



Trochim named Athletic Director

Ian H. Quick
Staff writer

She added that she will still be involved with the team in a supportive role.

"Over the past nine years, Shawn has learned from the ground floor the demands and responsibilities of coaches and athletic administrators, and she has proven herself capable every step of the way," Michaelis said.

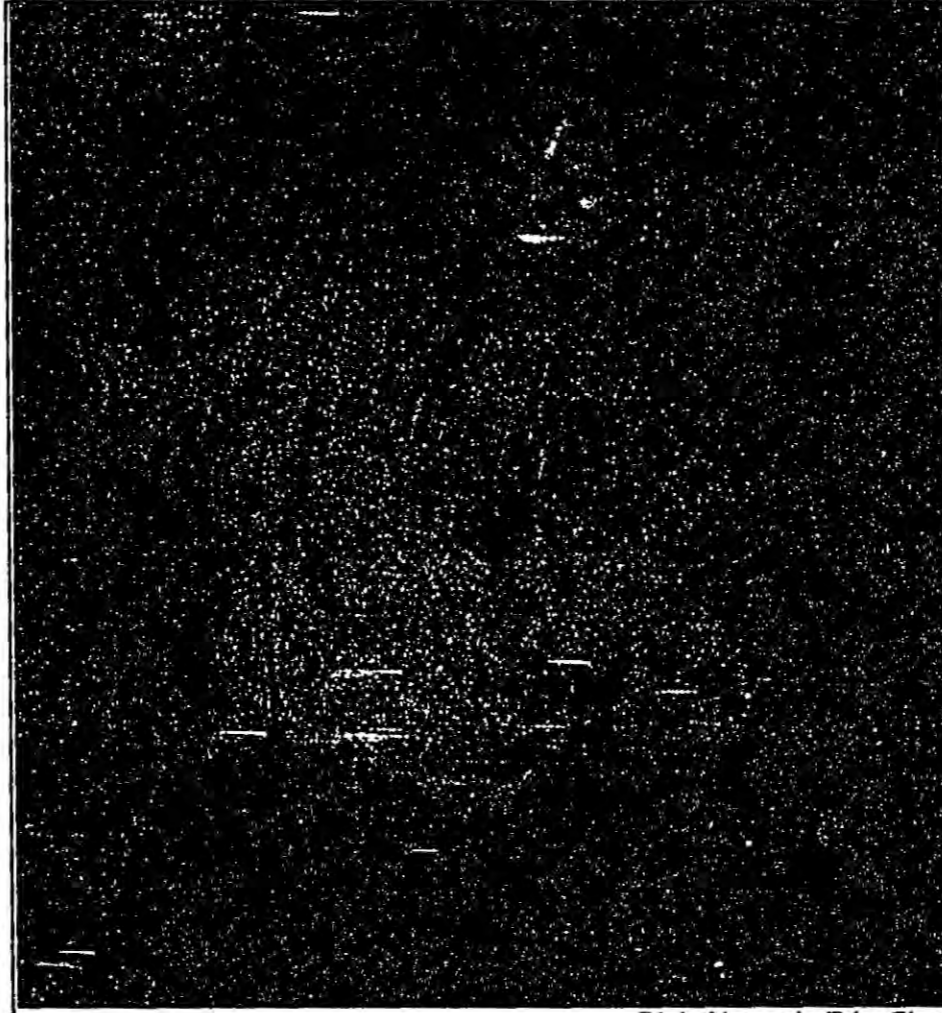
Trochim is a former Super Centex basketball standout from Waco High School.

She starred two years with the Highlassies from 1988 to 1990 before playing two years at Texas A&M, where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in Recreation Parks Tourism Science in 1993.

She holds a master's in Physical Education from Tarleton State University.

"Working at MCC for the past nine years has been good for me. I see this as the perfect opportunity to move into an administration position, and hopefully, I can continue to lead our athletic department in the right direction," Trochim said.

Trochim will officially start as the full-time athletic director on Sept. 1.



Digital image by Tyler Clatt

Shawn Trochim

Powwow fills gym with dancing and singing

Erica Sanchez
Staff writer

"There's an MC, [Albert Old Crow], who guides people through the songs and dances that are going on. Some dances are open to anyone, and some are contest dances or exhibition dances," Roppolo said.

"There're a lot of tribes that have their own particular dances, but powwow dancing is kind of like a medium for all tribes. There are also dances that are only done in ceremony, and things of that nature, that are not open to the public," said Laray Guerrero, a fancy dancer and member of Baylor's Native American Student Association.

"[A powwow] is kind of like a homecoming. You can express yourself, have fun...you get to meet new people and reunite with old friends," Laray said.

The center of the gym was reserved for the circle, which is the center of a powwow, according to www.pawwows.org.

The circle must be treated with respect and honor, and no one is allowed to enter it unless they are invited, according to the website.

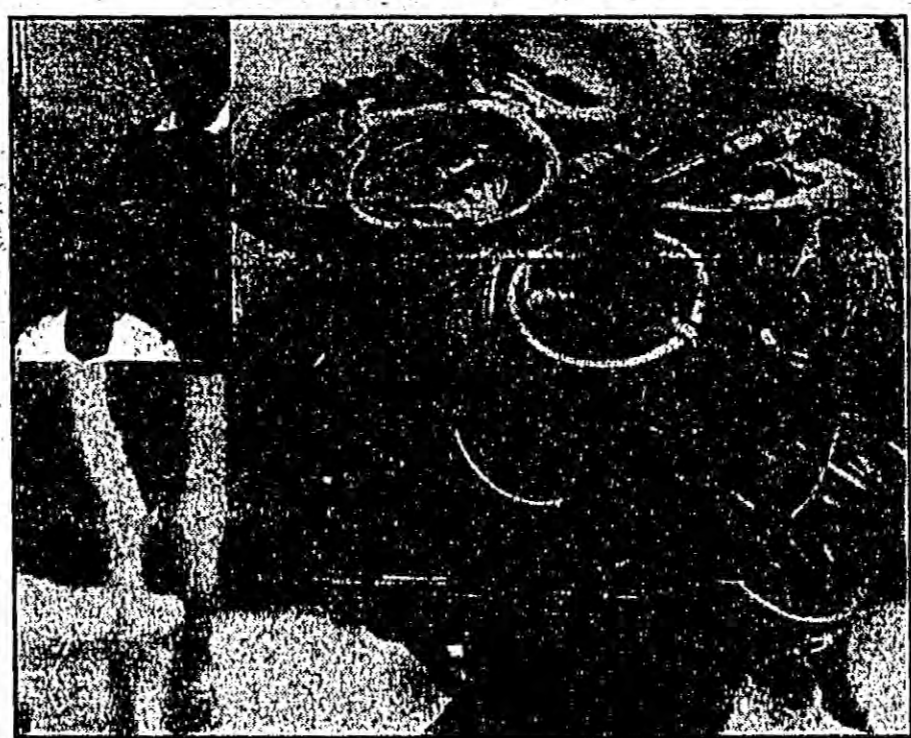
Crow, the MC, told photographers to take pictures from outside of the

