. All of the acting was superb, and the same is to be said on the costumes, music, and lighting, but especially on the stage design.

Also, other fine performances are commended to Tommy, the youngest Miller, played by Tab Murray; Lily Miller, played by Amy Barber; Nora, played by Tina Wilburn; Arthur, played by Dave Stanford; Mrs. Miller, played by Stacy Hellums; David McComber, played by Richard Caldwell; Wint, played by Greg Scott; the Bartender, played by Mark Farr-Nash; the salesman, played by Richard Martin and of course the lovely Muriel McComber, played by Shellie Lawson.

Other commendations go to Dwight Upton, Lori Retchloff, and Jody Wodrich.

# Reasons vary for homeless plight

(continued from pg. 1)

le's been to California, Florida, Louisiana, Chicago and Alaska. Now employed in Waco, he's saving his money to go to Houston next.

Although he's been content with his decision, some experiences of traveling and sleeping in the streets have been scary and unpredictable. In one situation, he described being terrified while he was hitch-hiking. While he was in the car, the driver held him at gun point until Tigert was let off.

## Living in a car

Virgil Bell is one of Waco's homeless. Bell said he will spend the winter in his disabled car. He gets a hot meal from Samaritan House each day and does some preaching.

Not all homeless people in Waco are Americans. Danny (his adopted name) is from Vietnam. He came to the United States 10 years ago under a church sponsorship program. He worked in a poultry processing plant in Arkansas and a plumbing manufacturing plant in California. He has been homeless for over four years.

"If I had a job now, I would get off the street. I don't like it. My family doesn't know where I am. I don't tell them where I am. They are still in Vietnam (Saigon)."

For money he said he works day jobs at labor and sells his blood at the plasma center.

## Good Samaritan Inc.

Rev. John Gregory, founder of Good Samaritan Inc., said "I first helped a 16-year-old girl. My family took her in till she could take care of herself." This was the beginning of the Samaritan House, another shelter in Waco which works strictly by referrals, chartered by the state in 1983. Its philosophy, coming from Luke 10:33-34, is to be "a certain good Samaritan."

The organization, located at 612 S. 3rd Street, has housed as many as 265 men and 44 women back in 1986, Gregory said. Besides shelter, the facility also provides meals every day and a new 15-day treatment program for alcoholic recovery.

According to Gregory's estimates, around 400 people are homeless in the Waco area. With this number, Gregory said he feels that a major problem is the lack of awareness of Waco's homeless situation. To try and solve this problem, Gregory hopes to form a Concerned Citizens for the Hungry/Homeless Committee.

## Who makes up the homeless?

Young, middle-age, male, female, children and elderly people make up the community's homeless.

Doug Young, MSW at the Waco V.A. Medical Center, said "The fastest growing number of homeless are families," especially single family units due to the breakdown of the family.

More women are choosing to leave abusive situations and take care of their children on their own. Ill prepared to support a family alone, their numbers swell welfare rolls and other assistance programs.

"There are a lot of homeless people in Waco," said Gregory. "It seems like the city doesn't see the need for the homeless and people don't want to admit the problem."

## The homeless and the law

Officers from the Sheriff's Department said the only contact they usually have with homeless street people is when one of them breaks the law.

"They know how to work the system. We have our regulars. When it's cold, they know what they have to do to get picked up. Sometimes one will

go into Payless, steal a six-pak, go out to the corner and drink it while they wait for us to pick them up. That's good for a two-three day stay," said officer Davis.

It's called "laying the fine." "They break a window and wait to be picked up. That's criminal mischief. Or we find them passed out laying in the street and take them in for their own safety," said officer Koen, McLennan County Sheriff's Department.

Young said, "After a person has been on the street for about six months, his values change. When it's cold, hunger comes second after having a warm place to stay. The longer a person is on the street the less likely he will get off."

Of the people on the street, about 90 percent have mental health, mental retardation or alcohol and drug problems, Young said.

Since 1988, the number of elderly homeless has risen from an estimated three to nine percent of all homeless, said Young. Those over age 65 on fixed incomes have been

hit the hardest. Health care and housing are their greatest expenses.

