

Highland Herald

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City Council rejects Mini Indy race track

Mandolin Shannon
Staff writer

Waco City Council members voted to uphold the historical value of the Brazos River Corridor during last month's business meeting.

Members of the City Council held a public hearing on

September 21st to decide the fate of a proposed Mini Indy race track and amusement park along the banks of the Brazos River, across from Cameron Park.

The proposed development was slated to be built on property zoned R-1B. This zoning code means single family resi-

dential with special uses allowed for non-disruptive outdoor recreation. The developers had petitioned the city to grant a special permit to build their proposal at this site.

Council members heard from a diverse group of citizens and professionals during the four hour long public hearing. Mem-

bers of the newly formed Brazos River Conservation Coalition (BRCC) were present to speak in opposition to the granting of the special permit request.

Chairman of the Two Rivers Sierra Club, Bruce Allen, said that the BRCC was formed due to the "strong citizen outcry after the Waco Plan

Commission's vote" in favor of granting the special permit request during the commission's August meeting.

Allen said that at a citizen meeting shortly after the Plan Commission's vote, the BRCC was born. It was during this meeting that Joel McIntosh agreed to serve as spokesman

for the BRCC. McIntosh said the "BRCC formed" because we felt that "we needed a broad-based group with a single focus.

"McIntosh said that when he first learned of the amusement parks' proposal he was "very upset." He said he became

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Highland Herald Photo Illustration

Blood Oath

Vampires invade Central Texas

Leah C. Turner
Staff writer

In the 20th century, a new breed of vampire is emerging. They wear suits and sit in cubicles all day, but at night they come out to play. Role-play that is.

In clubs in San Francisco and Houston, at parties in New Orleans and Philadelphia, vampires are crawling—literally—out of the underground, according to Cosmopolitan Magazine.

"Vampirism is rampant in almost all big towns. It may not be as popular in Waco yet, but it's definitely coming," said a self-proclaimed Waco vampire.

"This vampire subculture centers around eerie, gothic rock music. Members emulate the nocturnal vampire life, and assume the classic vampire persona, complete with dark clothes, pale makeup, (custom made fangs) and weirdly colored contact lenses." -The Vampire Book: Encyclopedia of the Undead.

See "Vamp" on page 5



MCC dancers, from left, Tiffany McCullers; Lt. Stephanie Starkey; Jessica Anderson, Lindsey Davis and Lt. Sarah Salinas, perform at the Heart Of Texas Fair and Rodeo on Oct. 11.

Dance Co. continues to turn heads

By Jennifer Holomek
Staff writer

The MCC Dance Co. has definitely made a name for itself over the past summer and is continuing to turn

heads. Tryouts for 1999-2000 were April.

The team is made up of 14 members with three officers.

On July 26-29, 1999, the three officers, Captain Lindsey Davis from DeSoto, Lieuten-

ants Sarah Salinas from Freeport and Stephanie Starkey from Gatesville, attended the Universal Dance Association Collegiate Dance Camp in San Marcos on Southwest Texas State University campus.

Here, team members won first place for performance of the Fight Song in the Open Division, beating out four year university TCU, who received second.

See "Dance" on page 4

Feds will pay school costs

Doniell Gonzales and Jacqueline Harvey
Staff writers

If Mamma and Daddy can't pony up the dough for your college education, the government will!

To be eligible for federal financial aid, students must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled at least half-time (six hours per week).
- Maintain a GPA of at least 2.0 and complete at least 75 percent of their college-level course work.
- Maintain a no default record on any loan with MCC, any state or the federal government.
- Be clear of all debts with MCC or other institutions attended.
- Sign a statement of educational purpose/selective service registration compliance.
- Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen.
- Provide a financial aid transcript from all colleges previ-

See "Aid" on page 2

Social segregation on campus

Alvaro Watson
Staff writer

Look around on your campus. Who do you see? If you notice, most 'clicks' are primarily made up of segregated ethnic groups

Aside from class when we might be assigned a seat beside someone who may be of another race, do most of us associate much with anyone of a different color? Probably not, according to most social scientists. Why do we do it?

Have you ever noticed the different skin colored sections in a school cafeteria? Have you ever become angry towards someone that can not speak English well? Or have you ever just flat out commented that you are better than others be-

rate our selves and exclude others. There are many guesses as to why this behavior goes on, but one should not assume these incentives. Assumptions set the grounds for confusion and are the cause of loss of information.

During different times of the day, students have some time here and there to associate with others. Noticeably, students tend to magnet towards groups of their own color. Why?

The in-group/out-group theory perhaps explains the question "Why?" We all have groups we associate with because of age, gender or color. Out-groups are people we don't see as ourselves.

Katherine Callucci, a counselor at MCC says that she hears complaints from students on campus. She said that it is mostly minority students that have approached

her about negative comments that some white students have made. Callucci explained that the comments reported are "silly stuff" that come from ignorance and/or come from the way a child was brought up by their parents.

"I would say that 30% to 40% of white students probably have never had a real friend of a different color," Callucci said, "Not to say that they have no acquaintances among people of color."