See 'Powwow' page 2



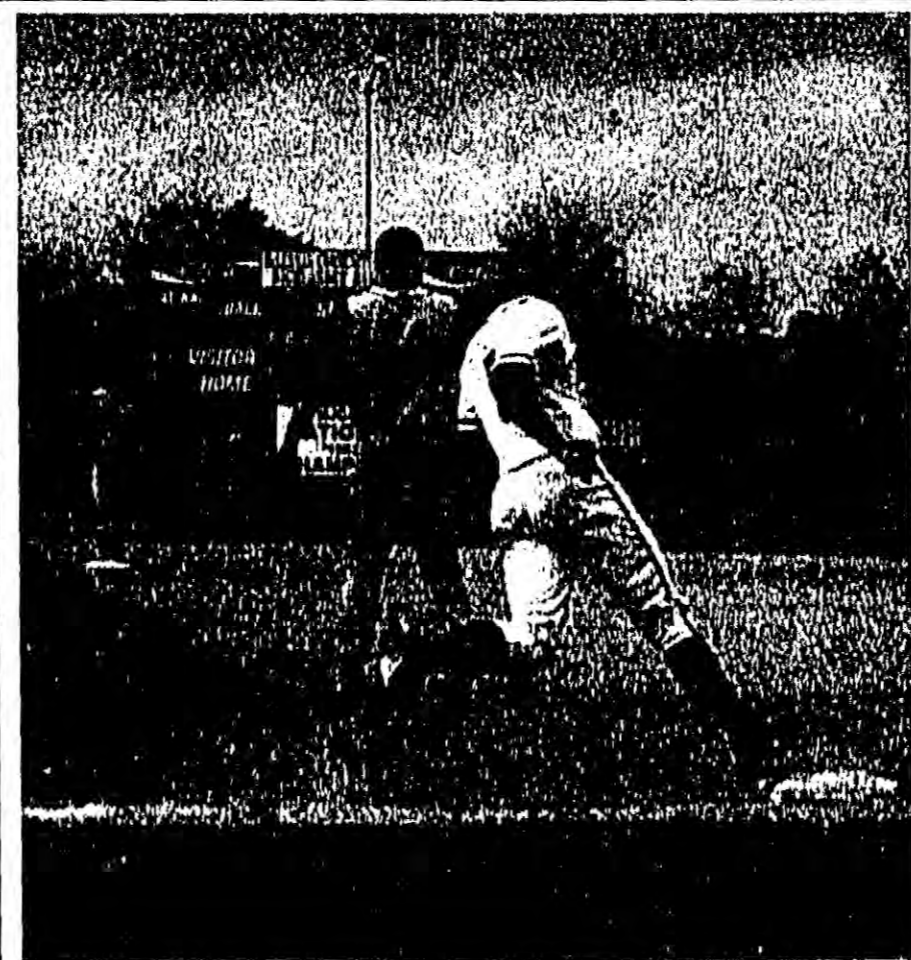
Digital image by Erica Sanchez

Chief Eugene Blackbear Sr. leads the Gourd dance, the first event of the second annual Powwow at the Highlands on April 3.



Digital images by Larissa Vigil and Deajae Manning

Before and After— Cosmetology student Tonya Whitaker waits for curlers to set, and later Cosmetology student, Troy Watson removes her curlers for a new look.



Digital images by Sarah

Matt Sodolak effortlessly takes first base against Temple on March 27. Look for more sports on pages 4 and 5.

Community Calender

page 2

Sports Videogame Reviews

page 3

Spot Light Player

page 5

Parking update: New changes made to parking for Fall 2004



The following letters from Dr. Dennis Michaelis, McLennan Community College's President.

As you all know, parking on campus has been, and will continue to be, a major challenge at MCC. This semester, we took steps to better manage our parking by implementing these changes:

1. Lots F and G (Faculty Office/Health Sciences) were gated and designated for faculty, staff and handicapped parking only.
2. Lot A (Student Services) was designated for faculty and staff parking only, and one entrance was eliminated to ease traffic flow.
3. Lot B (Student Center) was designated for students only.
4. All parking along Highlander Drive was reserved for visitors.
5. Ten faculty parking spots were reassigned to students in Lot I (Art Center).

For the most part, these changes have worked well, and I appreciate the many people who have modified their routines to comply with the new parking designations. However, there are a few changes I am asking faculty and staff to observe:

1. Regardless of where they park, all faculty, staff and students are required to display parking decals or tags. Those who do not will be ticketed. If your parking tag is lost or broken, please contact the MAC Card office for a replacement. When you apply for a new parking permit, you need to know your car's license plate number.
2. Faculty and staff who park in student-designated lots or parking spaces will be ticketed effective immediately.
3. Some handicapped students have been observed passing their MAC cards to others to allow them

access to Lots F and G. Anyone who shares parking privileges in this manner will have their parking privileges withdrawn.

4. Parking in Lots F and G is limited to designated parking spaces only. Parking along the curb is a safety hazard, and cars parked against the curb will be ticketed. Multiple infractions will result in the car being booted or towed.

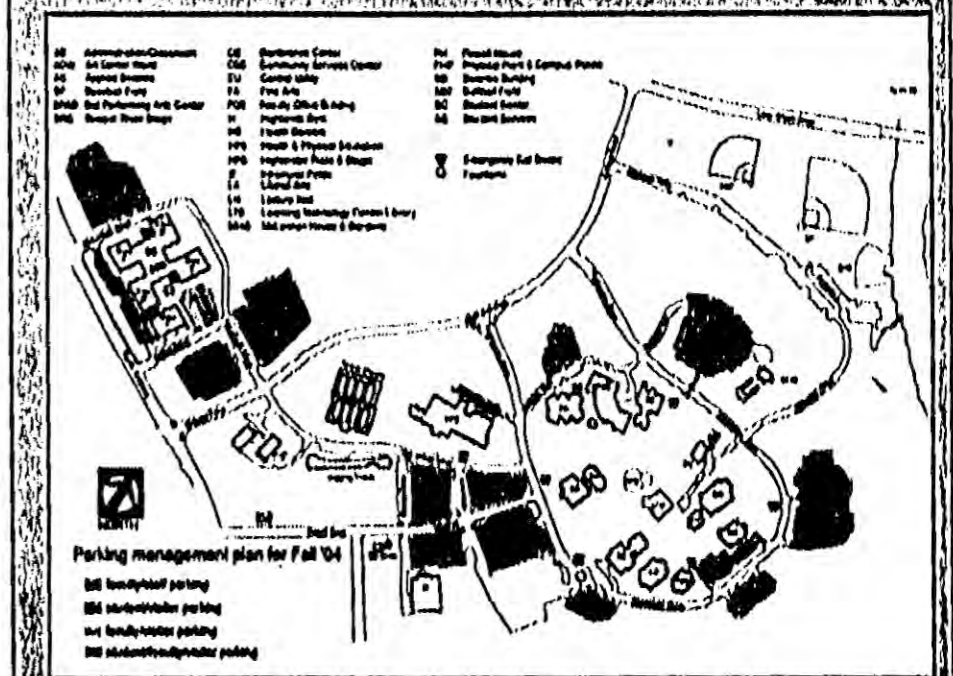
The next phase of our parking management plan will begin with the Fall semester:

1. Lots K (Performing Arts Center) and L (HPB) will be gated and designated for faculty and staff only.
2. Lot A (Student Services) will be changed to student and visitor parking only.
3. Lot I (Art Center) will be expanded during the summer months and new parking lot lighting will be added to this lot. Lot K (Performing Arts Center) and Lot G (Faculty Office/Health Sciences) parts of these lots will be closed this summer for these improvements.