Thirty six percent of runaways and homeless children are on the streets due to physical or sexual abuse. Another 44 percent make the street their home due to "severe long term family problems," said the counselor on the runaway hot line. She added, "About 70 percent of the kids return home." Waco has help for children and families in crisis.

The 1970s brought about big changes with deinstitutionalized mental health care and drug therapy for control of brain chemical imbalances and other problems.

"About 25-40 percent of those on the street are what we call the traditional loners. They keep to themselves and most will stay on the street, it's really hard to get them off," Young said.

We always have those who are temporarily on the street due to economic problems, but they don't stay there long. They get jobs and get off, said Young.

# Teachers help teachers

By SAM ALLGOOD

A new program of teachers helping teachers have made things a bit easier for newcomers to the college faculty this year.

Senior faculty members helping junior faculty members is the essence of "Partners For Teaching Excellence," a formalized level-mentor program written by Dr. Lisette Carpenter and Randy Schormann.

"The use of mentors at an informal level (level one) is common in the educational system and has been practiced among the faculty before."

"Level two is something developed particularly for our campus," said Schormann. "This system has a more defined goal. It really helps to integrate the faculty more quickly."

Level one brings partners together utilizing the common amenities accorded friends. Responsibilities include exchanging schedules, meeting for lunch, discussing areas of interest, assisting with paperwork, and writing a brief report on partnership successes and concerns.

It exists "To help new faculty members become integrated with MCC in a non-threatening way," said Dr. Carpenter. "We all remember how confusing the first semester can be. A new person can get overwhelmed."

Level one becomes level two with the addition of responsibilities. These include

— An in-depth study of subject matter, preparation, testing, or implementation.

— Weekly meetings to share ideas and critique each other's work.

— Practice procedure for required paperwork.

— Participate in a professional development activity.

— Submit a graduate level quality final report.

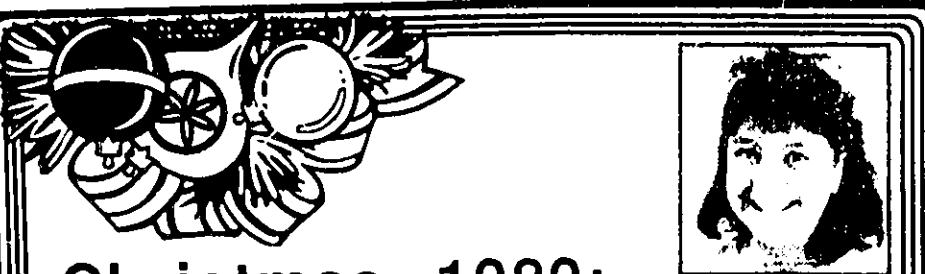
"The bottom line is, it's a service study of the art and craft of teaching," said Schormann. "A lot of it is recognizing teacher excellence."

For every four years of employment, faculty members must take three credit hours. Fulfillment of level two equals a three-hour course. Course credits equal salary step credits. "It's quite a good deal," said Schormann.

One pairing is Marilyn Kelly and Bill Howard. She "lends me her expertise and insight," Howard said. "It's making me go back and reassess things I've already done. It's too easy for teachers to become complacent."

Videotaping each other's class is another requirement. On tape, class "looks completely different from the student's perspective," said Howard. "I want to know if my jokes are that bad."

The program has proven popular. MCC hired 22 full-time and 10 part-time instructors and administrative staff this year. "We didn't have enough newcomers to go around," said Schormann.



## Christmas 1989:

### Is this what the angel meant?

By ELIZABETH DELEON Entertainment Editor

*The night sky was filled with a bright luminescence. The air was calm, yet it hinted of a mysterious briskness in the atmosphere. It was midnight, Dec. 25, and an enormous star shone brightly in the heavens.*

*In the fields, shepherds tended their flocks, and an angel of the Lord appeared, shining over them with the glory of the Lord.*

*"Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all the people; for today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you, who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign to you: You will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger," he told them.*

*Suddenly, with the angel appeared a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among men of good will."*

Christmas 1989

Now it's 1989, nearly 2,000 years after this miraculous event.