A group of four Hispanics, three females and

one male ages 19-21 were asked, "Do you ever involve yourselves with people of other races?"

One of the girls, who asked to remain anonymous, said she didn't really hang out with blacks.

"I don't trust them," she said, "All the black people that I have ever been in contact with have done something wrong like steal from me or beat up my friends."

Asked how she felt about other races, she said that there was no problem, and that she really just liked hanging out with her "homies."

Others in that group said that they had grown up together in

See "Segregation" on page 2



Digital Image by Marcos Garcia

Scottlah golfers visit MCC, see page 4.

RSVP Health Fair underway

Leah C. Turner
Staff writer

Stuff down fries, pick up Halloween candy and fight the flu all in one stop.

Everyone is invited to drop by the Lake Air Mall, Oct. 22, from 9a.m. to 2p.m., for free giveaways, health screenings and flu shots.

The Fifth Annual Senior

Source '99 Health and Information Fair, hosted by MCC, will provide free flu shots for staff and faculty and for seniors 65 and up who fill out a form and present a Medicare card and ID. Students and people without Medicare and under 65 can get their shots for \$8. (If staff members are not sure their insurance cov-

ers the shot, they can contact the RSVP at 299-8577).

Free health screenings and up-to-date information will be available. Health related seminars start at 9a.m. and continue throughout the day.

Chef Marko Ellinger will demonstrate his nutritious food program "Manipulated by Food."

Booths will include everything from funeral homes to insurance to the Texas Attorney General.

The fair, previously in the Community Services Center

(CSC), has been pushed to a different central location this year to accommodate the building's renovation.

"The Lake Air Mall graciously invited the Heart of Texas Retired and Senior Volunteer Program to hold the fair on location," said Esther Quin, RSVP representative.

The Lake Air Mall is located at 5301 Bosque Boulevard.

Although senior adults are the main focus of this event, everyone is welcome.

"People of all ages will benefit from attending this event," said Rita Tejada, volunteer coordinator.

New instructors

Instructor shares worldly experience with college students

Rush Hathi

Rush Hathi, 54, is the new Computer Information Systems instructor.

He and his wife Debbie have 2 children. His daughter Nina, 18, is an Education Major at Baylor University, and his son Jayesh, 9, is in the fourth grade at Robinson.

He received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in India in 1967, then

went on to Lamar University in Beaumont, TX and re-

ceived his Masters of Science in Industrial Engineering in 1969. Post graduate work in Operations Research was completed at the University of Texas in Arlington from 1970-1972.

Hathi has more than 27 years experience in Information Processing Industry and teaching. He has taught for 15 years at TSTC. He has been a consultant for state agencies, the oil and gas industry and wholesale distributors.

Aid Continued from page 1

ously attended.

Students should follow these simple steps when applying for financial aid: First they must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, form available at the Office of Financial Aid located in the Student Services building. Then, students should complete MCC's application for admission, followed by a Financial Aid Transcript (FAT) from all previous schools, whether or not financial assistance was received.

Students should obtain a Federal Pell Grant Student Aid Report a few weeks after mailing in their FAFSA forms, which should be taken to the Office of Financial Aid to be processed.

Lastly, applicants need to complete the Institutional Application also available in the Office of Financial Aid. Students must continue this process yearly to ensure funds remain available for future semesters.

However, students receiving financial assistance are required to maintain a grade point average of 2.0 and complete at least 75 percent of their college-level course work.

Students who choose to withdraw or are withdrawn from a course or several courses, are either required to pay back a portion of the money they were granted (depending upon the length of time the student remained enrolled in the course), or placed on financial aid probation or suspension.

However, withdrawal during the Fall semester will result in the cancellation of financial aid designated for the Spring semester.

If you need additional information or clarification, get in contact with the Office of Financial Aid. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays. Or, for more information call 299-8698.

Segregation Continued from page 1

ethnic-based community and therefore had little contact with many people of other colors. This reflects a social phenomena where people tend to feel more comfortable with people like themselves, whether it is by age, gender or racial ethnicity.

Baylor Director/Professor of Sociology Dr. Tillman Rodabough said that people act out of habit. Where one grew up, where one's parents grew up, the things we see on television jokes we hear and say. A group of white people outside the Liberal Arts building, three girls and two guys, were the next target. They were what we, as a stereotyping society, consider as "Preppies." They said that sometimes they fear minorities. However, when asked what reasons they had, personally, so to feel this way they could think of none. They then were asked if there was no basis for their feelings, how come they feared minorities. No one could think of anything to say until one of the girls said that that is how her parents had brought them up. This seemed to be something they all agreed with.

Dr. Rodabough says that some people define prejudice as something that only white people can

do. Disagreeing, Rodabough said that this is something that holds on all ethnic groups. There is a two ended continuum that exists. Rodabough went on to say that sometimes the worse one feels about one's group the more one puts down another. He also said that when one feels too good about one's group that one will do the same.

Dr. Rodabough explained that when one sees someone that fits the stereotype, that one forgets two who didn't and so on.