Once these changes are in place, all faculty and staff who work in buildings on the main campus (other than the Physical Plant) will park in gated lots F, G, K and L in the ten vertical spaces directly across the street from the HPB, forming the designated faculty spaces in Lot I (Art Center). These employees' MAC cards will allow access to any of the gated lots. We have carefully counted the spaces and personnel, and there is ample parking in these designated lots for the number of faculty and staff on campus. All other parking lots will be exclusively for students and visitors. Please remember, effective immediately we will ticket faculty and staff members who are parking in student-only areas.

We realize these changes may require some getting used to, but the MCC Facilities Use Committee and our consultant have worked hard to develop a plan for the most efficient and fairest use of parking space on our campus. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or Donna Baimon, Chair of the Facilities Use Committee. Thank you.

Parking Map for Fall 2004



Map Key:
Light blue for faculty/staff parking, dark blue for student/visitor parking, red for student/faculty parking.

Student Life

Festival promotes higher ed



Digital image by Margo E. Moreno

Tejano band, Grupo Corazon Guerrero entertains festival audience at the Bosque River Stage.

Jerri Sadler
Staff writer

The second annual Hispanic Heritage Festival to promote awareness of higher education in the Hispanic Community took place on April 3 at the Bosque River Stage.

MCC's Student Government Association and the Intercultural Association sponsored the festival with help from Baylor's Hispanic Association

This festival was created to address decreasing Hispanic enrollment at MCC, which is at an all-time low of 14 percent, while the Hispanic population of McLennan County, according to the 2000 Census,

is 17.9 percent, the fastest growing ethnicity in Waco and the United States.

Enrollment counseling, assistance in the application process, and financial aid information were available during the festival.

There were even translators to assist the Spanish-speaking public.

Along with the promotion of higher education, the festival was filled with entertainment and fun.

Local Mariachi bands, performers, and dance troops were featured along with food vendors from local restaurants, craft activities for kids such as piñata and sombrero making, and a reenactment of a gunfight staged by the Boy Scouts of America.

Powwow from page 1

circle; they were not allowed inside of it.

At 5 p.m., the gourd dancers dominated the circle with about ten drummers and singers called "The Drum", in the middle.

"The Drum" remained in the middle throughout the powwow.

The head gourd dancer was Roppolo's grandfather, Eugene Blackbear, Sr., a Cheyenne.

"We have different styles of dancing that are going on," Roppolo said.

She said there were jingle dancers, who are woman and girls, fancy shawl dancers, fancy dancers, grass dancers, southern straight and northern traditional.

All dancers lined up at 7 p.m. for the grand entry into the circle, which was led by a participant carrying the American flag and another carrying a P.O.W. flag.

During the grand entry, the flag song, memorial song and veteran song were sung while everyone present stood as a sign of respect.

Crow said that because we [the United States] are at war, the veteran song was sung instead of the usual victory song.

He said the victory song would not be sung until all the soldiers returned home.

Round dance music was played, which invited anybody and everybody into the circle to dance.

This was the only time that any



Digital Image by Erica Sanchez

Gale Canzoneri sells Native American jewelry next to another vendor, who is selling decorative masks and shields.

person could enter the circle.

There were also dance competitions for the different styles of dancing.

Guerrero, who is Apache and Saponi, danced in the fancy dancing competition.

"It's [fancy dancing] for the more athletic individuals of the tribe. There's a lot of fast movements," Guerrero said, stretching his legs against the wall before he performed.

Guerrero said he has been dancing since he was two and started singing when he was about 12.

Guerrero, dressed in a variety of elaborate colors, said he was wearing

fancy dance regalia, a bustle on his back, and headwear called a roach.

He said the other dancers have different variations of clothing, but they still have the basic three elements: the regalia, bustle, and roach.

"But there's different ways you can express yourself through colors and designs. A lot of dancers choose colors for things that mean something in their lives. Like for instance, mine is an Apache design from my dad's tribe," Guerrero said.

Roppolo said as a gourd dancer, Blackbear, Sr. wears a buckskin shirt, eagle feathers and a war bonnet, which

is worn only by chiefs.

Jingle dancer Kandance Folsom of Dallas said she was wearing a dress featuring rows of jingle cones, leggings, eagle feathers, a belt with beaded designs, and different regalia designed to symbolize her tribe, the Oklahoma and Mississippi Choctaw.

Spectators watched the dancers from outside the circle, either in the stands or from the floor.

They could also buy various items such as jewelry, masks and decorative shields from vendors present on the gym floor.

Food, from nachos to fry bread and buffalo jerky, was sold as well.

"Since this is my first time being here, I feel that it's [the powwow] got a powerful message. I like to experience new things and new people. The music makes you want to move; it really does something to you," Dathan Torres of Waco, a spectator, said.

"We [our family] did our family tree, and we're related to an Indian tribe, so it kind of like hits home. It feels right," Torres said.

Another first-time powwow spectator, Penny Stewart of Laguna Park in Lake Whitney, brought 14 children from her church.

"We are anxiously awaiting the grand entry. I think it's very important for the kids to be exposed to different cultures. They have been looking forward to it all week," Stewart said.

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Community Calendar

- 4/14 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. UTA admissions recruiter in the LTC
- 4/14 4-7p.m. University Center Info. Fair in the LTC
- 4/14 1 p.m. Landers baseball vs. Weatherford at MCC baseball field
- 4/14 2 p.m. Lassles softball vs. Grayson at MCC softball field
- Scholarship Fundraiser at Highlander Ranch
- 4/17 12-4 p.m. PTK free hair cut charity event at Simply Salon (717 Lake Air Dr.) Call 772-9991 to make an appointment or 299-8446 for more info.
- 4/17 1-5 p.m. Songwriter's Workshop at Ball Performing Arts Center, Rm. 145 Free For more info. call Bill Howard at 299-8217
- 4/22-24 7:30 p.m. MCC theatre performs Shakespeare's "Macbeth" at Bosque River Stage
- 4/23 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Highlander games at the LTC courtyard featuring a DJ, volleyball, tattoos & face painting, soccer, frisbee golf, tug of war, food booths, and much more.

"Something wicked...this way comes..."

To the Bosque River Stage, April 22-24!

