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THE SPECTATOR

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46TH PRESIDENT, 49TH VICE PRESIDENT INAUGURATED

By Natalia Ahrens

The inauguration of the 46th President and Vice President, Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, took place on Jan. 20, 2021. This event took place amidst political unrest, the COVID-19 pandemic, and shortly after the House of Representatives voted to impeach former President, Donald J. Trump, for a second time. There was a great deal of precautions in place to keep everyone safe and to prevent spreading the coronavirus which causes COVID-19. Masks were required at all times, and temperature checks and testing were administered before the

inauguration. Former Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama, and their first ladies, all attended the inauguration. Former Vice President Mike Pence attended as well, but Donald and Melania Trump chose not to attend. Trump is the first president not to attend his incumbent's inauguration since Andrew Jackson refused to attend Ulysses S.



Grant's first inauguration in 1869. Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor swore in Vice President Kamala Devi Harris, and Chief

Justice John Roberts swore in President Joseph Robinette Biden. After the oaths, Garth Brooks performed "Amazing

Grace." Amanda Gorman, 22-year-old National Youth Poet Laureate read her poem, "The Hill We Climb." There were quite a few firsts at this inauguration, including Gorman being the youngest inaugural poet. Kamala Harris is the first woman and first person of Black and South Asian descent ever elected into the office of Vice President. Joe Biden is the oldest president so far, turning 78 two months

before the inauguration. Amidst political unrest during this time, President Biden has hope for the American people and reshaping politics during his four years. "Politics doesn't have to be a raging fire, destroying everything in its path. Every disagreement doesn't have to be a cause for total war. And we must reject the culture in which facts themselves are manipulated, and even manufactured," said Biden in his Inaugural Address.

COVID-19 HITS LOCAL RESTAURANTS

By Hannah Butler

Since March 2020, restaurants have been hit hard by the effects the pandemic has had on the world. Lockdown had

many small businesses and restaurants closed temporarily, which hasn't helped with the ongoing unemployment situation.

The situation is better now. Most restaurants

in McPherson are open for dine-in with social-distancing and protective glass shields in place. Some of the smaller spaces, like Noffy's, have been, or are currently, to-

go only, since the space isn't big enough to social-distance.

With finances being tight for many businesses, some of them closed their doors permanently. One of these

restaurants was Golden Dragon. They closed a few months ago and it was an upsetting loss for the McPherson community.

Overall, most restaurants in town are sit-in now,

so feel free to go enjoy dining-in while staying healthy and safe.

NEW HOT SPOT IN MCPHERSON

THE LOCKER ROOM NUTRITION AND ENERGY OPENS DOWNTOWN

By Brittany Merkel

Opened in November 2020 by Katie Murray, The Locker Room has become a hit among McPherson College students. Inside, it is very spacious and brings a welcoming atmosphere for people to hang out with friends or study and do homework.

Murray ran track and field in college at Wichita State University and got easily annoyed having to pay for overpriced protein shakes that weren't even good. She stumbled across a similar shop in Wichita and loved their drinks and all the options they had to offer. A couple years later she was able to open her

own shop in West Wichita and Newton, then here in McPherson. There has been an explosion of people posting their colorful teas and tagging the popular drink spot on social media. From young to old, the reach of The Locker Room is wide and seems to only be getting more popular as time goes by. Be

sure to stop by at the intersection of North Main and Kansas Avenue and grab Murray's favorite drink, the Pink Senorita.



Katie Murry, owner of The Locker Room, makes one of The Locker Room's signature drinks as customers watch at the bar. Photos by Junior Silva



VIEWPOINTS

HOW TO COMBAT FOOT ODOR FOR ATHLETES

By Jason Okoro

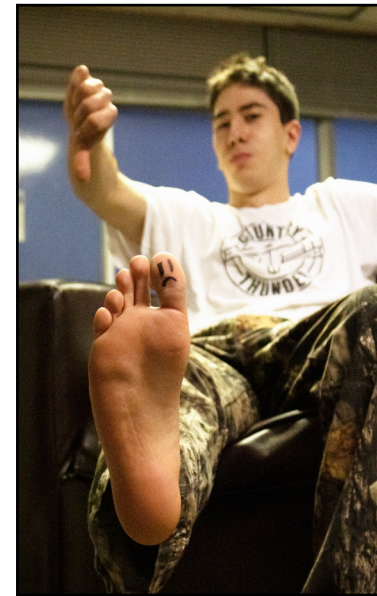
Yuck! Whose feet smell that bad? This is probably something you've heard if you suffer from foot odor. Foot odor is something that many athletes can deal with. Being active everyday with practice, workouts and games can lead to having foot odor. The causes of foot odor are not washing your feet daily, wearing shoes that are too tight for your feet, repeatedly wearing the same shoe for multiple

days at a stretch, or wearing closed toed shoes with no socks.