The same question was repeated to a group of two Hispanics and one white person who was imitating the current young Hispanics' style of clothing, khakis with long-sleeved

shirts buttoned to the neck. The two Hispanics said that they have friends that are white and black. They went on to say that color was not an issue to Hispanics unless there was a history of hatred between them and others of another color.

Outside the library was a group of black males. They were asked about the looks of obvious hostility that they had given. What were the stares for? They began to laugh and giggle. They said that they weren't trying to start anything, but just wanted to intimidate and scare walkers-by. "We do that to everyone for the fun of it," one of the guys said.

When asked if they associated with other colors they said

that they do not like being around some white people.

"White people are racist," one black male said. "They always be trippin'." He continued to say he believes whites jump to conclusions and blame the black society for everything that goes wrong in society. Another black male chuckled and said that Hispanics are okay, except when they talk too much about their pride and overuse that "stupid La Raza" phrase.

People involved in the Fine Arts departments seemed to express more ethnic acceptance than any other groups interviewed. A small group of racially mixed students involved in band

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in along the Brazos River Corridor."

Allen stated that members of the BRCC include members of the Two Rivers Sierra Club, Central Texas Audobon Society, Cameron Park and Meadwolands Terrace residents and concerned citizens.

Allen said that citizen's of the Waco area have proven that there is "a broad and deep concern for the natural beauty of this area, not only for Cameron Park but for the entire river corridor." Allen said citizens who would like to get involved in this project can contact the Sierra Club at 776-3036.

McIntosh said "I think that the animal we created to prevent the Mini Indy will be

different from the one that works with long term planning." He said the new focus of the BRCC will allow the group to be more democratic, broader in concern, more visionary and more able to work with the City of Waco. He said the BRCC will go "from being a naysayer to being a sayer."

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Editorial

When a person reaches college, he or she begins to see things from adult points of view. Their mindset is different, and they have reached a high level of maturity -or have they?

It seems as though no matter what age you are, you are prone to childish mistakes. But what age does a person have to be to realize that throwing little fits or making obscene comments isn't cute anymore?

Even at this level, we see this behavior. No, it may not be breaking the law, but it is a distraction, and is completely unnecessary. It is not a rarity to walk down the halls and hear the streams of profanity and vulgarity from the mouths of just about every so-called adult on campus.

MCC has policies and procedures that students are expected to follow. Any violation of these policies can result in a student being removed from MCC.

Disruptive behavior doesn't just include rudeness, but other acts of immaturity such as littering, wreckless driving, and carrying cellular phones in to class, just to name a few.

If a student wants to enroll into MCC, (or any other college for that matter) he or she should be prepared to show proper conduct, as well as intelligence. It's one thing to be smart, but what intelligence does nothing for a person if they cannot conduct themselves in a proper manner.

Green Scene...

Development Distress

Mandolin Shannon
Staff writer

The City Of Waco is standing at a development crossroads.

The city is poised for large scale economic development. While development can be good for our citizens, poorly planned development can impair the overall quality of life for citizens today and into the future.

The City Of Waco has appointed several committees to study the area and make recommendations of improvement. Many of the recommendations have pointed out the unique opportunity the city has in regard to its natural resources.

The Waco Vision 2020 committee on Recreation and Culture has recommended that the city work to "preserve the integrity of green space and ecosystems through city planning and sensitive application of zoning ordinances" by creating "green corridors for recreational purposes between waterways and developments."

This committee has also suggested expanding "the use of Lake Waco and the rivers with camp sites,...trails, fishing areas and boating." Another viable suggestion is to "preserve historical, cultural, and archeological treasures." Through the immediate "acquisition of the mammoth site, Horn Rock Shelter, and the Native American

camp site near the Brazos River."

These unique natural resources should be at the heart of any development in this sensitive river corridor. Tastefully developed, these sites could become the largest economic asset in the Waco area.

The Waco mammoth site is one of the largest archeological finds of its kind. The potential of this site, to draw hundreds-of-thousands of tourists to the area each year, has sadly been underestimated by many city officials.

The city is in the process of seeking state funds for a \$3.2 million hike and bike trail along the east side of the Brazos River. This is a step in the right direction. However, the potential for this area of the Brazos River Corridor as greenspace, nature education and outdoor recreation is unlimited.

Waco's Vision 2020 committee on Environmental Management would "like to see a community that places a high value on its natural resources and its willingness to conserve and protect the environmental quality of life." This is an admirable goal.

Today city planners, city officials and concerned citizens are faced with the task of ensuring that this goal satisfied,

Right on...

Reaching higher ground

Jamie N. Jones
Editor

For many people, an airplane ride would be thrilling enough, but I take it one step further, I jump out.free-falling through the air at a velocity of 9.8 meters per second is the true meaning of being high.

The rush of air pushing an uncontrollable body upward, while gravity is jerking it down, is the ultimate exhilaration.

Some people believe that skydiving is a radical, yet dangerous sport. I know that it's dangerous, but it is more enjoyable than anything I've ever experienced in my life.