McLennan Theatre Presents

Macbeth

Shakespeare's shortest, weirdest play
Curtain time 8 p.m. (sundown)

Did you know that President George Washington traced his ancestry back to Malcolm and Duncan, the Scottish royalty betrayed by Macbeth?

Video games' hype puts on-screen sports ahead of the actual thing

John Pippin
Entertainment Editor

It's a tradition for gamers across the nation to sit down for a game of "Madden Football" before the Superbowl, or to hit in a few runs on "MLB Slugfest" between games during the World Series, or to even duke it out in the icy arena in a game of "NHL Hitz" prior to the Stanley Cup.

For most of us, it's as good, if not better, than the real thing.

Fortunately for people on both sides of the line, 2004 is packing more heat than the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition.

In the first corner, we have EA Sports BIG, the company responsible for some of the zaniest iterations of popular sports available today. BIG is the publisher behind titles like "Def Jam Vendetta," a hip-hop take on the world of wrestling that has audiences across America knocking heads with some of the most popular names in the business including N.O.R.E., Scarface, Redman and some of the key members of the notorious Wu Tang Clan.

Also on BIG's roster is their trademark "SSX" series, which has gamers hitting the slopes with an aerial finesse that would knock "The Matrix's Neo from his pedestal.

Of course, we can't overlook the notorious "Street" games.



Image from www.amazon.com

EA Sports BIG's 'NFL Street' puts gamers on the playing field for action that almost seems real.

"NBA Street," along with its aptly named successor, "NBA Street: Vol. 2," have players taking on some of the NBA's key figures in intense 3-on-3 match-ups that make a mockery of physics and reason. Coincidentally, both titles are currently available for less than 20 bucks here in the States.

Of course, there's the rumored sequel (probably called "Vol. 3"), but there won't be any official word on that until this year's E3 Convention in Los Angeles.

And we can't forget BIG's 'big' February release, "NFL Street," which marks the company's first foray into the digital gridiron. "NFL Street"

follows the same premise as the "NBA Street" franchise and offers up bone-crushing 5-on-5 matches with some of the NFL's big-name players, and goes a step further to offer online play as a PlayStation 2 exclusive to keep the game as fresh as the day it hit stores.

Next on the roster, we've got ESPN Sports (formerly Sega Sports) and their flashy 1st-Person "helmet cams" that cover all of the same sports that you'll see on the nationally aired sports channel.

Games like "ESPN College Hoops," "ESPN NBA Basketball," "ESPN NFL Football," "ESPN NHL Hockey" and

their upcoming 2004/2005 sequels provide a fresh new spin on the sim-genre with a serious look at sports simulation.

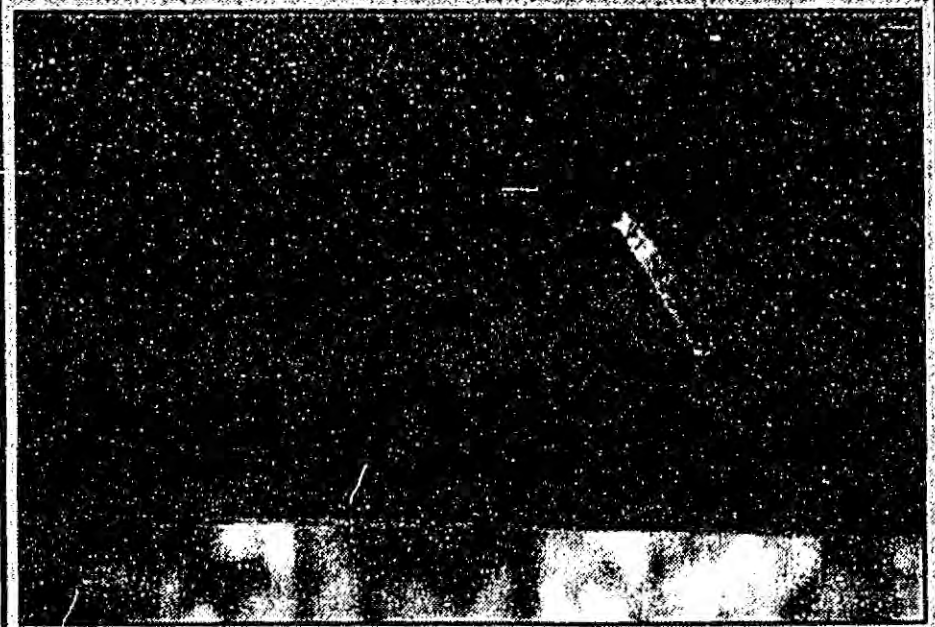
Konami is kicking it into high gear with their latest and greatest addition to their already impressive "Winning Eleven" soccer series with "Winning Eleven 7 International," which is currently the highest rated sports game available on any platform. Of course, that really only applies to fans of the sport.

Midway's cranking out the jams this year with their upcoming dive into the world of basketball in their newest title "NBA Ballers" which features a "Tony Hawk's Underground"-esque "rags-to-riches" story mode that lets you create your own baller and work your way up to the top of the NBA food chain. Speaking of Tony Hawk, there's no word on the next game in his blockbuster series, but my best guess is we'll see a sequel to "Underground" at E3.

And finally, we come to the shoe-in company for the sports genre this year, EA Sports. Well, with games like the "Madden" and "NCAA" football franchises, as well as the "MLB" license, Electronic Arts' sports division is sure to make a killing yet again this year.

With all these sports games hitting the shelves, will gamers even have time left over for the real thing?

Worms take over MCC



Digital image by Lee Kuhl

Only one of the many, annoying canker worms on campus

Jerri Sadler
Staff writer

You see them every day. You try to ignore them but they're in your face, stopping you from going to your next class.

The green caterpillars that hang from every tree on campus are really becoming a day to day hassle, said students and faculty.

Several students said they can no longer walk from one class to another without getting showered with worms.

"Even though they aren't hurting anyone, the school should still try to get rid of them. We shouldn't have to fight our way to class every day," Sophomore Marshall Baldwin said.

They are called canker worms, even though they are really caterpillars, according to Donald Kelm of the Waco Texas Cooperative Extension of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The small green pests dangle

from the trees by a spider-like silk thread each spring, preparing to spin cocoons to become moths, said zoology instructor Lewis Snell.

Since the metamorphosis only lasts a short time, the college will not try to get rid of them unless they begin to damage trees, he said.

Meanwhile, they not only fall on passing students, but cover cars parked under trees, causing another hassle when students have to get their cars washed more often.

"I don't even want to touch my car sometimes because they cover my hood and trunk," Freshman Dominique Jones said.

Although the caterpillars aren't hurting anyone, most students interviewed said they are still getting tired of them.

The only way to avoid them from falling into hair or backpack is to be aware when walking under trees on campus and look for them hanging from their webs.

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 the staff reserves the right to edit letters for content, taste, grammar and spelling.

Please e-mail letters and comments to:
highland@students.mclennan.edu Phone (254) 299-8524
Fax (254) 299-8747 Anonymous letters will not be printed

McLennan Community College Non-Traditional Students Association Western Fundraiser

proceeds to fund scholarships

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Chuckwagon Dinner
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Sports

Wyatt committed to Baylor women's basketball program

Ian H. Quick
Staff writer

Monday morning, MCC's All-Conference guard All-American candidate Latoya Wyatt was seeing green for all the right reasons.

