

THE TRIBAL TIMES

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KSU:

New degrees provide new student opportunities

by Jack Culler

Kennesaw State University, a popular and convenient collegiate option for McEachern seniors, will now be offering three new degrees starting this fall.

Kennesaw State began as a junior college in the summer of 1966 with a diminutive enrollment of only 1,014. Starting this fall, KSU will be offering 46 undergraduate degrees, as well as two doctorate degrees.

The school has blossomed into the third largest college in Georgia, and will undoubtedly continue to grow. Today the school enrolls nearly 21,000 students.

The new degrees include a doctorate of business, undergraduate major in dance, and a Master of Arts in teaching secondary science.

"The degrees are significantly different, but Kennesaw State is a university that has a very diverse set of offerings," said KSU president Daniel S. Papp.

The new programs will be in full effect just in time for upcoming college freshmen to take advantage of them.

Although the doctorate in business is just the second doctoral program offered at Kennesaw State,

it is continuing to grow.

KSU is also widely expanding its opportunities in the field of dance. With nearly 150 dance minors at the school, Papp decided it was time to offer an undergraduate major. The Kennesaw State Dance Company has already flourished as a prominent institution.

The Kennesaw Dance Company finished first place in the 2007 Regional American College Dance Festival, and will travel to the 2008 National College Dance Festival in New York City. There is a type of dance offered for everybody at KSU, including: African, ballroom, ballet, jazz, modern, and tap dance.

"One of the main reasons I chose to go to Kennesaw State is because it is so close to home, in case I ever need anything from my parents," former McEachern student Scott Eubanks said.

KSU is located close enough from McEachern for students to live at home if they do not wish to stay on campus.

The academic achievements of the school continue to grow, and with the new degrees the students have different opportunities than alumni have.



Photo by Taylon Sharer

Kennesaw State University, on highway Old 41, welcomes new degrees that will be returning with this fall's students.

New buildings display prestige on campus

by Chelsea Baasch

New additions at the school expand the campus, creating a larger Fine Arts facility and

cafeteria.

The first floor of the new Fine Arts Center (FAC) will be used for the band. The building includes percussion, instrument, uniform and guard storage, a

much larger rehearsal space, eight individual practice rooms, one small ensemble practice rooms, changing rooms for both boys and girls, and offices for each of the band directors.

"Over the years, the band program has grown and this new facility will provide much needed space," band director Sonny Petway said. The downstairs of the building is designed for the drama department.

As both a drama and band student, junior Matt Thorton said, "I was a little impatient and frustrated about the delay, but when it finally opened, I could not wait to work on monologues and practice for show choir."

It is fully equipped with a black box theater, a rehearsal space for dance and Show Choir, a rehearsal setting, and much storage space.

Due to technical difficulties, the new FAC building took longer than expected to open to the public. The wrong heating and air-conditioning units were delivered, and when the new ones eventually came, there was a mistake with the wiring. This caused even further delay.

"We are hopefully going to plan a big event to celebrate the buildings unveiling," Principal

Peggy Constantino said. The delays have not affected the excitement of the students and teachers.

"It was worth the wait, when we moved into the building, it was like Christmas," Petway said.

"I would like to express gratitude to the McEachern endowment for going far above and beyond in continuing to provide the absolute best facilities in the country for the students at McEachern," Petway said.

The new FAC is not the only construction site on campus.

The new cafeteria, which is replacing the John McEachern (JM) building, is planning to open in early September 2008. This one level dining hall will have a vaulted ceiling, like Hillgrove High School's, and other new cafeterias in the Allatoona area. The dining hall's purpose is not only to serve as an eating area for students, but is fully wired with an LCD projector for training, testing, meetings, and banquets.

"I'm really excited about the new cafeteria opening before I graduate. I know that it will look great and will be used to its fullest potential," junior Sarah Vaughan said.



Photo by Naomi McCarthy

McEachern's campus displays the first of many additions to come with the new band building located next to the PAC.

McEachern Economics and Government teacher David Casas, a Georgia representative, meets with the General Assembly where crucial decisions concerning Georgia students will be discussed and decided upon for the upcoming year.

Georgia legislature decisions

by Chase Eriksen



After almost two months in session, many in the Georgia political arena are left disappointed by the lack of major issues addressed by the legislators.

“This is probably the most ineffective session that I have ever been part of,” McEachern teacher and Georgia Rep. David Casas (R- Lilburn) said. “I was disappointed when two critical issues were not addressed this year: tax reforms and transportation,”

The Georgia General Legislative Assembly, a group of 180 representatives and 56 senators, meets once each year for a 40-day period of proposals and debates.

Senators and representatives use this time to propose potential laws and amendments to current laws.

Some of the topics addressed while in session were the precense of red light cameras on Georgia roads, how EOCT scores could affect HOPE scholarship acceptance, and the sale of marijuana flavored candy.

The 40 days are frantic as any unaddressed issues must wait until the following year’s assembly.

While all of the bills are important, some bills will have a much greater impact on students and citizens in the area.

Among the prominent proposals, Georgia lawmakers have put up a road block for local governments looking

era at the intersection.” Despite their apparent safety benefits, red light cameras may remain a scarce sight in the area.

thored a bill that gives tax payers a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for donating to approved scholarship organizations.

Among the more interesting topics, Georgia lawmakers voted to end the sale of marijuana flavored candy.

The Senate voted 42-3 late in April passing a measure targeting businesses that sell the candies with drug-inspired names such as “Kronic Kandy” and “Pot Suckers.”

Activists said it could be the first statewide ban of its kind. Marketers argue the treats are a harmless novelty and many advise retailers sell the candy only to customers 18 or older. They say the candies are flavored with hemp essential oil, a legal

product which gives them the oily, grassy taste of marijuana.

After 40 days of busy lawmaking, the assembly will disperse until next year.

However, the bills left untouched during this assembly will not lose their drive, but will be resubmitted next year for approval as laws.



photo by Janne Robinson

Representative David Casas returns to McEachern after spending the entire first half of the semester with the General Assembly.

to install more red light cameras.

The House voted 136-24 to give final approval to the measure; now the decision will go to the governor.

“I think that red light cameras are needed,” senior Kye Handy said. “They help with safety, and people are less likely to speed if they see a cam-

Casas is a supporter of the bill that would require all EOCT scores to be reported to apply for the HOPE scholarship.

