



# Highland Herald

Friday, March 10 - Volume 45, No. 6

WACO WATER:  
NEW MANURE  
FLAVOR

'LANDERS AND  
'LASSIES MARCH  
TO REGIONALS



# This Time Around

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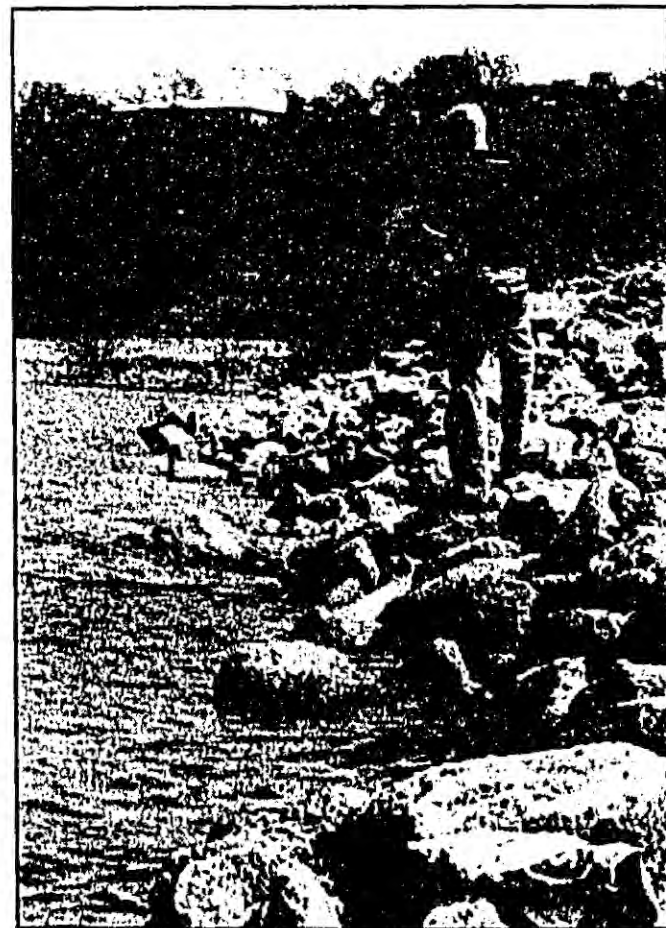
**6 Highlanders** Basketball team places first in Conference and is on its way to NJCAA Region V tournament.

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**7 No, No, Nanette** award-winning, flapper-era musical performance.

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On the Cover: An empty bag of potato chips "lays" on the rocks as William Crenshaw fishes in Lake Waco.

Digital image by Allen Fisher

# Upcoming Events ...

**March 9-12:** Highlanders and Highlassies compete in Region V Basketball Tournament at Lubbock Christian University

**March 11:** Highlassie Softball vs. Ranger at the softball field at 1 p.m.

**March 13-17:** Spring Break - Campus Closed

**March 16:** Highlander Baseball vs. North Central at the baseball field at 12 p.m.

**March 18:** Nickel Creek in concert at the Bosque River Stage at 8 p.m.

**March 20:** Highlander Baseball vs. Blinn at the baseball field at 1 p.m.

**March 20:** Highlassies Softball vs. Cisco at the softball field at 1 p.m.

**March 22:** Highlassies Softball vs. Vernon at the softball field at 1 p.m.

**March 22:** Phi Theta Kappa Induction at the BPAC at 6 p.m.

**March 23:** LIL Day - Campus Closed

**Announcement:** The deadline for submissions to the Stone Circle has been extended to 5 p.m. on March 21. For further information, please visit the submissions guide online at [http://www.mclennan.edu/students/publications/stone\\_circle/submit.htm](http://www.mclennan.edu/students/publications/stone_circle/submit.htm)



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### 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 the property of the *Highland Herald*, and the staff reserves the right to edit letters for content, taste, grammar and spelling. The staff reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

### Guest Contributions

The *Highland Herald* also welcomes guest news contributions, photos, opinions and comic strips. The same policy applies to guest contributions as applies to letters to the editor.

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# Warning: Don't Drink the Water

Allen Fisher  
Managing Editor

Warnings of "don't eat the fish," boil bans going up, suggestions that we shouldn't even swim in it: It's Lake Waco.