After seriously considering offers from some respectable NCAA Division I colleges that pursued her, namely Houston, Memphis, Oregon, and TCU; Wyatt, the NJCAA North Texas Conference Freshman and Player of the Year, verbally committed to Baylor University's women's basketball program.

After years of dreaming and weeks of speculation, Wyatt's dreams came true when Baylor assistant coach Bill Brock officially offered Wyatt a scholarship to play for the Lady Bears.

Despite being under the scope of several of the nation's top women's teams, Latoya already knew she wanted to play Big XII basketball, but for which school, she wasn't sure.

Her uncertainty dwindled, however, while attending a Baylor women's basketball game at the beginning of the season. After seeing the electrifying pre-game introduction of the Lady Bears and the style Coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson's women played with, Wyatt had dreams of being a Lady Bear.

"The green carpet rolls out, the smoke lifts up, and I'm just sitting there in awe. From that moment on, I just wanted it so bad," Wyatt said.

While Wyatt is close to her parents, the first person that knew of her commitment to Baylor was MCC's new athletic director, Shawn Trochim.

"She (Trochim) helped me and supported me along with Coach Rhodes," Wyatt said. "She knew because the desire in my eyes told the story of how bad I wanted to play in the Big XII; and that if I had the offer, I would commit to Baylor."

Originally from L.D. Bell High School in the Dallas-Fort Worth mid cities, Wyatt was an impact player almost immediately for the MCC Highlassies. Wyatt led MCC to one round short of the national tournament, losing to Weatherford in the NJCAA Region V final.

If Wyatt performs as well as she did last season, she

could bring the Lady Bears an average of 18 points, 5.2 assists, 3.3 steals and 3.0 rebounds per game.

Aside from the impressive stats, Latoya is a born leader who is no stranger to hard work, and she believes that she has the skills to go up against any player in the nation.

"I would love to play against competition like Simone Augustus, or Diana Taurasi. I want to prove to people I can play with them. They've made a name for themselves. Now it's time to make a name for myself. I'm not going over," Wyatt said.

With the void left by Baylor's senior guard, Jessika Stratton, who just finished her last season at Baylor with regional honors, Wyatt may be able to start at the shooting guard position.

"I believe that I can come in and become a factor, just as long as I work hard. I'm not worried about the hard work because that's a regular for me", said Wyatt.

The most dangerous feature that could make Wyatt the Lady Bears' top gun is her ability to play both guard positions. This would enable coach Mulkey-Robertson to run a mixture of lethal combinations.

Although Wyatt is a threat on the court, she refuses to let her focus on the textbooks suffer. Wyatt has been

academically able to play NCAA basketball since coming out of high school, so it's no shock that she made the value of education her number-one priority while choosing a college.

"Get your education. That should be your first priority. Basketball was a factor in choosing my school, but education was the bottom line," Wyatt said.

Despite offers from her hometown college, TCU, Wyatt declined because she felt that Waco is her second home, and she has found a new family in the MCC Athletic Department.

"I appreciate everything coach Rhodes and Trochim have done for me. Words can't express how much I appreciate the both of them. Coach Rhodes has never given up on me; he's done a great job of getting me exposed to the nation. I owe him a lot of credit. At times, he's like my backbone," Wyatt said.

Latoya Wyatt's story is rare in women's basketball due to many women's basketball programs turning their noses up at JUCO players; the idea being that it takes one year for the average player to adjust to the NCAA. Transferring players have only three years of eligibility left instead of the standard four, which makes many coaches feel the time it takes for a player to make the transition could take too long and would eventually disrupt team chemistry.

The Lady Bears' coaches are so confident that Wyatt has the necessary focus and work ethic it takes to make a smooth transition to the NCAA level of play, they overlooked their past recruiting trends and gave her a shot.

Wyatt is not only determined to take the Lady Bears to the Final Four, but also the National Championship in her first year at Baylor.

When asked how she felt about the thought of being called a National Champion, Wyatt simply said, "It has a nice ring to it, but I have to put in the work with my teammates first."

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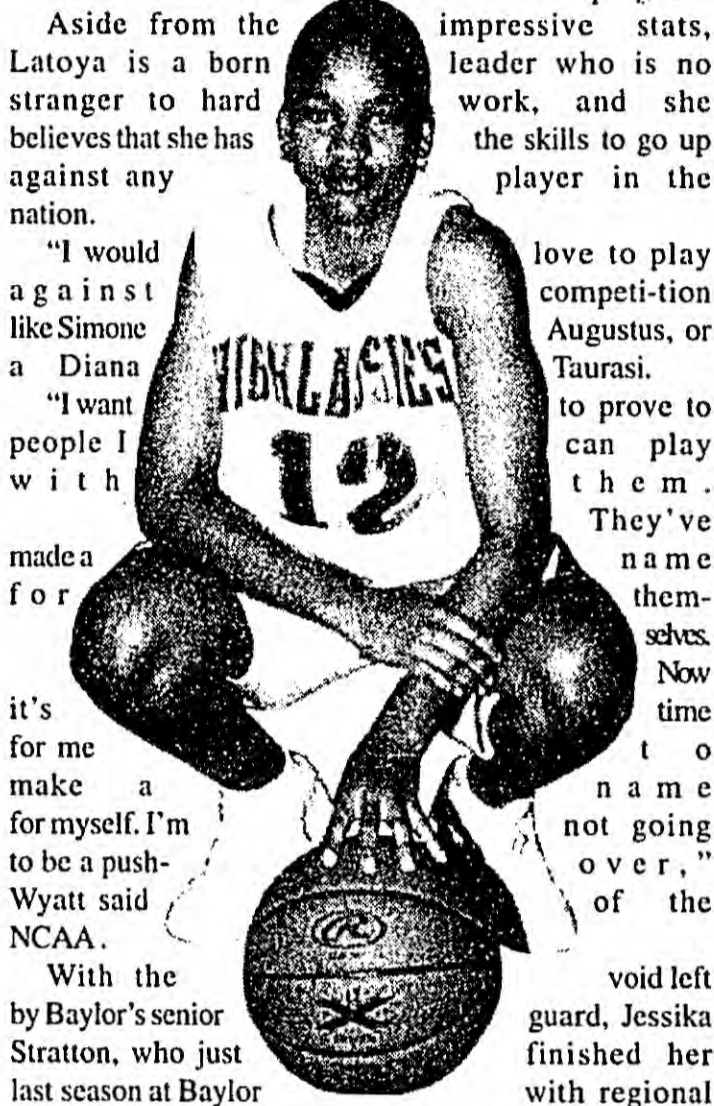
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Digital image by Larissa Vigil

Waco Marshals: New deputy dancers chosen

Davis Gonzalez
Staff writer

The Waco Marshals will be starting their inaugural season with a strong Highland flavor. Tryouts for the Diamond Deputies were held on Saturday, February 21 at the Marrs McLean Gymnasium on the Baylor campus with a number of former MCC dancers auditioning for the vacant positions.