The second a person gets on the airplane, the fun begins.

I was very nervous about jumping the first time, and I had no idea how to control my fears.

Adrenaline rushes through the body faster than anyone could imagine. This rush will "hype" a person up enough to

make him actually jump, no matter how scared he may be. Anyone can do it!

When a person lunges away from the plane, the real test of skill begins.

Because of the danger involved, I suggest taking a skydiving class before partaking. There is no such thing as amateur skydiving. That is a death wish!

Some sort of control over the body must be maintained. If one does not, the body will become an object uncontrollably hurling through the air.

A person in that situation might make it to the ground without having a heart attack from the flipping, rolling and spinning but if he were to do so, he would be totally disoriented after smashing into the ground.

Free-falling is the best part! The majority of people like to do so while spinning and circling.

The last time I went skydiving, I jumped over water with a sky surfer (a board made for skydiving and is similar to a regular surf board). It added to the fun.

Before jumping, most people experience a fear of the parachute not opening. I have had this happen. It is not fun.

Most skydivers make jokes about this subject because it has not happened to them. It is not at all funny, and the only thing to do is keep calm. A person should hope he has a proficient backup chute as well.

Now, it is time to land. Of course, the landing will be over water. It is great fun to land in the water. By watching movies, we have all seen divers who do not open their chutes before hitting the water. That is not the way to go.

Hitting the water without an engaged chute will lead to a medical emergency. I have a

friend whose chute did not open and his backup chute failed. He hit the water going about 67 miles per hour. He was hospitalized for days.

Hitting the water with an open chute still stings a little, that is if one wishes to be as daring or as stupid as I have been in the past. One can wait until the very last minute, but if the chute is not opened before hitting the water, then one would hit the water going anywhere from 55 to about 70 miles per hour. This is a grueling rate of speed and at that momentum, water is not much softer than the ground.

Skydiving is the experience of a lifetime. Everyone should try it, at least once. I have jumped nine times. I am still here. This should be proof enough that it will not kill anyone.

From the President...

Parking: Problem or not

One of the most exciting things about MCC is the college's progressiveness and openness to change. Positive change is what helps us grow-both as individuals and as an institution. In my view, one of the better changes to come along in several years arrived on campus this fall.



If you attend morning classes, I'm sure you've noticed the brightly colored Brazos Trolley lumbering through campus. The trolley is provided to help ease parking problems during our "peak" morning hours when parking is often at a premium.

On Friday afternoons, when acres of parking lots sit virtually empty, it's hard to imagine that MCC could have a parking problem. But we are all familiar with the traffic crunch that seems to occur during the first weeks of every new semester.

By this time of the year, for a variety of reasons, the parking situation seems to ease. That is little comfort to those who sometimes find themselves circling endlessly in search of parking during those last minutes before class begins.

During the Spring '98 semester, MCC's Office of Institutional Research conducted a student satisfaction survey to determine what students like, don't like, or would like to see changed at MCC.

As expected, one of the chief complaints was a perceived lack of parking. Parking, it seems, is a problem on almost every college campus. Whenever you have lots of students and lots of cars all vying for a limited number of parking spaces, problems are certain to occur.

One option was the addition of a parking garage. At the time, the Board of Trustees was studying infrastructure upgrades and improvements related to the construction of the Learning Technology Center. Original plans for the LTC included a 141-space parking garage

that could safely accommodate the students who would be visiting this facility during its extended hours.

Unfortunately, the price tag for this structure was \$1.2 million. At \$8,510 per parking space, building a garage just wasn't a good business decision and the Board eliminated this feature from the bond package we took to McLennan County voters last summer.

The next solution, which had a much more conservative price tag, was the addition of a trolley service to more efficiently move students from remote parking locations to their classes.

MCC has contracted with the city of Waco to provide a trolley during the first eight weeks of the fall and spring semesters. The trolleys can move almost 40 passengers at a time, compared to the 15 who could fit in a shuttle van. The trolley also operates on a more predictable schedule to encourage students to make it a routine part of their day.

To date, students seemed to have warmed to the idea, with an estimated 100 people using

the trolley service each morning.

There is ample parking on the MCC campus. It may not be 20 feet from the door to your classroom, but it is there. I applaud those students who allow a few extra minutes to use the remote parking at the CSC and take the trolley.

MCC's police are diligent in ticketing or towing cars that are parked illegally, and these fines can be expensive. It is also expensive for the college to repair a broken sprinkler head or grass destroyed by someone parking illegally-not to mention the inconvenience that causes other students.

Yes, not being able to find a parking spot when you're running late for class or an appointment can be supremely frustrating.

Fortunately, the solution is simple: allow some extra time and catch the trolley. As always, we welcome the input of students, faculty and staff. Please direct your comments to Kim Harrison, Director of Community Relations, at 299-8640 or e-mail at kah@mcc.cc.tx.us.

Letters policy

The Highlander Herald welcomes letters from the students, faculty and staff of McLennan Community College. Please keep them brief. All letters become the property of the Highlander Herald, and its staff reserves the right to edit all letters for taste, grammar and spelling.