Here are some tips to be able to combat foot odor. First, wash your feet in the shower. I know this is something that shouldn't be said but not everyone truly scrubs their feet when they are showering. Secondly, disinfect your shoes with any type of sneaker balls. Sneaker balls are little balls you put in your shoes that work as a fabric cleaner, like Febreze.

McPherson Men's Basketball player, Christian Aguillard, said: "The sneaker balls help a ton especially with how much we work out. I've been using them since I was in high school and there are multiple scents you can get." Lastly, to fight foot odor a very simple tip is to change your socks daily. Don't wear the same socks multiple days in a row. That is just going to cause your feet to reek, especially with how busy the schedules are for athletes. These

tips are essential to good foot hygiene and combating foot odor which is something that can lead to athlete's foot. Foot odor is nothing to be ashamed of. Not taking care of it, however, is something to be ashamed of because you put yourself at risk of catching a staph infection. Home remedies or store bought products should do the trick, but make sure to wash your feet daily!



"GREGOR THE OVERLANDER" BOOK REVIEW

By Ben Hulsmeyer

Today we will be reviewing the book "Gregor the Overlander" by Suzanne Collins, published Sept. 1, 2003.

This book takes place in New York City. Gregor lives in an apartment with his mother, grandmother, and two younger sisters, Lizzie and Boots. It's been a little more than two years since Gregor's dad has gone missing. With Lizzie off to summer camp and Gregor's mom working many hours to provide for

the family, it's just Gregor and Boots left in the apartment. One day Gregor and Boots go down into the laundry room and both fall into a crate, where they find a mysterious and dark place with huge everyday creatures. When they arrive, they are quickly picked up by humans who live there and call themselves Underlanders. They believe Gregor and Boots to be a legendary warrior and princess who will help them fulfill a prophecy.

I love this story as it does an excellent job of de-

scribing the world they're entering so the reader can come up with a clear picture in their head. It's also written by Suzanne Collins, most famously known for "The Hunger Games." I believe that this series, the "Underland Chronicles," is much better than "The Hunger Games." With a unique story and a world built so well that you almost believe that it's real, you can easily fall in love with the series.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Spectator encourages readers to submit letters to the editor regarding topics covered in the paper. Letters should be no more than 400 words in length and are due to spectator@mcpherson.edu. For printing schedule, please consult with the Editor in Chief. The Spectator reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, space and libel. For any questions, please email us.

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Subscription information for non-students is available from the The Spectator Editor-In-Chief at spectator@mcpherson.edu or on our website: spectator.mcpherson.edu

CAMPUS



PATH TO PEBBLE: PROGRESS OVER WINTER BREAK

By Brittany Merkel

While most students were able to take an extended break over the holidays and even interterm, the Pebble Beach student workers were busy

on their project. The Mercedes main frame received its final topcoat of PPG custom paint towards the end of December; the body of the car has had its last coat of paint and is almost all together. After a short

break, the team worked to install the rear end and front suspension, the 300s is now back on the ground for the first time in over three years! In the past week, the engine has been placed and installed, and

the team will continue to work diligently throughout the new semester.



AR student workers standing next to the Mercedes 300s project car.
Photo provided by Nate McLaughlin

INTERTERM RECAP

By Brittany Merkel

As COVID-19 continues to worsen, McPherson College is committed to keeping their students safe. This year has looked a lot different for students and interterm was no exception. Nearly every class that could be taught completely virtual, allowing for students to stagger their return as well as keep their classmates and professors safe. The college also required each student to test negative for COVID-19 prior to arriving on campus. All these precautions as well as those in place since August allowed students to have a safe interterm and move into the spring semester.

PODRANGLE

Want to tell the world something interesting? Talk about something you love? Join **PODRANGLE!** McPherson College's podcasting studio!

Did you miss this week's Call-Out Meeting?

