



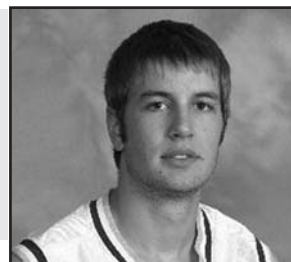
Phi Theta Kappa Induction

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READ THIS YOU MUST

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Athletes honored

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Express

Graduation, summer school

MC's spring semester ends with graduation at 7 p.m., Friday, May 13. The public is invited to attend graduation held at Al. G. Langford Chaparral Center.

Spring interim is May 16 – June 1; Summer I is June 2 – July 12; Summer II is July 13 – Aug. 18. For more information on any of these sessions, contact the registration office at 685-4501.

Smokey Joe's Cafe

Smokey Joe's Cafe, the longest-running Broadway review in history is set to hit the Chaparral Center stage, 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 17, presented by the **Phyllis & Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series**.

The greatest hits of the 50s and 60s are all on the menu at *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, a rockin' party of a show – featuring songs such as *Jail House Rock*, *Stand By Me*, *Yakety Yak*, *Hound Dog* and more. These songs are the creations of legendary songwriters Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller – the Rodgers and Hammerstein of rock 'n' roll. *Smokey Joe's Cafe* harnesses the power of this music in a raucous night of musical theater that broke records on Broadway and had audiences and critics singing and dancing.

Tickets are free but must be obtained for entrance to the show. Contact Cynthia Morales, 685-4526 for tickets.

Mark calendars

for two fall events

The **Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series** presents ... **Ben Stein, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 22, 2005**, at the Al G. Langford Chaparral Center.

Stein is probably the closest any man comes these days to being a true renaissance man. His financial and economics work was cited in the efforts of the recent Nobel Prize winner in Economics, George Akerlof. He has written novels that the *New York Times* describes as "stunning," but what you have probably heard him talk about recently are "dry eyes, red eyes and clear eyes" in nationally broadcast commercials. He worked, demonstrated and struggled for voting rights for African Americans, and as a speechwriter for Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. He is a lawyer, teacher, actor, comic, economist, father, novelist, essayist and expert on finance.

The **Phyllis & Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series** presents ... **The Academy of St. Martin In The Fields Chamber Ensemble, 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 21, 2005**.

The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble was created in 1967 to perform the larger chamber works—from quintets to octets—with players who customarily work together, instead of the usual string quartet with additional guests. Drawn from the principal players of the orchestra, the Chamber Ensemble tours as a string octet, string sextet and in other configurations including winds. Its touring commitments are extensive, with annual visits to France, Germany, and Spain, and frequent tours to North and South America, Australia, New Zealand, and Taiwan.

Both of these presentations are free to the public but tickets are required and can be obtained by contacting Cynthia Morales, 685-4526, two weeks prior to each event.

Publications break 'til fall semester

Student publications students do not publish during the summer months. Look for the first *El Paisano* of the fall semester on Sept. 23, 2005.

Also, *Tableau 2005*, the literary magazine of MC will be published during the fall semester.

El Paisano

Volume XXXII, No. 11

The Student Newspaper of Midland College

May 6, 2005

Name your soda



Photo by Tim Garlitz

MC photography student **Baillie Tinney** borrowed an idea from the Jones Soda Co. when she used her own photographs to design labels for her LeeAnn Soda. This piece is on display as part of the Spring Student Art Show in McCormick Gallery until May 9.

Art exhibit highlights student work

By **Tim Garlitz**
Staff Reporter

Ice cream was served along with haystacks, penguins and soda pop at the Midland College Spring Student Art Show Opening. The exhibit showcases student works of art from every art class that is offered at MC including design, digital art, drawing, painting, photography, ceramics and sculpture.

"This is one of our best shows of the year; it offers a wide variety of art ... not just one type," said J. Don Wallace, McCormick Gallery director. "We always have a very good turnout at the spring show."

The attendees were treated to both the music of the MC Jazz Band and ice cream as they viewed more than 400 works of art that were produced by MC students.

"The ice cream and jazz add a festive flavor to the show," said Warren Taylor, professor of art. "This is one of the best shows we've ever had, and our gallery is one of the finest in the Southwest."

The show also featured a student art sale with a portion of the proceeds going to benefit the MC art department.

Several students were on hand to view both their

See Art, page 5

621 to graduate with degrees, certificates

By **Emily Green**
Staff Reporter

On Friday, May 13 during the 32nd Annual Midland College Commencement Ceremony approximately 457 students will receive associate degrees while 164 students will receive certificates for a total of 621 Midland College graduates.

Commencement ceremonies are at 7 p.m. at Chaparral Center and the public is invited to attend.

Prospective associate of arts graduates are: Monica Meza Abila, Suzanne Anderson H*, Lisa M. Armstrong †, Tyler Baimbridge †, Tomas Barrios,

Audrie Borgen, Heather Bullard, Kristi Busick, Devin Butts, Elizabeth Carrasco, Brandon Boyd Chesser, Lindsey Shea Chesser HH, Joshua B. Clark, Jonathan, Ray Custer †, Britney Davis-White, Gerardo Diaz †, Raenell Diffie H† and Breck Alan Gifford.

Also, Garrett Greenhaw, Sarah Melissa Groves †, Alonzo Hinds, Heidi Luisa Hinterlong H †*, Adriana Jimenez Jaso, Ashley N. Jolly †, Stephanie Lynn Kidwell, Regina Lynn LaFarelle, Araseli A. Licon †, Tommie Lujan, Erica Luna, Logan Martin †, Duberlinda Mauricio H*,

Megan McCollum, Mishaela McGowen †, Lauren McHenry H, Robyn Paige McKinney † and Megan S. Mitchell H†*.

Others to receive associate of arts degrees are: Hoang Si Nguyen H, Hannah Faith Oliver, Sara Ann Ornelas*, Lyssa Anne Ramirez, Ruben Rivera, Molly Kate Row H†*, Judy Ann Serbantez †, Debra Jean Sickler, Jessica Smith H †*, Brett Stevens H†, Dean K. Teagarden H *, Robert Turner, Monica G. Valdez, Rita Lynn Wallace, Jennifer Lynn Whilden, Terrie S. Whitehead †, Michael T. Williams, Shona Wood

and Amanda Workman H.

Potential associate of science graduates are: Wesley Blake Adkins, Laura Yvette Agüero H, Brooke Morgan Aguirre, Andrea Leigh Allison, Luis Alvarado, Michelle Marie Alvarez, Aaron Anderson, Rosangel Armas HH, M.V. Armour H*, Sergio Daniel Arrieta, Kacy Renee Baker H†*, Elaine Barger HH, Kimberly Anne Barker H†, Staci Barrett HH†*, Calvin Barron, Mashanda Baugh † and Cheri Bedwell.

And, William Roger Beebe, David

See Graduates, page 4

Shofner retires after more than 25 years at MC

By **Teressa Thompson**
Staff Reporter

Chloice Shofner is a Midland College original.

He's not exactly a relic at the age of 71, but the MC economics professor who dates to the 1972 establishment of the college, is retiring after more than three decades of college teaching.

Al Langford, founding president of MC, hired Shofner to teach economics in 1969 for the Midland campus of the Permian Junior College district.

"Chloice proved himself to be a great teacher, leader and very popular with faculty and students," Langford said.

"He has always done a fantastic job whether it was when he was a businessman, farmer, teacher, husband, father, grandfather or friend. MC will never be the same with Chloice gone. I wish him the best in his retirement," Langford said.

Shofner's teaching career at what became MC began in 1969 when the Permian Junior College system had campuses in Midland and Odessa.

Three years later, in 1972, Midland pulled out of the Permian Junior College district and established its own district and college.

Shofner said that "the only thing that has been here longer than me is that mesquite tree in Beal Plaza," on the MC campus.

Shofner's career at MC began after he received the master of business administration (MBA) degree from Texas Tech University.

Shofner has actually had two stints at MC, one from 1969-1976 and one 1984-2005.

For many of his years at MC, Shofner lived in Patricia and drove to Midland to his "day job." He continued to farm for many years before he moved the family into Midland.

Shofner witnessed the construction of the first buildings on the campus in the 1970s including the learning resource center, administration, science and technical buildings.

Since Shofner joined MC, student enrollment has grown "phenomenally" from hundreds to more than 5,500.

"Where did they all come from?" he asked. "Students must be coming out of the woodwork."

Shofner said he feels that students are attracted to MC due to the quality of the faculty and facilities on the campus.

"Teaching is almost like being a pastor," Shofner said. "You pretty much have to be called. I enjoy helping students understand what life is all about. Students' interest to continue and succeed is worth everything. That's why I teach."

Shofner said he plans to spend time with the "apple of his eye"—his wife, Kathy—

See Shofner, page 3

Rarely speechless



Staff photo

Chloice Shofner, retiring economics professor, was speechless in December when drama club student Raenell Diffie sang *Santa Baby* to him in front of one of his classes.

Editorial

No clear winners

On April 29, Midland City Council members voted to adopt a new public smoking policy.

There were three options being looked at. First, revise the existing ordinance, which states that establishments with less than 75 seats do not have to have a separate smoking section.

The second option was to model the new ordinance after the El Paso ordinance, which would ban smoking in all public places.

The third option, which was adopted, is modeled after the Odessa ordinance. Under the new ordinance, the owner gets to choose whether to be all smoking, all non-smoking or allow for both.

One of the main reasons for passing the Odessa ordinance was money. The council determined that the El Paso ordinance would result in a loss of profits that would put some businesses in jeopardy of closing.

Instead, owners now have to endure the expense of renovation. A physical barrier must be placed between the smoking and non-smoking sections of the facility and a separate ventilation system must also be installed for the non-smoking section by January 1, 2006.

In addition, by September 1, 2005 signs must be posted stating whether the establishment is smoking, non-smoking or allows for a smoking section.

These renovations will cost more than losing a few customers, not only in direct costs of labor and materials, but also in customer loss during the actual renovation period.

So why did council members vote to adopt this ordinance?

Were they hoping to find some middle ground? Instead of completely banning smoking from all public places or exempting smaller establishments from having to have a separate smoking section, they are going to leave it up to the business owner to decide if they want one option, the other or both.

Both Robert Vogel, Chairman of Smoke-Free Midland, and Scott Gunn, spokesman for Free Midland, agree that the council's decision will force some businesses to become all non-smoking, because of economic reasons.

"I think that the establishments that are all smoking will probably stay that way and the ones that are completely non-smoking will stay that way," Gunn said. "The places that have both, with the possibility of facing thousands of dollars in additional expenses to be compliant with the ordinance, will most likely elect to become non-smoking."