“The house of representatives is overall an effective body. We deal with issues that directly affect the lives of citizens,” Casas said.

As longtime supporter of school choice, he au-

UGA enlists help against harassment

by Suzanne Stroup



Due to numerous sexual harassment complaints in the past few years, the University of Georgia (UGA) has hired three ombudsmen to handle the problem.

An ombudsman is a person who investigates and attempts to resolve complaints and problems, as between students and a university. Of the three being hired at UGA, one will be primarily for students, one for staff and one for faculty.

Other roles of an ombudsman include, mediation, making recommendations for changes in policies and procedures, providing advice or making a referral.

The ombudsmen are there to make sure that the Non-Discrimination Anti-Harassment Policy (NDAH) is not violated. UGA is striving to make sure that the NDAH is known to all staff.

“Before the end of the calendar year, every person in the senior administration as well as deans, associate deans, and department heads, will undergo NDAH training,” president of UGA Michael F. Adams said in a March memo to students, faculty and staff.

Though this issue is not highly publicized outside of the UGA community, some students are still worried.

“This is a wakeup call for me. Since I’m going to there in the fall, I’m going to have to be more careful than I normally would be at school,” senior Meagan Kelley said.

In May 2007, UGA’s women’s golf coach, Todd McCorkle, resigned three days before the start of the NCAA regionals after the players on his team went to the administration about inappropriate comments that he made to them and other coaches, both on his team and opposing ones.

UGA is hoping to implement a new way of life this year. After an online petition with 1200 student signatures calling for Adams to have a greater stand on sexual harassment on campus, his eyes were opened.

“The most important goal will be creating a culture change on campus after a number of recent complaints focused attention on sexual harassment,” Adams said. He hopes that these changes will help create a safer, friendlier environment on campus.

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OPINIONS

College costs on rise for future students

by Krista Carver

Average Yearly Cost of Private College in...

2002:	\$ 24,851
2003:	\$ 26,094
2004:	\$ 27,399
2005:	\$ 28,769
2006:	\$ 30,207
2007:	\$ 31,717
2008:	\$ 33,303
2009:	\$ 34,968
2010:	\$ 36,717
2011:	\$ 38,553
2012:	\$ 40,480
2013:	\$ 42,504
2014:	\$ 44,630
2015:	\$ 46,861
2016:	\$ 49,204
2017:	\$ 51,664

According to CollegeBoard.com, the average college student pays “from \$95 to \$1,404 more than last year for this year’s tuition and fees, depending on the type of college.”

The price for college is increasing each year. According to the Princeton Review, “the cost of public and private universities will increase at a rate of about five percent per year over the next decade.”

Private colleges have been forced to slow down the increasing tuition due to families going to public state colleges. Due to the fact that HOPE pays

for tuition, students in Georgia generally go to public schools.

According to Collegeboard.com, “56 percent of students can attend

a four-year college for below \$9,000, that’s including annual tuition and fees.” Financial aid also reduces the cost of college. More than \$130

billion is available for students in financial aid.

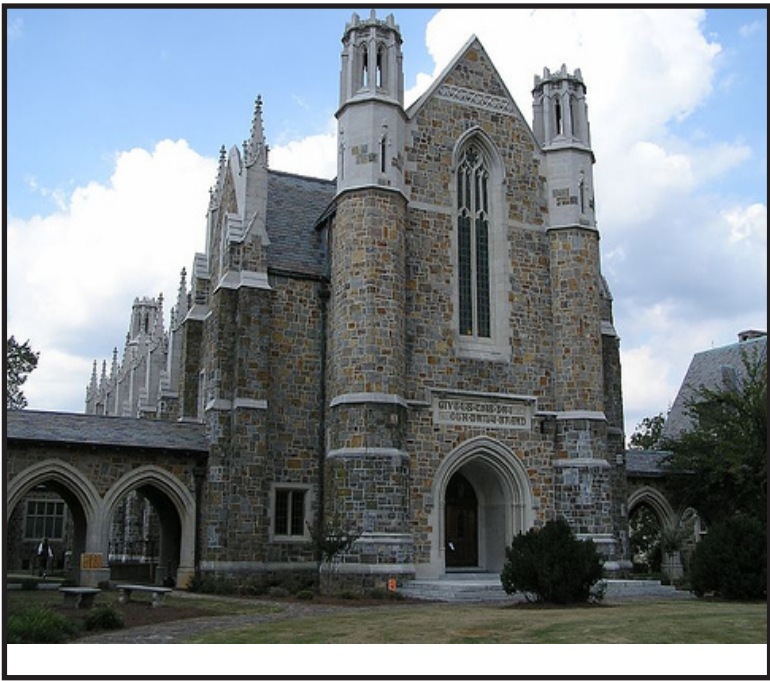
Even though prices are rising, a student can still make college affordable.

Here are a few things you can do to lower the prices:

- * Apply for financial aid as soon as possible. The sooner that you apply for financial aid, the more money you will receive.
- * Apply for scholarships. Even if it’s just \$300, it will still help in the long run.
- * Save money from your summer job. It will be needed.
- * Find out if the school offers lower tuition fees based on race, gender, or religion.

Average Yearly Cost of Public College in...

2002:	\$ 9,338
2003:	\$ 9,805
2004:	\$ 10,295
2005:	\$ 10,810
2006:	\$ 11,351
2007:	\$ 11,918
2008:	\$ 12,514
2009:	\$ 13,140
2010:	\$ 13,797
2011:	\$ 14,487
2012:	\$ 15,211
2013:	\$ 15,971
2014:	\$ 16,770
2015:	\$ 17,609
2016:	\$ 18,489
2017:	\$ 19,413



Berry College, which boasts the largest college campus in the world with 28,000 acres, costs students an average of \$28,196 per year.

Obama promises changes Clinton remains underdog

by Kevin Mobolade

Although Barack Obama is the least experienced of the three candidates, his success has left Americans thinking that age is just another number.

“We have transcended; I feel that America is ready for a young optimistic president with views,” junior Helena Samson said.

Barack Hussein Obama, at the age of 37, is a graduate of Columbia University and Harvard Law School, serving Illinois as a junior U.S. senator since 2004.