T.J. Maple, a current member of the MCC team, is in charge of the Marshals' dance squad; acting as director, coordinator and choreographer. His rigorous training and close relationship with the Highland dance team, along with previous experience with an arena football team, made him the ideal candidate for the job. Maple has enlisted some help from former MCC dancers that wanted to showcase their talent on a professional level.

"It's exciting because I know that MCC has such a great reputation from their dancers and from the dance team," Maple said. "It's exciting to build, hopefully, a core from those alumni."

Roommates Brandi Tidmore and Randi Callihan, both Baylor students and former MCC dancers, auditioned for the Marshals after being informed of the try-outs by Maple.

"He informed all of us old members about it. I'm on the Baylor dance team right now, so I'll be doing both," Tidmore said.

Elizabeth Kinsey, another former MCC dancer, was looking forward to continuing her dance career with another college or possibly a professional organization before the Waco Marshals came to town.

"I was thinking about trying out for the Dallas Cowboys' cheerleaders or maybe the Dallas Mavericks' dancers. Opportunity, it knocked, so I took it," Kinsey said.

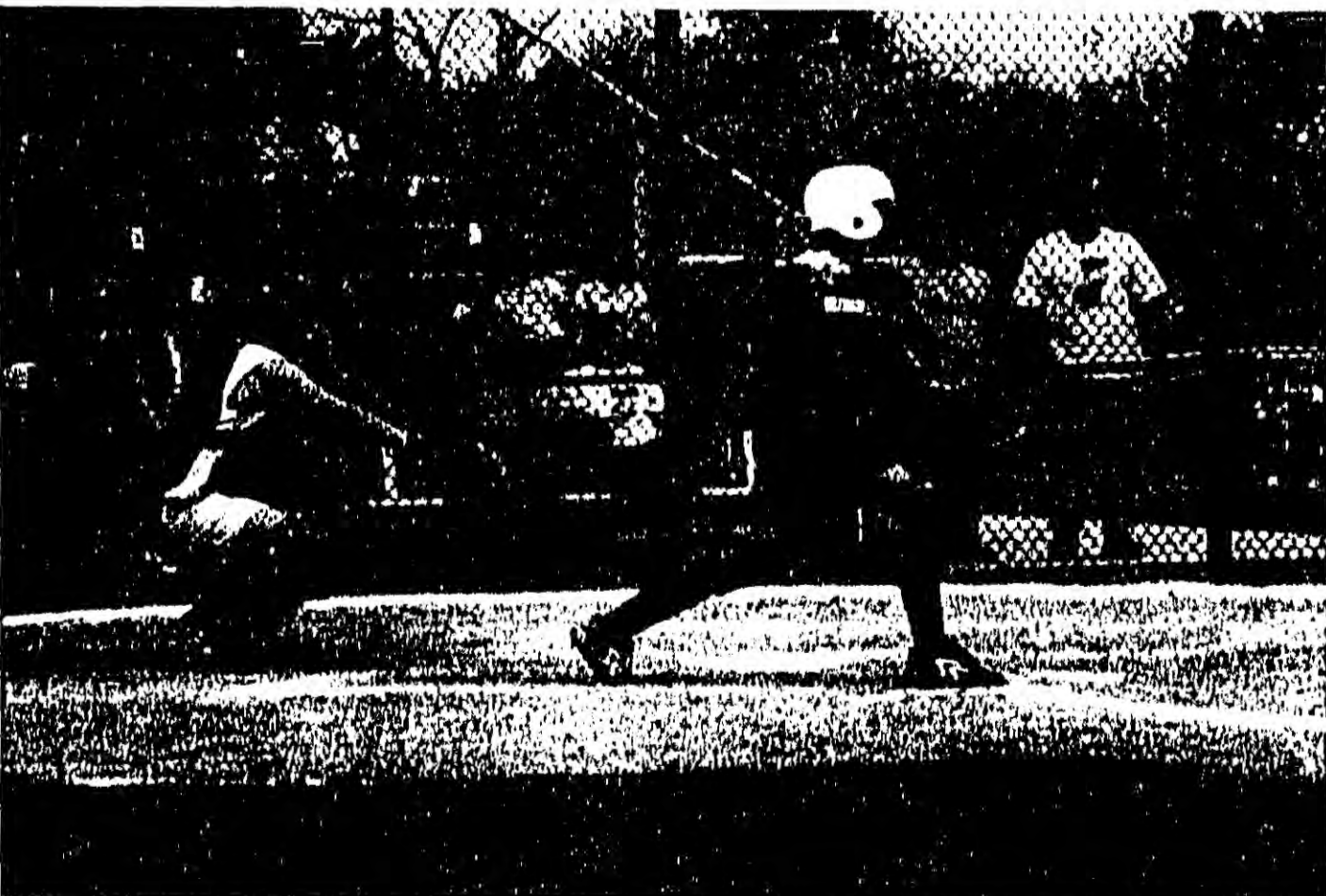
"The majority of the girls will be doing all seven home games. They will also be doing appearances throughout the community, like with guests, some parades, children's hospitals, things like that," Young said. "The main thing for our Waco Marshals is to have heart, community service involvement, and mostly just want to get that chance to be in front of a crowd of 5,000 fans in a professional indoor football league."

The Marshals kicked off their season on March 20 at the Heart of Texas Coliseum with 13 new dancers and an exciting game of football. Ticket information can be found at www.wacomarshals.net or by calling 254-776-1660.



Digital image by Davis Gonzalez
Holly trying out for Marshal squad. Holly is now a member of the Marshal squad.

'Lassies softball shuts out Cisco in double header



Digital image by Sarah
Lacy Jimenez swings and hits at March 27 game against Temple. Lacy is a second baseman and has been with the team two years.

Davis Gonzalez
Sports Editor

The MCC Highlassies softball team shut out Cisco in both games of a double header on Wednesday, March 31 at home.

Joni Gatlin began the first game on the mound leading MCC to a 2-0 victory before Erica Alvarado came in to pitch the second game.

The victories were just what the Lassies needed to bounce back from a six-game losing streak that had them hovering at fourth in the conference standings.

"We were really doing well there. We were 21-7. We were doing pretty good. Except last week, we kind of hit a wall. We lost six games in a row," said Lassie head coach Manny Ordonez. "If you want to compete for the conference championship, you just can't do that."

Good pitching and a stingy defense are the staples of this year's Highlassie team.

"I feel comfortable with the defense," pitcher and first

baseman Joni Gatlin said. "It's just our hitting isn't what it use to be."

Still, it was more bat than their opponent could muster. Cisco managed to get players on the corners during the fourth inning of game two, only to have them stranded by Lassie defense.

"I felt good," pitcher Erica Alvarado said. "I had my defense behind me so I wasn't much worried about it."

MCC's biggest offensive output came at the end when the Lassies ripped three consecutive hits with two outs in their final at bat.