So did the council really do what is best for all concerned? From what I can see, no. Business owners will still have to face the fact that not everyone likes smoke billowing around while they are trying to eat, and will now have to comply with all the regulations that come with the new and improved city ordinance.

For the patrons nothing has changed. They either have to limit their dining experiences to all non-smoking restaurants, endure the 4,000 chemicals that come out of the end of a burning cigarette or seclude themselves to their homes.

To the families of the 53,000 people who die from second-hand smoke each year, we are sorry we are not doing more to stop the problem. To the business owners, enjoy the right to choose whether or not you poison your patrons. To the rest of the patrons, keep voicing your opinion. Eventually, someone will do something in the best interest of everyone.



The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

By Angie Wennerlind

How does one measure a year? It isn't measured in standard units like inches or feet, and I don't even think that using days or weeks of semesters suffice. Maybe a year is measured in smiles, tears or sweat.

Or better yet, a year is measured in people—those darling souls who make 365 ¼ days more bearable and inspire us to better ourselves.

This year's inspiration came from improbable places.

The diligent construction workers near my home found a year plenty of time to transform a vacant dirt lot into walls, a roof and eventually a lovely home. I often thought they would never finish.

A year was also long enough for friends to decide to get married, others to get engaged and for some to have their first child. Time has a funny way of sneaking up on us all.

Regretfully, a year was also long

enough to lose touch with close friends who have since moved to other colleges—to forget old memories while in the process of creating new ones.

While all the rigors of college life skew perception of time, making lecture hours seem like eternities and weeks feel like decades, in looking back, I am startled at how fast two semesters of college flew by. I find myself glancing back over my shoulder and wondering, "Where exactly did my first year of college go?"

But then I remember. And then I am able to tell you exactly where the year went, and where, if you search hard enough, you can find it yourself.

For me, the year can be found in more than just the papers I wrote, the accolades received, the tests I took and the basic classes now marked "complete" on my transcript.

The year is also more than the

money that I managed to stow away while working part-time.

Instead, I trace the year back to the encouragements and compliments I received from teachers and mentors. The year is retrieved when I see the faces of friends at midnight Whataburger gatherings, and another friend who said, "I didn't think you would win, but I still voted for you three times."

I see the year in my little brother who, thanks to a year, won't be "little" much longer. The bygone year is measured in road trips, laughter, soccer games, 50 cent movies and the experience that I gained and shared with friends, new and old, who know me best.

And in measuring the year, I realize that it was longer, shorter, better and far more meaningful than simple days or weeks could ever express. Not that I would want them to.

Question Why?

by Ruby Moore



Why is it so hard to say goodbye? As graduation approaches and the end of the semester looms before us, people start looking forward to summer vacations and road trips and saying goodbye to all the friends they've made over the semester.

For some people, it is only a temporary goodbye. It is more of a "see you next week," or "see you in a few days."

For others, like me, it begins with a "see you in eight weeks," to my family and some of my friends when I leave for Washington D.C. at the beginning of June and ends with "see you at Thanksgiving," when I move to San Marcos in August.

With some of my friends it'll be a "we'll still see each other on weekends and holidays and all throughout May..." (Okay that's an inside joke, but if you know what I mean, then it was meant for you.)

With one in particular, it's going to have to be a "we'll visit each other, it's only five hours away." And that's the hardest one.

My two years at Midland College have been interesting, horrendous, boring, exciting, confusing, fabulous, delightful, excellent, frustrating, supercalifragilisticexpialidocious... Whatever word you can come up with, at one point it has been that.

My freshman year started off like most freshmen years do. I was excited to be at college and scared to death.

I was hoping that I would know one or two people in my classes. At the same time I was hoping that it wouldn't be that person that my parents always told me I would never have to see again after graduation because most of them stayed here, too.

Slowly I began to come out of my shell. By my second year, I was involved in several campus clubs, had some great new friends and was

busier than ever.

If ever there was a time I was stretched too thin, this second year has been it. But it was all worth it.

The new friendships I've made, the old friendships that I've rekindled and the thousands of things that I have gotten to do because I got involved have been awesome.

In one week, that's all going to be over. Some of the friendships will last, others won't. Some of the memories will stay and others I'll have to dig out pictures to remember who was there and what we were doing.

Two of my best friends, who happen to be cousins, from my younger years at Iraan Elementary School go to MC. I'm ashamed to say that the most interaction I have with them is when I see them at their jobs. I regret that I don't make it a point to go visit with them more often. I know we're all completely different people now, but those two are still awesome.

There are two other friends that I met my junior year in high school, and I am so glad that they decided to come to MC. The three of us have had some great laughs and good times. I'll miss being able to drop by anytime I want and eat popcorn and cereal and candy and M&Ms and ... well you get the point.

I've grown closer to a few of my co-workers. Mostly so that I could make fun of one of them, with the assistance of the other, but those friendships have still been fun to develop. There is never a dull moment around those two.

Then there are the two old friendships that popped back into my life that I never expected.

There is no word to describe the amount of surprise I felt when I showed up at the first event my freshman year and saw the two of you standing there. So many memories came flooding back. All I could think, besides "I beat you in air-hockey,"

was "This is going to be an interesting two years." And it has been.

Before I start sounding like Noah with his two-by-two's, there are all the other people I've met over the last two years. The soccer guys, the newspaper people, my Tuesday night movie buddies, the friend who left for overseas after freshman year and all the club people who have been dubbed "Ruby's people" by the newspaper staff.

Then there is the group of guys that I wrote about earlier in the semester.

Oh the memories, the laughs, the tears, the good times and the not-so-good times. To two of you all I can say is don't be stupid, don't do anything I wouldn't do and don't jump the gun. It'll all happen when it is supposed to happen. To the rest of you, I've said it all before.

So why is it so hard to say goodbye? I thought about trying to end this column like I have all the others with two ridiculous reasons why and then my all-knowing answer to the question but I couldn't think of any that were appropriately sarcastic.

Instead, I tried to come up with some sage piece of wisdom that could be all-encompassing and yet individually personalized to every person who made a difference in my life these last two years—the teachers, the administrators, the students and even the nice lady at Wal-Mart who said have a great day and made me feel better. But I couldn't think of anything that wouldn't be construed as sarcastic.

When that didn't work I decided to be honest. I'll just say what I'm thinking because, after all, honesty is still the best policy. So here goes: I love you all. Some more than others, some in different ways, some forever and always and some don't even know the way or the how much, but I do.

So why? Why is it so hard to say goodbye? I don't know, but I do know that I don't like it.



Life at Timothy Leary's house

El Paisano

The Student Newspaper of Midland College

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Word from the Bird

By Angie Wennerlind
Page Editor



What are your summer plans?



"I'm working at the college. I want to take a lot of trips. I'm going to play rugby and maybe do some part-time underwear modeling."
—Richard Hirth

"I'm going to go fishing a lot at my ranch. I'm leaving right after my last exam."
—Brady Sullivan



"I'm taking 17 hours of summer school."
—Lindsey Hammontree

"I'm going to South Dakota to do construction work 60 hours a week and maybe do some firefighting."
—Kevin Morsching



Opinion

MC basketball players inspire young Dribblers

By **Tonia Martindale**
Staff Reporter

Recently, I was watching a Little Dribblers basketball game at the Greenwood High School gymnasium and through the windows of the gym, I saw a group of tall and lanky young men come into the foyer.

Without even knowing it they were drawing attention to themselves, since most of the fans in the gym included parents, grandparents and siblings of the youth basketball teams. These young men were part of the Midland College basketball team and they had come to watch two of their ball boys play opposite each other in a Little Dribblers basketball game.

They came into the gym quietly and sat down; however, their presence attracted many curious glances from people around them who did not realize who they were. A few minutes later, I noticed the look of pride that one of the ball boys had as he looked into the stands and finally noticed the young men.

The ball boy never acknowledged their presence with a wave, a smile or even a nod, however, I could see his eyes dart up there every few minutes to make sure they were watching him. His effort seemed to become greater with every glance; it was obvious he wanted to play his best game to impress the MC basketball players.

This group of young men also made an impression on other boys not affiliated with MC. Several players from teams who had previously played watched the young men

for several minutes and one by one began to sit down in the seats directly in front of them.

As the young boys made comments about the ongoing game to each other, they would twist in their seats to see if the older basketball players deemed their comments witty or insightful. The young boys who received any encouragement would smile at the MC students and turn around satisfied that he had made a good impression.

When interviewed about the honor of having the MC basketball players attend his game, one of the ball boys, Jalen Smith, smiled with pride. "It was really cool that they came to my game," he said.

Jalen's mother said she was very grateful for the attention the MC basketball players had bestowed on her son by not only coming to the game but also encouraging him during the MC basketball season.

"He was very excited that they came and watched him play. He was still talking about it weeks later," Wendy Smith said.

"Jalen really enjoyed his time as an MC ball boy, because they were so good to him, they included him and that meant a lot," Smith said.

The presence of the MC basketball players on an early Saturday morning at a youth basketball game should in itself be commended. Their good attitude, good manners and their attentiveness to those trying to get their attention made me proud that this group of fine young men who represent me and all other MC students.

Opinion

Student honors Mom

By **Cory Lehman**
Staff Reporter

As writers, we are often told not to use absolutes. I'm going to break the rule.

Everyone has a mother, good, bad or otherwise. As Mother's Day approaches, it is a time where we can honor these ladies in our lives.

In my opinion, I have the best mother in the entire world. But I may be a little biased on that issue.

My mother is the mother of mothers. She always goes to the trouble to make things special. Despite her cake-decorating handicap, birthdays are always a big deal at my house. A homemade cake along with a special dinner is a tradition that is counted upon by all four of her children. Mom has always made it very clear that she is doing exactly what she always wanted to do, be a mother.

In my opinion, the greatest thing Mom has given to her children is modeling a love of God. She has always taught us that it is in the trials that faith is tested and proven true.

This past year has been an opportunity to have that statement proven. Back in September Mom was diagnosed with breast cancer.

One of the first things she told me when she was giving me the news was that God is in even this and He is still in control.

One of the hardest parts of this experience for her is knowing that she has four children and her role as mother is threatened.

For me, one of the greatest treasures of Christianity is the ability to live and walk in this world with my eyes wide open. There is no need to hide from the scariness because God is in complete control over it all.

In one of our many discussions about that issue, Mom said to me, "He knows the cost that He is asking of me."

That call to be faithful in the very trial that tests her most, the cost of leaving her children behind.

Through these last eight months of experiencing this and watching Mom go through it, I have been struck the most by her attitude.

This is an opportunity for her to trust her God. And she has not turned away from the test. She responded to what was brought into her life the way she did because of the One who lives in her.