And according to a study released last week, it's dirty.

The last Lake Waco Comprehensive Management Program Update from the company hired by municipal and federal governments to study the lake was finally made public on Feb. 28.

The main source of the polluted water is the nutrient deposits from the dairy farms and composite facilities coming from the North Bosque River as far away as Stephenville, where, the report states, most of the pollution is coming from.

Lake Waco was created in 1929 by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, infilling severely by the 1960s. The lake was increased in size in 1966 after the building of the present dam. Now 8,994 acres with a mean depth of 23 feet and maximum depth of 86 feet, at a volume of 165,600 acre-feet, the watershed covers slightly more than a million acres.

There are now more than three dozen dairies along those watersheds, or rivers and creeks, which flow into the North Bosque.

"Dairy operations represent the largest (pollution) source to NBR (North Bosque River), with very high P (phosphorus) and low N:P (nitrogen: phosphorus) ratio. Crops in SBR/MBR/HIC (South Bosque, Middle Bosque and Hogg Creek) yield high N, moderate P, and higher N:P ratios. Background loading can be high as a function of watershed size and storms," according to the report.

So the more it rains, the more runoff of waste pools, crops, and fertilizers that drain into watersheds—things



A recent study has shown that Lake Waco is fast becoming clogged with "bacteria, possible pathogens, organic matter and other contaminants."

that not only pollute water but help algae grow.

"I have lived in Waco all my life, and I can tell it's been getting worse because of the taste. I have gotten to where I drink mostly bottled water," said Brian Gray, a citizen of Waco.

Types of algae can cause bad taste and odor, some are even possible toxin producers. Prolonged cyanobacterial dominance can lead to taste and odor events. This Algal biomass is in the upper 10 feet of Lake Waco. Oxygen, pH (acidity), and organic content of water all can be affected from the algae.

"We have a filtration system provided by Culigan, we have a tank that uses slat pallets and filters water. We also have another set of filters throughout the building. Each are changed once a month," said a Chile's manager.

There are now concerns over Cryptosporidium, possibly Giardia (parasites that live in human intestines transferred from fecal matter in lakes, rivers and

swimming pools) and viruses, that accompany fecal bacteria.

The report goes on to state, "Source tracking of work ongoing, suggests importance of bovine (cattle) inputs. High loading of Enterococcus and E. coli during storms; inlets can exceed EPA standards."

87.7 percent of the phosphorus is coming from the North Bosque. The main composites are in the north arm of the lake.

"When in a wet season more pollution is washed into the lake, but in a dry season, water sits there and facilitates," said Ken Wagner, scientist of ENSR, who delivered the update, "I like milk as much as anyone but there has to be some changes in the process."

ENSR, hired to do the study by the Environmental Protection Agency, the Corps of Engineers and the city of Waco "is an environmental consulting, engineering, and remediation company with 1,600 staff in 70 offices, USD 200 million in revenue, and project experience in 100 countries. Headquartered in Westford, Massachusetts, ENSR provides air and water quality, hazardous waste/site closure, permitting, due diligence, and environmental

health and safety management services for multinational industrial clients in the energy, oil and gas, chemical, aerospace, and other industrial and manufacturing sectors as well as to government" according to the company's website.

"Loading is highly dependent on storm events, with pulsed inputs increasing variability of conditions," according to the report: "Lake Waco is receiving excessive loads of nutrients, bacteria, possible pathogens, organic matter and other contaminants. Watershed management is needed to reduce loading; NBR is the largest contributor and dairy farms are the largest and most controllable source type. A bacterial/pathogen level at inlets present a threat to human health much of the time and the treatment of potable water lowers but does not eliminate risk."

"Someone asked me once, what's the best thing we can do to stop polluting in Lake Waco. I told them, move away, but since that's impossible we can do things in which we get rid of the waste, such as calcium deposits or tilling it into the soil," he said.

## BSM Has Its Cake and Gets To Eat It, Too

Allen Fisher  
Managing Editor  
Matthew Clark  
Staff Writer

The MCC/TSTC Baptist Student Ministry head out to South Padre Island, Texas for their annual spring break campaign "to spread the word of Jesus Christ" called Beach Reach.