Everywhere you look, you see thousands of small, brightly colored twinkling lights, parking lots filled with real pine trees, people dressed in big red suits with fake white beards.

Advertisers everywhere are going out of their way to make customers charge their credit card to its maximum limit.

With the sound of cash registers ringing, you can almost hear the tune "We're in the Money."

As the final hours of Christmas Eve approach, we will find frustrated, impatient, tired and angry people in the hustle and bustle of it all trying to find those "just right" last minute gifts.

If this is what Christmas time is all about, then who would want any part of it?

For most, Christmas has lost its true meaning. The commercialized aspect has taken charge of this most precious season.

This Christmas, when you find yourself getting into the rut of things, don't let it take over. Snap out of it quickly and realize it is not a time for anger, impatience, depression or greed.

Remember why we celebrate Christmas. It is not celebrated to see how many presents you can get under the tree on Christmas morning but to remember the birth of Christ.

If people slow down and learn how to enjoy the holidays at a more relaxed pace, peace on earth will no longer be a dream.

REVIEW

# 'Names' help 'Steel Magnolias'

By PAUL CROSBY

To pull in the pre-Christmas viewers, Hollywood is breaking out the big name actors and actresses to pull in the movie audience. One of these acting powerhouses is "Steel Magnolias," an excellent achievement set in Louisiana.

This southern drama with shades of humor sprinkled over the surface is a warm welcome into the Christmas season. Presenting a team of big name actresses, this film is destined to rake in the bucks.

Sally Field, Dolly Parton, Shirley MacLaine, Daryl Hannah, Olympia Dukakis, and Julia Roberts head this look into the lives of six women, and the way they cope with each other and the problems they experience.

The movie is based on the play "Steel Magnolias" by Robert Harling, who used a local beauty shop in the town where he grew up as the setting. The movie version of his play, which is also a tribute to his sister Susan, who died in 1985 from diabetes, was filmed in the quiet Louisiana town of Natchitoches, La.

The story is tedious in places but the bulk of the film is a fresh look at human relations. The setting is also a nice twist, bringing these women's unique personalities into full play before the camera.

But even if the story line was a complete flop, the names of these six actresses emblazoned on a billboard is enough to draw in millions of dollars. But this film deserves the publicity it has received.

Even if these were unknown actresses this movie would not lose its dynamic appeal.

It would have been nice for them to replace Dolly Parton with a more sound actress, but for the most part, she handles her part well. Country music is where she belongs, though.

This is not an action packed movie, so I don't suggest Chuck Norris fans going to see it. "Steel Magnolias" is a melodramatic slice of life film that will be most appreciated by those who love to see clearly defined personalities on screen.

"Steel Magnolias" is rated PG, containing some profanity.

# Representative advises students about loans

By WENDY WALLIS

Ron Pippins, a marketing representative for Bank One of Dallas and Ft. Worth, has made several visits to MCC informing students of their opportunities of receiving a student loan.

He stressed these points:

— Loans are legal obligations.

— Serious consequences are strongly enforced when failure of payment occurs, such as credit history, income tax returns, wages garnished, and the possibility of being sued.

The SLS supplemental loan for undergraduate students and the Stafford Student Loan were the two loans discussed by Pippins.

Largest of the two is the SLS. If granted, the student will receive

\$4,000, with the interest rate at 12 percent. Students are encouraged to pay this back in quarterly payments while in school to avoid capitalized interest (paying interest on top of interest).

The Stafford Student Loan, even though a lesser amount of money, \$2,025, has a few more advantages. A 10-year period is allowed to pay this back with the first four years at 8 percent interest rate, and the last six years increasing slightly to 10 percent. The federal government will pay the interest rate until the student graduates. If the student can pay back the \$2,025 during the six-month grace period, then the loan is interest free.

For more information about student loans contact Mwansa Mandella in the financial aid office on the third floor of the Student Center.