God is the one who receives the glory. She has let Him shine through her to impact the lives of others, her children most of all.

What it all comes down to in the lives of my family is that this God who asks much from His children, deserves much. He is worthy of such a cost, whatever that cost might be.

My Mom is, in fact, doing wonderful. Yes, this year has been hard at times, but God is forever faithful to His children.

As it says in Psalm 119:90, "Your faithfulness continues throughout all generations" and in Psalm 136:1, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His loving-kindness is everlasting."

For me, there is no greater gift a parent can give a child than living faithfully the teaching they have been taught.

There is something to trusting this God. He is love itself, and whatever He asks, no matter the cost, He is worth of the following.

Shining for God is never costless. In a quote from Evening Thoughts, "An unlit candle does not shine. Burning must come before shining."

So, on this Mother's Day, tell your mother of all the little, subtle things in her life that have impacted you most. Sometimes it is just in the watching of a life that someone can be touched the most.

Happy Mother's Day.

Opinion

Teaching by experience

By **Tonia Martindale**
Staff Reporter

Longtime economics professor Chloice Shofner will retire at the end of the semester. He has been a fixture at Midland College for more than 25 years. My husband and I had the privilege of taking his class several years ago.

Mr. Shofner has been one of the most memorable educators I have ever encountered. He used his own experiences as a farmer to teach economics. He was able to tie the material in the textbook to his life as well as ours. His unique approach made the subject of economics understandable. My husband, who was not required to take economics in high school, was able to comprehend Mr. Shofner's practical approach and succeed in the class.

Mr. Shofner seems proud of his application of everyday life to economics. One incident in particular stands out in my mind from my time in his class. He had begun to tell us about an incident that happened one year when he was farming.

The story, in the beginning, did not seem as if it was relevant to the subject matter. However, as the story progressed it became obvious to the students who had read the assigned chapter before class that there was a rela-

tionship between Mr. Shofner's experience and the material.

Mr. Shofner was in the middle of his explanation when a male student in his twenties raised his hand. Mr. Shofner stopped his comments in order to accommodate the student's question. The student very rudely said that he had come to class to learn about economics and not farming and could we return to the material in the book. Everyone in class was appalled because most of us could discern that Mr. Shofner was trying to help us understand the chapter by providing a real-life example.

Mr. Shofner, rightfully, seemed frustrated with the lack of preparation on the part of this student and zipped through three chapters during the remaining class time. He never said anything to the student directly, but it was obvious to several of us in the class that

Mr. Shofner was trying to prove a point; that economics is a subject that should be applied to a person's life and not just read about in a book.

I will always consider Mr. Shofner a great teacher. Even though I took his class several years ago, I can still remember many things he has taught me. I can hear his voice discussing supply and demand, and I can even remember the examples he gave to demonstrate the concept.

Shofner

from page 1

and watch his two grandchildren grow up in the house that he's having built in Waller, Texas.

In fact, his wife moved to the Waller area last year and as Shofner tells it, is ready for him to join her there.

"Kathy said this is my last semester and after many years of marriage, I have learned when to listen," Shofner said.

In his years at MC, Shofner said that he made some "good friends."

Aside from teaching, Shofner has also been a student while at MC. He has spent many semesters in the building technology area fine tuning his artistic ability as a builder.

He has built many things including a poker chip holder and a mesquite porch swing, for his daughter.

Another thing Shofner is known for at MC is his culinary

abilities. He cooks peach cobbles and pineapple upside downs cakes, just to name two of the favorites, over open charcoal in cast iron kettles.

Leslie Montez, secretary of the business studies division, said whoever meets Shofner should "consider themselves blessed. He's a man of many words and has much knowledge on what is truly important. He will be missed."

Shofner has spent the past year preparing for his retirement but said he knows he will miss Midland.

"We have had some really good boards of trustees, administration and faculty staff," Shofner said.

"If you put all of this together, that makes MC one of the top-notch community colleges in the state of Texas. I will miss MC."

Opinion

Student dreams of education system changes

By **Michael Flax**
Page Editor

I have a dream.

It's the end of the year, so it's time for all the reporters leaving this school to go off to their next schools and to give their final farewells, as they see fit.

Well, this time, surprisingly, I've decided to join them. Yes, it's time to move on. This school has given me a lot, but now I must go forth, towards the distant light: a Bachelor Degree.

And what will I do? I plan to teach. I want to go out and educate young minds and maybe, just maybe, make some of them just as crazy as me.

While I've attended school this year I was also busy substitute teaching and it has occurred to me that there are a few basic things wrong with

today's system. Some of you just got out of high school recently and you think the rules were hard enough already. Well, the rules today may be hard, but I don't think they're all together correct.

These are MY ideas:

School uniforms are a good idea, but why should the students or parents have to pay for them. Let the tax dollars be put to good use; at the beginning of the school year the students will come to school, walk down the line and pick three sets of clothing of their choosing, a warming layer. They'll also get two pairs of shoes, one for everyday use and one for gym.

Then comes the big bang. I say less responsibility should be placed on the teachers and more on the parents. I say if a student wants to act up in the

class, then he or she doesn't need to stay in the class. The parent can send their child back to the school all they want, but if the child wants to act up then they can act up at home. This "no child left behind" policy is stupid and needs to be thrown away. Teachers are educators, not disciplinarians.

And when a child reaches the age to start looking for a job, maybe it should be the grades that determine whether they get to work or not. In today's society, if you go out looking for a job you automatically have to wait for a background check before you can get hired. Well, why not throw in a person's grades if they are still in public schools.

If the child is failing today, then they can't perform in any school extra-curricular activities. From what

I've noticed, that hasn't slowed the students down one bit from continuing with their "don't-care attitudes."

But if they fail and they can't work, maybe that will change. Either they will start caring about not getting to work, or their parents will.

But what if they're already working somewhere and then they fail? Well, an alert will be sent to the company and the employee is put on suspension until the grades get better. That's six weeks without work

That would also go for low passing grades as well. If a student just squeaks by with 70, then the company is informed and the employee's hours are dropped. Students need a reason to want to learn. For many that I know, it's to earn money to move out of Mommy and Daddy's house. But you

can't do that if you can't work.

Now, all of you parents are probably saying I can't say that and they don't have time to worry about their child's education because they need to work to put food on the table. Well, all I can say is that's sad.

If you don't have time for your children, then either find someone who can make time for your child, or you personally need to make the time. Just because you can't make the time to raise your child properly doesn't mean that it should be left to the education system to do it for you.

Awww. I feel better. I'm glad I got that out. Aren't you? Well, thanks again, Midland College, for having me. The Marine Corps gave me my courage, but it was MC that taught me how to use words.

CD Review

'It won't kill you to listen'

By **Tim Garlitz**
Page Editor

The very last thing that people want to hear is that they make silly or immature decisions on a regular basis.

However, most people who I know would rather listen to whatever the latest garbage is on the radio than actually make an intelligent music choice.

I would not mind at all if every **Nickelback-3 Doors Down-Puddle of Mudd**-type band would disappear forever. I would also not mind if the radio played nothing but **The Strokes, Ryan Adams, Taking Back Sunday, The Used, Coldplay, Damien Rice, Interpol, My Morning Jacket, Bright Eyes and Radiohead**, but that is an impossibility.

Despite that disappointing news, it is encouraging to see a pseudo-indie band like **The Killers** finally get some attention from the mainstream. Their debut album, **Hot Fuss**, has definitely made a name for these Las Vegas natives. Their sound combines many of the sensibilities of modern indie

rock with an 80s tinge often sounds like both **Duran Duran** and early **U2**. In other words, **The Killers** have synthesizers and they're not afraid to use them.

While **The Killers** don't bring an entirely original sound to the ears of listeners, they make some great pop-rock songs that are more fun than 90 percent of what you would hear on the radio. There aren't any grand statements on the album either; most of the songs are about jealousy or some form of redemption. But that's not the point. The most important thing is that this is music made by people who enjoy making music.

The best songs on the album: *Mr. Brightside, Smile Like You Mean It, Change Your Mind* and *All These Things That I've Done* are great examples of what happens when a band takes some risks and doesn't try to fit the formula of what's popular. And by doing so, they have, in a sense, become one of the hottest bands around.

Campaign for bond election draws student support

By Ruby Moore
Editor

"Midland College is one of the most vital things in Midland because it's a stepping stool for success," said Meghan Wilson, MC student.

Wilson is a member of the Midland College Political Action Committee (PAC) and has been active in promoting the upcoming bond election. With t-shirts that say "41.8 million reasons to vote for MC," and posters hanging around campus it has been the goal of the PAC to bring awareness to the students at MC.

"If this campaign lacks student involvement it loses its strength because it is a campaign that directly affects the students," Wilson said.

"It's up to us to show that the students care [about MC]," said

Francisco Villa, MC student and member of the PAC.

Over the last month students have been active in registering people to vote, participating in phone banks, assembling and delivering yard signs and promoting the bond wherever they go.

"It is important for students to be involved in the bond election because it shows the community that the students are dedicated to MC," said Rudy Gonzales, MC student. "It will show that we care about the college and will give hope to the future students of MC."

"Student involvement provides a unique perspective that you can only see from the students' point of view," said Will McAdoo, PAC member.

Since MC began in 1972, its enroll-

ment has grown to 6,200 students with classes in 18 buildings spread out over 221 acres. MC's enrollment has recently made it the top institution in the area, with enrollment numbers larger than Odessa College, University of Texas of the Permian Basin and Howard College.

Because 200 of the classrooms have been filled beyond capacity for the last five years, MC has purchased eight portable buildings and will need more in the future, according to the Citizens for Midland College brochure.

"There is such a need for expansion and growth at this school because we're getting to the point where the shoe just won't fit anymore," said Daniel Huddleston, MC sophomore.

Since the last bond election in

1976, grants, foundations and private gifts have funded all expansion to MC. According to Citizens for Midland College, the kind of expansion that is needed at this point is more than what can be funded by private sources or government grants.

If the bond is passed, MC will add 64 new classrooms, a 94-bed residence hall, additional library space, a fitness center, new pedestrian walkways, a state-of-the art technology system, an aircraft hanger for instructional programs, expanded child care center and will replace the 30-year-old water and sewer lines.

A total of 71,195 square feet of new classrooms will be built, the Fox Science Building will move into Phase Two and expand 13,413 square feet and the Scharbauer Student

Center will be expanded 13,240 square feet.

Office and shop space will increase by 11,250 square feet and the Grounds Department will receive new equipment to help keep campus attractive to visitors, students and the citizens of Midland.

"This is something that will help the entire community," said Richard Hirth, Student Government president and member of the PAC.