They held their annual garage sale on March 3 and 4, in the parking lot of Albertson's grocery store, located at 1900 N. Valley Mills Dr. to raise funds for the trip.

Around 15 BSM members ran the garage sale between the two dates, said Marelys Woodley, an MCC freshman and BSM member.

A semi-truck at the Waco Regional Baptist Network parking lot at 1516 S. New Rd. collected donations used for the sale during the last two weeks in February.

"We have a trailer set up ... and you can just drop your donations off there," Cooper said.

The garage sale's two-day total profit was close to



Digital image by Maria Villagomez  
BSM members hawk odds and ends at their garage sale.

serve pancake breakfasts to beach revolvers, and then they will offer free rides in the evenings by way of two vans, then serve food in front of a bar. They will also bring students together for "praise, worship and sharing."

\$1,400, Woodley said.

"In Padre, we go serve pancakes; we pass out cards, give free rides," said fellow BSM member Sabrina Cooper. "We give people free rides to or from wherever they have to go. While we're on the vans is our opportunity to witness to them," she said.

"We're going to spread the word about Jesus and how he loves everybody," said Jensten Kassien, a member of BSM. "We're going to be serving free pancakes, and at the same time, going to be witnessing to others and offering free rides to get people from place to place safely."

Each morning, BSM will

"We have always gone to Beach Reach, and that's where God has called our group," said Gabriella Gomez, another member of BSM. "It's been a tradition, since, like, 1989."

Although all are welcome, there are "Mission Trip Qualifications." You must be a Christian, an MCC/TSTC student or must be approved by committee. You must be an active church member or attend church regularly. You must be willing to be a participant on the trip and willing to do whatever you're asked in areas of "servanthood."

"We're really trying to get more serious this year; usually, we'll let anyone go, but we are going through an interview process to make sure the people who go are real Christians," said Dusty Dorton, the President of the BSM. "It's more of a growing experience for me. I want to learn a little more about spreading my faith, because I'm going to become a youth leader."

Each member will get a chance to join in the festivities too, including the opportunity to participate in building a large sand sculpture of Jesus.

Cost is \$350 per person. That includes sleeping accommodations, registration fee, lunch and supper Saturday-Thursday, a t-shirt and a pullover.

The BSM meets Mondays at 7 p.m. for Bible Study at their facilities behind the MCC Campus at 4401 N. 19th St. on the corner of N. 19th St. and Powell Dr.

For more information on the BSM, contact David Dover at (254) 754-0980 or visit <http://www.bsm-waco.org>.





From above and clockwise: Pink earrings \$12, *Head Honcho* tank \$15 and multicolored cowboy hat \$69 from *Head Honcho*; GAP denim Capri \$10 and OLD NAVY green peasant top \$10 from *Amella's Attic*; multicolored hat \$69 from *Head Honcho* and MINT turquoise velvet jacket \$15 from *Amella's Attic*; I ♥ TX t-shirt \$38 from *Head Honcho* and PICASSO brown plaid capri \$10 from *Amella's Attic*; PARAMITA green tank \$12 from *Amella's Attic*.



# Spring Fashion

Digital images by Katrina Blake, assisted by Toby McElroy  
Models: Anna Trávníčková and Victoria Mendoza



Below, counterclockwise, and center: Turquoise MINT velvet jacket \$15, white ruffled Q.U.E. blouse \$12, turquoise necklace \$14, and tweed purse \$7.50 from *Amelia's Attic*; LAVENDER tweed jacket \$15.50, white ruffled Q.U.E. blouse, and GAP denim capri \$9 from *Amelia's Attic*; OLD NAVY green peasant top \$10 located at *Amelia's Attic*; I ♥ TX shirt \$38 from *Head Honcho*.

*Amelia's Attic* is located at 215 S. University Parks Drive

*Head Honcho* is located at 608 N. 18th and Sironias on Austin.





# Highlassies Lubbock Bound

Matthew Clark  
Staff Writer

On March 9, the MCC Highlassies traveled to Lubbock for the Region V Basketball Tournament to face some of the best small college teams in Texas and New Mexico.

The Highlassies, along with the MCC Highlanders compete March 9-12 at Lubbock Christian University in an attempt to top their already impressive seasons.