# CALENDAR

Dec. 13-19	Final exams (see schedule)
Dec. 20	Christmas Open House, Student Center, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Dec. 21	Christmas Holiday begins
Jan. 4	Staff report back to work
Jan. 10, 11, 13	Regular registration for spring classes
Jan. 12	Women's Basketball, MCC vs. Angelina, Highlands Gym, 8 p.m.
Jan. 12	Men's Basketball, MCC vs. Alvin College, at Alvin, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	Basketball, MCC vs. San Jacinto College, Houston, women at 6 p.m.; men at 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 15-17	Late registration for spring classes
Jan. 15	Classes begin
Jan. 17	Basketball, MCC vs. Hill College, Hillboro, women at 6 p.m.; men at 8 p.m.
Jan. 18	Board of Trustees, Board Room, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	Saturday classes begin
Jan. 20	Basketball, MCC vs. Cisco College, Highlands Gym, women at 6 p.m.; men at 8 p.m.
Jan. 22	Registration for spring classes at MCC Downtown Center, 711 Washington, 11-6:30
Jan. 24	Registration for spring classes at MCC Crossroads Center, 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	Men's Basketball, MCC vs. TSTI, at TSTI, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	Basketball, MCC vs. Grayson College, Denison, women play at 6 p.m.; men play at 8 p.m.
Jan. 31	Basketball, MCC vs. Ranger College, Highlands Gym, women at 6 p.m.; men at 8 p.m.