Obama pales in comparison to his opponents, Hillary Clinton and John McCain, with their years of political experience as U.S. senators and statesmen defining their

careers.

“Words do not define a person, the way Obama presents his case shows that he has a background

ment, his messages of hope and change have persuaded the American people overlook age as a determinate of experience.

Obama continues to prove that the numbers never lie. According to barackobama.com, Obama leads Hillary Clinton with total of 1,875 delegates to her 1,700.

The Dallas Business Journal also reports that Obama is ahead of Clinton regarding men, young people, and independent voters by a margin of over 60 to 70 percent.

This election will go down in history as an election of change. The 2008 race may not be determined by age, but by whoever can best embody the youthful spirit of America.

by Ashlee Tziganuk

As the democratic presidential campaign continues, supporters of all ages and races alike are beginning to wonder if Hillary Clinton will ever make it to the White House.

Even with her recent victories in Pennsylvania and Indiana, it seems like Hillary Clinton never genuinely wins.

News headlines across the country seem to downplay her victories by using phrases such as “squeaks by” or “it’s not enough.”

“I think the reason for the media downplay is just because Obama has so much hype now, and people aren’t expecting

her to win anymore,” sophomore Melissa Mondello said.

With the race dragging on for months now with

dedication and passion to be president. She’s standing up to her bullies by staying in the race,” math teacher Cara Hamilton said.

Apparently there aren’t any quitters in the Clinton camp. Hillary’s drive and determination to succeed is easily one of her strong points.

She is willing to fight for her country and ultimately make it a better place.

The only thing standing in her way is the competition and biased media. As Barack Obama supporters would say, Hillary Clinton’s campaign is in need of a little “hope”.



Presidential candidate Barack Obama delivers his North Carolina primary victory speech at North Carolina State University.



Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Hillary Clinton greets the crowd during the Club 44 Rally at Time Warner Cable Arena in Charlotte, North Carolina, Monday, April 28, 2008.

The Tribal Times

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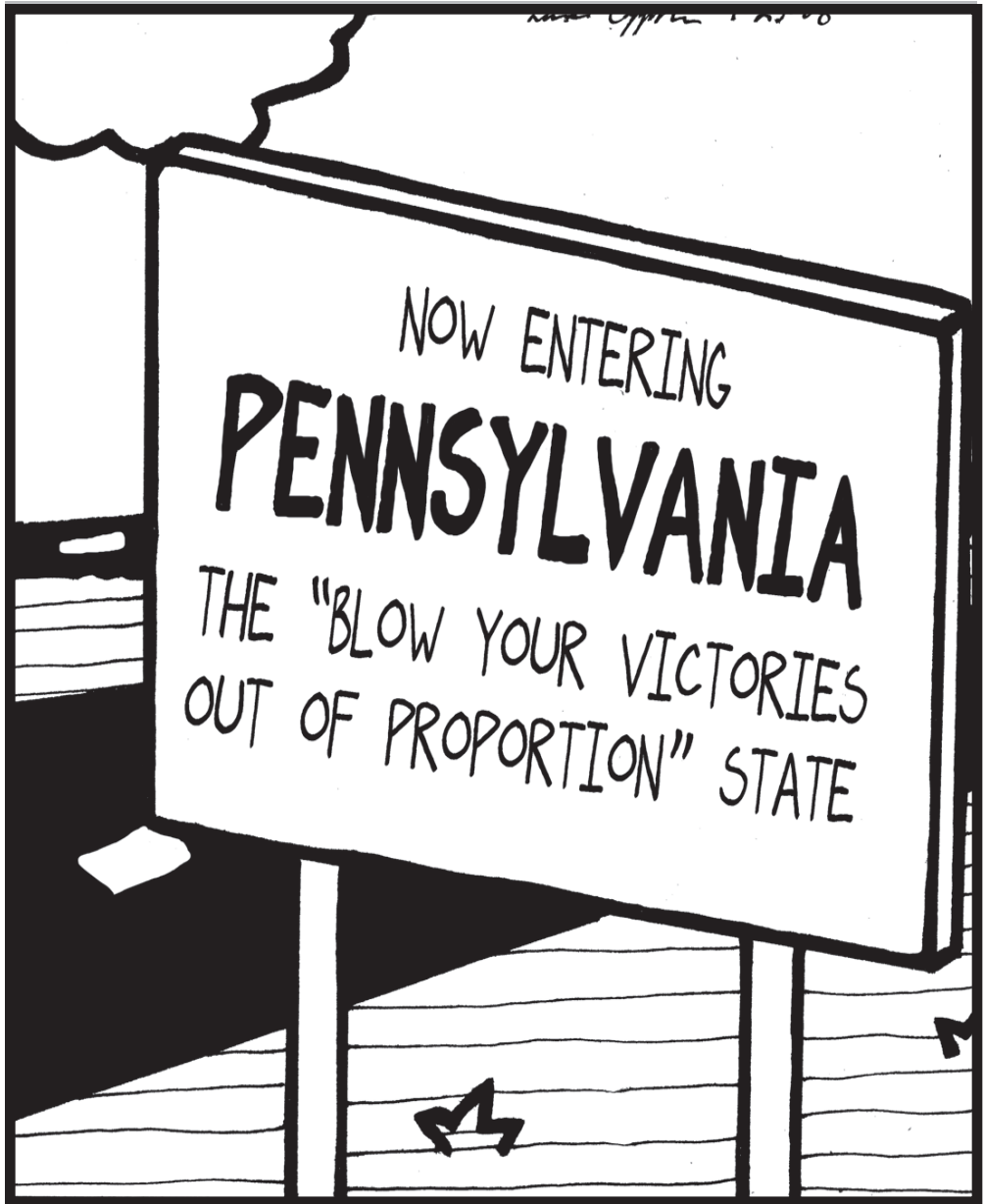
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ART

Work of creative minds fails to draw attention

by Khalea Underwood



Linda Manley, McEachern’s art teacher, teaches seven classes ranging from basic drawing to her Advanced Placement course. Some of her students choose art to make their transcripts look better while others use it as a “break” from a hectic schedule.

The visual arts department does not receive the recognition that it deserves. Its beauty is hidden beneath the slew of business, music, and consumer science courses. The only art department classroom is located at the bottom floor of the Freshman Center—most students aren’t even aware that

the classroom exists. Yet art holds benefits that can only be discovered firsthand.