Fact or fiction - Question and answer of policies on college campus

Jacqueline Harvey
Staff writer

Hey, kids. What time is it? It's "Stuff-We-Should-Know-But-Don't-Necessarily-Care-Enough-'To-Look-Up" time!

This is the column where I look up answers to such interesting and mind-boggling questions as "How high is up?" and "Can your face really stick that way?". In essence, I do the work and chop it into bite size pieces that can be read and understood with little effort and zero intelligence.

You're welcome. Today's topic: College Policies: Rumor vs. Fact. Let's start

with instructor attendance. I've noticed confusion in many of my classes regarding the 'walk' policy. Typically, if an instructor is ten minutes late, the class is granted a walk. But recently my class was told by a math instructor that it was 15 minutes, not ten. On page eight of this year's Highlander Guide, The MCC Student Handbook, it states "Students are required to wait for an instructor a period of ten minutes. If the instructor has not arrived at that time, students may leave the class with out penalty." It seems that even the people who are responsible for enforcing the policies are

confused.

Secondly, parking. Okay, no parking on the grass. This is a given. But what about parking permits? Policy states that stickers are to be placed on the lower left corner of the rear window. Vehicles such as convertibles, temporary campers, and vehicles with rear sun shields are allowed to display the permit on the rear bumper. Motorcycle riders are required to carry the permit with them. Citations can be issued for lack of permits or if a permit is put in places other than those described. Permit sticker violations are enforced. I know this

because I have three of them, received from three different officers within a three hour period. I was driving my mother's car while my vehicle was being repaired unaware I was required to get a temporary from the Business Office. Citations for parking permits are five dollars more than for most other parking violations, and cost five dollars to replace.

Where to park is almost self-explanatory. Student parking is clearly marked. A 25 dollar fee will be assessed for student parking in spaces designated for the disabled (this includes blue stripes and curbs). There

is no parking at the Art Center. There is no parking on yellow curbs or unpainted curbs, unless posted signs indicate otherwise. More information about parking permits can be found on page four of the Highlander Guide.

Finally, Dead Week. The week prior to finals. Page 53 of the General Catalog states that although conventionally no classes are held during dead week, it is still considered one of the 15 weeks designated for instruction. Classes do meet as scheduled. However, no major exams or trips will be scheduled during dead week. Except-

tions can be made by contacting the vice-president of instruction.

Any further inquiries about policies can be answered by the nice people at the Information Center, located in the Student Services building. They can provide you with literature that every student should have.

I certainly hope I have helped to make the fuzzy world of complex rules and regulations a bit more understandable. Please join me next time as we explore the mysteries of cafeteria food—Is the meatloaf supposed to move? Till then, stay off the grass.

Bring It On #!@~

Yesterday and Today: Gone Before Their Time

Lindsey Hayworth
Sports Editor

We need to say good-bye to a few good men. Whether they passed before their time or if their time was up before they passed. Let's give tribute to a few.

Let's start with the late, great Harry Carey, the most brilliant and versatile baseball commentator of our time.

With his drunken drawl, Carey always came out a winner even if the Cubs did not.

One of his most infamous anecdotes was to take a name and scramble it up, for example "Sosa spelled backwards is Asos."

Carey always seemed to get a laugh or a chuckle from some unsuspecting fan.

Another great that passed before his time is the recently deceased Wilt Chamberlain.

He led the NBA in scoring for 7 consecutive seasons.

He still holds the record for the most points scored in one game: 100, most career rebounds: 23,924, most points by a rookie: 2707, and most points by a rookie in one game: 53.

This is just to name a few of his accomplishments, not to mention all of the awards that he has received over the years.

While we are on the subject of basketball, why don't we mention Michael Jordan?

He may not be gone, but since his retirement, he is no longer playing the game and in some eyes, he's dead.

Jordan is the greatest player since the game began. He led the Bulls to 6 championships, and has been a part of seven in all.

Jordan was the MVP for all of the years the Bulls won the championships. He was rookie of the year in 1985. Through hardships and sickness Jordan always pulled through for his team.

Now, let's take a look at Bill Russell, great Boston Celtics player and coach. He led the Celtics to 11 NBA titles. Russell was the first black coach in the NBA. He also led the Celtics to titles as a coach.

Next, let's move on to John Elway, the great quarter back for the Colorado Broncos. He is gone, but not forgotten.

Elway spent 17 years in the NFL playing for the Broncos and he finally led his team to victory in 1997. He then followed the victory and reclaimed the title in 1998 and 1999.

Elway leads the league in 4th quarter deficit wins. He has 43 and the nearest to him is Dan Marino with 34. He is the 3rd player to throw for 45,000 yards and the only player to average 200 yards per game in 7 consecutive seasons.

What about the ball player that is the envy of every man in the universe. Marilyn Monroe's ex-husband, "Joltin Joe"; Joe DiMaggio.

He was the American League MVP 3 times and led the Yankees to 9 world series victories. We can't forget about the streak.

DiMaggio got at least one base hit in 56 consecutive games. There hasn't been a more admired ball player since.