Celebrate the season with PEACE

# Riding for fun, prizes

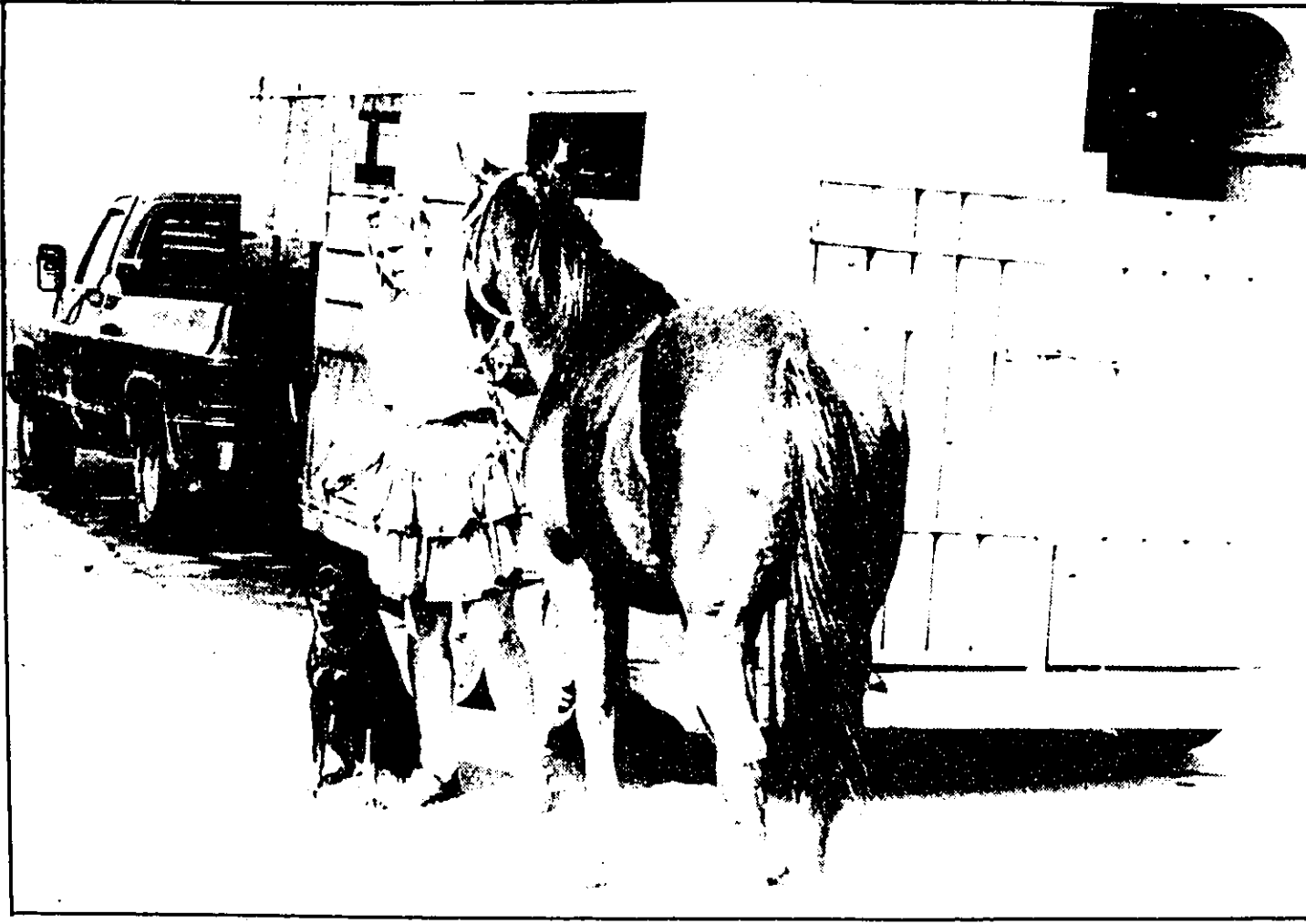
By THOMAS BUTLER

Physical education major Shannah Armstrong's real love is horses. She has won over 500 awards and prizes with them.

Although Armstrong is a person accustomed to winning, she is surprisingly uncompetitive. "There is nothing on earth like the feeling I get just riding when my horse is running well. Once in a flag race, my horse was really flying and I was having so much fun I just forgot to pick-up the flag. I lost the race but I had fun," she said.

She competes in barrel racing, straight away, and rescue events in horse shows and rodeos in the area. Although she enjoys barrel racing, she places the highest in the straight away event. "The rescue is my favorite because I do it with my little brother," she said.

In the rescue, Armstrong races her horse towards her brother at full speed and picks him up, then turns around and takes him to the finish line. She said the rescue is a real crowd pleaser. "Once we even got a standing ovation. The crowd wouldn't



ON THE ROAD AGAIN — Shannah Armstrong walks her horse, Abanda, in the CSC parking lot after class. An appointment with the veteri-

narian brought Abanda to Waco for a short wait while Shannah attended class. Dog Arra just came along for the ride.

photo by Sandra Hewitt-Parsons

stop cheering until we ran through it again."

In addition to the shows and rodeo events Armstrong trains, sells, and breaks horses. Once while breaking a wild horse for someone else she was thrown off and seriously hurt, but as

soon as she was able Armstrong was back in the saddle again.

One of her horses cut itself on a barbed wire fence and to save a costly veterinarian bill Armstrong stitched up the animal herself. "At first she wouldn't stand still so I gave

her some whiskey. After that she didn't care what I did," she said.

Whether Armstrong is adding awards to her vast collection, or just playing chase with her brothers it's a sure bet this physical education major will be doing it on a horse.

# Success Story Programmed for success

By BRIAN YATES

Former MCC student David Parker has achieved the success in his chosen career field that most college students hope for after completing their required time in the classroom.

Parker is the programming manager at the Texas Farm Bureau, a non-profit organization of farmers and ranchers organized to promote farming and ranching interests in Texas.

In describing his position, Parker said, "The programming manager is responsible for the software of a company and is in charge of the programmers in that company. On an average day I go to a lot of meetings, try to keep the programmers busy and keep everything running smoothly in the programming department."

Parker first became interested in computer programming after a visit to MCC. "I had gone to look around and while I was there I saw the computer center and became interested in the program."

Parker enrolled and was a student from 1969-1971. After graduating and spending a year in Dallas, he was hired at the Farm Bureau in 1972 as a programming trainee. Twelve years later he became programming manager. Parker described those 12 years as being "A lot of hard work, but also a lot of fun."

Parker attributes his success to "the very good education I received at MCC." He said he feels that the college helped him achieve his success by providing him with the knowledge and skills to do well.

Parker is yet another former student whose road to success has been paved with hard work and the valuable education received at MCC.