Art students must tap into the corners of their imagination to create masterpieces while they ask themselves essential questions, develop techniques, and build a craft from the bottom up. They learn in a way that textbooks can’t teach, and McEachern students need to start taking advantage of this.

“Students think that art is an easy elective compared to other classes in their schedule. But I’ve seen many develop talent. Some of my juniors and seniors have even switched their major choices for college,” art teacher Manley

said.

Students also have the opportunity to further their talent. Although many aren’t listed on the school’s website, there are many scholarships available for art students.

“I get letters from schools all the time, looking for talented students. I’m always writing letters of recommendation to; it’s just something that people have to pursue,” Manley said.

The art room is a forum of free expression. Its spacious quarters and calm atmosphere allow students to escape from the pressures of their core classes. Jeannette Felix, Maggie Sandbothe, Meoshua Anderson, Nicole Perkins, and

Michelle Smith, seniors, collectively agree that art relaxes them.

“Our art class gives us the opportunity to be creative. We get to draw things and learn new skills; it’s all very therapeutic,” they said.

The lack of attention that the art department receives is questionable. With all of its abundant benefits, who wouldn’t want to participate in these courses?

“I think that if our classroom were visual to students, we’d get more traffic. The art hangs up along the walls



Photo by Naomi McCarthy

Students Emily Vera, Annie Smith and Alex Myers convey originality through their artistic abilities

of the Freshman Center, but the rest of the student population doesn’t see it,” Manley said.

“If we held more exhib-

its then more attention would come our way. We just don’t get a lot of exposure,” the seniors said.

Block scheduling hits brick wall

by Sydney Kelly



Block scheduling for high school students proves to be strenuous and ineffective for performance testing at the end of a semester.

As if the pressures of performing weren’t enough already, students who attend schools with block scheduling are being viciously overworked as courses end on May 23.

The demand of eight classes instead of a mere four like some schools has forced students to work harder, especially when dealing with finals or End-of-Course Tests (EOCT).

“I think four-by-four scheduling is much easier,” junior Allyson Dobbs said. Dobbs attends Hillgrove High, a school with four-by-four scheduling, but was enrolled at Osborne her freshman year, which schedules seven classes a day. “It’s much less stressful,” she said.

Claims have been made that block scheduling is more effective and convenient, but EOCT scores beg to differ.

According to the score released by the Georgia Department of Education (GDOE) for the spring semester of 2007, a select group of four-by-four schools scored higher on the Biology, American Literature, Ninth Grade Honors

Literature, U.S. History and Economy EOCT as compared to the schools with block scheduling.

Out of the 11 schools that are Advanced Placement (AP) Certified in Cobb County, six offer four-by-four scheduling.

It is not likely, despite the pivotal importance extra curricular activities are to the GDE, electives will ever out-rank core classes on the scale of priorities.

The conflict of room in four-by-four schedules is one very easily solved. If students had classes every day and therefore less homework, they could potentially continue to stay involved in such extracurricular activities after school.

Option B is to simply drop an elective. If students have never been exposed to the option of taking more

than two electives, the backlash would be minimal.

Four-by-four scheduling is smarter, simpler, and provides students with a generally better learning atmosphere.

Both schools who failed the Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) last spring were schools who offered Block scheduling.

If the GDOE is so concerned with the overall performance of Georgia’s students, then a change should be made. If every school in the state offered four-by-four, then transfer conflicts would be minimal and the states standardized test scores would climb dramatically. All schools offering block scheduling would benefit from a four-by-four system and student’s performances would increase greatly.



Photo by Naomi McCarthy

EOCT Testing signs posted outside of library door and also around the campus.

Global warming: a serious trend

by Ashlee Tziganuk



America is a country where Hollywood gossip makes the headlines more often than needed, where dreams can come true as easily as going through a McDonald’s drive through, and where global warming is contributed to most in the world.

Global warming has become an increasingly talked about topic over the years. Science has provided enough proof to show the changes that have taken place over the years in temperature and weather.

Already into the new year we’ve experienced 345 reported tornadoes across the US, where as last year at this time there were less than 100. The cause of the drastic incline in the severe

weather is due to global warming.

Scientific studies such as those conducted by NASA have found, for the western United States, drying in the warmer climate reduces the frequency of lightning-producing storms that initiate forest fires, but the strongest storms occur 26 percent more often.

This evidence says that although the frequency of lightning might be reduced, stronger storms will occur more frequently.

According to the Federal Department of Transportation, Americans use over 200 million gallons of petrol a day. And every year U.S. industries release at least 2.4 billion pounds of chemicals into the atmosphere.

The statistical list for American contribution to global warming is a long one and is not get-

ting any shorter.

Technology teacher Paul Eubanks said, “America has the most contribution because we are one of the biggest industrial nations. Other nations like China and India also contribute a lot because of their recent industrialization.”

There are the nonbelievers of global warming like student Kyandra Knight who said, “I don’t think it’s real, and I don’t think our scientific evidence is accurate.”

But although there are many skeptics, as Americans we need to open our eyes to this issue before it’s too late.

There are small things we can do to save energy such as use fuel efficient vehicles and washing machines. But for now, it’s best to simply turn off the lights.

Stereotypes: more than skin deep

by Elexius Roach



Black stereotypes limit African American culture and stifle diversity. A pair of Jordan sneakers and saggy jeans: what else is there to being black? Stereotypes seem to infer that there's not much else. Stereotypes indicate traits common to many black people but never effectively represent blacks as whole. It's even become something that black people encourage themselves. "Yes, many of these stereotypes are true, but if people keep telling us that, it almost discourages our generation of African Americans to pursue a better level of life for ourselves," senior Aisha

West. Negative stereotypes include everything from our extravagant family reunions and obsessions with drugs, guns and sex to our innate use of certain profanities and slang and our infatuation with fried chicken. Still, there are positives like the popular cliché 'once you go black you never go back' and the assumption that rhythm and athletic ability are innate. There are even popular stereotypes affording black success to affirmative action and welfare checks. What all of these stereotypes fail to do is answer the question of what makes a person black. "People expect black women to be thick, to have big lips and big hips, but black women come in all different shapes and sizes," said West. "There is no specific perfect woman as far as African American women are concerned."