Even though early voting has already passed, it is not too late to vote in the bond election. Those who wish to vote on Saturday, May 7, will need to vote at their precinct's designated polling place.

"Every vote brings us closer to an even greater MC," Huddleston said.

17th Annual Awards

2005 Hilda Simmons Levitt Poetry Contest honors winners

By Cory Lehman
Staff Reporter

Four Midland College students were recognized Thursday, April 28, 2005, during the 17th Annual Hilda Simmons Levitt Poetry Contest awards presentation.

The grand prize winner was Jacob Lindsey-Hicks for his poem, *Today I Rise, Today I Come Back*.

Brian Oswald won second place for his poem, *New Things*.

Points and Tracks of Recognition, a poem by James Hieb, was awarded third place.

Also, Whitney Knouse won fourth place for her poem, *Long Drive*.

William Feeler, dean of fine arts and communications, welcomed everyone to the ceremony.

MC President David E. Daniel offered opening remarks.

"What can I say to you except write on dear souls; tell us what you see, tell us what you feel," Daniel said.

As the evening progressed, Karen Pape, contest coordinator, introduced the guest judge, Katy Ford, who read many of her published poems.

Ford is the author of *Deposition*, a collection of poems published by Graywolf Press in 2002.

Ford's poems have also appeared in the *American Poetry Review*, *Ploughshares*, the *Partisan Review*, *Pleiades*, the *Seneca Review*, *Poets and Writers*, the *Colorado Review* and other journals. Ford is a graduate of Whitman College, Harvard University and the Iowa Writer's Workshop.

Ford now teaches at Loyola University in New Orleans.

"It was quite an honor to read your work," Ford said, "I picked the poems I found to have certain life in them that I followed

from beginning to end."

Ford closed with an inspiring comment, "Life is difficult, but made beautiful in language."

Pape presented the awards.

"I think poetry is a blessing to those who write, hear and read it," Pape said.

In 1988, Stanley Levitt established the Hilda Simmons Levitt Poetry Contest in memory of his wife for whom the contest is named. Carol Schwartz, their daughter, now underwrites the contest.

The grand prize winner is awarded \$500. The second, third and fourth place winners also receive a cash prize.

The winning poetry will appear in *Tableau 2005*, MC's literary student magazine, which will be published during the Fall 2005 semester.

Graduates

from page 1

Belloc †, Kennie Terrell Berry †, Kathryn Bloom, Dustin Bordovsky, Kristin Borth, Ebony Bradley, Crystal (Nikki) Brannan, Maria Del Carmen A. Brito, Brittany Morgan Burgess, Lewis Gene Busbee †, James C. Buys, Edith Capetillo †, Spring Michele Carlisle H, Anacleto Lee Casas, Archie Alan Chammess †, Ivory James Clark, Tandria Colvin †, Kayla Leann Cook and Belinda Cross.

Also, Katherine M. Cultreri HH, Katherine Ann Curry, Charles M. Davis, Jr., Daisy de Lucas, Brian Mac Deanda †, Rachel Lynn Degal H, David Dayle Deutsch, Mamery Mamadou Diallo, Matthew Craig Dickson H †*, Lizabeth Dill †, Amanda Dolan, Diana Nicole Duran †, Michael Duran †, Tiffani Mae Durham H†, Severo R. Enriquez, Adrian Escudero †, Annete Nicole Espinoza, Rodrigo A. Espinoza †, Linda C. Flores *, Cullen N. Foley †, Charles Andrew Frerman H, Tyler Frost H † and Sungunoko Funhoro.

Other to receive associate of science degrees are: Edward Garcia III, Timothy Garlitz H†*, Derek Gasch †, Amy L. Gentry †, Joyce Gilliam †, Sarah Annette Gilliam H, Deborah Ann Glass †, Rebecca Kay Glass †*, Christina Gonzales, Vanessa Rae Gonzales *, Nathan W. Greer, Brandi K. Grismore †, Pedro Guerra †, Tammie J. Hanson, Brent Hardy, Steven J. Harless †, Jennifer Ann Harrison † and Richard Heines H.

And, Andrew Hernandez, Jr., Sarah Hidalgo, Richard Hirth †, Ronny L. Hise †, Kathryn Marie Holguin, Jennifer Renee Hollis †, Carl R. Hollums II H, Creighton Paul Honeck, Daniel Lee Huddleston, Stephanie Sharee Hudgins, Chisum Huff, Blake Kolby Huggins, Jennifer Michelle Humphrey †, John Robert Hutcherson, Dustin Wayne Ivy and Evelina Janisyte.

Also, Brad Jones H, Lindsay Jones H†, James Derek Jordan, Nicholas Keeton H, Colleen Kimbro †, John Kingod, Stephanie Klatt †, Irma Kmitaite, Hesper Richelle Lehnert, Teresa Gayle Lewis, Christina Leyva †, Kay Lynn Long, Yudith D. Lujan, Audrey Lynn Lynch H, Jamie C. Madison H, Corina Madrid †, Aaron Paul Marshall †, Amanda Nicole Martin †, Matthew Ashlin Martin, Tonya Dianne Martin, Tristan Brandon Martin, Rebecca Martinez †, Timothy Martinez, Valerie Martinez †, Nicholas McAdams and Taryn Paige McNeil †.

And, Necole Davis McPherson, Derlys Mendoza H*, Rosalva Meraz †, Jennifer Midkiff †, William Christopher Modisett †, Ruby Marie Moore H†*, Israel Moreno, Trevor W. Morris H, Alexander Mortland, Adam Moser, Janette Saenz Muniz, Elizabeth A. Nall †, Frank A. Nanson, Miriam P. Natividad, Wendy Ann Navarrete †, Isaac Nelson †, Josiah Nevarez H*, Jennifer Lynn O'Connor and LaToya Marie O'Neal †.

Others are: Leslie R. Olivas †, Tabitha Overby †, Gina Aileen Palomarez H†, Jodi Parks †, Tommy Partain H *, Michael Joshua Payne †, Joanna Lee Petrov †, Nathaniel A. Petrov †, Farah Safaea Rafeek †, Haneefa Rakeeb †*, Greg Ralston H, Trisha Rae Rangel, Charles Joseph Reker †, Amy Rendon †, Lourdes L. Rentas H, Joey Rhode, Ashley Riggs †, Kenneth Scott Riley, Jesse Ray Rigos, Carrie D. Robertson, Ralph Rodriguez, Kimberlee M. Romero † and Jason Russell.

Also, Amy Rebecca Saiz †, Noemi Samaniego †, Jessica Cruz Sanchez, Aaron Craig Schrank †, Mary Anne Schwartz HH, Shanna Nicole Shaw, Justin

L. Simpson †, Alicia Smith-Furlow H, Joshua Sneed †, Delia Campos Soto, J.T. Springer, Stephanie A. Sredanovich, Mitchell Stack †, Sarah Stephenson †, Jennifer Michelle Tenbrink, Jaciann J. Tharp, La Saundra Yvette Thornton, Johanna Tomlinson and Lisa Ann Torres.

And, Esmeralda Trevino, Michelle Urias, Andrew N. Van Cleave H*, Mayra Alejandra Vasquez, Monica Vasquez †, January Vickers H, Elizabeth A. Villalobos, Lupe Villanueva, Danna M. Wall, Ryan Watkins, Jeffrey L. Webb, Jordan Sharee Welch †, Erik White †, Jimmie Jill Wilbanks †, Caleb S. Wilke †, Brandee Williams H, Tonya R. Williams, Summer Wooten H†*, Janette Wright, Bobby Lynn Young *, Hellen Young and Michael Scott Young †.

Prospective associate of applied science graduates are: Gloria Abella, Bennet B.J. Abrahá, Jesus Acosta H*, Blake William Alderton, Reuben Castro Alimbuyao H, Matthew Allen, German Alvarado H†*, Lydia Alvarez H, Rebecca Arce H, Denise Rae Arcides H, Veronica Arredondo, Cristian Atayde, Juan Atayde, Julie Nicole Atkins H, Kristen Elaine Atwood H, David Baker and Deborah L. Baldrée HH.

Also, Marshall Wayne Banks H, Stephen Baquirin †, L. Lorraine Barela, Viviana M. Beltran H, Grant Benson, Donna Bentley †*, Loretta Boler H†*, Missy J. Boliver, Christopher Lynn Bolton, Shannon Lee Solcher Bosworth, Tela Brasher, Rebecca Lynne Brockett, Lee Ann Bailey Brown HH, Rebecca L. Brown H, Terrell Michael Burgoon H*, Elane Burns H, Pollianna Caldwell, Brian D. Callahan H, Mariela A. Campos, Judie Lee Canfield H, Joseph Cantu and Bernice D. Lopez Chavez H*.

And, Joseph A. Clem, Luis Coronado III, Stephen J. Cummings, Rachel Curtis, Ashley Dalton *, Courtney D'Ann Daniels *, Charles A. Davis III, Charles M. Davis, Jr., Jose De La Cerda, Mark De La Rosa, Christopher Derrick, Nohemi Diaz, Jeremy Duncan, Debra Denise Dunson, Erica Duran, Susanna Olgin Espinoza †, Erika Elaine Estrada †, Keri Lynn Evans, Julie Suzanne Farris † and Charity Marie Fitzpatrick †.

Others receiving associate of applied science degrees are: Cesar Anthony Fuentes, Elvis I. Galindo HH, Fabian J. Garcia, Clara L. Garza †, Mandy M. Garza, Rebecca Sharp Gifford, Daniela Ann Gonzales, Jason Gonzales H, Gary Michael Goodman †, Tammy Graham H, Rhonda Michelle Hair H, Alicia Merworth Hanks, Anne Hartley H, Krissy L. Heinrich, E. Todd Henderson H*, James Ryan Henderson H, Malisa Ann Henderson and Sara Rose Herard H.

Also, Juan Hernandez H*, Mary Claire Holdman H, Bradley Robert Hunsucker, Daniel Hunt, Kathleen Hutchison, Jeremy M. Ingram-Clay HH, Phillip D. Jensen, Randi Sue Johnson, Jennifer Darlene Jordan, Ecko Kelly H, Alan A. Keys H†, Stacey Kimbell H, Tammy Kitchens H*, Justin Krethe H†, Harlenza LeSchon Lofton, Belinda A. Longoria, Frank Longoria, Inti Lopez and Jamie Lujan.

And, Hoang Luu, Gian Paolo Macalino, David Wayne Mahaffey, Astin McCullough, Aaron Scott McKnight, Jennifer Dechelle McLeod H†, Charles Frank Mendenhall II, Bret Merritt H, Teresa Mills H*, Brenda Mims H, Christina Montanez *, April Montelongo, Angela Marie Montez, Melissa Kay Montez †, Kaisha Robin Moore, Richard Moore, Porfirio Morales, Regina Morales H*, Rebecca Joel Moreland H*, Travis J.