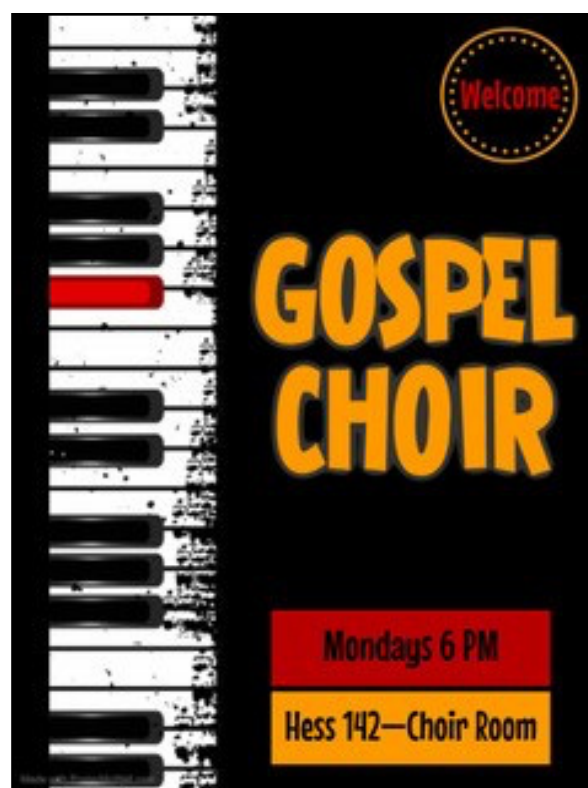
Contact **Jacob Reed** (Studio Manager), **Eli Jordan** (Assistant Studio Manager), **Julia Largent** (Faculty Advisor), or podrangle@mcpherson.edu to get involved!



All podcast topics welcome!
All experience levels (including none) welcome! We will train you on the equipment.*

You do not need to be a Communication major or minor to be involved. Just a voice and some thoughts!

*podcast topics need to be campus appropriate.



MILLER LIBRARY HOURS

Main and Lower Levels

Monday - Thursday	7:30a - 7:30p
Friday	7:30a - 5:00p
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	3:00p - 10:00p

Second Level

Monday - Thursday	11:30a - 7:30p
Friday	11:30a - 5:00p
Saturday & Sunday	Closed

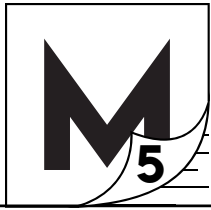
All library collections and services are available on the Second Level of Miller Library.
For more information about our COVID-19 Operating Plan, visit mcpherson.edu/academics/library

Housing Applications for the 2021-2022 academic year are open!

Due March
1st, 2021

First come, first
serve for open
spaces





VIEWPOINTS

“REDLINE”

MOVIE REVIEW

By Spencer Ice

Back in March 2020, we suddenly became “unbusy.” During this downtime, we turned to our favorite streaming services to binge-watch the latest shows and movies. Some of the movies were great and some were quite terrible, and this movie that I stumbled upon fell into one of those categories. The movie was “Redline” (2007), a fast-paced underground racing film. Riveting, thought-provoking, and a critical masterpiece are all things that describe many movies, however, this movie, not so much.

The movie sets the stage with a fast-paced car chase

scene, but with no real explanation why they are even racing. This is pretty much the platform for the rest of the movie, with unexplained and unnecessary action scenes. We are not quite sure what the plot of the movie is until maybe halfway through. “Redline” is very predictable. If you have ever watched any Hallmark Christmas movie, just think of that same predictable storyline and cast, but geared toward car enthusiasts. This movie is exactly what comes to mind when people hear the words “early 2000s car movie.”

The movie isn’t just bad because of the film’s lack of a developed plot. The characters are also very

stereotypical, and calling the acting mediocre would be generous. The dialogue is exactly what you would expect from a “Fast and Furious” wannabe. Not only is the dialogue predictable, but the script is also very cringe-worthy. This movie tries so hard to be funny. They throw many “humorous” one-liners in the dialogue, most of which fall flatter than day-old Mountain Dew.

Of course, no car movie is complete without a good ol’ chase scene. And trust me, “Redline” has plenty of chase scenes. Many of them are just slow driving with quick camera cuts and just enough engine noise and tire squealing to make us believe that the

chase is real. This movie would not be complete without shoddy crash scenes that make us wince.

“Redline” is one of the saddest excuses for a car movie that has existed in quite a while. This movie is jam-packed with mediocre acting, poor dialogue and some very unrealistic and terrible crash scenes. This movie is not by any means good, or an excuse for a decent car movie. So the question is, should you watch this movie? Well if you have any respect for yourself, then the answer is no.