It's not the rhythmic ability or the diet. There are no specifications to being black. You are or you are not. It's that's simple, but stereotypes persuade just the opposite. Race diversity is one the back bones of America. "America is such a diversity culture that stereotypes shouldn't even apply to this country," said West. Stereotypes do nothing but stifle our individuality. There is such a wide variety of black people. We come in an array of different shades, ethnic backgrounds and personalities: why should we limit ourselves to what the media says 'makes' people black? I may like fried chicken and have the natural ability to draw attention on the dance floor, but that's not what makes me black: I just am, and like the cliché says 'once you go black', or any color for that matter, 'you don't go back.'

by Mike Kljucaric



Many stereotypes exist in society pertaining to a person's race, creed or religion. The most well-known and well-traveled stereotypes, however, are those of someone's race. Everyday people are characterized and categorized by nothing more than the color of their skin. Stereotypes can be harmful, but the vast majority of them simply deal with small matters, such as a certain race's quirks. "There are a lot of dumb little stereotypes that

don't really make much of an impact on anyone's life," senior Ian Williams said. "It's obvious that not all black people like fried chicken and watermelon. I'm black. I hate watermelon." However, some stereotypes do exist that are much more harmful. Some stereotypes can affect how an individual is viewed by other people. In other words, such stereotypes lead to prejudice. "I definitely think that judging people solely on their outward appearance is a huge mistake that is made too often," Williams said. "Wearing baggy jeans or a large shirt are not signs of unintelligence." The amount of prejudices that different races have against one another is yet another stereotype. Normally, there is one race that is stereotyped to be the most prejudiced and racist: whites. "Because of slavery, white people are

looked at as being the most racist group of people," senior Steven Freund said. "But things change. There are no more slave drivers. I don't like being held accountable for what people were doing more than one hundred years ago." Whites are seen as the most prejudiced of all races, but there are many commonplace things in the world today that seem blatantly unfair to whites. People would scream bloody-murder if majority business loans were given to white males. Or, imagine the reaction that society would give to the launching of a new channel, WET (white entertainment television). In the end, stereotypes help no one. They are a blight on society that causes injustices like war, slavery, hate crimes, and unfair legislation to occur. There should be no need for things like affirmative action or minority business loans, because people should not need such an incentive to be fair and honest. People should be people, no matter what they eat, where, or what their color may be.

by Georgette Eva



Thanks to the popularity of the sushi bar, yoga, and mangas, the Asian influence has preceded the actual culture into today's society. Not much goes into account when trying to describe the stereotypical Asian. They're usually known for their intelligence in technology, science, and math. Their ancient history of feet binding, samurai warriors, and Godzilla running precede them into today's world through movies and television. In fact, most people admit to not being able to distinguish Asians apart. "I generalize with the dark hair, the yellow skin, the brown eyes," senior Michelle Ihewunwa said. Asian culture has found its way into Western Civilization with the help of Hello Kitty, Pokémon, Mr. Miyagi, and Nintendo. However, these imports generally speak for the Asian culture

rather than the people themselves. Stereotyped as quiet, reserved, short, and intelligent, Asians usually go under the radar when the race card is played. "People see a group of Asians together and they automatically think that they're all related," senior Thao Suong Quynh Nguyen said. "Because most people only think Asians come from China or Japan." It's a common misconception made by typical non-Asians: Asian is a single, unified culture. It isn't. There are actually different types of Asians and not just the two major sub groups of Chinese or Japanese. In fact, with Asia being the second largest continent on the planet, with 37 countries within six sub regions. "There are so many different cultural backgrounds from Koreans to the Japanese or the Chinese to the Subcontinental Asians," Math

teacher and Korea-born Jung Sun Yoon said. Major companies have begun to see Asia's worth: Dell and Apple took advantage of the continent and shared America's second-hand jobs through the movement called globalization, or globalize-asian seeing as most of these global jobs are found in Asia's subcontinent. All reverence due to the Wii, Sony electronics, and origami go to Asia and its inhabitants. However, most of these contributions are used to represent the people of Asia rather than the hardworking people themselves. Instead, Asians are generalized as an entire, continental body of rice eating, tea drinking, yellow skinned people. Yoon said these stereotypes come from "a lack of interaction because people use one group to represent everyone, but they're wrong because everyone is different."

by Hazel Sanchez



Packed like sardines, heavy accents, and coming across the border are just a few of the many of the stereotypes that befall Hispanic culture. As the Hispanic population catches up with the African American and white populations of America, stereotypes of the Hispanic image have become common in today's culture. "The typical Mexican male is tattooed, has a buzzed head, wears baggy clothing, classifies himself as a cholo, and

usually wears something with the Virgin Mary on it," senior Karen Canales said. "Not everyone is the same." Stereotypes of Hispanics have changed from lighthearted humorous references of Speedy Gonzales to harsh criticisms dealing with the controversial border control. Hispanics are not the only illegal immigrants in the country, but the federal government focuses on the United States-Mexican border specifically. Junior Christo Taoushiani believes that it is unfair when the term illegal specifically refers only to Mexicans crossing the border when there are many other immigrants who are illegal. "They don't consider the people who came in legally, had their papers lost, or are still getting them processed," he said. Not everyone crossing the border is specifically Mexican. Many Central

Americans take advantage of weak border control on the south Mexican border to travel through the country in order to find better opportunities in the United States. Typical jobs include: construction workers, landscapers, and house-cleaners. However, business leaders such as Roberto Goizueta, recent Coca-Cola CEO, or the first U.S. Hispanic attorney general, Alberto Gonzales, have overcome that stereotype. People also assume that Spanish is spoken the same everywhere; but accents, words, and idioms vary from region to region. Also varying from different regions is Hispanic food, and, no, La Parilla is far from authentic. Many of the dishes have been Americanized to appeal to the typical Americans' taste buds. Different versions of the Spanish language, varying foods, strong cultural ties all encompass into one general stereotype for the Hispanic image. Stereotypes, however, only limit the public's world view. There's no specific way to be Hispanic, and that's the way it should be.

Black

Asian

White

HISPANIC

READY SET GRADUATE

Faculty

"The class of 2008 is a funny group of students. They make me laugh. They are also very responsible."

"I think that the seniors raised the bar for academics, especially since one of our students got accepted into Yale University."