Mosely H†, Veronica Navarrete and Christina Nelson.

Others are: Mario Pena Nieto, Andrea Brooke Noble H *, Deborah Valerio Ortega †, Alicia Parada, Melanie Parras, Asma Patel H, Rebecca D. Pena, Alberto R. Perez †, Cesar D. Perez HH, Indavong Paul Phonasa, Micah N. Pickerel, Chris Pinson H*, Jill D. Poage H*, Robert Chance Pohlman, Tameka Polk †, Brandy S. Prater, Brandy Purcell, Maribel Garcia Quiroz, Lisa Lynnette Rackard, Deborah Rackow, David F. Ramirez H and Daundria Lynn Randolph.

Also, Nancy Suchil Rangel *, Beverlee Anne Reagan, Barbara E. Reed H, Vanessa Renfro, Geneva Reno, Diane Reyes-Esquivel, Heather Marie Roberts, Stephen M. Robinson, Armando Rodriguez †, Yvette Rodriguez-Sierra, Maria Magdalena Rosiles Flores HH*, August Phillip Ryan H, Jaime Salazar III, Anita Villa Samaniego †, Laura Sanchez, Rose Mary Sanchez and Melinda Lucio Segura.

And, Lynsey Dawn Sellers, Robin Kay Severance H, William Donald Sheen H, Kevin Shelton, Phillipa Sibanda., Jerry D. Simmons, Jr., Dendra-Nance Skipworth, Gregory Smith HH, Samuel Price Spottedhorse †, Steven T. Spratt, Rachelle Elizabeth Stone H†, Veronica Tarango H*, Brenda Gail Tevis H, Sandra Cristina Torres, Sandra Kay Torres, Jennifer Touchton HH and Eric Tunnell HH.

Others are: Patricia L. Turnbow †, William C. Underwood II †, Gary Valeriano, Cecil J. Vest †, Rosa Marie Villalobos, Marty Villarreal HH, Nancy M. Vogt, Jennifer Layne Walker H*, Patricia J. Waterman H, Michael William Watson, Dillan Wayne Weems HH*, Nichole Leigh Wells, Rita Lowe West HH,

Harriet Marie Baker, Jeffery Baker HH and Mashanda E. Baugh †.

Also, Viviana M. Beltran H, Jesse Bernal, Nathaniel Bissett H, Tyler Blair †, Katherine A. Bohnert, ViLeysa Ann Borland H, George T. Bourland HH, Chet Bowles H, Johnny Lee Bragg, Crystal (Nikki) Brannan, Terry Brannon, Thomas Branon HH, Marcia Brooks, Ana Maria Bueno †, Jenifer Kellie Burns, Angelica V. Burton, Mary Caballero, Juanita C. Campos and Chris Carson.

Others are: Thomas E. Chandler HH, Michelle Chapa, Bernice D. Lopez Chavez H*, Brad Cline H*, Emma Munoz Contreras H, Luis Coronado III, Christina Dagggett, Abigael de Guzman H, Jose De La Cerda, Emilie Dearing, Laura J. Dimery, Ryan E. Doyle, Julie Driver, Efean Daniel Duarte, Monte K. Dudley, Charity Marie Fitzpatrick †, Melissa Flores H, Sylvia Flores and Sarah Florez.

And, Cullen N. Foley †, Jillian Foster, Ceasar Anthony Fuentes, Lauro B. Garcia, Vanessa Marie Garcia HH, Lani Gillett †, Cynthia Gomez, Jason Gonzales H, Krystal Jade Gonzales, Rigo Gonzales H, Erica Granado, Charles Griggs, Christopher Gurgevich H, Ruben Gutierrez, Joe Hanna, Billy Harris HH, Daniel Harris, George T. Hatley, Jr., Lisa Michelle Hayes, E. Todd Henderson H*, Lydia Herrera and Tina Higgins HH*.

Others to receive certificates are: Kathryn Marie Holguin, Charlie Howell HH, Floyd Jackson, Lakacia Josie, Alan A. Keys H†, Worth L. Kincaid H, Bettinia F. Kinman HH, Dallas K. Lann, Pat Llanez, Maira Lozoya †, Wiger Lu H, Rebecca Ann Lucas, Lorenzo M. Machado, Aldo Maldonado, Kandace Marcom, Raquel Vela Martinez H, Desiree Martinez-

Briceno H, Teresa Y. Mays and Wanda McDowell.

Also, Shericka McGrew, Theresa McGrew, Gloria Estrella Meza H, Quintin Modkins H, April Montelongo, Kaci Moore, Nahum I. Morales, Cory L. Mulkey H, Robai K. Nabibya, Sherry Nicholson, Christian T. Nietert, David R. Olvera, Perlita Ortiz, Melanie Parras, Matthew Patten, Jonathon Brad Pearson, Cesar D. Perez HH, Martin Perez, Christopher H. Pinson H* and Robert Chance Pohlman.

And, Nora Ramirez, Linda Ramos, Denzil E. Ray, Jr. HH, Jonathan Rendon †, Geneva Reno, Ethny C. Renteria H, Edith Reyna, Julie Rivera, Alvin Rodriguez H, Kimberly Rogers, Jaime Roberto Rubio †, Steven T. Salas HH, Cody Salazar HH, Kim Sammons, Jessica Cruz Sanchez, Sabrina Clarissa Sanchez, Christine Satterfield, Armando Saucedo H, Sarah Schreiber HH, Shanna Nicole Shaw and Angela Shelton HH*.

Others are: Elizabeth Anne Smith, Monte Smith HH, Luz Sotelo, Kristen Staniszewski, Clete Stone, Kevin Streicher H, Yang Sun HH, Dean Teagarden H *, Matt Tischer †, Lisa Ann Torres, Shelia Traylor, Eric Bradley Tunnell HH, Cristina Ureste, Valerie Vargas, Enedelia L. Villa H, David Lee Villesca H and Holli D. Wade.

And, Rita Lowe West HH, Andrea Nicole Denai Wetmore, Tisha D. White, Christopher Willis, Luke Willis, Goldie Jolene Wishert HH, John M. Wojtkun, Jr., David Wright HH and Rachel Wright.

Editor's Note: (H) Honors, (HH) High Honors, (*) Phi Theta Kappa and (†) Midland's Legacy.

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Bilingual educators needed for maximum impact

By Tonia Martindale
Staff Reporter

The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2002, introduced by President Bush and passed by Congress, has led to an escalating need to guarantee the education of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) students.

The accountability to which schools are held is dependent on the scores of not only English speaking students but also on LEP students as well. Therefore, it seems to be in the best interest of the school districts to provide English as a Second Language or ESL instruction to students to accelerate their acquisition of English.

The NCLB Act coupled with the ever increasing population of students who do not speak English has led to a higher demand of teachers who have

either an ESL certification or are considered bilingual. These teachers seem paramount in assisting students in becoming proficient English speakers.

"It depends on the needs of the students whether a bilingual or ESL teacher is needed," said Susan Lara, professor of ESL and Bilingual Education at UTPB.

"While there may be a perception that many students are non-English speaking, the reality is that only a few are really non-English speakers," Lara said.

"Most students in bilingual ESL programs are limited English proficient students. While bilingual education is needed for several years, ESL teachers can help as students begin to make a transfer to all English. Also, for content area secondary teachers,

ESL may offer a very positive solution for LEP students if sheltered English strategies are used.

Mark King, UT Permian Basin professor who also teaches at MC, said that not all teachers will be required to become bilingual for their teacher certification.

"As our second language learners grow, teachers that aren't formally trained in bilingual/ESL are going to feel the pressure to help those students more for accountability reasons, and they're not going to have any choice but to get an ESL endorsement to do that," King said.

Some school districts are implementing dual language programs in which instruction is given in English and Spanish.

Due to lack of bilingual teachers in the past a dual language program

might have an English-speaking teacher as well as a Spanish-speaking teacher and both would instruct the class.

"That's impractical for budgetary reasons, and so in a dual language school you have to hire teachers that not only are bilingual but are certified teachers in that state," King said.

King also pointed out that Midland Independent School District will soon be implementing dual language programs in four of its schools, utilizing four bilingual teachers.

"For teachers it probably means that they will approach instruction somewhat differently since they will have some students who will be monolingual English students who are receive part of their instruction in Spanish, while monolingual Spanish students will receive part of their

instruction in English," Lara said.

"This means teachers need to have a great deal of knowledge of second language teaching methods, which means more visuals, more exposures to the concept, collaborative learning and intense, concentrated vocabulary instruction."

"Teachers will likely participate in horizontal planning and often, this approach involves team teaching or collaborative teaching approaches," Lara said.

For teachers who are not bilingual but would like to assist their LEP students an ESL endorsement does not require a teacher to be fluent in a second language.

"An ESL teacher needs to understand the needs of English Language Learners and should be proficient in ESL methods," Lara said.

Art

from page 1

own work and the work of their classmates as well. "The pieces took a long time, but I enjoyed my class and my teachers very much," said student Molly Row, who had a few of her drawings featured in the exhibit.

Dave Swenson, who has taken art classes at MC since he retired, had several of his ceramics and watercolors featured in the show.

"I started taking classes ten years ago,

and the instructors have always been very helpful and enthusiastic about their work," Swenson said.

"The faculty enjoy the show a great deal; it signifies the end of a lot of hard work and perseverance," Taylor said.

The show was attended by nearly 200 people, including both faculty, students, parents and community members.

Phi Theta Kappa inducts new members

By Ruby Moore
Editor

Forty-three Midland College students were inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two Year College, last Thursday.

Total membership for Midland College Phi Theta Kappa is more than 40 students.

To be eligible for nomination into Phi Theta Kappa students must be enrolled in an accredited institution that offers an associate degree program, have completed at least 12 hours of course work with a grade point average of 3.5 and they must be a citizen of the country in which they were nominated.

Students who are inducted into Phi

Theta Kappa are eligible to apply for more than \$36 million in transfer scholarships offered exclusively to Phi Theta Kappa members by more than 600 senior institutions, as well as several other services, programs and resources designed specifically for Phi Theta Kappa members.

The MC students who were recently inducted include Nancy Agundiz, Brandon Bolding, Tommy Box, Brandi Bradley, Melissa Carroll, Joshua Cornal, Coleen Cosner, Andrea Denzy, Katelin Filip, Vanessa Garcia, Andrea Gilbert, Hailey Harper, Eliazar Hernandez and Tawny Horton.