The women finished the year 23-7 overall and 14-2 in conference play, clinching the North Texas Junior College Athletic Conference title for the second year in a row.

The MCC women's basketball organization demanded respect during the year's last games as the season ended with the Highlassies on a six-game winning run.

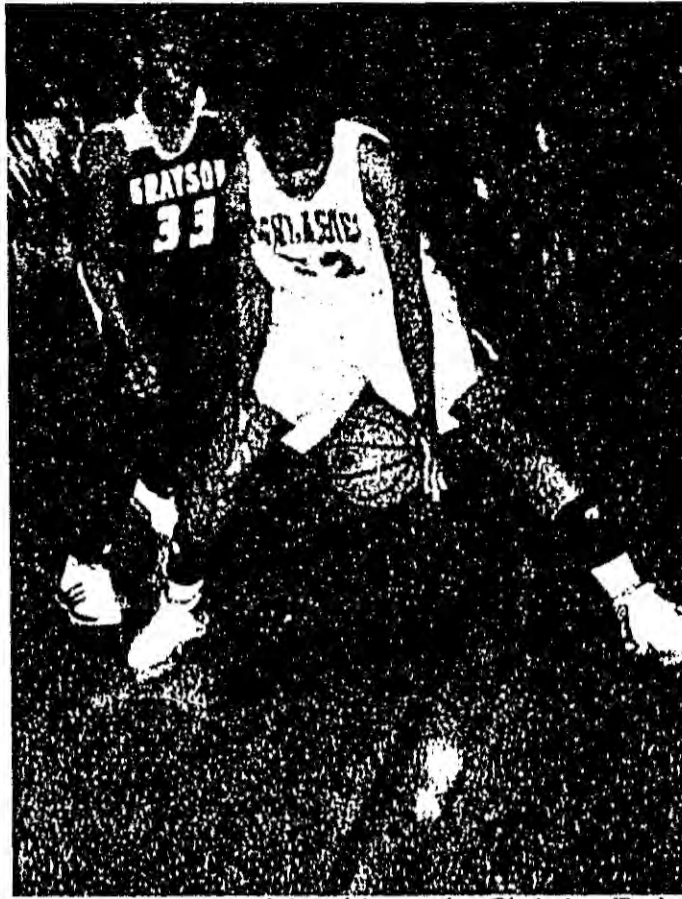
The bout against the Southwestern Christian Lady Rams on Feb. 25 ended in an 87-54 victory for the 'Lassies at home.

The game was to be a test of endurance for SWCC, as the Lady Rams only brought six team members to play, while MCC was able to substitute from a total of 13 players.

With 15:38 to go in the second period, Kim Cessna scored her third straight MCC basket to improve the already substantial lead to 62-28. Cessna led MCC in scoring, ending the night with 13 points. The Highlassies took on Ranger College next, where MCC put their second triple-digit score of the year.

Cessna, Patty Massey, Jessica Mack, Tiara Perkins, Kim Talley and Vivian Nwosu each contributed 10 or more points, making up the majority of the 104-53 final.

At 12:35 in the first period, Perkins scored her first of two-in-a-row three-pointers.



Digital image by Christina Taylor

Vivian Nwosu scraps for the ball against Grayson.

The Highlassies went on an uncontested ten-point run late in the second period until finally stopped by a Ranger basket with 3:36 left to play.

Next, the Lassies traveled to Plano to face the Collin County Community College Lady Cougars on March 1. Perkins led the game, scoring 21 points in the 65-55 win.

The Lady Cougars kept a slight lead on the Highlassies until a bucket by Stephanie Gurnell took the lead and started an MCC rally at 14:51 in the first period.

It would be more than four minutes later before CCCC would score again.

Perkins sank a 3-point shot to start off the second period, her fourth of the night.

CCCC would close the gap to five with 8:41 in the second period, but the efforts of the Lady Cougars could not match the force of the Highlassies.

In the season closer, MCC hosted the Grayson Lady Vikings in a match that ended with a 69-61 'Lassie win in overtime.

A basket by Keisha Greenwood with 13:06 left to play in the second period would be the last time the Highlassies would see the lead until overtime.

It was a Massey shot that tied up the score at 61 with a second and a half left to play.