-Phyllis Tschudi-Rose
Economics Teacher

-Rose Tucker
US History Teacher

"I think of the seniors as my own children. I've seen them mature, socially and academically. They have a lot of school pride and they stick close together."

-James Lockhart
Assistant Principal

"What's so great about '08?"

"We overrule all of the underclassmen and we get to leave."

-Erin Cooper

Seniors

"The best thing about the class of '08 is that we're unique, we all have our different personalities, and we're all unforgettable. When the class of '08 leaves, McEachern will never be the same."

-Michelle Marble

EIGHT REASONS TO GRADUATE

1. Studies by the Gates foundation show that people who graduate from high school earn roughly \$9,200 more annually than non-graduates.
2. Do you even *need* eight reasons?
3. No more lunch runners!
- 3.5. College! What more is there to say.
4. Another year of exposure to freshmen is detrimental to upper-classman health.
5. Who really wants to be a *super*senior?
6. We all love McEachern, but you can't miss it if you're still here.
7. After graduation there are always gifts. Can you say cha-ching?
8. Jump on the bandwagon: Everybody's doing it! Well, about 83 percent of seniors in the 2008 class are graduating this May.

- 598 graduating seniors
- 311 senior girls
- 284 senior boys
- 277 black students
- 252 white students
- 40 Hispanic students
- 6 Asian students
- 19 multiracial students

STATS ON DECK

- 5 skip days
- 1 official senior skip day
- 1 senior circle
- 26 senior advisements
- 365 college prep
- 106 dual diploma
- 110 career technology
- 284 seniors with AP classes
- 28 seniors with a 4.0 or higher GPA
- 101 seniors with mentorship
- 175 seniors with minimum day



SENIOR WEEK
07-08



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SPIRIT DAY

Applicant rejection reaches all-time high

by Charles Leroux
Chicago Tribune



Ah Spring. The crocuses are beginning to poke their pretty heads above the soil; the birds are building nests; and, throughout the land, a resounding chorus of rejection is heard.

This has been a record year for college applications and, hence, a banner year as well for rejections. Admission rates are down at Yale and Princeton, and Harvard took in the lowest percentage of applicants in the school's history.

But it's not just the Ivy League schools that are sending out more bad

news. At the University of Chicago, for instance, 3,460 of 12,400 applicants were accepted (with another 1,500 put on a waiting list). That 27 percent acceptance rate is down 4 points in just one year and translates into 7,440 rejection letters.

Some such letters are fairly perfunctory, a nod to the difficulty of the decision given the rising tide of applications. For some applicants, such as those yearning to wear orange at the Urbana campus of the University of Illinois, the harbinger of their academic future comes in a single word posted online — "Admit," "Deny," or "Wait-list."

Indeed it's difficult on both sides. All the admissions officers interviewed

for this story noted that this is a time of stress around their offices. Some letters address this. "It is painful to us that we must turn away so many superbly talented students," Yale's letter notes.

"We know how hard it is to get a rejection letter and we know how hard it is to send one," said Monica Inzer, Director of Admission and Financial Aid at Hamilton College, a private liberal arts school in Clinton, N.Y. "We have two letters we send out. One of them is softer, though we think both are fairly soft."

Hamilton has seen a 19 percent increase in applications over the last two years. Last spring "was more of a blood-bath," Inzer said. "People

were caught off guard (by the sudden increased competition). This year they seem to know about it." The super-soft letter, which goes to children of graduates or of employees or siblings of students, begins with a gentle "no" like the other letter but goes on with more explanation about the increased quality of the current pool of applicants.

Steve Syverson, vice president for admissions at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wis., said the letter he sends to those who didn't make the cut is "intended to let them down gently and preserve their dignity."

It notes that "despite your many fine qualities," the competitive nature of the process means that,

though many call, not all are chosen. "You don't ever want to say, 'You fell short,'" he said.

You'd expect a gentle turn down from Earlham College in Richmond, Ind. It was founded by Quakers and is an intimate campus, just 1,194 students and a 12-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio. You'd be right. Not only is the letter to those who just missed gentle, it opens the door a crack to future acceptance by suggesting enrollment elsewhere and then reapplication.

"Each year," Earlham's director of admissions, Nancy Sinex, said, "three to five students have jumped through those extra hoops and gotten in. They go to a community

or other college and reapply with more evidence to show they have the motivation to be successful here."

Ted O'Neil, dean of college admissions at the University of Chicago, noted that the decline in admissions is only part of the story.

"Our school, like many, has enlarged," he said. "Where we once had a class of 750, say, 30 years ago, we have 1,250 now." In other words, even with more spaces available, more students are being turned down.

Those who got the "no" can comfort themselves with the thought that, just maybe, in their case, a mistake was made.

Stunning success will be the best revenge.

Mr. Jomehan is two-year no show

by Chelsea Baasch



The popular Mr. Jomehan contest is not taking place for the second year in a row.

Mr. Jomehan gives male students an opportunity to showcase their talent and represent McEachern with style. The last time the contest took place was in 2006 when alumnus Caleb Cook was crowned Mr. Jomehan.

The contest was held like a red carpet affair. The contestants were escorted by young ladies on to the stage. Then, one by one, the contestants showcased their talents.

Due to low ticket sales, last year's competition was cancelled.

This year, the lack of resources and student support prevented the eight member math team from running the contest.

"We wanted to try and collaborate with the BETA club or another small club to help us," math team leader Sunny Yoon said.

To hold the contest, the first step is to reserve a date to use the Performing Arts Center (PAC). The reservation must be made a year in advance because of the innumerable events held in the

PAC. To prepare for next year's contest, Yoon has already reserved a date. Whether or not the contest will take place is up to the students.

The second step is to advertise with posters, which is the responsibility of the math team members.

"To promote interest in Mr. Jomehan, I would get my friends to spread the word so that students will get excited and want to be involved," math team member Audrey Fonkam said.

With big plans for next year's contest, male students will be given the chance of a lifetime.

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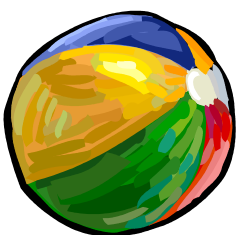
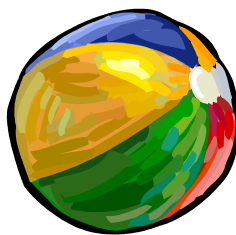
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Congratulations
2008 Graduates

Love, Jelka Wiebe

Growing up and confident; the 2008 senior evolution

Home vs. away

by Elexius Roach



The Class of 2008 completes their evolution from freshmen to senior.