What about around the same time?

He's not really talked about in sports circles anymore, but let's not forget about Ted Williams, the Boston Red Sox's "The Thumper".

Twice Williams won the triple crown in baseball. He has the 2nd highest slugging average; .634, highest BB average; .208 and highest on base percentage.

All of these players are great in their own ways and great playing their own games.

"...it's our game, that's the chief fact in connection with it; America's game; has the snap, go, fling of the American atmosphere; it belongs as much to our own institutions, fits into them as significantly, as our constitution's law; is just as important in the sum total of our historic life."

Walt Whitman

Swinging South ...

Scottish golfers flock to American green



Digital image by Marcos Garcia
Sophomore, Chris Ohrn shows off his American swing to Scotsmen.

Lindsey Hayworth
Sports Editor

Golf has opened windows of opportunity never before available for students in Scotland, the traditional homeland of golf.

Bruce Davidson, a Scottish pro golfer and business man, began the Grampian Junior Golf Program 7 years ago with the intent to help Scottish students not only see a different part of the world, but give them the opportunity to go to college on a golf scholarship.

Founded in Scotland, the Program is made up of, golfers from the Aberdeen area.

Every two years, starting in 1993, 12 young people have been selected by process of interview and golfing ability to take a 10-day vacation. Many nominees are submitted, but not even half are selected to take the journey.

The trip is very expensive and with the help of sponsors and donations this program would not be possible, Davidson said. The citizens of Scotland and Houston both donate money.

Davidson sets up a charity auction every year in which pro golfers from the European and American circuit donate their autographs and sports memorabilia for the cause.

This year about \$60,000 was raised and over the seven-year period \$150,000 has been raised.

"With the growing sponsorships, we are now going to be able to make the trip every year instead of every two years," Davidson said.

The 12 players selected start their journey in Houston and continue on to Waco. The Scot-

tish players get to play and practice with the Highlander golf team.

Lake Waco Country Club opened its doors to the Scottish players, enabling them to play on American greens.

"This gives us a chance to play on a different style of golf course and to play with Americans" said James Macleod, a Scottish golfer.

On Friday, Oct 13, the Scottish golf team as well as the Highlanders met with athletic director, Wendell Hudson. An orientation took place to help ease the transition of coming to a foreign country.

"The most important thing for the players to get out of this trip is to familiarize themselves and be introduced to typical American college life. Stan Mitchell helped ease the transition for our team" said Ian Ord, Scottish businessman and assistant coach.

Nine golfers coming from this program have accepted scholarships in junior colleges around Texas: McLennan, Hill, and Midland.

"Junior colleges are the perfect avenue for academics as well as for sports. If the students study and play well, then they have a better opportunity to go on to a four year university", Ord said.

The University of the Carolinas and Oregon State are two of the colleges that have ac-

"Junior colleges are the perfect avenue for academics as well as for sports..."

cepted students golfers from Scotland.

Since the incorporation of the Scottish players, golf has flourished greatly in Texas.

"Some of the best junior college golfers have come out of Scotland", said Stan Mitchell, golf coach.

Davidson, Ord, and Steven Strachan, who assists in the program, accompanied the golfers on their journey to Texas on Oct 11.

Davidson said he hopes that the program will turn into a legacy. His goal is to have some of the players, who have previously taken part in the program, come back to Scotland and take his place.

Some of the Scottish players have gone on to play in the PGA. Steven Young, who plays on the Nike Tour, is one of the few.

Dance continued from page 1

The entire team attended the National Cheerleaders Association Collegiate Dance Camp on Aug. 3-6, 1999, in Dallas on the campus of Southern Methodist University (SMU).

The team received the first place trophy for its performance of the Funky Pom Routine in Division II.

It also received the second place trophy for the performance of Team Dance in Division II.

"Most importantly," Sandy Hinton, Dance Co. Director said, "the team received a bid to NCA Nationals to be held in

'Lassies finish in top five

Lindsey Hayworth
Sports Editor

Once again the women's golf team has earned the right to call itself golfers.

Not only have they finished in the top 10 in every tournament they have entered, they have also finished in the top five 85% of the time.

In the Highlassies last showing, they placed 4th overall with a total combined score of 997.

Individually the women have also always had top 20 placers in every tournament.

Susanna Helmersson had the best showing in the Lady Cardinal Invitational held on Oct 4-5, in Beaumont, Tx. She posted 79, 79, 83; finishing 6th.

Rebekah Martin tied for 11th with a posting of 84, 79, 83.

Katherine Cavanaugh also placed in the top 20 for the invitational. She posted 82, 79, 91.

At this rate the women promise to finish very high in the national ranks this season.

April 5-9, 2000, in Daytona Beach, Florida.

The MCC Dance Co. members for the 99-2000 year are: Freshmen - Jessica Anderson from Waxahachie, Jennifer Bastian from Plano, Sarah Coleman from DeSoto, Mindy Fowlkes from Cedar Hill, Cynthia Geary from Arlington, Angela Grizzle from West, Amy Henderson from Waco University, Rachel Henry from Irving. Sophomores are Tiffany McCullers from Waco Midway, Shanda McNutt from Garland, and Jeannette Lofino from Mesquite.