Perkins made two free throws to gain the lead with 4:35 left in overtime.

From there, MCC kept Grayson from scoring while adding two more 3-pointers, one each for Greenwood and Perkins.

Throughout the season, both Kaylon Hodge and Brandi Crouch were awarded the NTJCAAC women's basketball Player of the Week title. The respective Feb. 7 and Feb. 22 honorees were picked because of their defensive efforts, sealing McLennan wins with rebounds, steals and assists.

## 'Landers Beat Grayson and Head to Regionals

Allie Lacy  
Assistant Sports Editor

MCC's Highlanders advance to the NJCAA Region V Tournament in Lubbock as NTJCAAC Conference champs, after a win against Grayson on March 4 marking their last regular season game.

Ending the season with a 22-8 and 12-2 record, the 'Landers receive the honor of being lone conference champs.

"It's a goal that we've set at the beginning of the year and we're so happy that we were able to reach it. It's the first time in ten years that MCC men won an outright conference championship," said Coach Kevin Gill.

The 'Landers' next hurdle is the regional tournament held in Lubbock March 9-12. "The top four teams in our league, which is the north, plays the top four teams in the west and we play the number four seed since we're number one. If we win three games from that we'll go to the national tournament. It's really a big tournament for us, so we just have to stay focused and stay healthy. We're excited going down there and looking forward to playing well," Gill said.

Bouncing back from their first loss of conference play, against Temple, with a second win against Weatherford on Feb. 15. Ending the game at 74-60, freshman guard Ryan Bennett led the 'Landers with 14 points followed by sophomore forward Jawan Bailey and freshman forward Marlon Vincent with 12.

Adding to their record, they swept Hill College with a final score of 101-85. With 19 points from Vincent, sophomore guard Marvin Gentry with 16, and Bailey adding 15.

With another double-digit lead the 'Landers defeated Southwestern Christian College 99-68. Bennett and Vincent led with 16, Gentry added 15, and freshman guard Chris "C.J." Richards ended the game putting in 14 points.

Their game against Ranger College ended with a 95-77 win. Gentry led the game with 16 points while Coleman and Vincent added 14 each. The 'Landers took a 30 point lead in the second half. The Rangers could only get within 18 points, leaving the game 95-77.

In an upsetting 7 point loss against Collin County Community College, the 'Landers' one loss turned into two. Bennett scored a season high of 28 points and Richards added 11 points, but still could not pull through with a win.

MCC ended the season with a 62-50 win against Grayson College.

Leading by 24 points in the first half Bennett scored consecutive three-pointers giving MCC a lead of 28-4, according to MCC Sports Information Specialist Kevin Tankersley.

Coleman and Gentry ended their last home game with back-to-back dunks in the last few seconds of the game.

## Softball Not So Soft

Domlnk Young  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 1, The 'Lassies opened the 2006 softball season with a 7-5 win over Navarro. Navarro cut the Highlassies' 3-0 lead to 3-1 in the top before MCC rallied for two in the bottom of the inning. 'Lassies held on until the Lady Dawgs were allowed to rally for four in the top of the inning.

Brooke Saulters went seven and one-third innings without giving up any runs and two hits while striking out nine. While striking out 11, starting pitcher Jonny Iaham went six and two-thirds and gave up five runs and four hits.

Brooke LaRue's two-run homer in the bottom of the 14<sup>th</sup> inning contributed to the 'Lassies win.

The Highlassies improved to 3-0 on Feb. 2 after sweeping Lon Morris in the double header, 2-1 and 7-1.

Jacquelyn Bently, freshman third basemen, went 3-4 from the plate with a double and three RBI. Amber Robinson also went 3-4 and Brooke LaRue was 2-3.

Lon Morris took advantage of an MCC error giving them a 1-0 lead in the day's first game. However, Lon Morris pitcher Candice Harrison was called for an illegal pitch allowing Abbey Grubb to score from third. This resulted in the Lady Bonrons' 0-2 drop.

The 'Lassies hit the road for a double header at Blinn College on Feb. 7 and then competed against Fort Worth and Galveston the next two weekends. The Highlassies returned to defeat Blinn through splitting a double header on Feb. 21.

Five errors made things blank for the Highlassies on Feb. 24, and they fell to Alvin 6-1.