Also inducted were Roderick Hughes, Shanda Josselet, Eric Martinez, Stephen Martinez,

Catherine McKenna, Angela Medrano, Paul Moore, Jonathon Morales, Lorena Ortega, Jon-Michael Parker, Philip Powers, Sawyer Powers, Tracy Richardson and Lori Robinson.

In addition Christy Rowell, Crystal Satterfield, Jashaunti Schlichting, Aubrianna Shoup, Denise Spencer, Krystal Subia, Lauren Tift, Baili Tinney, April Van Houten, Allison Vargas, Rebecca Vickery, Melissa Weston, Meghan Wilson, Ryan Yarbrough and Lynsey Zingerman were inducted.

Next semester the Midland College Phi Theta Kappa chapter will begin with approximately 100 returning students, said Aline Collins, Phi Theta Kappa Advisor.

Counseling center covers all bases

By Bradley Bourke
Staff Reporter

The Midland College counseling center offers aid in a range of student services. From registration to drug and alcohol counseling, MC can get students the help they need.

The counseling center has three licensed professional counselors—Shep Grinnan is the director of student counseling, along with the help of Dale Williams, counselor and Terry Clemmer, dean of student services. MC also has two academic advisors and a transfer counselor.

"Oilfield workers in their 50s come in and have no idea what they want to do, so we help guide them," Grinnan said.

MC has a testing center with software, books, tests, career counselors and information about current jobs.

All incoming students go through the counseling center. Counselors make sure the students have all the correct classes and check prerequisites.

"A lot of times students come in and they don't know what they want to study," Grinnan said.

"We offer tests at no charge that could cost the student anywhere from

\$5-\$800 somewhere else. The tests help students learn what field of study they would be more comfortable with and would more likely enjoy as a professional career.

"The way these tests work is that they have given them to doctors, lawyers, policemen and professionals in other careers to compare their answers to those given by students," Grinnan said.

The counseling center has job placement programs for those getting their degrees and going into the workforce.

It offers personal counseling for those who are stressed or may be having family problems, but also those with drug and alcohol problems.

MC counselors are trained in drug and alcohol counseling but if the problem is serious students are referred to Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Palmer Drug Abuse Program (PDAP), Desert Springs Treatment Center or Mental Health Mental Retardation (MHMR).

The student services area also offers workshops on time and stress management for the students to attend.

MC offers childcare programs and

also a book-lending program for those students who cannot afford to buy their own books and who qualify for the assistance.

Counselors also refer several students to community programs that involve childcare, aid to pay utilities and bills and many other programs.

Free tutoring is offered for every student for every class.

"We want students to sign up through testing center," Grinnan said. "We want to help them get their academic achievements and to stay in school."

Williams works with disabled students. Students with physical ailments get note-takers or someone to take them to class and a number of other services.

"If someone wants to go to a major university, we can tell them what they need to take here," Grinnan said.

"We help [international students] get their visa so they can come here and get their education. They take their basics here, get their feet on the ground and transfer to major universities," Grinnan said.

Grinnan can be contacted at 685-4505 or in the student center for more information.

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Midland College Main Campus
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Movie Preview

Star Wars final chapter arrives in theaters

By Rael Henson
Staff Reporter

The *Star Wars* saga, nearly 30 years in the making, will be complete this summer with the release of *Episode III: Revenge of the Sith*.

Directed by George Lucas, this last installment in the epic looks to be the darkest and most depressing yet. The movie is rated PG-13, up from the PG the other films have carried, due to its intensity and sci-fi violence. But it will pave the way for the rising of the hero we met years ago named Luke Skywalker.

In the years after Episode II, the Clone Wars have raged on. While Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor) battles the armies of ruthless General Grievous, Anakin Skywalker (Hayden Christensen) is drawn deep into the confidence and dark teachings of Supreme Chancellor Palpatine (Ian McDiarmid).

This film will contain many endings and beginnings: the end of the Old Republic, the beginning of the Empire, the scattering of the Jedi, the birth of twins Luke and Leia, the fall of good Anakin Skywalker and the rise of evil Darth Vader.

You can also expect to see Chewbacca and some fellow Wookiees make an appearance.



www.gamecenter.blog.pl/

And it may be wishful thinking, but some people are hoping to also get a glimpse of his future buddy, Han Solo.

Han would be just a kid, but if he is in the movie, he will probably already be adept at getting out of trouble with the phrase, "It's not my fault!"

Judging from the trailer released in theatres several months ago, the costumes and sets will not be disappointing.

Padme Amidala (Natalie Portman) requires outfits that are not only beautifully feminine and at times elaborate, but now they must also try to conceal the pregnancy from her secret marriage to Anakin.

Why must the last Star Wars we see

be so dark and heartrending? It's mainly because they were made out of chronological order. The climax and happily-ever-after ending was made years back.

But this one will be sad. People will die. Anakin's transformation into a Sith lord will be complete.

He will fight an intense lightsaber duel with Obi Wan, his best friend and father figure.

More I cannot say. If you want spoilers, the Internet is drowning in them, and not many of them are cheerful.

Or you can read the recently released book. I'm not really complaining, though.

Admittedly, I love dramatic tragedy in epics with only a faint ray of light at the end. It will make re-watching Luke's story, as well as Anakin's final redemption in Episode VI even more joyful and satisfying.

History, even in movies, can help us better understand the bigger picture. Now the Emperor will be right when he says in *Return of the Jedi*, "The circle is now complete."

"Miss this movie you must not."

Movie Review

Sin City lives up to name

By Bradley Bourke
Staff Reporter

Mickey Rourke does the best acting of the movie with his role as Marv, doing the best acting job I have seen him do.

With an all star cast including Michael Clarke Duncan, Steve Buscemi, Devon Aoki, Carla Gugino, Josh Hartnett, Rutger Hauer, Rick Gomez and others, you could not have gone wrong. The acting was truly in a comic book fashion, and they all played their roles fantastically.

Hookers, street thugs, good cops, bad cops, strippers, and crazy evil characters are all combined in the appropriately named movie *Sin City*.

Robert Rodriguez and Frank Miller team up to make this comic book world come to life. The movie is based on the Eisner Award-winning comic written by Miller.

Marv has the most passionate night of his life with Goldie (James King) to wake up the next morning lying next to her beautiful dead body.

A hundred cops show up before anybody could know what has happened. He knew right away it was a setup and he vows then to hunt

down the real killer(s) and make them pay.

His hunt leads him to a house in the middle of nowhere occupied by Kevin (Elijah Wood) where he finds the heads of several hookers mounted on the wall.

Hartigan (Bruce Willis) is an old cop with a bad heart on the hunt for Junior (Nick Stahl), who has been raping and killing young girls.

Junior is caught before he has the chance to do anything to Nancy Callahan, played later by Jessica Alba.

After Hartigan saves little Nancy, his partner Bob (Micheal Madsen) shoots him and then frames him for the attempt to rape and murder little Nancy. After he serves his time, he tracks Nancy down to find that she is the hottest stripper that Sin City has to offer.

They find each other and fall in love, but it can't last too long. Nancy is nabbed by Yellow Bastard, who just so happens to be Junior.

All these stories are combined in a Quentin Tarantino fashion that Robert Rodriguez is familiar with.

The movie is in black and white except for red with clothing and blood, and Yellow Bastard's disgusting yellow body.

Book Review

The Devil Wears Prada offers glimpse into high-powered magazine world

By Kelley Ricker
Staff Reporter

Best-selling author Lauren Weisberger tells the story of Andrea Sachs and her pursuit of her dream job in *The Devil Wears Prada*.

Weisberger, it seems, once worked as a personal assistant to *Vogue* editor Anna Wintour, and the novel is a thinly veiled account of her nightmarish experiences at the magazine.

Narrator Andrea is a small-town girl from a large, Jewish family.

After graduating from Brown University, she toured Europe by train for a month, spending most of her time on the beaches and in the museums.

She only kept in touch with her boyfriend of three years, Alex.

Shortly after returning to the states, Andrea packed some things and traveled to Harlem to visit her best friend Lily.

She tried to drop in on the large offices that held magazine companies. Each time she entered the buildings, she was stopped by security guards who promised to get her resume into

the right hands.

Andrea had big dreams; she aspired to become a writer for *The New Yorker* by the time her fifth high school reunion rolled around.

An hour after waking from another drunken night, Andrea was at her first interview with *Runway Magazine*.

She had spent the last 23 years of her life in Avon, Conn., wearing sweat pants and snow boots and learning about French Impressionists.

She was not prepared for her first job.

However, she was hired as Miranda Priestley's assistant and introduced to a new world which was populated by "impossibly thin, heart-wrenchingly stylish women and beautiful men in fine ribbed-turtlenecks and tight leather pants."

Andrea accepted the job as Miranda's assistant in hopes that after a year she could have a great reference to *The New Yorker*.

During the year at *Runway*, Andrea worked 14-hour days, which consisted of hellish errands for Miranda.

Andrea hated her job and was treat-

ed like a nameless slave. She was forced to wear \$2,000 pants and \$800 painful stiletto heels to work.

Soon her relationship with her boyfriend became invisible, and she had no time to talk to her parents. Andrea had no time to eat or sleep. She never once heard a word of appreciation from Miranda.

Later in the story after eleven months of bodily torture and mental anguish, Andrea made plans to take a homecoming trip to Connecticut with her boyfriend to spend time with the ones she loves.

After all arrangements were final, Emily, the "senior assistant," called to give her the bad news. Emily was sick and would not be able to attend the spring fashion shows in Italy with Miranda.

Andrea was then required to take her place or be fired. She canceled all of her plans, and in three days, boarded a plane.

On the third day in Paris, Miranda told Andrea that if everything went well during the rest of the trip, she would personally make a call to *The*

New Yorker and give her a good reference.

Andrea finally felt relieved and decided to ignore all of the hardships over the next few days.

Then she received a call from her father who told her Lily was in a coma after a drunk driving accident. Andrea knew if she left, she would lose her job, and so decided to stay.

She had become one of the self-centered, bulimic-skinny employees that, in the beginning, she hated so much.

Finally, after 15 more hours of hell, she stood up to Miranda during the fashion ceremonies and told her off.

She flew home on the next available flight. She thought her chances for obtaining another magazine job were shot.

Andrea took all of her Prada clothes, Louis Vuitton purses and Manolo shoes that had been given to her by *Runway* to a resale shop where she received a check for \$38,000. With the money, she paid off her credit card and paid rent for new beginnings.

While visiting with her family in Connecticut, she received a call from *Seventeen Magazine* for an interview as an assistant editor.

She was happy to see that her new boss was fat and was one of the many important people who had read the *Times* article of the mishap. The new boss supported Andrea's decision to tell Miranda off.

During her one-year experience, she was sorely tested each day with orders barked at her over the phone. Keeping her eyes on the prize, Andrea soon subconsciously began to transform into a dark, devilish icon that many young women would wrongfully admire.