Speedster Nikki O'Neal got the ball rolling after a walk and a stolen base landed her on second.

Sophomore Stephanie Moore ripped an RBI single, following a Kelli Shaw base hit. Sharonda Lacy unloaded a two RBI triple before the final out came to the plate.

"We know we can play," Ordonez said. "If we play solid with our pitching and our defense; if we do that, we can compete with anybody."



Digital image by Larissa Vigil
Freshman Joni Gatlin waits for ball return. Gatlin is leading pitcher and first baseman for Highlassies softball.

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Spot Light Player

Stephanie Moore

Classification - Sophomore
GPA - 3.3
Height - 5'3"
Weight - 120
Birth date - February 16, 1984
Nickname - Sam
Parents - Mike and Donna Moore

Hometown - Midlothian, TX
Field of Study - Undecided
Field Position - Right Field

Why do you like playing Softball?

The adrenaline rush. Like having fun. It's very competitive. You play outdoors when it's hot or cold and it's a fun experience.

How does softball fit into your school schedule?

It's like a workout after school and just right after school, no problem really.

Best team you've played this year?

Midland

Where do you see yourself years down the road?

Having a job and might play co-ed softball for a sport, like with older people. Not playing softball any other time.

Are you planning on transferring after MCC?

Yes, undecided on college but will be playing softball for a major university.

What are your standings on MCC softball team?

Leading triples for conference.

What accomplishments did you achieve in high school?

Golden Globe Award and MVP Award

What is it like to be on the softball team?

Everyone is motivated and it keeps everyone's spirit up.



'Landers offense spearheads win against Brookhaven

Breton Fanning
Staff writer

Bumblebees weren't the only source of the buzz heard in the umpire's ear during the March 31 Highlanders' baseball game... the relentless screams of "baseball mothers" behind home plate cheering the MCC squad to consecutive victories also added to the cacophony of springtime sounds.

In 100 percent humidity, the Highlanders pulled out back-to-back wins against Brookhaven.

The men started the game strong on defense holding Brookhaven to only two runs in the first four innings of the first game.

But it was the Highlanders offense, with six runs in the first three innings that gave them the win.

MCC sophomore Cory Yarbrough

added another homerun to his stats, this one over 380 feet.

The Highlanders came out swinging hard and never stopped, putting up eight runs by the final inning, one more than Brookhaven for a Luke Prihoda-led Highlander victory.

The second game of the double-header saw a more relaxed set of players.

With Brookhaven ahead by three at the end of the sixth inning, the Highlanders realized a conference game loss could shatter all championship hopes.

The Highlanders stepped out in the seventh inning and stopped the Brookhaven offense while posting nine more runs by the end of the eighth inning.

In the second game, Brookhaven had obvious problems on the mound, switching out four pitchers in the final

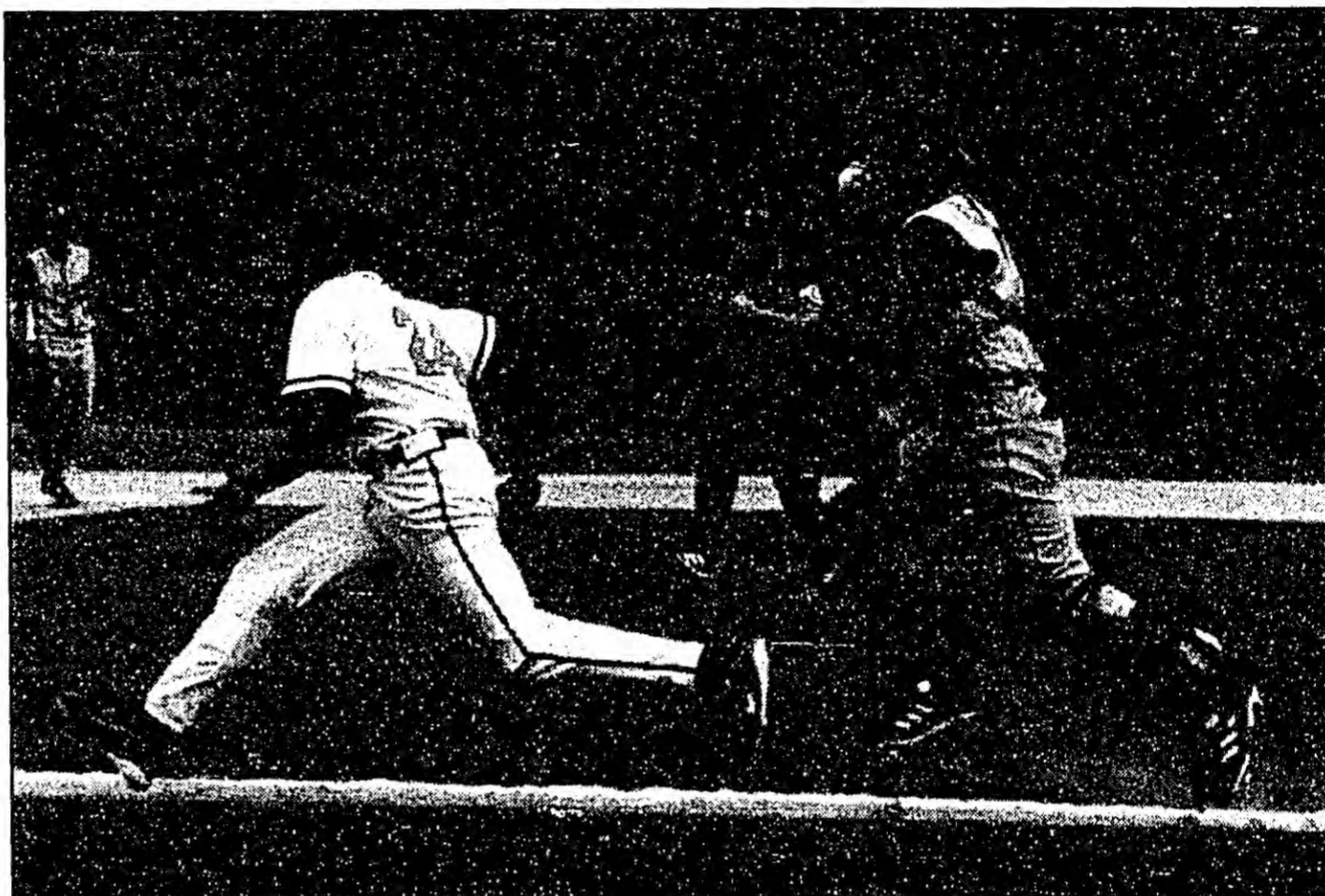
three innings, while the Highlanders' winning pitcher, Ryan Mulle, only grew stronger as innings diminished.

Matt Sodolak and Cameron McGuire, the Highland Herald's spotlight player, each redefined clutch hitting by knocking out homeruns when it counted the most, propelling MCC to a 10-8 win.

With a crew 10-strong, MCC's pitching staff has been their ticket to conference success.