NO SPRING BREAK? OKAY.

By Ben Hulsmeyer

McPherson College has made the decision to not have a spring break this semester

and to have regularly scheduled reading days scattered throughout the semester, where there are no classes and students are offered a study day.

They can also take some time to decompress and relax. Personally, I agree with this decision to not have a spring break. As an athlete I’m trying to

avoid COVID-19 as best I can. There may be people who don’t see it that way. Since the school can’t control how students act off campus, the decision

was to keep the students on campus and limit the possibility of traveling and bringing the coronavirus back. This benefits spring athletes, especially those

who lost their season last year in the beginning of the pandemic.

SPORTS



“SOLID SEASON” FOR WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

By Jason Okoro

The McPherson Women’s basketball team has had a solid season so far this year with a 12-7 record (9-7 KCAC record) and are in fourth place in conference. They have had some hiccups this season however, with season ending injuries to sophomore guard Kena-

jah Upchurch who tore her ACL three weeks ago. Starting point guard Dymond McElrath also tore

her ACL three weeks ago. Despite injuries, the team has had multiple players step up to fill the shoes of their injured teammates.

Reflecting on this season versus two season ago, Senior forward and All-American, Brittany Roberts, said: “We got a completely new coach. He had a completely different style of play than the previous coach. It was a hard adjustment at first but benefited us in

the long run.” Roberts also said, “Our goal is to make top four in conference, and make a run in the conference tournament.” Roberts has had a tremendous season so far as she has won NAIA player of the week and KCAC offensive player of the week twice. On the year she is averaging 21.4 points a game with 15.4 rebounds a game. They are coming off a 76-51 victory against Southwestern College where three players scored in double figures led by Brittany Roberts who had 21 points followed by Victoria Ates (Junior, Guard)



Sophomore Tatum Griffin drives to the basket. Photo by Natalia Ahrens



with 14 points and Maison Moseley (Junior, Guard) with 11 points.

Senior Brittany Roberts goes up for a layup. Photo by Natalia Ahrens

TRACK BEGINS INDOOR SEASON

By Alex Goodloe



Photo by Micah Gilbert

McPherson Men’s and Women’s Track and Field opened the 2020-2021 indoor season with a bang. The first meet of the season was a three day event hosted by Wichita State University. The Bulldogs came home with 29 new personal records and Dylan Templeman brought back a new record for the school with a 16.11m throw in shot put.

UPCOMING TRACK MEET*

Thursday 2/18 in Wichita, Kansas, for the KCAC Indoor Championships

*due to the coronavirus, this may change.



SPORTS

BULLDOG BASEBALL EAGER TO TAKE FIELD

By Natalia Ahrens

With COVID-19 taking away their last season, the baseball team at McPherson College is more than ready to start playing. With their first game taking place on Feb. 5, versus the Peru State Bobcats, the Bulldogs swept 2-0 for their first two games. The Bulldogs won game one, 13-5, scoring their 13 runs on 18 hits,



seven of them going for extra bases. In the second game, the Bobcats scored six runs, all of them coming in the second inning. The Bulldogs' responded by attaining eight runs in the third inning, and seven more in the fourth. In the end, the Bulldogs picked up the win

in game two, 16-11, racking up 14 more hits, including four more extra base hits. With two wins to begin their season, the team is eager to play more games and have their season, including Head Coach Bryan Moses. "I expect our players to be ready to compete this season. We have two preseason all Americans on our team, Trevor Johnson and Kyle Lux. I expect them to lead the way

offensively," said Moses, "We are the only team in the country to have two position players voted to be preseason all Americans. We have improved our pitching. There are a lot of veterans on this team who will provide leadership."

Junior Alex Escobar throws a pitch.
Photo by Jakob Komel

WORLD SPORTS: SUPER BOWL LV

By Natalia Ahrens

Super Bowl LV was played in Tampa Bay, Fla. on Feb. 7. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Kansas City Chiefs competed in the NFL's championship game, and fans all across the country were eager for this match-up. On the quarterback side, you have Tom Brady (Tampa Bay), who many people think is one of the greatest quarterbacks in

NFL history, and Patrick Mahomes, a rather new quarterback, drafted by the Chiefs in the 1st round in 2017. There was quite a bit of tension between these teams, as they had played before on Nov. 29, 2020, which resulted in a Chiefs win, but only by three points. Three points seemed to be a recurring concept, to the Chiefs in Super Bowl LV. The final score was 31-9, with a Buccaneer victory. Harrison

Butker, the kicker for Kansas City, scored the only 9 points (three field goals) for the Chiefs during the game. Brady of the Buccaneers, however, threw three touchdowns. Two to Rob Gronkowski, and one to Leonard Fournette. The victory of Super Bowl LV gave Tom Brady his seventh Super Bowl victory.