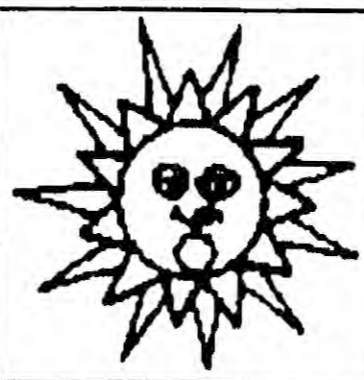
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Back to school

Working mother ventures to college, earns degree

Leah C. Turner
Staff writer

Brenda Wright graduated from high school with a full-paid presidential scholarship to a private university. 25 years and four children later, she strode across the MCC stage Brenda Wilson, a Tartan Scholar graduate with highest honors, a perfect 4.0 avg., and an associate's degree in Business Administration.

Brenda's success proved no easy task and took several years in the making.

"The Brenda who proudly received her associate's degree that night was in no way similar to the insecure, awkward creature that married her senior year of high school."

All thoughts of college after high school faded when Brenda became pregnant and gave birth to the first of two daughters.

Then in 1985, Brenda began contemplating getting her degree.

Brenda struck gold when her employer agreed to pay her tuition and her books and allowed her to leave early to drive the half-hour to school.

"I took one class, College Algebra, because math was something I was fairly secure in."

Brenda's work as an accountant helped her earn an A in Algebra, but hindered her from returning to school the next semester.

"I had to lay off for the spring semester because we had a

heavy tax clientele."

Brenda planned to return to school the next fall, but suffered a serious setback when her husband was diagnosed with a form of muscular dystrophy.

"I eventually tried to go back another semester, but my husband was so negative about it, I decided it just wasn't worth it."

Brenda put college on the shelf for a while, but in '90 after a painful divorce she became restless.

"During a divorce you really kind of reassess where your life is going, and I decided school was going to be one of my big goals. I was going to get my bachelor's degree."

Brenda went after her goal again in 1991 this time with a new approach.

"English had always been my worst subject, so I took Freshman Composition and figured if I could get through that, I could accomplish anything."

Brenda set out after a physical therapy major, but soon changed course because the clinical work required would have kept her from working full time.

"I didn't want my children to have to pay for my mistakes. I didn't want them to have to cut back financially to the point where they couldn't be involved in school activities," Brenda said.

"However, amidst One Act Play Rehearsals, cheerleading practice, softball games and last-minute junior high biology

projects, Brenda often found herself screaming inside." But I need to study!"

"I was squeezing golf into an extended lunch hour and taking night classes between picking up and dropping off kids. That was a juggling act that was quite difficult."

Fortunately, Brenda's education was soon spurred further by the possibility of a significant pay increase. Brenda had switched jobs and held the position of secretary at McClellan County Family Practice and Faculty Development.

When the former Educational Assistant left the company Brenda took on all of her tasks, but not her pay or her title, for lack only of a BS.

"I remember telling my neighbor, who was very supportive of me, that it would take me twelve years to complete my bachelor's degree."

"She said 12 years were going to pass anyway."

"I didn't want my children to have to pay for my mistakes. I didn't want them to have to cut back financially to the point where they couldn't be involved in school activities."

Dance Co. Director reveals all

By Jennifer Holomek
Staff writer

As the music starts to play the Dance Co. begins its performance and Sandy Hinton, Dance Company Director, feels at home once again.

She said, "I simply just sit back and enjoy the show because they have done their 'homework' and I know they are prepared."

Asked if she ever gets nervous before or during the show, she said, "a little, right before the music starts." Laughing, she said, "I don't usually hang around the girls before a performance. I am not a calming factor."

Sandy Hinton received her masters in Physical Education from Baylor in 1970.

She went on to teach at La Vega High School in Bellmead from 1970-75.

She then came to MCC in 1975, where she still resides.

She has taught everything from golf to archery and loves teaching social dance at MCC.

She began the Dance Co. in 1976.

She choreographed everything the Dance Co. did when they started out, but as the times have changed to a more funkier style the girls have started going to dance camps.

She does still choreograph some things, just not as much.

She does, however, hold her own dance camp during the summer for local high schools called *The Starlight Dance Camp*.

She, the Dance Co. and her daughters make up routines for the high school teams.

Mrs. Hinton has two daughters.

The older of the two was at one time captain of the MCC Dance Co.

Mrs. Hinton commented that when her daughter was captain it brought her and her daughter's relationship to a whole new level.

The youngest is still in high school and active with dance and cheerleading.

Every year Mrs. Hinton strives to have a better team than the year before.

"In the dance world it's in constant change and that makes it a challenge to keep up,"

Hinton said

When tryouts for the Dance Co. are held every year, those who make it must meet a certain criteria.

They must be well-rounded individuals who catch on quickly.