Each year another senior class completes the transition from childhood through secondary school to adulthood. Although each year's graduating class is different, they all face the challenges associated with high school.

"I'm taller and I really do think that I'm more mature than I was when I was a sophomore," said senior Keith Spero.

Most seniors would agree that they've matured both physically and mentally since their freshmen and sophomore years. It is not just the maturity level growth that many seniors recognize in themselves; it's also the self-confidence.

"Over the last four years I've really found a great deal of independence. I know that it's going to come in handy when I go to college," senior Stephanie Hladilek said.

After being bombarded by college applications and finals, it's easy to become overwhelmed, but each year seventeen- and eighteen-year-old senior across the nation tackle it.

"I'm more confident in my abilities now," Spero said.

In contrast to the joys of going away to college, seniors must also face the difficulties of leaving life-time friends.

With thousands of colleges around the world, there are endless combinations that will inevitably split high school friends apart.

"Coming into McEachern, I was really relying on the group of friends I had grown up with, but when I got here I had to make new friends and meet new people and adjust to my new surroundings," Hladilek said

With graduation approaching, seniors must learn the skills necessary to adjust to even newer surroundings in preparation to leave the campus they've grown to know so well.

Whatever the college or university or whichever the state, senior year is coming to a close. Seniors must unite all the skills they've learned and prepare for the lives ahead of them.

The evolution to senior is complete but the journey to adulthood has just begun.

by Brittany Long



College options allow seniors to make the decision between going to in-state or out-of-state schools.

As seniors began their college application process, they decided what type of college best suited them.

Seniors who enrolled in classes this fall faced the debate between in-state and out-of-state colleges.

"I'd rather go to an in-state college because it's cheaper, so that gives us the opportunity to do what we need and want to do," senior James Triplet said.

In-state schools also give students a situation that could potentially be more comfortable. The closeness of their families could be convenient as they face the world on their own.

Besides the prospect of being more comfortable, students attending college in Georgia have an opportunity to qualify for

the HOPE Scholarship.

"All the classes in undergrad programs are standard," Guidance Department Chair Greg Mosher said. "To spend an exorbitant amount of money for standard classes is just silly."

There are also different motives for students wanting to go to an out-of-state college.

"I want to go to an out-of-state college rather than an in-state college because they have more opportunities," senior Ginika Agbim said.

Independence and a new learning environment can be appealing to young students entering a new phase in their lives.

"You have to mature and grow up on your own, but when you're closer to your parents it's easier to be dependent," senior Cierra Coulture said.

Ultimately, the choices made are up to the student and his or her aspirations for career after college.



photo by Naomi McCarthy

From Left to Right: Kyndal Crider, Chris Wiggs, Megan Kelly, Hannah Pope, Kye Handy and Erica Lewis show the progression of students from freshmen to senior.



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Racket Attack

by Anice Wiebe



The Indian tennis team worked to hold their spot in the state tennis ranks.

Opening the season with wins against South Cobb, Marietta and Hiram, the girls and boys teams advanced to the playoffs.

"Both teams had a goal of making the playoffs for the season and were very excited to do so," boys head coach Patty Craven said.

The 2008 tennis team headed to the region play-offs April 2-3. Up against the number one seed in the 5-AAAAA region, Etowah, they had a tough match ahead of them.

The Indians are the eighth seed in the region.

"We play against each other at practice to get better and we hope that will help us in the playoff match," senior Will Jackson said.

There are 12 boys and 12 girls on the team this year. Leading the girls team are seniors four-year player Anna Hill, four-year player Tamara Racic, two-year player Monica Carpenter, and four-year player Lauren Tyus.

Losing Ryan Furr, Cory Denison, Philip Puckett and Justin Walker due

to their graduation in 2007, the Indians had to regroup and create a new bond with the players that joined the team this year.

Leading the boys team is returning player senior Jackson, who has just completed his third year on the team.

"We are all friends on the team and everyone works together," junior Derek Montgomery said.

Montgomery plays singles and doubles for the Indians; his

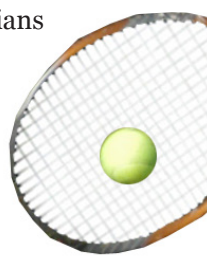
doubles partner is Stokes.

The boys tennis season is now over due to the loss against Etowah.

"We didn't have high expectations, but we tried hard to win the game," senior Scott Beringhaus said.

Playing doubles for the girls' team Tyus partners with Powers; "There has been a good bond on the girls team this year, and I think that has brought all of us together," Tyus said.

"It has been a struggle this season, but we have enjoyed our teams immensely," Craven said.



In preparation for her upcoming match against Etowah, senior Sarah Powers works on her forehand swing.

Senior Signings

MARK BONDS
FOOTBALL
JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

TRAVIS DUNGEE
FOOTBALL
TENNESSEE TECH

DARRIUS GARRETT
BASKETBALL
UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

BRIANNA GAYDON
FAST PITCH SOFTBALL
MID-CONTINENT UNIVERSITY

MORGAN GILL
LACROSSE
TENNESSEE WESLEYAN COLLEGE

EMMA HOBBS
SOCCER
COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY

BOBBY ONYEUKWU
TRACK
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

MEGAN RUTHERFORD
FASTPITCH SOFTBALL
MERCER UNIVERSITY

WILLIAM WYNNE
TRACK & FIELD
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

*The end of the Spring lingers
in the cherry blossoms.*

~Buson

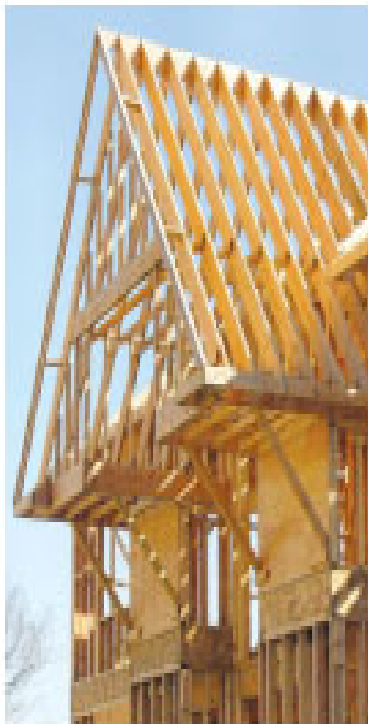


*To all my Seniors:
This is just the beginning of your greatness.*

~Love Mrs. Thomas

Congratulations MHS Class of 2008!