Things escalated from merely undesirable to downright disgraceful. She soon realized that the job "a million girls would die for" might have just ruined her life and future. She figured the job was not worth a piece of her soul.

The Devil Wears Prada is an entertaining glimpse into the truth of a young college graduate's first job with a boss from hell.

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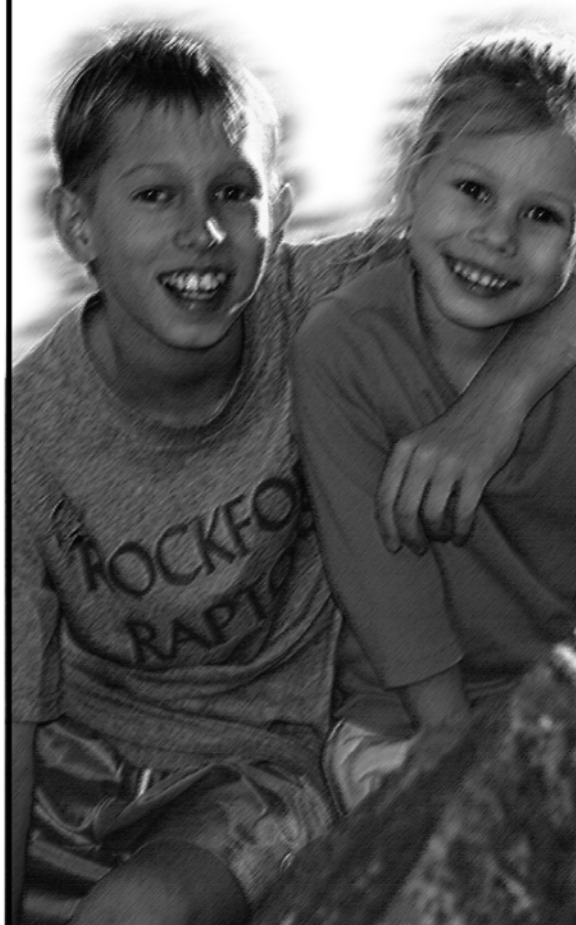
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Desert Reel Film Festival draws crowd

By Jason Rhode
Staff Reporter

When someone thinks of film festivals, they think Cannes, Sundance, Midland... what, wait, Midland? Yes, Midland.

The Desert Reel Film Festival kicked off its second year with a free panel discussion at the Midland College Advanced Technology Center.

Joe McSpadden, Jon Alvord, Stephanie Rivas, anchor for News West 9, Kelley Baker, sound director of *Good Will Hunting* (1997) and *Finding Forrester* (2000) and David Parks, director of *Superfly* (1972) were the panel members. Independent film director Peter Bowen, who lives in Midland, led the discussion.

Topics of discussion ranged from where the panelists got their starts to the name of their favorite movie. Almost across the board *Fandango* (1985) had some influence on each member of the panel—*Amadeus* (1985) was also a favorite.

"This is my first time coming to the festival, and I've already learned so much," said Jacob Cannon, MC student.

Friday night guest film directors, producers and VIP cardholders were treated to a "kick-off" party at the Yucca Theatre in downtown Midland that included a night of films beginning with *Happy Hour* (2003).

Happy Hour was about a dying alcoholic writer who's fighting against time to finish his autobiography and make things right personally. Mike Bencivenga, director of *Lovers in Love* (1993), directed *Happy Hour* with a screenplay by Richard Levine.

It starred Anthony LaPaglia, Eric Stolz and Caroleen Feeney.

Joey Rhode and Cannon, both MC students, said they shed tears by the film's end.

"I didn't cry so much for Tulley since he essentially killed himself, but I felt bad for Levine and Natalie since they worked so hard to get him back on track and sober," Rhode said.

Immediately following the film, there was a question and answer session with one of the film's producers, Eric Klein.

The second film of the night was *Kicking Bird* (2005). This film was about a kid named Bird who's always getting picked on by the "jocks," so he runs from them.

The coach, who has aspirations of better things, sees this and decides Bird's his meal ticket. Bird has to decide if he's going to let the crooked coach manipulate him or if he's going to stick to his beliefs.

Kicking Bird was written and directed by Kelley Baker, director of *Bird Dog* and *The Gas Café*. It stars a troupe that Baker said he regularly uses. It too was followed by a Q & A session in which Baker's personality was allowed to shine.

A block of shorts followed including *The Shovel*, *Once a Storm*, *The Spin Cycle* and *When the Cat's Away*.

By 1:30 a.m. Saturday morning, all seemed to have their movie fill.

"It was amazing for me to see how so many people could come up with ideas for short movies,

and the imagination needed to complete an independent film with the resources they have as opposed to a big budget Hollywood movie," Cannon said.

"Although I was really tired, I'm glad I got to go see those movies otherwise I wouldn't have known they even existed," said Rhode of the first set of movies.

The Saturday workshops covered topics like lighting by Rick Owens who did the visual effects for *Armageddon* (1998), *X-Men* (2000); guerrilla marketing and self-distribution of a film by Baker; and writing for film and television by Andrew

Bowen, the son of Peter Bowen. The younger Bowen acted in *Saved By the Bell* (1989-1993) and *MAD TV* (1995).

"Our workshops were a huge success, and I feel like this year's programming reflects our commitment to education about filmmaking as art and as a career choice," said Melanie Nicholas, this year's festival co-chair. "We already have a commitment from Jon Alvord to come back next year and do another editing workshop if his schedule permits."

He and the other industry people we brought in—Andrew Bowen, Michael Covert and Aaron Waiton—

had a wonderful time here because West Texas audiences are so excited about film and learning about filmmaking," Nicholas said.

While the workshops were in progress, films were playing at Odessa's Ector Theatre with main attractions of *Cypress* and *Devil's Cat*, a block of music videos—*Louisiana Saturday Night*, *Evil Twin Medieval Dance*—and two sets of movies including *The Mind's Eye*, *Unnoticed*, a documentary: *An Evening with Larry Breeze* and *Dirt* from the Basin Film Society with Q & A session following. After *Dirt*, a special question and answer session was held with guest stars Covert and Tracy Fraim.

At the end of the session, directors, stars and other VIPs were off to the "That's a Wrap! Awards Show & Party" held at the University of Texas of the

Permian Basin Center for Economic and Energy Development (CEED) building.

On Saturday night, the CEED building was alive with live music, pats on the back from jobs well done and general party merriment. Decorated conservatively, there were buffet-style hors d'oeuvres to the right of the threshold and a chocolate fountain to the right.

Baker said the party went throughout the night until about 5:30 a.m. and he was planning to be at the Ector Theatre at noon Sunday for the last batch of films.

Sunday started with two documentaries, *House of Elegance* and *Plagues & Pleasures of Salton Sea*, which was followed by two blocks of shorts that included *Lone Defender* (drama), *Cypress* and *The Offering* (horror), *Tales of Demise Sonata* (drama), *Scetchcetera* (comedy), *2 White Kids* and *Lite Weight* (drama). The festival came to an end with *Word Wars*, a *Scrabble* documentary and *The Faith of Joey Rail*.

The festival ran April 21–24 and used venues in both Midland and Odessa.

"I was thrilled with the year's festival. We had good attendance and wonderful movies all weekend long," Nicholas said.

"I really feel like we brought movies to Midland/Odessa that people would never have seen if it weren't for the film festival" she said.

"We're always looking for more volunteers, and anyone interested in volunteering for the festival should email 2006 chair Chad Durham at bulldurham12@gmail.com."

**Desert Reel Film Festival
2005 Winners**

Best Feature: *Happy Hour*

Best Documentary: *Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea*

Best Short (under 20 minutes): *When the Cat's Away*

Best Short (20+ minutes): *The Lone Defender*

Native Son: Aaron Marshall for *When the Cat's Away*

Best Director: Mike Bencivenga for *Happy Hour*

Audience Favorite: *Unnoticed*

Students in Philanthropy awards grants

By John Paul Martin
Staff Reporter

Members of the Midland College Students in Philanthropy (SIP) club completed a year of fundraising and grant-making by awarding \$18,572.80 in grants to 18 Midland non-profit organizations at the 8th Annual Grant Awards Ceremony, April 27.

Abell-Hanger Foundation Executive Director David Smith said, "This program would not be what it is today without Midland College."

According to SIP President Ruby Moore, the Abell-Hanger Foundation and Midland College founded the club to provide student leaders the opportunity to improve the quality of life in their communities.

Members are also given the opportunity to learn about the importance of philanthropy and the role of nonprofit organizations in the community.

"They (SIP) are carrying out George and Gladys Abell's legacy," Smith said.

According to Smith, through the fund development and grant-making process, students not only make needed contributions to non-profit organizations, but also gain leadership and stewardship training through a structured program designed to educate, support and promote philanthropic leadership in the community.

"Through this program, we are raising a new generation of philanthropists," Smith said.

MC President David Daniel said, "This is always a wonderful event. David's (Smith) burning passion is philanthropy."

According to Moore, this year's SIP participants reviewed 32 grants with a total requested amount of \$46,191.26.

"I'm always impressed with the quality of their decisions," Smith said.

This year's organizations that received awards were: Midland Festival Ballet—\$750 for scholarship assistance;

Breaking Bread Kitchen—\$1,500 for two months of meat and supplies;

Casa de Amigos—\$1,500 for diabetes screening and education;

CASA of West Texas—\$2,000 for the Guardian House visitation program;

Community Children's Clinic—\$700 for patient care; Community and Senior Services—\$1,000 for the Handyman Program;

Greater Ideal Family Life Center—\$506 for a staff computer;

Hospice of Midland—\$1,295 for a sound system for presentations;

The Life Center—\$200 for audio/visual equipment for client education;

Midland Association for Retarded Citizens—\$800 for a special mattress for client's bed;

Midland Children's Rehabilitation Center—\$427.95 for a therapist's clinic kit.

Midland Habitat for Humanity—\$1,034.31 for carbon monoxide detectors for 23 homes;

Mission Center Adult Day Service—\$1,000 for equipment and supplies for clients;

National Kidney Foundation—\$2,000 for the "Patient Services Fund";

Permian Basin Community Centers—\$1,000 emergency client fund;

Safe Place—\$1,175 for furniture for the shelter; STOP D.W.I.—\$943.27 for the Fatal Vision program materials;

VAN—Serving the Visually Impaired—\$741.27 for materials for weekly crafts activities.

Extravaganza celebrates science, draws crowd



Photo by Angie Wennerlind

Elementary students take turns holding Evie during the science extravaganza that took place Friday, April 22.