They also must be able to do a double pirouette turn, toe touch, high kicks, splits, axle turns, grand jete and switch leaps.

No set number of girls will make the team each year.

"It just depends on the talent. I remember one year when we had about 21 members, but I prefer to have around 15."

She said she loves the dance world she has created here at MCC, which she talks about with obvious enthusiasm.

She said she has no plans for retirement in the near future.

"No! I don't even want to think about it," she said emphatically.

She laughed and said she is far to active to sit and simply do nothing.

Vamp Continued from page 1

Vampires are popping out of coffins in darkly lit clubs, furnished with velvet chairs and couches and pulsating with haunting cadences.

"We're not exactly accepted in society because of some of our unconventional habits, so we hide out wherever possible," said a self-designated Waco vampire.

Yes, these habits include drawing and drinking blood, but these new age vampires prefer diabetic lancets and razor blades to fangs.

"If I don't get blood, I start going crazy. I get frantic and paranoid. It's like a drug addiction," said the first mentioned vampire. Both asked not to be identified for obvious reasons.

The world of the vampire may seem shocking to some, but to the estimated 100,000 bloodsuckers worldwide, embracing the vampire life-style is a daily ritual.

Because of the prevalence of

diseases like AIDS and hepatitis, many vampires share blood only with tested and trusted members of their feeding circles. Participants are medically screened before being allowed to join a feeding circle.

However, "if unable to obtain a donor, they will, according to their own testimonies, occasionally attack a victim, but as a rule will not kill for blood," according to the Vampire Research Center in New York.

But all rules have exceptions.

After embracing his girlfriend, Heather, into her new vampire life, Rod Ferrel, a teen from Kentucky, led in the bludgeoning to death of Heather's parents. Ferrel and three of his groupie followers, took the popular role-playing game, "Vampire: The Masquerade," to a new level, thinking of themselves as vampires not just in the fantasy world of the game, but in their everyday lives.

On November 25, 1996, after Heather, in her own words,

"communed with the spirits," the group murdered Richard and Ruth Wendorf of Eustis, Fla., and burned a V surrounded by circular marks into her father's body. The court concluded the game was not a causative factor in the teens' actions and Ferrel now awaits the electric chair.

In March 1997 a man known as the Tehran Vampire was caught after killing at least nine people, including a mother and her 9-yr-old daughter. The 28-year-old taxi driver who operated in West Tehran, raped and killed young women before staking them.

Long before vampirism became all the new age rage, Canadian serial rapist killer Wayne Boden confessed to sucking blood from the chest of his female victims.

Whether vampirism is just the most recent fad or a terrifying trip into the mind of a psycho-killer, it is definitely the scariest new trend coming our way.

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Carmen

Lyric Opera performance is successful

Leah C. Turner
Staff writer

The lights dim. The curtain rises. A hush runs through the crowd. The steady-rhythm march of the dragoons dies down and the music takes on a more festive appeal. A free-spirited gypsy woman and a cast of dancers in dazzling costumes set the stage aflame, swirling in graceful abandon.

They captivate not only the soldiers swarming around, but also the onlookers in their seats. The audience stares transfixed as *Carmen's* second act unfolds.

The Lyric Opera's first performance of the season screamed success.

"Carmen's brilliant melodies, sultry flamenco dancing, colorful sets, and gorgeous costumes make it a marvelous selection for opera aficionado's and novices alike," said Richard Aslanian, artistic director.

The Lyric Opera's success is even more impressive in light of the opera's very recent and humble beginnings.

Only a scant three years ago Maestro Richard Aslanian and General Director Micheal Evans shaped their dream of forming a professional opera company in Waco.

"The opera blossomed due to Aslanian, Evans, and a small group of people who loved opera and were excited with the idea that this art form could be enjoyed here," said Daney.

"This opera is a big undertaking for a young opera company, but Evans and Aslanian have certainly met the challenge," said Daney.

Carmen kicked off the fledgling opera company's second season with the support of the community including MCC staff and students.

Freshman James Rodriguez was one of the many students seeking Toucan Sam on Monday, October 11 for cereal. Toucan Sam, Aramark Ind. Marketing Manager Timothy West, visited the campus to promote Froot Loops and other cereals.



Digital image by Marcos Garcia

Look to the *Highland Herald* for updates on fall theatre performances



Digital image by Marcos Garcia

A carpenter helps convert what is now the CSC building commons area into what will become the new library. The new library, according to plans, should be finished by the end of the semester.

Segregation Continued from page 2

and theater was asked about social segregation. They said that they have all types of friends and that rather than excluding people, they try to make as many friends as possible.

"I don't think that we should look at each other to see what color we are," band member April Lopez said, "but rather focus on our personalities." They were asked how they felt about that kind of openness.

"I think that it is cool because it gives us like a safe haven which

we can always depend on," band member Amanda Hubik said, "I think people feel comfortable in being able to approach us because we share common interests and it gives them a sense of belonging."

"It doesn't seem as bad as it has in the past," counselor Patsy Jones said, "Once students open themselves up to new relationships, they will include people of other ethnic background into their circle."

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