MCC won the second game with a 2-1 nightcap over the Dolphins, leaving the 'Lassies 11-2 this season.

The Highlassies' seasonal record improved to 13-3 after splitting a doubleheader with Navarro College on Feb. 28 in Corsicana.

The Lady Bulldogs rallied 13-2 to take the first game, but MCC won the nightcap 7-2.

The 'Lassies went into the first game's seventh inning with a 12-7 lead before Navarro rallied for six runs in the bottom of the inning for a surprise win.

Abbey Grubb gone for 2-for-2 with a double and an RBI and Amber Robinson went 2-for-3 in the second game.

The Highlassies competed against Temple on March 4. Temple has been the 'Lassies toughest competitor but Head Coach Manuel Ordonez said he feels differently this season.

"I assure you they're not team they've been in the past. We have pretty good pitching."

The Highlassies and the Lady Leopards are 1-1 in the NTJCAAC. MCC overall is 13-4 while Temple is 18-2.



## Yes, Yes, Nanette

Review: Flapper-era musical hits nail on head

Dominik Young  
Staff Writer

"No, No, Nanette" is an award-winning, flapper-era musical that tells the story of Jimmy Smith (Aaron T. McFarland), a bible salesman, who is trying to hide his supposed extramarital activities. Critics were right to hail this as "the happiest show in town."

"No, No, Nanette" is the theatrical equivalent to a sitcom. It handles dark subject matter through comedy, song and dance.

Jerry MacLauchlin's jovial choreography featured many synchronized dance numbers. The audience was quite impressed, especially during the performance of "Tea for Two" which received vigorous applause.

Each song had an emotional impact on the audience. The catchy hooks spread like avian flu, resulting in audience members humming verses.

Laughter was frequently heard at the Ball Performing Arts Center, and for good reason. The sharp-witted humor filled with innuendo and cynicism made light of all the characters' follies.

The play is a living time machine that transports the audience from the 21<sup>st</sup> century to the Roaring '20s.

Praise should be given to the production staff for their thorough research. Slang, clothing and props gave the audience a sample of the 1920's.

Michael Sullivan's set designs immediately caught the audience's attention. The vibrantly-colored sets such as The Smiths' New York Townhouse and Atlantic City in contrast to the Smiths' Chickadee Cottage mirrors the play's sentiment.

The true superstars were Pauline the unhappy housemaid and Flora the voluptuous flapper from Frisco.

Regan Haddock's version of Pauline was a cross between Roseanne Barr and Mimi from "The Drew Carey Show." An audience member said that "she runs the show" and she is absolutely right.

Anna Nicole Smith pales in comparison to Flora played by Rachael Blizzard. Her risqué attitude was enough to make the audience blush.

Both women practically stole the show with their memorable characters that represent the little man or in this case the little woman.

"No, No, Nanette" has all the makings of a successful theatrical production: a talented cast, well-executed choreography, and witty humor.

It is understandable why the McLennan Theatre Department chose to produce this 1925 musical. "No, No, Nanette" is indeed "the cat's pajamas."

## 'Hearts' Benefit 'Arts'

Dominik Young  
Staff Writer

The MCC Foundation hosted the "Hearts in the Arts Gala" to benefit fine-arts scholarships on March 4.

The evening included a dinner buffet, a performance of the 1925 musical "No, No, Nanette" and a dessert reception.

The '20s-inspired evening began at 6 p.m. with a dinner buffet at "Hawkesdene," the home of Foundation board member Nell Hawkins and husband Jim. The hostess' menu choices were served by Best Yett Catering.

Although she has been to previous galas, this is Nell Hawkins' first time as hostess. Hawkins expressed the importance of supporting fine arts.

"I think art is the thing that keeps us sane. Everybody got a different way of thinking and looking at things. Therefore, it is important to have the arts. When given the opportunity, students can see their own creativity," she said.

After the buffet, guests traveled to the Ball Performing Arts Center for a rendition of the flapper-era musical "No, No, Nanette" at 8 p.m. They were introduced to Jimmy Smith (Aaron T. McFarland), an upper-class bible

salesman who desperately attempts to hide a secret from his wife Sue (Amy Harvey).