## CORRECTION

In the Nov. 14 issue of the Highland Herald two names were inad-

vertently left out of the story about inductees in the honorary academic organization Phi Theta Kappa initiation. The students missed were Harriet Morrow and Glenda Ruzicka,

# Foreign students share Christmas

눈이 내리면  
Buon Natale

Kaleau Linksmu

God Jul

Giang-Sinh Vui-Ve

Happy Christmas

Glaedelig Jul

聖誕快樂  
Feliz Navidad

Buon Natale

Hauskaa Joulua

Joyeux Noël

Mele Kalikimale

Boas Festas

## Kings, Camels and St. Lucia

By ELIZABETH DELEON and AIMEE FARR

"Feliz Navidad, Frohe Weihnachten, God Jul." Or, in English, "Merry Christmas."

The celebration of the holiday season varies in different parts of the world. Folklore, customs, religious observances and legends blend into a variety of traditions. They allow fascinating insight into people from different cultures.

In the United States, custom has it that Santa Claus, a jolly man with rosy red cheeks, a long flowing white beard and a red suit, is the bearer of the gifts to the children who have been good all year long.

Students have traveled from all over the globe to become a part of the MCC community. With the holidays rapidly approaching, a few of them have shared the holiday traditions from their native countries.

"Custom has it that the children are not allowed to see the tree decorated before Christmas morning because it is supposed to be a surprise given by Santa Claus and the Christ child." Chris Auer, West Germany

The arrival of Santa Claus is celebrated on Dec. 6 instead of on the traditional Dec. 25. He said this is "to honor the Bishop Clause from the 16th century who took fruit from the arbors and gave it to the poor or less fortunate. On Dec. 6, we receive mostly chocolate Santa Clauses, fruits, nuts and small presents."

Days before the celebrations take place, Auer said, people within the town visit the cemeteries to remember the dead by placing flowers in the grave and offering a gift of prayer.

He also said that other traditions include an advent wreath, which is put on top of a table four weeks before Christmas. This wreath is a Catholic custom signifying the coming of Christ. It consists of three purple candles and one pink candle, and one candle a week is lit within the four week period before Christmas.

On Christmas Eve, a real pine tree is usually put up. "Custom has it that the children are not allowed to see the tree decorated before Christmas morning because it is supposed to be a surprise given by Santa Claus and the Christ child," said Auer.

Manger scenes are placed around the tree and Christmas songs are sung, with the most popular being "Silent Night."

"One thing that is like home is that here in the United States, Christmas, like any other holiday, is very commercialized, and people seem to forget what Christmas is all about," Auer said.

Froeliche  
Weihnachten



"It's different there, we do celebrate Christmas, but for us the big days are New Year's and Jan. 6., or Los Tres Santos Reyes." Javier Ayala, Puerto Rico

### Puerto Rico

Javier Ayala, a freshman from San Juan, Puerto Rico, remembers leaving a wooden box filled with grass under his bed the night of Jan. 6.

"It's different there, we do celebrate Christmas, but for us the big days are New Year's and Jan. 6., or Los Tres Santos Reyes," he said. As in Spain, Jan. 6 is celebrated as the day the Three Kings, or Three Wise Men, came to present gifts to baby Jesus.

New Year's is a day for family gathering and celebrations, Ayala said. It is the one day of the year when you will see your entire family.

"People try to forget the big things that happened and try to make a new life," he said. It is a tradition, even taught in school, for people of all ages to make a list of 10 goals for the New Year, he said.

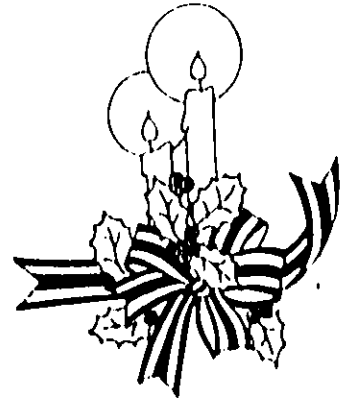
"I still do it. Last year, one wish was for me to go to college and be successful. Now I am going to college, and I am trying to be successful," he said.

Ayala's mother would give him a small gift on Christmas, saying the bigger gifts for "Los Tres Santos Reyes."

Ayala said he remembers his mother saying, "You better leave some food for the Kings' horses, if you want a present." He said chil-

dren go to bed early, after putting grass in a box of some kind under their bed. Parents sneak in during the night and put presents next to the box.