By Angie Wennerlind
Page Editor

Glowing pickles, slime, sheep eyeballs and brains might sound like the ingredients of a witch's broth. But on Friday, April 22, during Midland College's annual Science Extravaganza, these items and more combined to celebrate the weird and wacky world of science.

The Extravaganza, which took place in MC's Science-Faculty building, included exhibits of dissected animals, live animals, drug dogs, dairy cows, rockets, chemicals, chromosomes and just about anything else science-related. The event drew school buses full of elementary students from schools all across Midland.

"To come here and see all this cool stuff and get out of school, I like it," said David Rayos, a sixth-grade student at Travis Elementary.

He "liked all the chemical explosions," and was considering being a scientist if his career as a professional baseball player did not work out.

Other students found some of the exhibits to be a little gross. "The dead things made me want to pass out," said Jaelyn Ingram, a student at Bonham Elementary. The dead cat on the dissection table reminded her too much of her cat from home.

The day's events also provided college students enrolled in science courses the opportunity to help out and obtain extra credit points.

"I was a herder. I took a group [of students] around all day," said Jenny Hollis, an MC student.

Since she is enrolled in Anatomy II, Hollis said she was motivated to help by the extra credit points that were offered. "And it's a good way to do something for someone else," she added.

This year's college-student participation reached an all time high. "I've had more help this year than I've ever had," said Cindy Cochran, biology lab instructor.

Besides letting college students get bonus points and kindling an appreciation for the sciences, the event also enabled MC to get its name out.

"[The Science Extravaganza] is to promote MC in the community and give the kids a chance to see MC," Cochran said.

"I enjoy the kids' reactions to the different specimens we put out," she said. Kids left and right could be found in the lab handling snakes and horny toads or poking at sheep brains and fetal pigs with their bare hands.

"It's fun. The kids enjoy it. I enjoy it," Cochran said.

In the chemistry lab, elementary students saw how violently unstable chemicals react, what color certain chemicals burn and how electricity transfers.

"Don't try this at home" became a phrase demonstrators frequently repeated.

The kids often stood transfixed as they observed interesting demonstrations—bulbs lighting up, slime congealing and flames re-igniting.

"School can get boring sometimes, but seeing all the excitement in the kids, you get motivated," said Amy Rendon, an MC student who participated.

Helping others

MC student sets out to change world

By Angie Wennerlind
Page Editor

You never know when you gaze into a stranger's eyes exactly where they have traveled, where they plan on going or the sum of what their eyes have seen.

The eyes, the windows of the soul, often are forced to behold tragedy. And through gazing upon tragedy, some souls are inspired to change the world.

Deryls Mendoza, a Midland College student from Paraguay, is one such person.

Mendoza said he dreams of becoming a physical therapist or a physician assistant.

Unlike many doctors, however, who seek money, recognition and the thrill of emergency room trauma, he said he simply wants to help people.

"I have seen people who have no resources," he said. "I have seen children naked in the street, sick. They have shaped my personality."

In Paraguay, the rich part of society contains only about 15 percent of the population. Forty percent of people are extremely impoverished and the leftover percentage of people comprise the middle class.

"The money is distributed in a bad way," he said.

Mendoza said that one time, a supermarket, much like one of our Wal-Marts, caught on fire.

The rich owner, a selfish and greedy man, ordered that all of the doors to the market be locked so that no one would steal the store's merchandise. The building burned, and more than 400 people inside died of asphyxiation.

Two were Deryls's classmates.

It is hard to understand the man's selfishness, Medoza said. "He had like five other supermarkets."

Not to mention "houses in Europe and lots of lawyers," lawyers now busy fishing the man out of the legal mess of the fire.

"Money gives a good living, but you don't take it with you when you die," Mendoza said. "You still are human. You die."

Mendoza said he hopes to take something different with him when he dies. Mother Theresa has been one of his huge motivations.

"She helped the poor people," he said—the same poor people who walk the streets in his home country.

His religion also fuels his own motivation to help others.

While raised a Catholic, Mendoza said that he has studied other religions, and is currently attending a Baptist church.

"My God is humble," he said. "He shares everything that he has."

Mendoza said he wants to do the same.

He plans to attend school for a total of six years. If all goes as planned, he will travel to Europe to study. After he completes all the training, he hopes to see his life's goal come to fruition.

"I want to travel the world to help the poor people," he said—certainly a simplistic endeavor. Yet it could be viewed as a goal no less than extraordinary.

That is, especially if you are the poor person Mendoza plans on helping.

Diamond girls win another WJCAC championship

By **Mona Garcia**
Staff Reporter

Midland College grabbed hold of another Western Junior College Athletic Conference title through the MC Lady Chap softball team.

The Lady Chaps shutdown El Paso in both double-header games last weekend in El Paso earning them the fifth straight title.

The Lady Chaps dominated El Paso with winning scores of 9-4 and 10-1 on April 30.

The Lady Chaps had 17 hits each game and, in the first, they had a five-run third inning and a four-run fourth inning.

In game two, MC had seven runs in the final two innings with Karena Dial and Colleen Kimbro going for a combined 9-for-10.

Dial also had a two-run homerun in the seventh, which brought the Chaps 32-4 in the WJCAC and

earned them a meeting with EL Paso for the seventh time in the Regional Tournament May 5-7.

The MC Lady Chaps softball team faced their cross-town rivals once again on April 20 and came out splitting their doubleheader game with Odessa College with a 9-1 loss and a 13-1 victory.

Due to errors coming from the MC Lady Chaps, OC took home the first game. Kimbro started things off in the first inning with a double to right center-field and sophomore Nicole Espinoza later followed with another double to score Kimbro.

The first inning output jump-started the MC offense, which scored four runs in the second, five in the third and three more in the fourth.

Kimbro, Espinoza, Natalia Sergeeva and Maritza Martinez each had two hits.

The Lady Chaps are participating in the national tournament as this paper goes to press.



Photo by Mona Garcia

No. 11 Danielle Payne, MC freshman from Riverside, Calif., contacts the ball in a recent game at Ulmer Park.



Photo by Mona Garcia

Coach Erica Elder poses with volleyball MVP Paula Araujo after the athletic banquet on April 26.

Banquet honors student athletes

By **Mona Garcia**
Staff Reporter

Midland College athletes, coaches, Chap fans and family members gathered for the annual athletic banquet and witnessed the awarding of trophies in every sport.

"I think the banquet went very well, the Hilton did an incredible job and the event was well attended," said Assistant Athletic Director Forrest Allen.

During the event, every athlete was recognized for his/her accomplishments from this year and each sport handed out an award for Most Valuable Player (MVP).

The recipients included sophomores Irma Kimatite and Britney Davis-White, who shared the MVP award for women's basketball.

Freshman JD Lewis, who led the men's bas-

ketball team in scoring this year with 17 points per game, received the MVP for the men's basketball team.

Freshman Brianna Dairy, who is leading in pitching and is one of the leaders in hitting received the MVP from the nationally ranked MC softball team.

Sophomore Paula Araujo won MVP for volleyball team. Araujo recently signed with Texas A&M at Corpus.

Freshman Rebel Ridling received the MVP from the baseball team.

Two students—Brent Kirstein and Greg Bowden were awarded MVPs from the golf team.

"It was a great way to honor young men and women who have worked their behinds off for the Midland College athletics program," Allen said.

MC's influence to be felt at four-year universities

By **Mona Garcia**
Staff Reporter

While most students are still deciding where to attend school next year or are preparing for finals, other students are set for the fall with commitments already made to certain schools. These students are Midland College athletes who have already signed to continue their education and athletic career with universities.

Sophomore Paula Araujo, while at MC, was a member of the 2004 Western Junior College Athletic Conference (WJCAC) co-champions and qualified for two NJCAA Region V Tournaments advancing to the 2003 and 2004 Region V Tournament.

"Midland College was a wonderful experience and I hope that I will experience the same things I've come to enjoy here at Midland, playing in Corpus," said Araujo, who signed with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Golfing sophomore Derek Jordan signed with Lubbock Christian University and while at MC he finished in 32nd place with a total score of 299 for the four-round tournament. He was a four-time All-District performer at Monahans High School. He finished as the third-place medallist at the 2003 state tournament, his senior year.

Freshman JD Lewis averaged 17.6 points, 2.8 rebounds and 2.4 assists per game for the 26-10 basket ball Chaparrals, starting in 36 of 36 games. Lewis was named to the All-Conference and the All-NJCAA Region V team this year. Lewis made 110 (one off of the school record of 111 held by Eugene Costello) three-point shots this season on 43.7 percent shooting.

"I've always wanted to go to UT its always been a big dream of mine," said Lewis who signed with the University of Texas-Austin.

Lewis was nationally ranked while playing for MC. He was No. 32 in scoring, No. 9 in free throw percentage and No. 33 in three-point percentage.

"I'm really going to miss the coaches and fans at MC. I loved playing here it was the perfect place for me as a freshman," Lewis said.

Sophomore Ivory Clark was second on the Chaps in scoring with 13.2 points per game average. He was also second in rebound average with 7.1 per game. Clark also recorded 74 blocked shots for the Chaps, leading the team in that category. He started in 25 of 36 games this season.

Clark scored a career high of 26 points versus Northlake College and recorded a career high of 13 rebounds versus Ft. Scott, Kansas Community College. He also had eight blocked shots versus Odessa College and will be continuing his education and athletic career at Washington State University, home of the Cougars.

Sophomore Mamery Diallo signed with Gonzaga University during the early signing period.

"It's a Division I school with a good basketball program. I think I'm going to enjoy it," Diallo said. He averaged 4.6 points and 3.9 rebounds this season and recorded career highs of 14 points versus the UTPB-JV and seven rebounds versus New Mexico Military Institute.

Sophomore Tristan Martin signed with the University of Houston, joining former MC coach Shanon Hays and former MC teammates Sergio de Randamie, Brian Latham and Englebert Cherrington. Martin started in 25 of 36 games this season and averaged 11.2 points and 3.3 rebounds, playing for Grant McCasland.

Tristan Martin also averaged 1.4 steal per game this season. He scored his career high of 18 points on three occasions this season, including versus highly regarded College of Southern Idaho in the second round of the NJCAA National Tournament. He and current Chaparral teammate Mamery Diallo have the unique distinction of being the only MC basketball players in the school's history to have played in and won back-to-back NJCAA Region V Basketball Tournament Championships and as a result they played in two NJCAA National Men's Basketball Championships.

Freshman Matt Martin played in 34 of 36 games this season, starting in three contests. He averaged 2.9 points and 2.2 rebounds this season for Coach McCasland. Martin played guard and forward for the Chaps and his versatility allowed him to be inserted in a variety of game situations. Martin will continue his education and athletic career at Lubbock Christian University.

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