Best of luck! -Stanley Harbor-



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Water Polo: Coming to A Pool Near You

By Jack Culler



After a five-year absence, water polo could be making its return to McEachern athletics.

Although the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) does not officially sponsor water polo, several high schools in the greater Atlanta area have club teams that compete

during the fall athletic season.

Counselor Melissa Alexander served as head coach during the schools first and only water polo season in 2003. "I enjoyed coaching the McEachern team a few years ago," she said. "We had tons of fun and I'd love to do it again with some extra help from a few other coaches."

Water polo is a team

sport in which six members attempt to pass a ball down the pool in order to score in an above water goal sitting pool-side. All players must tread water without touching the bottom of the pool. The ball may only be touched only with one hand at a time.

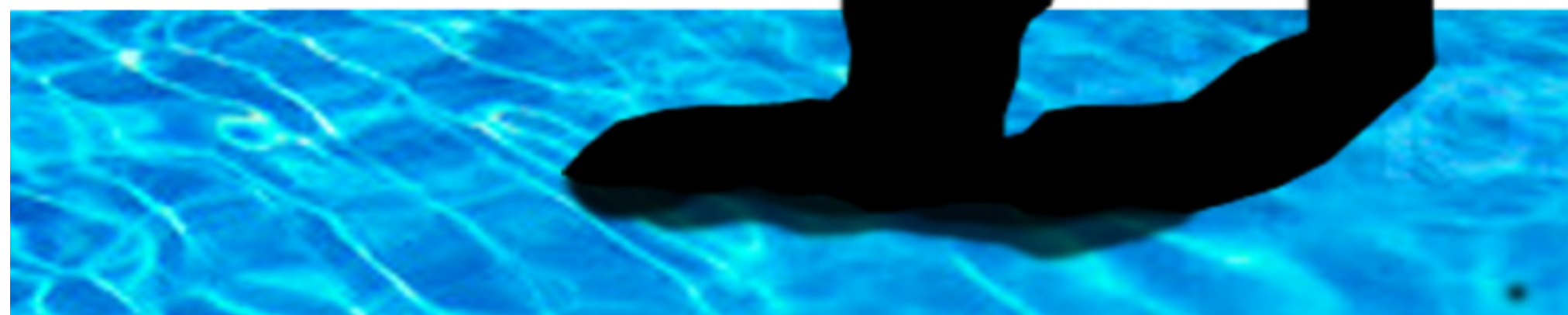
Mens water polo was first introduced at the Olympics in 1900, the same year that cricket,

rugby, football, polo (with horses), rowing and tug of war were added. It is the oldest Olympic team sport, and it is still played today. Womens water polo was introduced to the Olympics at the 2000 Sydney

Games after political protests from the Australian womens team.

"I am definitely excited about playing water polo next year," junior Dimitry Zinger said.

"It will give me a competitive edge for the swim season in the winter."



Track ties Marietta for first at state

by Chase Eriksen



After placing second at the region 5-A track meet, the team redeemed themselves with a state championship title.

In fact, the boys team tied Marietta in points at 46, an unusual occurrence in the sport.

McEachern was ranked second to Marietta going into the final event. In order to force a tie with Marietta, the boys 4x400

relay needed to beat the Blue Devil's relay. Despite being 20 meters behind in the final leg of the race, senior world record holder William Wynne not only overcame the deficit, but carried the team to a widely margined victory.

With a time of 3:14.367, the eight points gained by the relay was just enough to tie the meet.

Other notable achievements included:

Jaron Roberson's second



photo by Chase Eriksen

Junior Anthony Anderson lunges off the block at the start of the 100-meter dash.

place finish in the 400-meter dash with a time of 47.92, just three-tenths of a second behind the leader.

Additionally, Wynne defended his individual state titles in the 110-meter hurdles and 300-meter hurdles events with a time of 13.52 and 36.208 seconds, respectively.

Despite leading the team to two consecutive state titles, two principle members of the coaching

staff will be leaving the school next year: head coach Michael Taylor and head distance coach Travis Gower.

Taylor has accepted a coaching/teaching position at the new Allatoona High School scheduled to open in the fall.

Gower has accepted a one-year assistant coaching position at Walton High School, after which time, he will advance as the head cross country and track coach.

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Baseball strikes out early

by Bridget Spencer



The baseball team fought persistantly this season, but fell short of the playoffs.

Although they did not make it to the playoffs, the players are still proud of their sportsmanship. Their record is 14-12.

“The team bonded together and helped each other through some hard times this season.”

-senior Drew Parker
Catcher

“When I was a freshman, the team was not as close, now our class has grown closer and stronger together,” senior center-fielder and pitcher Deaire Hagen said.

Varsity head coach David Joiner returned for his 24th season at MHS. “We have a pretty good record and reputation to keep,” Joiner said. One of Joiner’s trademarks is stressing teamwork during practices.

“He is a nice coach, but he will definitely get his point across at practice,” senior Hagen said.

Fans watched the team condition and prepare for

the season.

“There is still room for improvement and to rise back to the top,” Joiner said.

McEachern will host the annual Wooden Bat Classic this summer. Teams from Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida are expected to show up.

The team has kept a positive record so far, and their goal is to maintain it with hard teamwork and confidence gained through lots of practice and cooperation. They still have a future generation to lay down the path for. The senior players are still satisfied with their tough work.

“This season is going to be one to remember for this rest of my life,” senior catcher Drew Parker said. “Yes it was my senior year, but the team bonded and helped each other through some hard times this season. I will always remember the good moments we shared on the field and off.”

“I think we have the best group of individuals out of any sport here at McEachern and I’m glad to have been a part of a great team,” Parker said.



From left to right: sophomore Max Kaska, junior Dan Hoptroff, senior Kyle Twiss, senior Jacob Dudkowski, assistant coach Van Spence, and Head Coach David Joiner.

Photo by Bridget Spencer

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