One year he woke up to find he didn't have any presents under his bed. "I was upset, I knew I was getting a bike, but there was nothing there," he said. After he searched the house, his mother took him to his present in the garage. Of course, a bike could not fit under his bed.



"This St. Lucia is trying to bring back the light, she symbolizes hope." Johan Gedlitschka, Sweden

### Sweden

"I'm glad I am going home. It doesn't feel like Christmas here there's no snow," said Johan Gedlitschka, a freshman business major from Stockholm, Sweden.

"We are brought up to believe that Santa Claus lives in Sweden. We get a lot of letters every year from around the world addressed to Santa

Claus. But I don't know for sure, I've never seen him," he said with a grin.

The Swedish holiday celebration begins Dec. 13 with the Feast Day of St. Lucia, portrayed as a blonde girl in a long white robe, with candles around her hair.

During the month of December, the sun normally shines only two or three hours a day. In the northern-most parts, it is continually dark, according to Gedlitschka.

"This St. Lucia is trying to bring back the light. She symbolizes hope," he said.

Christmas is celebrated on Christmas Eve in Sweden. Gedlitschka said his family has "waiting-for-Christmas candles." Beginning four weeks before Christmas, his family lights one candle in a four-pronged candleabra. Each week an additional candle is lit until the week before Christmas, when all four candles are burning.

"When I was little, it was a tradition for my family to sing carols while dancing in a circle around the Christmas tree," he said.

For Christmas dinner his family traditionally serves a Christmas ham instead of turkey. Smorgasbord, sausages, Swedish meatballs, pigs feet and porridge complete the meal.

"In the United States, people leave milk and cookies for Santa Claus. Our custom is to leave milk and candy for the three Wise Men." Maria Sanchez, Spain

### Spain

Maria "Chique" Sanchez, a nursing major from Madrid, Spain, said "family is the most important during the holidays."

Sanchez said that Santa Claus is known in her country because of the influence from the United States, but tradition in Spain is that gifts and other surprises are brought to the house on the evening of Jan. 6. "This is the day in which the three Wise Men, 'Reyes Magos,' also known as the 'Magie Kings,' come to all the houses leaving gifts in or around the best polished or best dress shoes in the house. These shoes are polished by the children of the household and are then left in the hallway for the 'Reyes Magos.'"

"In the United States, people leave milk and cookies for Santa Claus. Our custom is to leave milk and candy for the camels that carry the three Wise Men," said Sanchez.

Sanchez also said that on Christmas Eve, since the majority of the people are Catholic in Spain, everyone goes to "Midnight Mass." After church everyone celebrates with a big party.

Christmas morning, Sanchez said, is "a time for family because all of the family is involved with being together to thank God for the many blessings that he gives us each and every day. So a special dinner is served to honor the birth of the newborn baby."

Sanchez said "everyone is in the Christmas spirit and that the Nativity scene is the most popular item of Christmas."

According to Sanchez, another holiday tradition in Spain is that on Dec. 31, (New Year's Eve), custom has it that at midnight, when the clocks begin to strike, you are supposed to eat as many as 12 grapes before the clocks stop striking. The amount of grapes eaten before the last strike determines how many months of good luck one will have in the coming new year.

"It's not as easy as it may sound because everyone is laughing at everyone else, and the grapes fall or get squashed before you can get them in your mouth. I think that the only person who I know that is really good at it is my uncle because he takes it so seriously. He is determined to eat all 12 grapes, no matter what," said Sanchez.

"All of us that came to the MCC this semester from other countries like it here a lot, but we all get homesick and like to share our customs with other people. It is interesting that other people want to know more of our customs," said Sanchez.



### West Germany

Chris Auer, a student from West Germany, said that their customs are similar to American customs. They celebrate the coming of Santa Claus, gift giving and especially the birth of Christ. However, Auer said, "Even though our traditions are a lot in common, there are some differences as well."

Auer said that on Christmas Eve everyone usually works until noon, then in the evening presents are opened. On Christmas Day he said that everyone usually goes to church. After church the whole family gathers for the traditional Christmas dinner.



Felices Pascues