Jacob Critz, former MCC student, praised the MCC Theatre Department for its well-executed choreography and beautiful music.

After the closing-night performance, HDS Catering presented tables laid with punch, brownies, cakes, cookies and cheesecake squares in the lobby of the Ball Performing Arts Center.

"The catering and these tables set up with this elegant display were like the land flowing with milk and honey," said Critz.

The caterers made sure that everything was precise. It appeared the guests were pleased with the catering.

"It's the little, simple things like the carving of the melon that he (Executive Chef Fernando Morales) did. People don't really see that. So, I think they were inspired," said Manager Associate Nick Martin.

The dessert reception gave guests the chance to meet the cast and crew of "No, No, Nanette" while they sampled the refreshments.

The Waco-Tribune Herald, Community Bank and Trust, and Providence Healthcare Network were among the organizations involved in this year's gala.



Digital image by Brent Losak

Stefan Peterson of the "No, No, Nanette" ensemble cast mugs at a dessert reception in the Performing Arts



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# Anti-Slavery Talk Hits MCC Conference Center



**Jon Michael Swetnam**  
Staff Writer

Simon Aban Deng spoke about the evils of slavery and violence in Sudan at a Feb. 21 lecture in MCC's CSC building.

Deng was born in a village in southern Sudan and kidnapped at age nine. He was taken to northern Sudan, and kept as a slave.

"Most people, most of the people here, I would assume, know of slavery when they read it in history books. Most people assume it is in the past. They may be right. But in Sudan, it still exists. I am standing before you as living proof," Deng said.

"I am not ashamed and I am not proud. I did not choose to be a slave. I was forced to be a slave. I am not exposing myself to change what happened to me," Deng said.

As a slave, Deng was forced to subsist on his owners' table scraps. At night, he slept in a barn.

"At age nine, you had to ask yourself, 'What will I do? What will my life be?' We had no running water. Normally, people would use donkeys to carry their water from the river. I replaced the donkeys. I was the first to get up in the morning, and the last to sleep at night," Deng said.

"Most people here today in this room, as human beings, have had a decent place to sleep. My place was always the place where they kept the animals. I could not sleep in my bed until I had finished sweeping out the animals' beds," he said.

Poor food and dismal accommodations weren't the only indignities Deng suffered.

"I am telling you of this because people are still in the position I was in before. I was constantly beaten, by my owners and by the children in our neighborhood. I could not fight back. All I could do, all I was allowed to do, was cry for mercy," Deng said.

"I was told that if I wanted to be treated as a human, I must convert to Islam. Then I would be raised as their son. Because I was a slave, I did not know how to say no; I could only say yes. But I said neither. I told them I would let them know; I never let them know. And here I am today," he said.

After escaping Sudan, Deng became a national swimming champion and emigrated to the United States.

"I decided not to talk about it, because it is hard to talk about. But one day in New York City, I saw in a newspaper that you could still buy a Sudanese slave for ten dollars," Deng said.

The realization spurred him to speak of his experiences.

"I am in a position today to tell the world what is going on. I have seen that pride means nothing because kids are still being held as slaves. That is why I talk about what happened to me," he said.

Deng also discussed the recent violence that has wracked Sudan's oil-rich Darfur

region.

"What goes on in Darfur, it is not new. It may be new to the west, but it is not new to southern Sudan.

Some may not call it genocide, but we, today, know the word because when one person kills another, we call it murder. When they kill 20 people, we call it massacre. Today, Sudan is involved in its fourth genocide."

Deng challenged the audience to uphold justice.

"If we have Milosevic tried, why not Sudan's President Bashir? If we have Saddam on trial today, why do we not have Bashir? What if these crimes were committed against different people, in a different place?"

"These individuals who are doing this used to get away with their actions by scaring people," Deng said, adding "No one should get away with a crime of that magnitude. We, as people concerned with human rights, cannot let that happen."

Deng asked his audience to get involved and speak to their representatives.

"Today, as a citizen of America, as your fellow citizen, my people are being slaughtered. They are not being heard. Can you speak up for those who cannot? I am asking because my people are looking for help. I am here to be the voice to tell you how they are crying."

The event was sponsored by the MCC Tartan Scholars Program.

Digital images by Tihy  
McKroy and Marla Villagomez