Brady holds the Vince Lombardi Trophy after the game. Photo from of Ben Liebenberg/AP

VIEWPOINTS



THE LS SWAP: ONE OF THE BEST NEW CAR TRENDS

By Spencer Ice

If you consider yourself a car enthusiast, you have probably heard about the “LS swap.” Many people believe this is the best upgrade you can make to a car, however, others consider this swap an act of heresy. Now, I don’t want that kind of negativity in my life, so I’m going to go ahead and forget about the people in that last group because this is one of the most popular engine swaps of all time. But why are people swapping an LS into whatever they can

get their grubby hands on? To answer this question, I’ll go ahead and dust off the good ol’ history books to see where the LS engine began its life and why it has become so popular.

The LS series of engines from General Motors was launched in 1997. The first LS, called the LS1, could be found in the fifth generation of the Corvette and it had a displacement of 5.7 liters. Thus began the legacy that is the LS family of engines. Since the first LS, there have been many variations and sizes in this family of engines,

ranging from the common 5.3-liter LM7 truck engine to the 6.2-liter LS9 found in performance applications. But enough of these boring facts, what makes the engine so popular? What possesses people to slam this engine into literally any car they can? Well, there are multiple reasons people just can’t get enough of the LS magic.

One reason people love this engine is that there are millions of these powerhouses prime for the picking across America. These engines were in full-size trucks, muscle

cars, and even vans that General Motors produced. This means people no longer have to gaze upon the soft blue light of a Facebook Marketplace screen at 2 a.m. trying to find an engine for their car. If a person wanted to snatch up one of these iconic powertrains, they could simply run down to their local pick and pull.

Another reason people can’t get enough of the LS series is because of the engine’s simplistic design, and the vast supply of aftermarket parts. Many times, when building or

fixing a vehicle’s factory engine, finding parts is not as easy as running down to their local auto parts store and getting the correct part. But once people taste the sweet glory of the LS, every needed part is just an O’Reilly’s stop away. The last reason people love this engine is the massive power gains you can achieve with relative ease. These engines respond well to forced induction by installing turbochargers or superchargers. You can also easily gain up to one hundred extra horsepower from a simple cam-

shaft swap.

Now I may be biased to this engine swap because I have an LS swapped Jeep of my own. However, this swap is still one of the most popular trends in the automotive world. There are good reasons this is such a hot trend; the LS is a very common engine, these engines also have a simple design and are easily modified to gain big power. Even though I may be partial to the LS swap, I still believe that this is one of the best new car trends to emerge in recent years.

CARS ON THE CORNER

By Mason Duffey

One of the best parts about restoration students is the diversity in cars in which they are interested. Whether it be classic trucks, muscle cars, or turn of the century automobiles, this diversity in taste can really be seen in Cameron Boyce’s 1991 Dodge Spirit R/T, which is unlike any other car on campus.

He was originally searching for a car that he could drive throughout college that was fuel efficient, but maintained a vintage look.

This led him into the history of the turbo Dodge cars. In the mid-eighties,

racer and performance legend, Carroll Shelby, was hired by the Chrysler

Corporation to add new performance models to their lineup.

The result was some of the best performing cars of the decade, and staple in Mopar history.

While Boyce’s Spirit was not built directly under Shelby, it is a product from

that partnership. With a turbo 2.2-liter engine and five-speed transmission, the car originally made 225hp. At the time this was a monumental car, being the quickest sedan sold in the U.S. and the fastest mass produced four-door sedan in the world.

Since 1991 this car has been entirely reworked to exceed its original performance. The car still retains a 2.2-liter, but has been built from top to bottom to handle more horsepower that comes from a bigger turbo, methanol injection, and general tuning.

Even though the engine has been completely built, the car sports its generic factory looks, with only a couple decals giving hints to the performance its packing under the hood. The factory looks, paired with a high performance powertrain make this car quite the sleeper, or as Boyce says, “a wolf in sheep’s clothing.”

Boyce is a junior in the automotive program who wants to utilize his creativity to build unique cars after graduation.