Both with perfect records of 4-0 and 3-0 respectively, Logan Ondrusek and Dustin Walls have led the pitching staff for the Highlanders during conference games.

Now 12-8 in conference, the Highlanders are tied with North Central for fourth place, while Weatherford leads with a 13-5 win-loss record.



Jackie Brown is being run down by Temple player at the March 27 game. MCC played Brookhaven on March 31 and defeated them 10-8.

Digital image by Sarah

'Landers golf places third

Ian H. Quick
Staff writer

The MCC Men's Golf Team finished in third place at the Diamondback Invitational Golf Tournament in Abilene this past Monday and Tuesday.

While the whole team had respectable individual efforts, it was the hometown sophomore Kyle Roberts who stole the spotlight. Roberts received individual honors by shooting rounds of 69 and 68.

Paul Cormack was not far behind his fellow teammate, shooting rounds of 67 and 73.

The men now prepare for nationals by entering state and regional tournaments.

The state tournament will be held in Lindale, outside of Tyler, April 12 and 13. Regional play will be held in Roswell, New Mexico April 26 and 27.

Both tournaments consist of three rounds, 54 holes, and the top three finishers at the conclusion of both tournaments combined qualify for the national tournament.



Digital image by Larissa Vigil
Andreas Kalli

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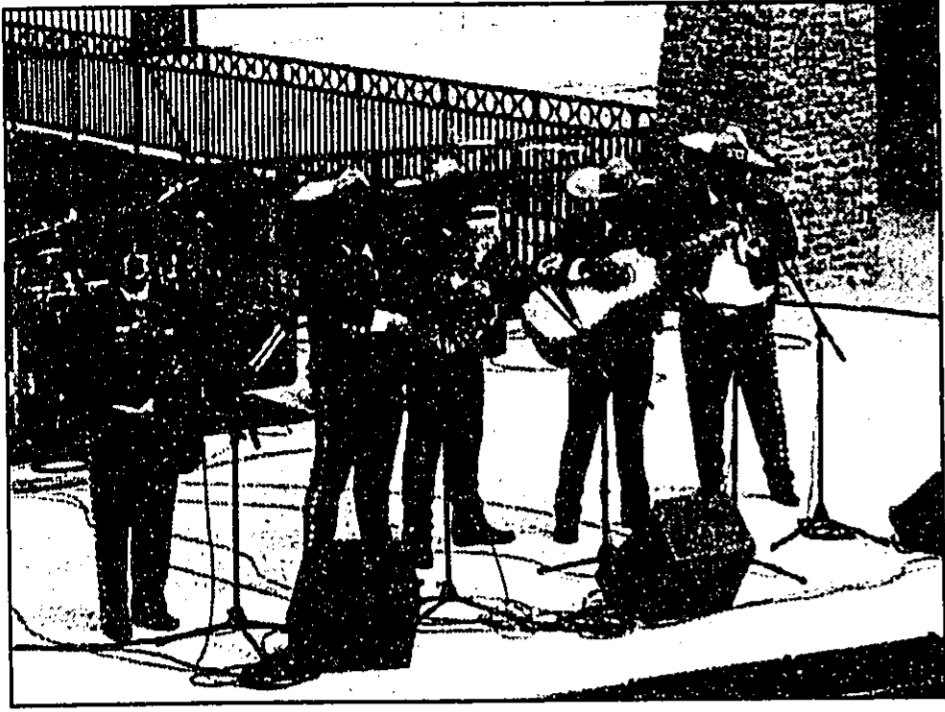
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Festival celebrates Hispanic culture



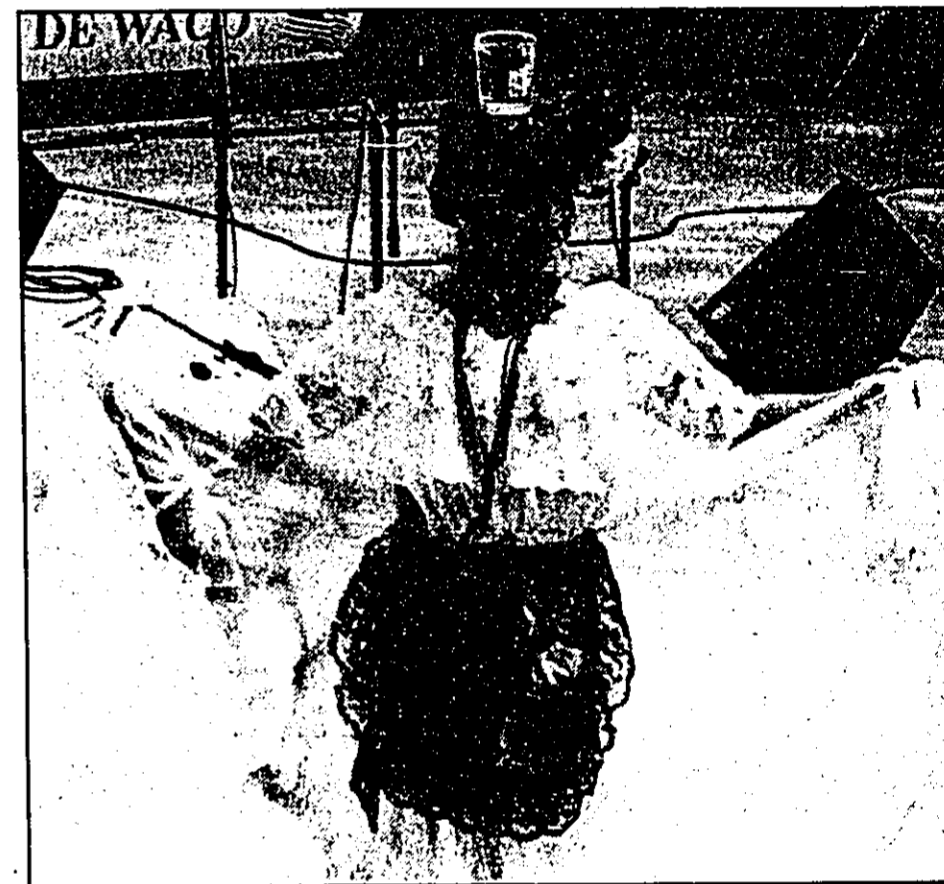
Mariachi Azteca playing various Mexican tunes on the Bosque River Stage at the Hispanic Heritage Festival.

Heather Orta (right) shows a piñata at one of the many activity tables at the festival. Other children's activities included making sombreros, corn husk dolls and rolling in cardboard boxes down a hill.

Digital images
by Margo E.
Moreno



Dana Krump (left) twirls around while dancing in a traditional Mexican folk dance with the Folklorico de Estrella dance troop.



Veronica Martineza, a member of the Folklorico de Estrellas dance troop, dances with a water glass and a candle balanced on her head at festival.



Mariachi singer (left) serenades the crowd at the festival. Other entertainment included the Tejano band Grupo Corazon Guerrero.

Allcia Pesina (Right) lead dancer in the Folklorico las Estrella de Waco performs a dance from Jalisco, Mexico at festival.

